

# THE ROCK EDITION

VOLUME #1 EDITION #1

OCTOBER 1998

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
COWBOY, NEBRASKA

## 1998 Homecoming Candidates & Royalty

Front row left to right: Sarah Pillen, Jenny Cimpl, Queen Stephanie Kruse, King Robbie Diederich, Kelly Stephan, Brooke Rayman and Sara Rief. Back row left to right: Jason Cieloha, Matt Bonczynski, Matt Mroczek, Tom Rogers, and E.J. Brezenski.

Photograph courtesy of Goc's Photography



## Kruse and Diederich Hit the Jackpot on Homecoming Night

By Kendra Liss and Rhonda Marxsen

Memorial Stadium came to life with the excitement of fans and returning alumni, on October 9, as Homecoming candidates and spectators waited through the final minutes of the blowout over the Wahoo Neumann Cavaliers.

The anticipation felt all week was finally released as Reena Morris and Ryan Tooley,

the 1997 Homecoming Royalty, crowned this year's king and queen. Robbie Diederich was crowned the 1998 Homecoming king, and Stephanie Kruse, the queen. Homecoming candidates for king included: Matt Bonczynski, E.J. Brezenski, Jason Cieloha, Matt Mroczek, and Tom Rogers. Candidates for queen were: Jenny Cimpl, Sarah Pillen,

Brooke Rayman, Sara Rief, and Kelly Stephan.

Pat McKay and Morgan Cimpl were crown bearers.

Following coronation, the Homecoming dance was held at Scotus. Seniors chose Viva las Vegas as a theme to decorate the cafeteria, where the dance was held. A backdrop for pictures was also made using this theme.

High school students spent the evening dancing and celebrating Homecoming.

Jay Kuecker, the DJ, received many compliments. Freshman, Makayla Micek said, "I had a good time, but it was way too short." This seems to be the opinion of many Scotus students who attended the dance. Overall, the Homecoming dance and festivities were a success.

## Retreat Offers Bonding Experience

By: Becky Dierks

Scotus seniors bond together on their senior retreat at Fort Timberlake in Central City.

The morning began with a burning ceremony to cleanse their souls of sins they had made against fellow classmates. It was an emotional experience, and the tissue box had to be passed around to a few people.

The Hamburger Helper and raw fry lunches left something to be desired. Students wished that they had brought their own food, and others were glad they stocked their coolers the night before. However, Shae McKay didn't leave a crumb on her plate, and several senior guys praised the 'wall god that serves' for treating them well.

After lunch the seniors were given options including: a challenge course, obstacle course, and a lake with canoes and paddleboats.

The challenge course was open all afternoon, and students could go there any time. The course provided an opportunity for the seniors to overcome their fear of heights by climbing a telephone pole, walking a tight wire, or repelling down a wall. Mr. McGill commented on how supportive the seniors were of each other.

Other seniors enjoyed a refreshing dunk in the lake as they mastered their canoeing skills, and planned attacks on fellow classmates.

In the evening, seniors received papers with encouraging comments from their classmates, and had a mass illuminated by their own personally made luminarias.

A bonfire finished off the night, which was completed when classmates joined in to sing old favorites, and snacked on s'mores and hot dogs. This was the perfect end to the perfect day.



Above left: Katie Geilenkirchen and Jason Cieloha face their fears on the challenge course. Above right: John Burns places sins into the fire to burn them away.



## Rock Edition Staff

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## Computer Illiteracy is a Problem with Staff

By: Virginia Hall

Recently, many technological changes have taken place at Scotus. It seems like new labs are sprouting up everywhere. Has Scotus finally caught up with the latest technology? Perhaps. We do have all the hardware and software, however, the question is who is operating it all?

No one.

The problem with all of this new technology that has been brought to my attention is the number of faculty members who are computer illiterate. Few are qualified enough to run all the programs, let alone teach the students to use them. A few teachers have incorporated the Internet and other on-line services into their curriculum, unfortunately, most are still stuck with the overhead projector.

Mr. Walding assured me that steps are indeed being taken towards educating the staff in the ways of technology. What I found out is that they had hired someone to open the Gateway 2000 lab up 45 minutes before school and also for a while after school for both teacher and student use. This plan, however, was disposed of when the media specialist was transferred to another state. At an inservice that took place on Friday, October 2, the teachers were taught the basics of how to work the computers and the programs that accompanied them.

Unfortunately, there is only so much that can be done in a half day session. The faculty needs to start spending their own time alone exploring the computers without being afraid or inhibited. This seems to be one of the only solutions to this problem; as Scotus cannot afford to hire a professional to teach the staff at forty dollars an hour.

Mr. Walding said that they were working on a five year plan in hopes to have the staff all caught up with the computers by the year 2004. But with the increasingly rapid rate that technology is changing, will it be too late?

## Scotus Welcomes New Staff

By Seth Labenz and Shanna Melliger

Shirley Provanca joined the Scotus teaching staff this year. Before she was hired, Provanca was a substitute teacher at SCC. She is now the 9th grade English teacher and has one section of 8th grade English.

Provanca was born in Denver, Colorado and raised in Hartsville, Wyoming. She attended high school at Guernsey Sunrize in Gernsay, Wyoming. In high school she was involved in drama and music. Provanca went to college at St. Mary's in Leavensworth, Kansas. She recieved her masters at Perdue University. Provanca has taught elementary as well as middle school in the past.

In her free time, Provanca enjoys reading, playing the piano, shopping for her grandchildren, and attending her children's (two sons and a daughter) activities. Her husband is a principal at Emerson and North Park Schools.

Stephanie Pape is also new to the Scotus teaching staff. Pape was born and raised on a farm in Grand Island. She attended Grand Island Northwest High school, also known as "Cow pie high." In high school Pape was involved in cross country, basketball, track, Choir, drama, and the speech team. her drama later led her to land a role in "My Antonia", a movie that later aired on television.

After high school Pape attended UNL and graduated later from Doane College. Pape has also studied German at Goethe Institute in Schwaebisch Hall, Germany.

Pape enjoys reading and running in her free time. She also likes golfing, gardening, and biking. Pape spends a lot of her time in Grand Island with her family. She is married to Jeff and has a dog named Max.

Yet another addition to the Scotus teaching staff is Kathy Johnson. Johnson was born and raised in Norfolk. She attended Norfolk Catholic High School. In high school she was involved in speech and theater. Johnson later went to college at Wayne State.

At Scotus, Johnson teaches 7th grade English and Study Skills and 8th grade drama. She is the assistant speech team coach at Scotus. She has been involved with the speech team for the past two years.

Johnson spends much of her time doing school work, and reading. She also enjoys walking and attending her children's activities. She is married and has three children who attend Scotus and St. Isidore's.

Johnson enjoys learning about Nebraskan authors. William Kloefkorn is one of her favorite authors. She has had the opportunity to take a class from him.

Fr. Dave Korth is the new assistant pastor here at Scotus. He transferred from Bergan High School, and is helping out Fr. Steve in any way he can. In addition, he is the pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in Ducas and St. Lawrence Parish in Silver Creek.

Born in Randolph, Nebraska, Fr. Korth is the youngest of six children. He has 16 nieces and nephews. Upon graduating Randolph High, Korth received a basketball scholarship from Mt. Marty College in South Dakota. After a year he transferred to the seminary college in Missouri, and then attended graduate school at the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity. After being ordained a priest, he began his work at St. Leo Parish in Omaha. Three years later he transferred to Bergan, and he is currently here at Scotus.

Fr. Korth didn't always want to be a priest. As a child he did not think the priests in his community were very professional. He did not want to be like them, but he always felt the call.

Korth likes all kinds of sports, basketball being his favorite. He enjoys playing board games with his friends. Scotus green, soft rock, and a busy schedule. He tries to get his points across in a different way, so we may be seeing more cart wheels and loud chants during the homily in upcoming months.

Lisa Dunn, a Monroe native, is a new teacher aide at Scotus. She graduated from Monroe High School, where she was active in extra curricular activities as well as sports. After high school, Dunn majored in Desktop Publishing at Lincoln School of Commerce. After college she moved back to Columbus and worked for Dale Electronics, until she was hired at Scotus. At 21, Dunn said she has grown up fast. Her dad often told her she would not understand until she was older, but now she feels that she understands. "Starting work with 30 year olds really hits you in the face," Dunn said.

Dunn enjoys spending time outdoors and fishing. She likes to listen to alternative music and enjoys just hanging out. She is single, and so far, Dunn likes it here at Scotus.

## Homecoming...It Could Have Been You

by Emily Wick

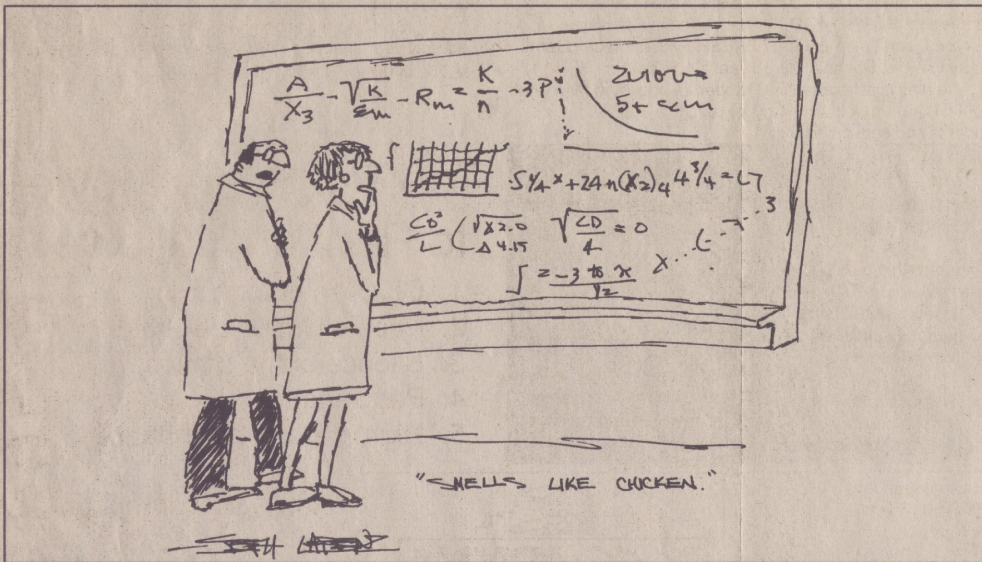
Homecoming is not the spirited celebration of school pride that it once was, which some students attribute to the many rules and regulations governing homecoming activities. One such regulation, is the choosing of the Homecoming candidates by the senior class.

Speaking to Mr. Walding and Mrs. Vrbka proved to be interesting to this particular senior. Many students don't know that the candidates used to be chosen from S-Club (guys) and Pep Club (girls). It was this way until 1988, when only 5 senior girls were in Pep Club. Then it became only S-Club members, and next year it will include letter winners in any school activity. That adds speech team, mock trial, one act plays, Improv, band and swing choir members.

Still many students believe that the whole class should be on the first ballot. One anonymous senior puts it in this perspective "...it makes Sweetheart like getting seventh place." At the Sweetheart coronation, all the Seniors are on the candidate ballot. There are doubts about this angle from the administration. Mr. Walding shares this worry with the author of an Omaha World Herald editorial concerning Homecoming. "I don't want you to be embarrassed of who is selected as the King and Queen," he said.

I agree with him on this issue. Homecoming, whether students like it or not, is a community activity. At the risk of sounding "uncool," I want the community to think well of our school and students. I can see our student body voting for someone who isn't in any activities, who doesn't have any school spirit, or pride. That is exactly what our administration wants to avoid.

Although I especially love to fight about school policies, this issue deserves a compromise. The administration is open to any ideas that we have, so I encourage you to give me your opinions on this matter.



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## Viva las Homecoming Week

By Amanda Sackett and Scott Zegar

Senior high students put away their uniforms for a week and showed their spirit by dressing up for the designated theme each day.

This year the seniors chose "Viva Las Vegas" as their theme. They chose black, red and white for the colors and transformed their hallway into a Vegas casino. The juniors decorated their three hallways with their theme, "Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory". "Go Fish, captured the second floor, as the sophomores decorated their hallway. The freshman enjoyed their first year participating in Homecoming week with "Welcome to Earth" as their theme.

Monday students ignored the cold weather and concentrated on the warm, sunny climate of Hawaii. The students wore bright, floral shirts and grass skirts.

Tuesday was the traditional, but never boring Hippie Day. Fashion from the seventies was brought back into the classrooms at Scotus. Students and teachers sported tie-dyed t-shirts and bell bottom pants, along with some unique fashions from way back when.

Wednesday students kicked back and relaxed on Casual Day, wearing the most comfortable clothes they could find, but were quickly reminded of the dress code on Thursday.

The week ended on Friday with Spirit Day where both senior and junior high student went all out in their green and gold.



Senior high students took advantage of the opportunity to become a hippie for a day during Spirit Week.

Thursday evening Scotus 1980 Alumnist, Fr. Carl Zoucha, held the traditional Homecoming Mass. Cornerstone builders of Scotus were honored with crystal candy dishes and a standing ovation from the student body, following the mass.

At the pep rally, the football captains gave short, but inspirational speeches. E.J. Brezenski made everyone laugh with his words of wisdom, "We're good and we're gonna win." Matt Bonczynski let everyone know how much their support means to the team and thanked them for coming out to the games. The captains hope to see their fans in Lincoln at the end of the season for the state championship game.

The flag corps performed a routine to "Let's Go To Vegas" by Faith Hill, to go along with the senior theme. Finally the candidates were left guessing whose kisses were planted on their cheeks. When Brooke Rayman found out it was her father's kiss she was not at a loss for words stating, "He like sucked on my face!"

## Scotus Students Haunt the Stage

By Angie Shemek

Scotus senior high students are haunting the stage as they rehearse for the production of *The Canterville Ghost*. The play is a comedy about an American family trying to cope with the ghosts that haunt the English Manor they live in.

Senior, Kelli Hahn said, "I think we have a talented cast, and we'll be able to pull it together in the time we have left." Hahn is playing the role of Virginia, who is part of the American family being haunted.

The play is being directed by Jami Ferguson and Rose Braun. Ferguson has directed Scotus's fall play in the past, and Braun is joining him this year.

Cast members include: SENIORS: Kelli Hahn, Ryan Greiner, Trisha Mahoney, and Courtney Mimick; JUNIORS: Casey Birkel, Dan Dvorak, Angie Shemek, Sara Naughtin, Amanda Trofholz, Dawn Beran, Tasha Karsk, and Amy Pemberton; SOPHOMORES: Seth Labenz, Lindsay Pritchard, and Laura Janicek; FRESHMEN: Megan Bernt, Jenny Krzycki, Rachael Mimick, and Jill Micek.

The play is scheduled for October 23 and 24 in Memorial Hall at 7:30. The cost is \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students and senior citizens.



## Movie Reviews "Ronin" Delivers Action and Intrigue

By Gregg Dohmen

Where else, besides an action movie, can you see an Olympic gold medalist get gunned down during her ice skating routine? Olympic skater, Katarina Witt, manages to get killed along with many other people in *Ronin*.

Robert DeNiro stars as Sam, an ex-CIA operative (?) in *Ronin*. A beautiful Irish woman named Deirdre lures him to an apartment in Paris. A five-man team is assembled there and their job is to obtain a mysterious silver case. Sam soon realizes that he can trust no one except Vincent, played by Jean Reno.

The plot is filled with deceit and double crossing. The intrigue keeps coming from all directions and so does the action. At times the action and acting is overdone and laughably unrealistic. Sam seems to feel no physical pain. At one point a bullet is removed from his stomach with no anesthetic and he doesn't even flinch.

The movie is full of fast European cars buzzing down narrow, pedestrian lined streets. I couldn't even count the number of times a Frenchman had to dodge a speeding Audi or Peugeot. In one scene, the bad guys go the wrong way down a freeway tunnel and have to swerve to avoid oncoming traffic all while shooting at a car in the other lane.

There is also a lot of public killing. The police seem to have a quick response time, but they are only a minor annoyance to the characters. They kill in broad daylight, but they have no fear of getting arrested.

Overall, I enjoyed this movie. You have to pay close attention to all the little details and if you do the end will be a surprise. If you don't pay attention, you will be left shaking your head. *Ronin* is an intense movie that narrowly avoids becoming a run of the mill action movie.

## Urban Legends

By Kelli Hahn

There seems to be a lack of quality scary movies out there today. Teenagers of America are screaming for more horror; more violence. We want to be scared out of our wits, and afraid to get into our cars at night.

Finally, there's a scary movie out there that can satisfy the hunger for horror. *Urban Legends*, a recently released teenage horror movie, features such popular young stars as Jarod Leto, Joshua Jackson, and "the girl from the Noxema commercial."

This is not your typical gory movie. Although it contains a sufficient amount of violence, blood, and guts the majority of the movie is suspenseful. I only had to cover my eyes twice. The plot involves a young girl who is being punished for something done in her past, and there's a twist at the end that is surprising enough to confuse even the most devout horror movie buff.

So if you enjoy being scared out of your mind and the edge of your seat is your favorite spot at the theatre, go see *Urban Legends* at a theatre near you.

## Band Hits High Note in Hastings

By Matt O'Day

The Scotus High School Band came in second in Class B with a superior rating at the Melody Round Up Parade in Hastings, Nebraska. This rating is the highest won by a Scotus band since 1989, and is the first superior rating since Kristen Cox took over as band director three years ago.

Scotus also attended the Harvest of Harmony Parade in Grand Island on the same day and received another second place.

For these two parades, the band practiced for two weeks in the summer and on several mornings before their final practice at 5:45 on October 3.

The band was encouraged by Scotus' second place performance in the Columbus Days Parade, but Cox knew a lot of work had to be done. "We needed to practice intonation (playing in tune)," she told the *Rock Edition*. "We also worked on our step style and horn carriage. We even taped our practices and reviewed them."

One band member said the experience was "well worth the effort". That attitude was shared by the junior high band, who worked hard to come in first in the junior high division at Melody Round Up.

## Top Ten Scary Movies to Rent on Halloween

1. Children of the Corn
2. People Under the Stairs
3. Silence of the Lambs
4. Pet Cemetery
5. Nightmare on Elm Street
6. Copy Cat
7. Rocky Horror Picture Show
8. Halloween H2O
9. Scream 1&2
10. I Know What You Did Last Summer

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## Two Qualify for State Cross Country

by: Kristin Zach

On October 9, the girls and boys cross country teams got off to a good start with both teams finishing in the top ten at Conference in Fremont. The girls came in third and the boys finished with sixth place.

Molly Engel led the girls team with a second place finish with a time of 17:42. Matt Atchison topped the boys team with a seventh place finish at 18:06. Coach Dan Mahoney said, "If we are going to qualify [for state], we have to improve between now and district time."

Although Mahoney had hoped his cross country teams could go on to state, both the boys and girls' teams finished sixth at Districts. His two qualifiers were Molly Engel and Matt Atchison. Engel finished third with an improved time, from Conference, of 16 minutes. Atchison also improved to a time of 17:42 in seventh place.

Atchison is ranked fourteenth in the state in Class C and said, "It will be tough competing against 100 of the states fastest Class C runners, but I hope to medal in the top 15 and leave Scotus with a successful season."

Engel will head to State ranked in the top 10. "I hope to improve my time and place in the top five, which will be a real challenge for me to accomplish," Engel said.

They will go on to compete at the State Meet on Friday, October 23 at UNK.



Heather VanAckeren and Michelle Moser high-five after a side-out at the Conference Tournament in Boystown on October 10.

## Rocks Continue Conference Tradition in Boys Town

By: Michelle Moser

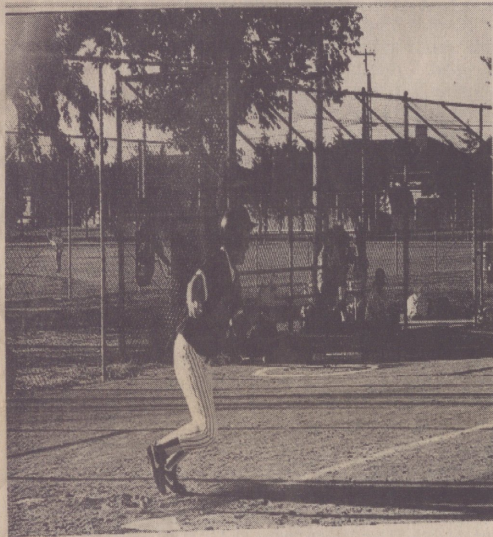
The Shamrocks kept alive a thirteen-year tradition on Saturday, October 10, at the Conference Tournament held at Boystown. For the past thirteen years, the Scotus girls' volleyball team has taken home the gold in their Conference Tournament. With Saturday's win, they extended it to fourteen years.

The Shamrocks won the first game versus Hastings St. Cecilia, 15-6, 15-3. They then went on to play David City Aquinas. The Rocks won the game in two sets with scores of 15-7, 15-2. The Championship game of the tournament was against GICC. The two sets remained close until the last few points when the Rocks were able to pull away. The Rocks defeated GICC for the third time this season with scores of 15-12, 15-11.

"We needed to play a really good team like GICC in the Conference Tournament. We really needed to see where we were at," commented head Coach John Petersen. He felt it was important that they saw good competition.

The players and coaches felt that this tournament really helped them to analyze their play and see the areas needing improvement. They know now what they must work on and try to improve to become the best team they can. "I think we played well, but we realize now what we must work on in the next few weeks before subdistricts and districts," added Varsity starter Amanda Sackett.

The volleyball team is currently 22-0 after their wins over Lincoln Christian, Lincoln Lutheran and Hastings SC. They are rated #1 in Class C-1 as well as #1 in the Omaha World Herald All Class Rating. They hope to have the same success in their remaining four regular season games. Then it is on to subdistricts, with hope to move their way to state.



Melinda Henggeler runs to first after bunting the ball down the third base line.

## Discoverers Split With Fremont

By: Jenny Flint

Columbus co-op softball took me out to the ball field on Thursday, October 8 trying to hold off Fremont in their double-header. Fremont ended up winning the first game 7-1. In the next game the Discoverers fought back and defeated number 2 ranked Fremont, 4-3.

According to senior, first baseman Jessica Bolte, "We played well. Our defense was very solid, but we made a few errors. Our offense was pretty aggressive, and that is what we needed."

The Discoverers came so close to moving onto state, but the loss against Kearney in the second round of Districts killed that dream.

The Discoverer's 7-26 record is a big accomplishment due to their young and inexperienced team this year. Head coach, Brett Schlekaway, is also a new member on the team. He is from South Dakota and played softball for SDSU. While a senior in high school, he tried out for the U.S. team. When asked about her new coach, Bolte responded, "He knows a lot about the sport, and is a very good coach."

## Rocks Break Neumann Hex

By: Gregg Dohmen

The Scotus Shamrocks finally broke the Neumann Homecoming Hex Friday night with a 53-16 victory. The hex started in 1992, when the favored 'Rocks fell to the Cavaliers on Homecoming night.

On Friday night, Scotus jumped out to a 26-0 halftime lead and cruised to an easy win. E.J. Brezenski scored two first half touchdowns with a total of 66 yards. Brezenski finished with 126 yards on only 11 carries to lead the Shamrocks ground attack. Tom Rogers scored his first touchdown of the night on a 26-yard run. Rogers finished with 100 yards rushing. Joe Citta punched one in from the 2 yard line to round out the first half scoring.

The second half was more of the same for the Shamrocks. Rogers scored on a 4 yard run, and quarterback Matt Bonczynski scored from 2 yards out to make the score 40-0 at the end of the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, sophomore Jeff Kosch scored on a 43-yard run, and Eric Hinze scored on a quarterback sneak as time expired.

The Shamrock defense bottled up the Neumann ground game all night, limiting the Cavaliers to 18 yards on the ground. Neumann turned to its passing game to provide offense. Neumann Coach Tim Turman utilized the shotgun formation and quick routes to avoid the Shamrock pass rush. Quarterback Josh Lanik threw for 233 yards and one touchdown as Neumann scored 16 fourth quarter points.

Scotus' record improved to 7-0 after a victory in Grand Island on October 16. Scotus will finish the regular season at Lincoln Pius X on October 22. Sophomore Jeff Kosch predicted that the game would be a challenge for the Shamrocks, "I think we'll win with a score of about 27-17." Playoffs begin on October 29 and the Shamrocks hope to advance to the State finals on November 21.



Scotus golfers pose for a picture after receiving their runner-up trophy. Pictured from left to right: Coach Tanya Niedbalski, Brooke Rayman, Sarah

## Scotus Golfers Break Records on Way to State

By Emily Wick

The SCC girls golf team has had a record-breaking season, setting both Varsity and JV 18 and 9 hole records. The Varsity team has placed in the top 3 at every meet, as well as having at least one medalist each time.

The team of Sarah Piller, Kelly Stephan, Emily Wick, Brooke Rayman and Megan Cimpl captured the district title Oct. 8. Piller took first, Wick sixth, Stephan eighth and Rayman tenth for a team score of 369, thirteen strokes ahead of second place Wayne.

The girls competed in the two-day State Meet at Grand Island's Indianhead Golf Course on Oct. 15 and 16. The 'Rocks started strong, ending the first day in second place, only six strokes behind defending champions Holdrege. "The wind was really bad on Thursday, but we played well," said Kelly Stephan.

The weather didn't lighten up for the second day at Indianhead, and the meet was delayed for a half hour because of lightning and heavy rain. Unfortunately for Scotus, the Holdrege team wasn't affected and placed three golfers in the top ten for a twenty stroke lead. The 'Rocks finished second, with a team score of 756.

"I'm really proud of the girls, they played well both days. Considering the kind of golfers Holdrege has, I think that second place is great," said coach Tanya Niedbalski.

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TV's, Stereos, and Sheet Music

# THE ROCK EDITION

VOLUME # 1 EDITION # 2

November 1998

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

## Looking for entertainment this year for your Christmas parties?

Consider calling the Scotus Swing Choir or the Jazz Band to provide you with holiday cheer.

Call 564-7165 and ask for Mrs. Cox - Jazz Band or Ms. Gardner - Swing Choir



Swing choir members perform at the Scotus Fine Arts Meeting and sport their new swing choir dresses. Pictured from left to right are: Kerry Stephan, Kelli Hahn, Sara Rief, Casey Birkel, Lynn Dolezal, Dawn Beran, Molly McGuire, Sara Peterson, Marika German, Shannon Edwards, Sara Naughtin, and Angie Shemek. Photo by: Kelli Hahn

## Swing Choir Sings Their Way to Disney

By : Angie Shemek

The Scotus Swing Choir is tuning up in hopes of performing at Disney World in Florida next June. The trip is part of a program offered by Disney to high schools across the nation. After much rehearsing and hard work, an audition tape has to be sent in to finalize the plans. Swing choir members will then fly to Florida and have a four day guided tour of the park. When the group is not enjoying the sights of Disney, they will be busy preparing for their performance. The choir will have a chance to attend a Disney workshop and work with a musician from Disney World. Swing choir director, EJ Gardener said, "I hope the workshop will help with stage movement and stage singing."

To raise money to fund the trip, the Swing Choir has begun a number of fundraising projects. One fundraiser is a service the swing choir has provided in the past. During the Christmas season swing choir sings at Christmas parties and meetings. A show is prepared and carols are led by the swing choir. Also, lawn and garbage bags are being sold by all members. The group meets every Sunday and goes door to door selling rolls of plastic bags. Junior, Dawn Beran said, "At first it seemed like a wierd kind of fundraiser, but when we get out there it's actually kind of fun and people are willing to buy." On November 15, a pancake feed was held in the Scotus Cafeteria. At the pancake feed a raffle was held to earn some extra money. Some items raffled included Beanie Babies, a sweatshirt, and a painted cottage figurine. The choir also sang some songs from their show at the breakfast.

Swing choir members include Seniors: Kerry Stephan, Kelli Hahn, Sara Rief, Shannon Edwards, Marika German, and Molly McGuire; Juniors: Casey Birkel, Sara Naughtin, Angie Shemek, Lynn Dolezal, Dawn Beran and Sara Peterson.

## Columbus crash leaves 3 dead; 1 injured

by: Virginia Hall, Becky Dierks and Emily Wick

A collision that occurred around 10 p.m., Thursday, November 12 at the intersection of Highway 81 and 51st Avenue left three Columbus residents dead and another injured.

Nick Davis, 22, died at Columbus Community Hospital, Inc. shortly after the accident. Brian Schultz, 28, died Sunday afternoon at St. Joseph's Hospital in Omaha. Schultz was driving a 1997 GMC truck north bound on 51st Ave. He collided with Davis' 1988 Ford Mustang heading west on Hwy 81. A passenger in Davis' car, Brooke Scott, 17, was flown to St. Joseph's and remained in critical condition until she died Monday afternoon.

Amanda Kruse, 17, was also a passenger in Davis' car. She was taken to CCH, treated and released Friday afternoon.

Preliminary reports of the accident indicated that Davis was driving at very high speeds when the accident occurred. None of the passengers were thought to be wearing seatbelts. Investigations are underway with the Nebraska State Patrol assisting the Columbus Police Department to determine the cause of the collision.

The Columbus Telegram reported: "The full-size pickup involved in the accident sat upright, pointed into the ditch. A light pole ripped from the ground by the force of the truck's impact lay alongside the truck."

Services for Davis were Monday, Nov. 16, at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Schultz's services were on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Peace Lutheran Church. Scott's services were on Thursday, Nov. 19, at First United Methodist Church. A fund for Schultz's children has been established at First National

## Youth Representatives: Are They Helping?

By Kendra Liss and Rhonda Marxsen

Are the youth representatives really helping their peers? In Columbus there are three groups of youth representatives including: the Columbus Youth Council, the Junior City Council, and the Board of Governors. Many students believe that these groups are not doing much for the community, perhaps this is due to lack of knowledge.

In 1997 the Columbus Youth Council made Christmas decorations for Frankfort Square, which they plan to do again this year. They also made Halloween decorations for Mory's Haven in 1997 and again for the Manor this year. During the summer they participated in a highway litter pick-up along 23rd street and 33rd Ave. They did this about once a month throughout the summer. At the beginning of the summer the Columbus Youth Council held a Senior Prom at the Senior Citizen Center. They also provided entertainment to teenagers by organizing a concert during the fair. The Columbus Youth Council members were role models for all by letting red balloons off over the viaduct for red ribbon week. The Council's next activities include the Candy Strippers program and watching Hispanic children while their parents take classes at the library. The Columbus Youth Council does many activities along with fundraising for the Mirage.

The Junior City Council is made up of nine representatives from the three high schools in Columbus. They are currently addressing the issue of cruising and its side effects on the community. They will present a document to the City Council on the responses to cruising. "To me, the Junior City Council is trying to make a difference in the Columbus community," responded sophomore representative, Tory Ketter.

The Board of Governors' main job is to keep the Mirage running. The Junior City Council and the Columbus Youth Council also provide assistance with maintaining the Mirage. The Board of Governors raffled off tickets for the Nebraska-Colorado football game; the proceeds went towards the purchase of the Mirage sign. Junior representative, Lacey Wozny says, "As long as you've touched one person, you've done your job, and I know we've done that."

With the Columbus Youth Council doing services for the community, being positive role models and the Junior City Council bringing up issues for the youth of Columbus, the community can rest assured that they are making a difference.

## Scotus Craft Boutique

Sunday December 6th

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\$2.00 Admission

Stop by and enjoy lunch in the cafeteria or a piece of pie and a drink.

Sponsored by the Scotus Mothers Club.

## Thankful For The Little Things

by: Amanda Sackett

Samuel Adams, Father of the Revolution, proclaimed, "It is therefore recommended...to set apart Thursday the eighteenth day of December next, for solemn thanksgiving and praise, that with one heart and one voice the good people may express the grateful feelings of their hearts and consecrate themselves to the service of their divine benefactor..." On November 1, 1777, this was established by the thirteen colonies as the first official Thanksgiving Proclamation. This is where it all started; one great leader was thankful for everything he had, so he felt everyone should show their thanks once a year on a national holiday.

Thanksgiving is a time of showing recognition towards all those people we owe thanks to and all things we are thankful for. Families gather together and share a meal, then sit around and maybe share stories. Children go

off to play with cousins they may not have seen for a while. Students are given some days off of school to spend with family and friends, not having to worry about schoolwork for a couple of days.

These traditions all come from the landing at Plymouth. John Winthrop's ships had encountered a very difficult voyage. They showed their gratitude on July 8, 1630, the first Thanksgiving of the Massachusetts Bay colony. This day united the colonists just as their voyage had. These colonists set aside their differences in religion and prayed together in unity. In 1775, the First Prayer Proclamation asked the entire continent to set aside one day of prayer and fasting together. The effect was huge. American people united in prayer and spirit one year before the Declaration of Independence.

The entire day of Thanksgiving is to be grateful for what we have, but sometimes we forget about the little things that have always been there for us. A surgeon at Valley Forge, in 1776, said, "Mankind is never truly thankful for the benefits of life, until they have experienced the want of them." This Thanksgiving we should remember the little things in our lives that we fail to notice. As Sir John Marks Templeton said, "How wonderful it would be if we could help our children and grandchildren to learn thanksgiving at an early age. Thanksgiving opens the doors. It changes a child's personality. A child is resentful, negative-or thankful. Thankful children want to give, they radiate happiness, they draw people." Maybe that is what we all need. Just to be thankful for everything and everyone in our lives. That could change our outlook on life and our world.

### Newspaper Staff

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Staff Advisor: Mrs. Kelly Schaad

## We've Got Issues

Editorial Column by Virginia Hall & Emily Wick

### Readak: Was it Worth it?

By: Virginia Hall

As we all know, being able to read quickly and comprehend that which we read is one of the most important skills a person needs in order to succeed in life--or at least on standardized tests.

Recently, it has been brought to the administration's attention that Scotus students are scoring lower on reading comprehension and vocabulary sections of standardized tests, such as Iowa Basics, ACT or SAT. We all know how difficult it is to get through one of those passages. Not because of the level of difficulty, but because they are just so boring. There's only so many times that you can read about how cotton is picked, beans are harvested or glass is made. Your mind begins to wander, you soon forget what you were reading and have to start over. Many are saying that the reason that our reading scores have fallen so low is because of the lack of interest that the students have in the passages. So when we heard that the whole school had to take another test, administered by Readak, to determine how poor our reading skills were, we were all but thrilled.

After taking the test, I had a negative opinion of the program. I couldn't help but think that it was just another waste of our school's money--just one more test to lower our self esteem. But then I thought about how important the skill of reading is, and that maybe it wasn't just lack of interest and apathy that caused the low scores. Perhaps students are truly struggling through those portions of the tests. So I went to talk to Mr. Kris Kaplinski, the Readak teacher, about what the program was all about. It turns out that they are getting a very positive response from the parents, faculty and students. Also about 25 kids had signed up to take the course to help better their reading and study skills. The course teaches you how to better your listening skills (how much time do you have?), reduce mind wandering (especially during those cotton/bean/glass passages), learn to skim and scan your material (science reasoning), and eliminate distractions (that kid tapping his pen on his teeth). These skills that the class teaches you will not only help out as you are taking standardized tests, but will stick with you throughout the rest of high school, college and into the "real world."

I no longer believe that this test was a waste of time or money. Perhaps the whole school did not benefit from it, but if even one student learns how to read better and perform more efficiently in school, it was all worth it.

### School Spirit

By: Emily Wick

"We've got spirit yes we do, we've got spirit, how about you?.....Silence, it must be a Scotus game. School spirit has seen a sharp decline in recent years. Perhaps it is due to restrictive school codes and apathy among the students. Many seem to think that the first reason is a brick wall insurmountable to change, and I agree.

I can recall as a junior high student the intense fervor of the student section at athletic events. Any Scotus vs. Lakeview game is the perfect example. Us against them, the good guys vs. the bad guys, a blown up garbage bag vs. Scotus students in western wear. I also remember games where students wearing green face paint and proudly displaying our school colors would scream until they were hoarse. Whether it was kids with ROCKS painted on their jeans or guys wearing cheerleading uniforms, it was all a lot of fun. Joining in on those chants and cheers gave me a real sense of school unity and belonging. Then somewhere during my years here those actions were deemed inappropriate and banned in the infamous Student Handbook.

4. STUDENT DRESS CODE (EXTRACURRICULAR) When attending extracurricular activities students are prohibited from wearing costumes of any kind. Appearance should be neat and appropriate. Novelty apparel, nuisance items/toys and noisemakers are prohibited. Students are to conduct themselves in a manner that is supportive and positive of our team and not in defiance or negative of the opposing team or officials. Students not following the above policy will be prohibited from attending future events. Conduct at extracurricular activities must conform to Scotus standards.

5. Appearance at Extracurricular Activities Students are directed to show school spirit and demonstrate good sports behavior in support of teams. Students may have writing or drawing on a cheek if it is small in size (approximately 2 inches) and in good taste.

Examples of appropriate cheek painting are a shamrock, SCC, Scotus, Rocks Shamrocks. In addition to face painting as a means to show school spirit, students are directed to wear clothing that is in good taste. The administration reserves the right to judge good taste.

I ask the administration, is it really just the students fault that school spirit has gone down? I think that the apathy among the students is directly a result of all the restrictions and rules placed on us. Almost everyone used to participate in school spirit, and after the administration took away everything that was involved in it, the students were outraged. There have been countless times when we have appealed to the administration concerning these issues. We have been met with blank stares and excuses.

In fact, it seems to much of the student body that these rules and restrictions are more for the adults than they are for us. So one or two people complain about painting your face, or chanting, or making signs. Are we at Scotus trying to be so politically correct that we have forgotten what school spirit is all about? Are we more concerned about one adult opinion than the opinions and morale of our entire student body? If that is what it's coming to, I pity the students with years left at Scotus.

### Can we give without receiving?

By: Becky Dierks

Every year around this time our stomachs tend to grumble just a little bit louder. They are excited for the Thanksgiving feast to come. We can't wait to pig out all day, so we are hungrier in anticipation. But what about those who are always hungry? Do we ever think about them?

The "less fortunate" also look forward to this holiday because people tend to get a little more generous. Most people that is.

Every year around Thanksgiving we have a food drive and the challenge is to win a pizza party with our Activity Period. Here at Scotus people bring packages of Kool-Aid because it is cheap and brings them one step closer to that pizza party. Are we really thinking about helping the hungry, or are we more concerned with helping ourselves?

To motivate students to bring actual food, there is a little change in the food drive this year. How the food is counted is based on what the food pantry needs. For instance, if the food pantry is running low on Hamburger Helper, then that will be worth more points than a stick of gum, or something of lesser value.

We have so much that we take for granted, can't we spare a few dollars and a few minutes of our time to stop by the grocery store? Would a can of Campbell's Soup really cost that much more than a package of Kool-Aid? And just exactly how many Ramen noodles do we expect them to eat? They may be poor, but they have taste buds, too. We should be thinking more about the "less fortunate's" actual nutritional needs instead of what toppings we will want on our pizza.

We should be more willing to help those in need, not because we want a reward, and not even because it is the "Good Christian thing to do," but because we see others in need and we want to help.

Who knows, you might end up with a reward even if you don't win the pizza. You could walk away actually feeling good about yourself because you made a positive difference.

### Why? Because You Have To.

By Matt O'Day

One Quarter is behind us, and chances are that some time in the last nine weeks we've all said, "Ahh! I hate this! Why do we have to take this class anyway?" "Well, I feel your pain, so I'm going to share with you a little story:

For me, the class was Algebra. I was struggling through my homework when I said the above phrase. My brother, Jeff, came over and sat down next to me.

"Do you really want to know why?" he asked me.

"Sure, I guess," I responded. "O.K. then I'll explain it to you. So, what would happen to you if you didn't do any of the homework?" Jeff asked me.

I thought about that for a second. "Umm.... Nothing, I guess."

"Wrong," he said. "You'd fail the class. Even if the homework is never graded- and it always is when you don't do it- you still won't know anything that's on the test. So you'd fail, trust me."

"So I've got to do this, or I'll fail," I said, a little defeated.

"Sure, but it doesn't end there," he told me. "What do you think would happen to you if you failed Algebra?"

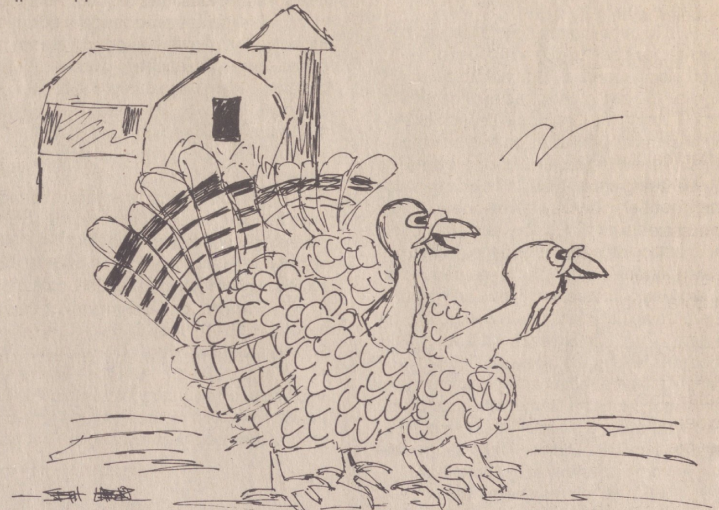
"Mom and Dad would kill me," I said. "Right. Plus, you wouldn't get any math credits, so you would have to take the class again. And if you never did any of the homework that time, you'd fail it again, and the time after that, until you're a 30 year-old freshman. You never would graduate high school, let alone get into college. Without an education, you would never get a good job. You wouldn't have enough money to buy food, so you'd starve to death."

"So if I don't do this homework, I'll die," I said, a little confused at the sudden leap of logic.

"Exactly," he said. "Now get back to work."

I finished my homework, but later that night I remembered why Jeff was at home. He'd been grounded for failing math.

So, you see, no matter how idiotic, pointless, or boring your assignments are, you have to do them: your very life hangs in the balance. This story may or may not be of any help to you when you have basketball practice, work, and twenty pages of Trigonometry due tomorrow, but you have got it in your brain cells now so you are stuck with it.



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## Dear Otis - Students Get Answers

Dear Otis:

I'm having problems turning in my homework on time, through no fault of my own, and I'm running out of excuses. Do you have any ideas?

Dear Slacker:

In my day, the easiest solution to this problem would be to actually **do** your homework. However, there are times when even the most avid pupil needs a little extra time to finish his or her homework.

"My dog ate my homework," is a time-honored classic, however, this excuse is a little out of date by today's standards. One variation on this is "My baby brother/sister was chewing on my report." The culprit need not be a living being, however, and you could say, "I vacuumed it up while cleaning my room." This will buy you a day or two to "get it out of the vacuum cleaner bag."

With today's technology, there is a plethora of sufficient excuses. "My computer printer ran out of ink," and "My computer isn't working," are today's equivalent of the dog excuse of days gone by.

If you're a little more adventurous, try "I was abducted by aliens, and they took my paper and used it as a study of mankind and how we think." Your teacher will be so grief-stricken that your essay on Chapter 3 of *Old Man and the Sea* is being used to study mankind, that he/she won't notice the home-

Whatever excuse you choose, remember, it's all in the delivery (tears help). Don't underestimate your teachers. They were once

students themselves, and they're smarter than you might think. So I guess that your best bet when asked to hand in your neglected homework is to simply reply, "What homework?"

Dear Otis:

I'm low on cash, how do I cope?  
Hungry for Money

Dear Money Hungry:

Get a job! When I was your age I had three of them: one before school, one after, and one in-between, and they were 15 miles apart, and I had to walk, uphill, both ways, and the winters were terrible. There would be snowdrifts up to your neck, and I couldn't afford boots so I had to walk on my hands! And look where working those three jobs has gotten me today! I write an advice column, in a school newspaper--and I'm dead!

So maybe getting a job isn't the best idea. Go ask Anne Landers, she seems to have an answer for everything.

If you have any questions or comments you would like to appear in Dear Otis, please drop them off in room 28b.

## Music Stations Tune in to Listeners' Needs

by Kelli Hahn

Music is the defining force in every generation. It sets the mood for every era. A song can trigger a memory or a feeling, and people can tell exactly what kind of person you are based on the type of music you listen to.

Recently, radio stations have been more accommodating to the needs of their listeners. Star 104.5, a radio station broadcasting from Omaha, emerged earlier this year as a station dedicated to playing what the public wants to hear. They began by playing popular music from the 1990's with an occasional tune from the 1980's, and as time went on, Star received more and more phone calls saying that listeners wanted more 80's music. This evolved into entire radio programs dedicated to playing strictly 80's music. Not wanting to be left behind, Sweet 98, 98.5, began playing more music from the 80's with less talking and fewer commercials.

This last ditch effort by Sweet 98 to save their station seemed to work. In a recent musical survey given here at Scotus, 98.5 came out of the polls in second place as our favorite radio station. Reasons for this included the fact that they played a good variety of music from the 1980's and 1990's, and that they don't have an excessive number of commercials. Complaints about the station ranged from overplaying of certain songs and artists, to the lack of music played in the mornings.

The most popular radio station, according to the survey, was Star 104.5. Many people chose this as their favorite because of the variety of music played, well-liked D.J.'s, and because, as one student put it, "they let

Many of those surveyed were upset that 101.9 The Edge was no longer on the air, and some other favorite stations included 99.9, 98.1, 104.1, 92.3, 92.9, and 101.5. Some of those surveyed said that they only listened to CD's and tapes, while others said they didn't listen to music at all. The most popular decades of music ranged from the 1960's to the 1990's.

### Music Preferred by Scotus

#### Students

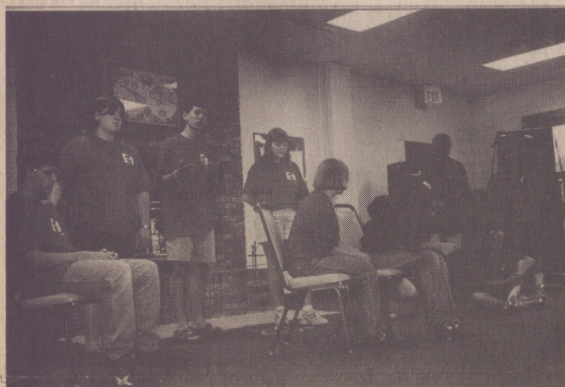
R&B-10% Showtunes-1% Alternative-29%  
Pop-5% Rap-10% Country-10%  
Classical-2% Jazz-7% Oldies-13%  
Gospel-1% New Age-7%  
Soft Rock/Easy Listening-7%  
Hard Rock/Metal-9%  
Other (Classic Rock, Punk/Ska, Swing, Polka, Blues)-3%

## Concert Info.

Have you ever wanted to go to a Dave Matthews Band concert but missed it because you didn't know when and where it was? Every year thousands of people travel all over the U.S. to go see their favorite bands, but many people miss the concerts because they don't know when they are. Although there are not a lot of concerts around here this time of year, here are some upcoming concerts in surrounding states:

#### Dave Matthews Band

Dec. 15- Champaign, Ill.-Assembly Hall  
Dec. 17- Ames, IA-Hilton Coliseum  
Dec. 18-Moline, Ill.-Mark of the Quad Cities  
Dec. 19-Chicago, Ill.-United Center  
**Barenaked Ladies**  
November 23-Chicago, Ill.-Rosemont Horizon  
**Aerosmith**  
Nov.25-Moline, Ill.-Mark of the Quad Cities  
Nov.27-Rockford, Ill.-Rockford Metro Centre  
Dec. 11-Champaign, Ill.-Assembly Hall



Improv members perform a skit at one of their various camps they participate in during the school year and the summer.

From left to right: Andy Skarka, Angie Shemek, Brad Balak, Lindsey Schademan, Sara Edison, Dawn Beran, Lindsey Pritchard, Andrew Ingemansen, Karen Gubbels, and Cheryl Bierman.  
Photo by: Kristin Zach

## So What is Improv?

The Scotus Improv Team is a group of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who roll play in scenes dealing with the major issues facing their audience. They do not use props and their message is primarily conveyed through nonverbal communication. When their scene is done, the troop stays in character and the audience is invited to ask questions about the scene. After that the team comes out of character and more questions are asked, with the members sharing their personal views on the issue.

The team started off this year together with a week long training in Aurora, Nebraska. At the camp, they swapped ideas with other Improv teams from across the state and did some intensive team building activities. Junior Brad Balak describes the camp as "a unique experience where you meet lots of new people. It really brings out your true self."

by: Kristin Zach  
The Scotus Improv Team traveled to Schuyler at the beginning of the year to perform for their grade school and junior high. They also performed for the Archdiocesan Teacher's Conference this fall hoping to gain recognition among the teachers of the area. Throughout the year the team will perform for many area grade schools and D.A.R.E. Graduations.

The team's advisor is Claudia Kiser, the junior high guidance counselor here at Scotus. Team members include: juniors Sara Edison, Angie Shemek, Brad Balak, Andrew Ingemansen, Andy Skarka, Kristin Zach, Dawn Beran, Sara DeTurk, and Katrina Landholm; sophomores Lindsey Schademan, Tory Ketter, and Lindsey Pritchard; freshmen Cheryl Bierman and Karen Gubbels.



## Chick Flick vs Macho

By: Shanna Melliger & Seth Labenz



Brad Renfro and Ian McKellen team up in Apt Pupil. Renfro plays the part of Todd Bowden, a senior boy in high school. McKellen takes the role of Mr. Denker, a former Nazi concentration-camp commander. Todd becomes interested in Nazis after studying World War II in history class. He does some research and finds out a man in his town is a former Nazi hiding under a new name. He tells Todd many stories from his past, and a relationship grows between them. The key bond in their relationship lies in the fact that either one of them could bring the other down. Todd is the only one aware of Denker's past, and only Denker knows of Todd's Nazi obsession. What if the public catches on to Denker's real identity? Can Todd and Mr. Denker keep their secrets hidden?

Apt Pupil is an interesting, somewhat suspenseful movie. At times it is intense and keeps you wondering what will happen, but it did not really seem like it was going anywhere or had anywhere to go. It did not have a strong enough plot to keep your full attention the whole time.

The title of the movie is interesting in itself--an interested, intelligent individual, if you will.

As Shanna stated, it's a thriller. It keeps you on the edge of your seat asking questions about the story and its intuitions. Renfro discovers his inner hate through the study of the destruction of many under Hitler in the early forties. He questions what it all is in history class and takes it a step further. The library feeds him with information and his questions become an obsession. The obsession is taken out on Ian McKellen, an x-Nazi figurehead. Renfro threatens the future of the old man with the dirt he has compiled through his studies on him. If Ian doesn't tell him the stories of the past, Renfro will act upon his threats.

There is a great deal of mistrust between the two throughout the film. And though it seems that Renfro is in control, he really isn't. For things never change.

It's a movie that questions your senses and what really could happen. It's a great film in my opinion. The stories within the story make you think. It may seem to drag on, but the end makes it worthwhile. So if you like Stephen King in which the story is written, go to the flick. If not, go see WaterBoy.

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## Knights Swamp the Shamrocks

By: Gregg Dohmen

Norfolk Catholic downed the Scotus Shamrocks in playoff action Monday night. The Knights jumped out to a 20-6 lead at the half and held off the 'Rocks for the quarterfinal win. The Knights dominated in the trenches and capitalized on a few Scotus special team miscues.

The multi-dimensional Knights were able to get their ground game going on the sloppy field. The ground success kept the Scotus defense honest against the Knights' vaunted passing attack. The Shamrocks, however, had little success on the ground, gaining only 127 yards on 48 carries as a team. Inside traps and isolations to Tom Rogers and E.J. Brezenski were unsuccessful against the speedy and tough Catholic defense.

The Knights started the scoring on their opening drive. On third down, Knights' running back Joe Reding took the pitch and rumbled 50 yards down the sideline for the initial score. The extra point made the score 7-0.

The 'Rocks answered back on their next possession. Scotus methodically marched down to the 15-yard line. On fourth down from the 15, senior kicker Jeff Eikmeier lined up for the 32-yard field goal, but a false start pushed the 'Rocks back five yards. Eikmeier then set up for the 37 yard attempt, but the snap got away from holder Matt Bonczynski. Bonczynski then calmly picked the ball up, rolled to his right, and hit senior Matt Mroczek in the end zone for the score. The extra point was blocked, keeping the score at 7-6.

The Knights answered back after a

Shamrock 10-yard line. Norfolk Catholic running back Chad Clausen then punched the ball in from the one to make the score 14-6.

The Knights scored for the final time with under two minutes left in the first half. Clausen scored on another one yard run to put the Knights up 20-6. The Knights botched the snap on the PAT, leaving the score at 20-6.

In the second half the Shamrocks shut down the Norfolk Catholic offense by employing a 5-3 defense. This gave the Shamrocks a chance at a comeback.

The Shamrocks pulled to within eight points in the third quarter on Roger's one yard touchdown run. The run capped a 51-yard drive. The extra point was blocked again and the Knights held on to a 20-12 lead.

In the fourth quarter, the 'Rocks drove deep into Norfolk Catholic territory. Rogers was stopped on fourth and four and the Knights took possession with under five minutes left. The Shamrocks had one last chance with under a minute left, but Bonczynski's pass was intercepted by Norfolk Catholic, sealing the win.

Scotus advanced to the quarterfinal game with a blowout win over Hartington Cedar Catholic and a 14-0 victory against Milford. The Rocks ended their season with a 9-2 record. Norfolk Catholic advanced to the semifinal round where they defeated Boys Town. Norfolk Catholic (12-0) will face 12-0 Imperial in the Class C-1 final in Lincoln on November 21.

## "Four" Pete's Sake

By: Michelle Moser

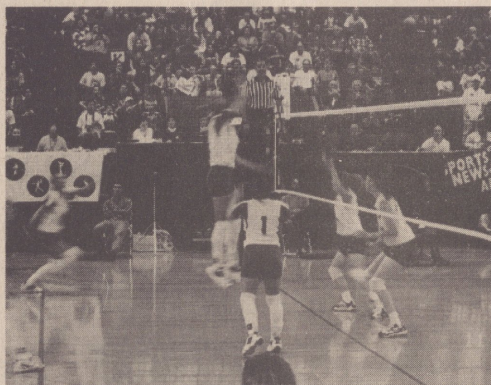
The Shamrock girls' volleyball team finished their season on a high note. The Rocks defeated Utica Centennial 15-0, 15-10 to take home the gold for the fourth consecutive year.

In the first round of state tournament play, the Shamrocks faced O'Neill. The Rocks downed O'Neill in two sets 15-2, 15-0, taking only 33 minutes. Scotus' tough serving and accurate passing was the key to their win.

Advancing to second round, the Shamrocks took Lincoln Lutheran, winning 15-4, 15-1. The Rocks had 8 ace serves to help them defeat the young and inexperienced Warriors.

The Shamrocks carried over this momentum to Saturday evening at Pershing where they faced Utica Centennial. The Rocks finished the first set in 11 minutes with tough serving. Utica Centennial gave them a challenge in the second set, but the Shamrocks were able to hold on for the title.

The Shamrocks ended their season with a 29-0 record and extended their winning streak to 46 matches. "I'm really happy with how the season ended and all the hard work we all put forth. I wouldn't change a thing," commented starting senior Jewelia Grennan.



Jewelia Grennan fakes the hit as Stephanie Kruse sets the ball to Meghan Pile during the Championship State game in Lincoln. Photo compliments of Mrs. Grennan

## CHA Offers Alternative Sport

By Emily Wick

Although Scotus offers a variety of sports to choose from, it is difficult to include everyone's interests. One of the biggest sports that is not offered here is hockey. With the obvious lack of an ice rink in Columbus, the Columbus Hockey Association sponsors roller hockey teams.

The Columbus teams, in divisions of 14 and under, 15-16, and 17 and over, play under the name Columbus Stars. The teams go to tournaments throughout the Midwest region. Association volunteers, led by John Staub, coach the teams, as well as organizing them. Tryouts for the teams were held recently, and the season will last through the summer. The teams can go to the national tournament, if they place in regionals. The national and regional tournaments are sponsored by USAC, the United States Amateur Confederation.

The Stars have several Scotus members, including seniors Tyson Owens, Matt Robak, and Jesse Fischer; freshmen Anthony Owens, Jake Staub and Drew Guiterrez; and seventh graders Shane Goodall, Nick Sahs, and Zach Riley. There are also several Scotus alumni who still play for the 17 and over team. This team has gone to nationals and done well for the past three years. "We aren't very good, but

## Bowling-Not Just a Past Time

By Jenny Flint

Going to bowling on the weekends was just something to do. Senior Kelly Garretson and sophomore Jamie Paprocki use this sport as a team, playing in major tournaments throughout the year. They have been to one tournament this year which gave them a second place title to start off their season.

Playing as a team is important to these two Scotus students as their bowling team is completely team based instead of on an individual basis. They normally practice on Saturdays at Boulevard and on Sundays at Westbrook. When asked about her team this year Garretson responded, "I feel that we are doing good and will stay good if we remain focused. I feel if we stay focused and keep practicing a lot we will be very good." Come watch the bowling team at their next tournament, the Fremont Invitational on November 21 and 22 at Fremont.

## Balak Leads the YMCA Swim Team:

By Jenny Flint

The swim team through the YMCA may not be a school affiliated sport, but some of Scotus' students participate. The swim team's members include: Junior, co-captain Brad Balak, seventh grader Stacia Jackson, seventh grader Angie Boeding, and eighth grader Crystal Lux. The team also includes members from other schools with a total of about 35 to 40 members. The coaches on the team are Tom and Connie Jackson and Russ Nyffeler.

The team had two meets to start off their season. The season's meets are not scored until the state tournament, which was won by the Columbus team last year. These meets are based more for the individual events, even though each member of the team must participate in two relays. When asked about the season Balak responded, "We started out the year slow, but as the year has progressed our times have improved. I think we will be a strong competitor at state again this year.

## One Act Has New View of Season

by: Virginia Hall

The Scotus One-Act Play cast brought home a 2nd place award from the Conference meet they attended at Grand Island Central Catholic on November 16.

The production, "A View From Here" by Margret DuLaney, is a serious comedy about four very different people with a common bond--their craziness. Fern, played by Virginia Hall, is an agoraphobic middle aged woman who has been afraid to leave her house for the past 6 years. Her younger sister Maple, played by Becky Dierks, joins her while seeking comfort after her husband walked out on her. Maple and her husband are desperate to have a child, so her husband comes up with an outlandish idea to help them achieve their goal. Fern's eccentric neighbor Carla, played by Courtney Mimick, lives in a tabloid dominated world, thinking everyone and everything is out to get her. And Arnold, played by Matt Kaspar, is an avid golfer who's wife has just left him and their newborn baby. Each of these three characters are thrown together to discover each other's insanity.

The cast started working on their play in mid-October with their director, Sandie Bernit. Within the next month, they were joined by a tech crew, consisting of Amanda Trofholz, Tasha Karsk, Lacey Wozney and Tricia Mahoney.

This was the first time they had performed for an audience, so they did not have high expectations. "None of us thought too much of our play or what we were capable of," said Becky Dierks, "We were all in shock when they announced our play as runner up." Nevertheless, they performed well enough to receive 2nd place out of 8 other plays. The judges complimented the cast and crew on their outstanding acting, use of stage and directing.

They will now go on to Districts at Wayne on November 30. Director Sandie Bernit is hopeful, "We received such positive comments from the judges at Conference. We're making excellent progress, so I expect we'll do well."

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# THE ROCK EDITION

VOLUME # 1 EDITION # 4

February 1999

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA



1999 Sweetheart candidates pose for a picture after the Coronation ceremony. John Burns and Kerry Stephan, center, were crowned this year's King and Queen. Photo by: Amanda Sackett

## Little Ditty 'Bout 99 Sweetheart

By: Amanda Sackett and Kristin Zach

February 5, 1999 was an exciting night, and many went home dreaming in their own Bed of Roses. As this year's candidates were announced a crowd of students, parents, and other spectators watched in awe as the queen candidates showed off their dresses.

The 1999 candidates for queen were Becky Dierks, Jewelia Grennan, Cara Hegemann, Kerry Stephan, Ashley Van Dyke, and Emily Wick. Angie Laudenklos, 1998 Sweetheart Queen, crowned Kerry Stephan Queen.

John Burns, Adam Cremers, Jeff Eikmeier, Matt Robak, J.J. Swierczek, and Jerod Trouba mounted the stage as the 1999 Sweetheart King candidates. 1998 King, Bode Hill, crowned John Burns this year's king.

The sophomores astonished everyone with the unique decorations. A set of beds were hauled in, covered in a cloud of white tulle, and sprinkled with rose petals on the stage.

When the coronation was over and the parents were on their way, much to the students' liking, the rest of the gym headed down the stairs to the rose covered cafeteria.

Just as all Scotus dances begin it took quite a while to get everyone out on the dance floor, but as soon as the dj, Jay Kuecker of Complete Music, played our favorite tune from John Mellancamp reservations were lost and a long night of dancing began. Of course those freshmen took a little longer to get onto the dance floor with the girls all excited about their new dresses and the guys just happy to be with the girls, but both were anticipating a great first Sweetheart Dance. With songs like "Dust on the Bottle" and "Ice, Ice Baby" who could complain that this year's Sweetheart was anything less than memorable. The only complaints to be heard might have been about the eternal mosh pit or continuous body surfing, but isn't that just to be expected at

Scotus dances by now???

The newly crowned royalty, John Burns and Kerry Stephan, started the traditional royalty dance with the rest of the candidates joining in to the smooth ballad by Jon Bon Jovi, "Bed of Roses," this year's theme. This song was also heard at the end of the night when it was time for the last dance. And what better song to play as a good bye than JoDee Messina's "Bye, Bye"?

## Ticket to Success

By Shanna Melliger

There are many things out there that have kept this school running and helped to make it the success it has become. There are countless numbers of people out there who have contributed in some way. Whether it be time, dedication, or donations, it all adds up. Keeping a school running smoothly is not an easy or cheap task. Tuition is a mere fraction of the total costs involved. This is why fund raisers are needed.

This year, like those of the past, Scotus held its Shamrock Raffle. Before Christmas break, all of the students received at least 40 tickets to sell. The tickets were sold for one dollar each with prizes of a 19" color TV from Columbus Music, a side of beef from Neid's Meats, \$300 shopping spree, and a few cash prizes.

The students were given many incentives to sell their tickets. As a class, each grade who averaged at least \$40.00 per student would receive a jeans week May 17-21. This was achieved by the 7,8,9, and 10 grade classes. Mr. Younger's sophomores finished #1 in the class competition with \$54.44 per student average. They will be rewarded with a class party later in the year. Outstanding individual sellers were also rewarded. Matt Peterson was the top individual seller (718 tickets) with Mark Patocka not far behind (701 tickets). They, along with several other high sellers, received cash prizes for their efforts. This year the Shamrock Raffle was a great success. A new school record was set this year with \$23,254 in tickets sold. This total surpassed last years total by \$769.

The drawing for the raffle tickets was held at half time of the Scotus vs. Fremont Bergan boys basketball game on January 22. The winners were as follows: 19" color TV-Lorraine Cheloha of Columbus; side of beef-Verl Wurtz of Columbus; \$300 shopping spree- Sheri Fritz of Columbus; \$300 cash-Janet Jura of Columbus; \$100 cash prizes-Gerald Frauendorfer of Humphrey and Cathy Gookiee of Columbus.

## Up Close With the King and Queen

By: Amanda Sackett and Kristin Zach

Out of 12 there come only two. The 1999 Sweetheart King and Queen were John Burns and Kerry Stephan. It was definitely a close race. Some students were surprised, and others just knew who it would be.

This year's King, John Burns, is the son of Mike and Mary Kay Burns. Burns has been involved in softball, Intramural Basketball (IBA), golf, and S-club. From the expression on Burn's face when his name was announced over the microphone for king, you could tell he was excited and ready to dance. Burns had no comment when asked how he himself felt.

On the other end, Kerry Stephan came away with the roses and crown. "I was shocked and excited," she said. Stephan is the daughter of Craig and Mary Clair Stephan. Stephan's activities include cross country, swing choir, Campus Ministry, FBLA, IBA, and softball. Stephan was also a member of the cast for Oliver and the year-book staff.

The evening was topped with the Royalty Dance to "Bed of Roses" by Jon Bon Jovi which went along with the night's theme.

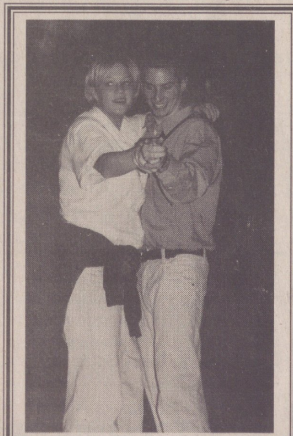
## ARC: Rocks a Flashpoint

By: Jenny Flint

ARC set up stage in the Activity Center at Scotus February 9 to give the students a drug and rage free presentation. Their presentation was a combination of music, slide clips, and drama. The title of their presentation was "Flashpoint" which means: 1) lowest temp at which vapors above a volatile combustible substance ignite in air when exposed to flame 2) a point at which someone or something bursts suddenly into action or being. The members combined this title with a four point message that centered around a person's mental, social, physical, and spiritual well-being.

ARC members encouraged group participation which ranged from clapping, cheering, and singing to pulling Katie Gonka and Kelly Stephan out on stage to dance. Senior, Keri Brichacek, commented on the presentation, "I felt like I was at a concert. They had a really strong message."

Drugs and rage are a problem among high schools all over America. ARC is an organization that began 20 years ago and searches for young adults throughout the United States who are drug and rage free and are willing to speak out about it. The group tours American high schools on a volunteer basis and are completely supported by the organization.



Senior, Katie Gonka was pulled out of the crowd Tuesday to dance with an ARC member. Photo by Jenny Flint



Sweetheart King, John Burns, and Queen, Kerry Stephan, pose for a picture after being crowned this year's royalty. Photo by: Amanda Sackett

## Are You Ready For the Big V-day?

By Becky Dierks

When someone mentions the date February 14, what is the first thing that comes to mind? Do you think, "What a great opportunity to express my love for my snookey-wookums?" Of course not. You think, "Oh great, I have to go buy another box of chocolates, I have to find that perfect card, I have to prove my love..."

Determined to redeem yourself for completely forgetting Valentine's day altogether last year (although who knew it was possible with all the promoting candy the card companies do), and to show your undying devotion to your significant other, you sprint to the local Hallmark and scour the card aisle. Like always, by the time you get there, there is nothing left except a few torn envelopes and a full section of musical Barney cards.

"Okay, this year I'll be more creative...I'll get something even better than a card." So, with your new-found sense of direction in life, you head to the candy aisle, hoping to find an assortment of heart-shaped boxes of chocolate to save your sorry hiney. Much to your dismay, it somewhat resembles the card aisle. A few squished chocolate-covered cherries and a decapitated teddy bear remain.

Now, you are out of luck, and are forced to get truly creative. You could always make your own card, but who has the time or creativity for that? This time you are determined, and out of other options, so you sit down at your desk vowing not to leave until your task is finished. Three hours later, and a few reams of paper shorter, you have it! On the front it reads: For you on Valentine's Day, 5-pound heart-shaped box of chocolates. Inside: Eaten in your honor. It's cute, clever, and just might save your relationship.

You are so proud of your accomplishment that you show all of your friends, only to have one of them tell you that he bought that very same card three weeks earlier for his girlfriend. Not only are you forgetful and insensitive as your honeybunch will so kindly remind you for the next year, but you are also a criminal. Stealing phrases from Hallmark. What are you to do? Well, you jsut have to face it. You are out of luck this year. Just remember to mark you calendar well in advance next year, and maybe you won't be in the dog house.

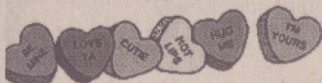
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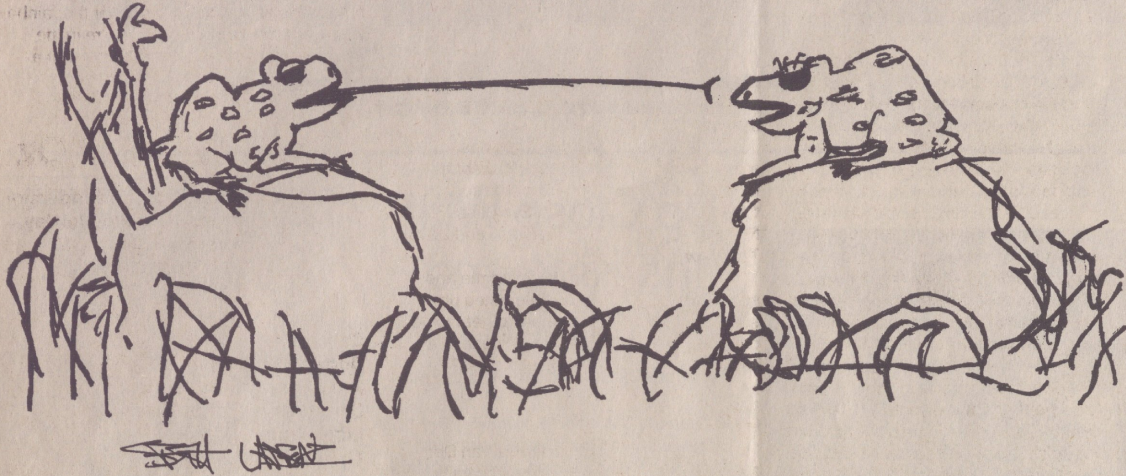
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Happy Valentine's Day



LOVE

Parlez-vous Francais



Can You Letter in That?

by: Virginia Hall

Each day throughout the halls, we are given an extra-special glimpse into certain couples' exciting extra-curricular activity. Perhaps you haven't noticed. But with the constant nuzzling, hugging, holding hands, kissing and often times even groping, how could you not?

Public displays of affection have become rampant in our school's halls. Many of the students are disgusted by these conspicuous acts of affection that they are forced to witness each day. A junior, who wishes to remain anonymous exclaimed, "It's getting old! I get nauseated walking down the halls!" Her attitude is shared by much of the student body.

Don't get me wrong, I do think that occasional acts of affection are appropriate. If you care about someone then I believe you have every right to show them in a small, INCONSPICUOUS manner. However, there is a time and a place for everything and Scotus is definitely not the place to show your loved one how much you care for them.

Each of us, at one time or another, have probably participated in a random act of public affection. Nonetheless, the majority of us do not take it to such extremes as those whom we are viewing.

On the other hand, maybe you are one of the people who haven't noticed the PDA or are not bothered by it. Mr. Brockhaus and Fr. Steve are oblivious to it on second floor. Fr. Steve explained, "The people I assume are couples walk together but other than that, I don't really notice it." They also attribute the lack of PDA on the second floor to the fear of the students. Fr. Steve joked that if students were to walk by Mr. Brockhaus and himself they would be "verbally discouraged for conducting themselves in such an unchristian-like manner."

Mrs. Blaser didn't feel like PDA was a problem on third floor either. "Junior high kids flirt a little more subtly," she explains, "I've never really seen it." Junior Amanda Trofholz disagrees. She notices a lot more PDA among the junior high kids than she can remember seeing when she was their age. Still, she is disgusted by it. "Who wants to see two junior high kids hugging?" she exclaimed, "I don't...not me!"

The message that seems to run through the school is that of disgust. No one wants to see two people making out by a locker, right? I know I don't. Perhaps it was summed up best by Trofholz when she said, "People, elsewhere." Good advice, Amanda.

Spring Break?

by Emily Wick

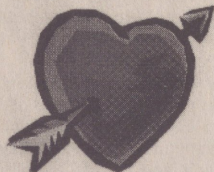
Picture a beautiful sunny day in Phoenix, Arizona. Your body is soaking up the warm rays after a cold Nebraska winter. Sounds like a dream vacation, right? It would have been for me. I was invited to visit my cousins over spring break, but unfortunately, I don't have a real spring break.

For the last few years, Scotus' spring break has been moved to two consecutive Fridays. Conveniently, these Fridays are on the week-ends of Girls & Boys State Basketball. Convenient for the school, that is. Instead of letting out extra days for the 1st and 2nd round games, they have given us those days as spring break. Now, I realize that we have to be in school a certain number of hours a year and we can't just be letting out anytime. After all, the state requires that we are in school 1,080 hours. But, we at Scotus are here 1,132 hours, almost 6 school days more than we need.

I suggest that there are several alternatives. With the obvious lack of student attendance at state games, perhaps those two days could be regular school days. Anyone who wanted to go to the games could get a note from their parents. That way we could have a real spring break, one that has at least a four day weekend.

It's not just the students who want a spring break, the teachers do too. They of all people deserve a vacation. During the State Games, they are required to be either at school or at the games, so "spring break" is even worse for them.

Why am I so interested in spring break? Because I think that we deserve what is a tradition in most high schools and universities. Because a lot of families take vacations, like mine. I don't think it is a big deal to request a few CONSECUTIVE days off for a spring vacation.



SOME HELP FOR THE VALENTINE IMPAIRED

By Matt O'Day

For those of us who are romantically impaired, this can be a bewildering time of year. Many guys will use up all their primo dating spots on New Year's Eve and run out of ideas for Valentines Day. Well have no fear, because I, a self-appointed romance expert who is exactly as qualified as all the others, present you three tips of warning.

**WARNING #1:** Choose your dating spot carefully. Guys, you will have to think like your Valentine. Surprisingly, some girls don't see the romantic side of *WCW Monday Nitro*. Even fewer will get bleary-eyed and sentimental at a monster truck rally. Go figure.

**WARNING #2:** Use your head. That means the one with your brain inside. I'm just saying that treating your Valentine to a nice, romantic dinner would not count for much if you took her to the restaurant where your bitter ex-girlfriend works as a waitress. If you choose to ignore that warning, be sure to check your food for foreign objects.

**WARNING #3:** Most importantly, don't raise the bar too high. If on St. Valentine's Day you show lot's of class and charm and really out do yourself, great job. Beware however, your girlfriend might be more than a little upset when on February 15 you turn back into a frog.

So there you go. These warnings might just get you through St. Valentines Day alive. Of course, if you are so romantically inept that these actually helped you, you don't have a prayer anyway, but on February 15, when you are D.O.A. in the love department, you'll at least know what you did wrong.

Cynical.

by Seth Labenz

It was a cool evening on February 14, 1928 in the bowels of the Bronx in New York City, when two black cadillacs made their destination in front of Vinni's Little Italy. What started out as just another happy, carefree, loving Valentine's night succumbed to a completely different reality. This became the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" when the occupants of the cadillacs emptied their machine guns into the sweat-stricken flesh of the Bambino crime family. The death and carnage totaled seventeen in number and remarkably the mint-conditioned cadillacs remained unscathed in the process.-true story.

Valentine's Day is a quasi-holiday celebrated by couples in love, couples who think they're in love, and couples who wish they were in love. No matter where you are on the fourteenth of February, love is an issue. It is thought of, or the intuition is stumbled upon. That love could take many forms-a stare at someone who has never even talked to you, an admiring of someone you look up to, or the kind that has resulted in verbal expressions with your significant other. The love could be present. It could be pretense, false, or true.-could be a crush. Point being is that V-Day is a day to be in love regardless of the circumstances.

My question to you, what is Valentine's Day? Commercialized as it may be, what do you think of the day? We use reds and pinks and smiles and cupid's. We pretend we're walking on posies or we remorse at the fact that the day is too good for us.

For those in relationships that resemble the 1928 Massacre, Valentine's Day is just an opportunity to express empty love on deaf ears. To others, it's just another reason to polish the cadillac, give Hallmark business with the purchase of an obligatory card, and express in your own words, directly, who means what to whom. Italian is not recom-



*"With love's light wings did I o'erperch these walls,  
For stony limits cannot hold love out."  
-William Shakespeare*

*"Better to have loved and lost, than to have  
never loved at all."  
-St. Augustine*

*"I never knew how to worship  
until I knew how to love."  
-Henry Ward Beecher*

*"Within you I lose myself,  
without you I find myself  
wanting to be lost again."  
-unknown*

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## Showing Our Spirit

By: Kendra Liss

Does Scotus have school spirit? The students proved that they have more than just school spirit at the Student Council Spirit Contest. They showed that they also have support for the basketball team.

On the night of Friday, January 22, during the Fremont Bergan boys basketball game, the Student Council had a Spirit Contest where the students dressed up in their most spirit-filled outfits and cheered their loudest. The Student Council also did face painting, which helped many students add to their costume. The money raised from the face painting went to the Center for Survivors.

Many students participated in this contest. Their outfits varied from actual costumes to just wearing green. Some other spirited displays were shown by hair coloring, face painting, and other wild and crazy accessories. Even those who didn't dress up, certainly showed spirit by cheering for our team.

Though everyone had spirit, unfortunately only three prizes were given. First place winner was Amy Hash who wore a great big shamrock. She received twenty-five dollars. The second place winner was Andy Skarka who received twenty dollars. There was a tie for third place between Jocelyn Karsk and Brent Melliger who both received fifteen dollars. Honorable mention went to Ryan Ames, who definitely took advantage of the hair coloring and face painting.

## Sweetheart Pep Rally One to Be Remembered

by: Rhonda Marxsen

On Last Friday afternoon Scotus students were able to show their enthusiasm and anticipation for the upcoming festivities at the '99 Sweetheart Pep Rally.

Father Steve opened with an inspirational prayer after the band played "Cheers, Cheers."

The flag corps then energized the crowd as they performed their routine to "Love Shack" by the B52's. Then the Sweetheart candidates were called down to the gym floor to participate in a surprise skit put on by the Scotus cheerleaders.

After the king candidates were separated from the queen candidates, each contender was given paper and markers and instructed to write down their answers to questions asked by the cheerleaders. When the questions got personal, such as who their first kiss was, some candidates chickened out and didn't answer directly. Jerod Trouba's answer, "I am still waiting", brought laughter from the crowd. Another question to receive some odd answers was to the guys: "boxers or briefs?". Jewlia Grennan and Adam Creemers earned the most points and won.

After the game was over, the cheerleaders ended the pep rally with an energetic routine to "You spin me Right Round."

# VARSITY BLUES

*Chick Flick vs. Macho Movie*

This Month's Critics: Virginia Hall  
Gregg Dohmen

### She Says:

*Varsity Blues* delivers a wonderful depiction of life in a small town, complete with the town hero, the acclaimed head football coach, the loose head cheerleader, the glorified football team, and the police who condone all of their "extra-curricular" activities.

The hero of the film, John Moxon, starts out the film on the bench, rarely getting to touch the ball, let alone actually play in a game. He and his family, including his religious younger brother, pray on game days for the health of the starting quarterback, Lance Harbor (Paul Walker). Unfortunately, the coaches and trainers have been pumping Lance's knee full of cortizone to stop his pain that he was having. Then disaster strikes and Harbor goes down, crying in pain over the torn ligaments in his knee. Of course, he's out for the season, and his college scholarship and football career are in jeopardy.

Thus, a new star is born. Moxon enters the game and scores the winning touchdown, making himself the newest found celebrity in town. John soon finds himself taking over as the team's leader, helping out his friends, and showing his good-heartedness. Unfortunately, his elation is stifled as he begins to have problems with his girlfriend, sister of Lance Harbor. Lance's girlfriend decides that now that Lance is injured, John will be her only way out of West Canaan. She's got the right idea, seeing as West Canaan is shown as a pathetic little town that has nothing better to pride itself on than its high school football team. John resists the temptation despite her enticement in her infamous whipped cream bikini. Moxon and his friends end up staying up all night drinking the night before the second-to-last game of the season, thus jeopardizing the team's chance at their coveted 23rd District Championship.

The movie begins to climax during the inevitable "big game," the end-all-be-all of the football team and their reputation. But the question is: Will the team win and add another District Championship to their list?

*Varsity Blues* surprised me with many different levels of interest. It has many different elements: humor, romance, tragedy, drinking, guns, nudity--mostly female (sorry girls), and a few farm animals. It also is loaded with witty one liners that keep you chuckling, (i.e. "Did you start a cult, honey? Oh, that is so sweet!")

*Varsity Blues* is a typical feel-good film, yet you can easily find yourself becoming involved in it; cursing James Van Der Beek for almost cheating on his girlfriend, gritting your teeth as painkillers are injected into ailing

players, grimacing when Kilmer tears down a player, and grinning as the team shows what they can truly accomplish.

In addition, *Varsity Blues* has a superb underlying soundtrack that contributes to the overall effect of the film with songs by Greenday, Van Halen, Third Eye Blind, Foo Fighters, Collective Soul, Fastball and Days of The New.

Overall, this film delighted me and surpassed my originally uninterested presumptions. I mean, how many other movies can pass off a girl entering the scene in a whipped cream bikini with such class?

### He Says:

*Dawson's Creek's* James Van Der Beek stars as Jonathon Moxon in *Varsity Blues*. Moxon is the back-up quarterback for West Canaan High School in football crazed Texas. During games he reads Vonnegut's *Slaughterhouse 5* behind his playbook. Mox only plays football to please his father, his real dream is to attend Brown University.

When West Canaan's All-State quarterback is injured Moxon is put into the game. He leads his team to victory and becomes the reluctant town hero. Soon the head cheerleader wants to hook up with him and Moxon soaks in his celebrity status.

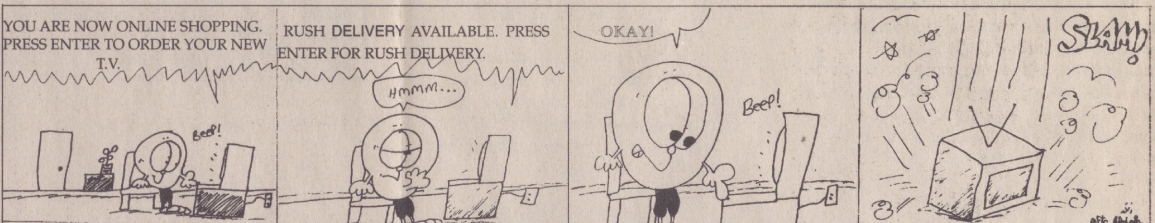
Bud Kilmer, played by Jon Voight, is West Canaan's win-at-all-costs coach. He has players shoot up with cortizone at halftime and he has the police and community leaders in his pocket. He rules over his kingdom with an iron fist and resents Moxon.

The main plot revolves around Moxon's growing celebrity and his frequent clashes with Kilmer. Other plot lines come and go but never really develop. The ending is given away in the previews so there is little suspense. *Varsity Blues* is filled with teenage drinking and nudity so it's not for everyone. Though it will not win any awards, *Varsity Blues* entertained me with great football action and exceeded my low expectations.



The Cast of *Varsity Blues*

### Little Dude By: Mike Adelman



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Senior Chris Gannon struggles to gain rebounding position against the Nuemann defender.  
Photo by Amanda Sackett

## Shamrocks Triumph Over Neumann

by: Jenny Flint

While their dates were at home getting ready the Shamrock boys were playing the 1999 Sweatheart game. The boys hosted Neumann Friday night at the Activity Center. The Shamrocks knew they had troubled waters ahead of them trying to overcome Neumann's zone defense. This would keep the Shamrocks from playing inside, and force them to prove their outside game. Neumann was surprised at the Shamrock's ability to work their perimeter passing and shooting. The Shamrocks had 50 possessions during the game.

In the first quarter, senior, Jerod Trouba, threw an incredible pass to senior, Chris Gannon, for the assist. This play put the Shamrocks ahead of Neumann who had just had a 5-4 lead. The Shamrocks finished off the first quarter with a 14-8 lead. Gannon lead the team with 13 points, finishing right in front of Matt Mrczek who finished with 11.

The Shamrocks came back just as strong in the second quarter. They held Neumann into the half with a score of 26-17. The final basket was an incredible shot of 30 feet by senior, Matt Bonczynski. He made the shot before the buzzer sounded the half. Bonczynski, came out with eight points just ahead of Trouba. Trouba came out with six points; he also helped with five rebounds and four assists.

The third quarter ended with a score of 34-31, with Neumann catching up to the Shamrocks. The Shamrocks held their ground fourth quarter, blowing by Neumann with a final score of 50-40. Senior, Matt Bonczynski said, "We knew it would be a good game. We were all happy with the outcome."

# LOVE

## Speaking of Success

By: Angie Shemek

Scotus speakers attained victory at the Albion Invitational Meet on January 23, and the Fremont Invitational Meet on January 29. At Albion the team swept away both novice and varsity divisions ranking first overall. They were one of 16 schools competing in the contest.

Novice medallists' include: Courtney Mimick, 2nd in poetry, Meghan Bernt, 2nd in Humorous Prose, Emily Kroenke, 2nd in Informative, Jill Micek and Meghan Bernt, 3rd in Duet Acting, Stephan Ingamansen, 3rd in Serious Prose, Jenny Krycki, 4th in Poetry, Chris Wachal, 4th in Extemporaneous, Rachel Mimick, 4th in Humorous Prose, Jenni Morrison, Rachel Mimick, and Jenny Krycki, 4th in OID, Chris Wachal, 5th in Persuasive, and Kelly Gablenz, 6th in Serious Prose.

Varsity medallists' include: Casey Birkel, 1st in Poetry, Dan Dvorak, 1st in Extemporaneous, Tasha Karsk, 1st in Humorous Prose, Sara Naughtin, Dawn Beran, Lynn Dolezal, and Casey Birkel, 1st in OID, Seth Labenz, 2nd in Persuasive, Virginia Hall, 3rd in Persuasive, Lynn Dolezal, 3rd in Informative, Sara Naughtin, 4th in Serious Prose, Angie Shemek, 4th in Persuasive, Tricia Mahoney, 4th in Informative, Dawn Beran, 5th in Humorous Prose, Lindsay Pritchard, 5th in Informative, Tasha Karsk, 5th in Poetry, Casey Birkel, 5th in Entertainment, Kristin Schumacher, 6th in Entertainment, and Angie Shemek, 6th in Extemporaneous.

Coach Sandi Bernt said, "It was a meet where the team really turned the corner, and began to perform a step up from where they were earlier this season."

One week later the team was still sitting near the top at Fremont's meet. After three rounds of grueling competition the Scotus speakers came out near the top. Ranking fourth overall Scotus was the only Class B school to rank in the top five at the Class A meet. Bernt said, "Fremont reaffirmed the teams performance near the top. We have never competed that well against Class A schools at such a big meet." 24 schools were in attendance.

Medallists' included: Tricia Mahoney, 1st in Informative, Lynn Dolezal, 4th in Informative, Amanda Trofholz, 4th in Entertainment, Casey Birkel, 5th in Entertainment, and Angie Shemek, 5th in Persuasion. Honorable mentions include: Casey Birkel, 7th in Poetry, Nate Tenopir, 8th in Entertainment, and Nicole Schumacher, 7th in Persuasion and 9th in Informative.

The team's upcoming competitions will be held at Omaha Merrian on February 12th, and at Battle Creek on February 20th. Competition begins at Merrian at 2:45 p.m. Although the team has never attended this meet they hope to do well.



Senior Jewelia Grennan out jumps Aquinas Monarch, Mandy Sabata, to win the jump ball at their Thursday night game. The Lady Shamrocks went on to beat the Monarchs 31-22.  
Photo by Seth Labenz

## Scotus Fights Off Upset

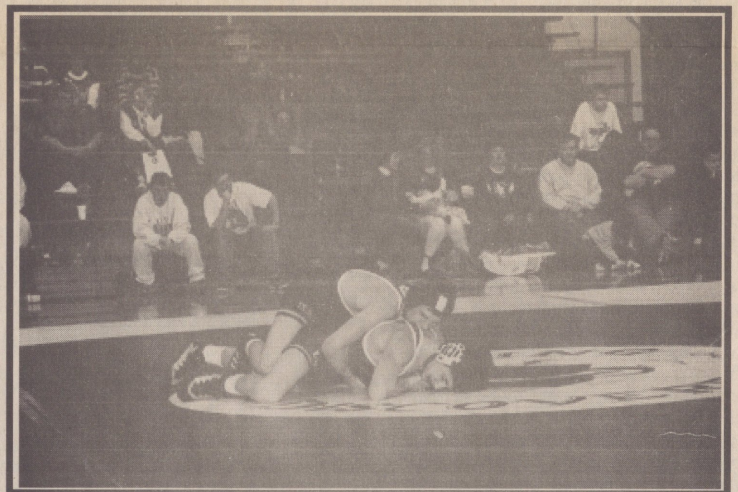
By: Michelle Moser

Although the David City Aquinas Monarchs gave the Scotus Shamrocks girls' basketball team a good scare, the Rocks were able to pull off a victory. The Shamrocks faced and defeated the Lady Monarchs 31-22, on Thursday, February 4, in the Scotus Activity Center. With this victory, the Shamrocks increased their record to 15-3.

The Scotus Shamrocks, bouncing back from two losses, pulled their game together to win over David City Aquinas. The Lady Rocks were a little shaky, but they were able to play as a team at the end to close the door on the Monarchs' attempt at an upset.

The Shamrocks were led in scoring by junior starting guards, Heather VanAckeren and Shanna Melliger, both contributing eight points. The Monarchs were led by senior Mandy Sabata.

The Shamrocks are scheduled to face the Lakeview Viqueens Tuesday, February 9, at home and Lincoln Lutheran on Thursday, February 11, away. The Scotus girls will then prepare for subdistricts, hoping to advance to districts and state. "This season has gone by really fast. All we can do now is try our best and hope that when we look back on the season we won't have any regrets," commented junior, Shanna Melliger.



Freshman, Ryan Jarecki wrestles his way to a 9-6 victory against his Lincoln East opponent, Tuesday.  
Photo by Emily Wick

## Scotus-CHS Co-op Adds New Activity

By: Emily Wick

Although 1 member is currently out with a shoulder injury, the Scotus Wrestling Team has made its presence known at Columbus High. Freshmen, Bob Soulliere, Andy McPhillips, Billy Brooks, and Ryan Jarecki have the honor of being the first Scotus wrestlers through a co-op with CHS.

At an exhibition meet with Lincoln East on February 2, Brooks and McPhillips won by forfeit and Jarecki defeated Chris Harris in a 9-6 decision. "My asthma makes it tough sometimes, but if I take time-outs for my inhaler it's okay," said Jarecki.

Soulliere was injured during a previous practice and hasn't competed since. "I might have had a shot at varsity, since one of the juniors got MIP," said Bob of his cut-short season. Overall, the four have competed in freshmen and junior varsity meets with CHS.

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# THE ROCK EDITION

VOLUME # 1 EDITION # 5

March 1999

SCOTUS CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA

## Getting to the Rock Bottom of SCC

By: Angie Shemek

And on the 8th day God said let there be knowledge, and there was Scotus. While the founding of Scotus may not have been this simple, after doing a little research we can trace our roots back to the first letter conceiving thoughts of a school amidst the open prairie in 1878. Furthermore, what we now know as Scotus has not always been quite what it is today, but your affluent history beholds us with our present circumstance.

After 121 years, our basis continues to reflect the image that Fr. Ambrose Jansen wrote about in a letter to another priest about the formation of a school. With the help of the nuns from the Third Order of St. Francis or Mary Immaculate, who were from Joilet, Illinois, the construction began on St. Francis Academy. It was completed on November 4, 1878, on the same ground that Scotus now rests on. The completion of the project saw costs for the school at \$8,000. This figure was slightly higher because a chapel was built bearing the same name as the present chapel, The Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. That first year Sr. Stanislaus Droeseler was the principal with only grade school classes being offered.

The progression of St. Francis grew as time went on. The Sister of St. Francis Seraph of Perpetual Adoration from Lafayette, Indiana, took over the school in July of 1882. This same year high school courses were added and students graduated after their tenth year. The first class to graduate, however, was not until 1895. They were one short of the expected number of graduates after the untimely death of Miss Kitty Kavanaugh. (Some link the classic "Scotus Ghost" legend to her death, but the ghost stories and her connection are mere hearsay.) Pupils did not begin attending school for twelve years until 1910.

The increasing demand for education at St. Francis was met with renovations. The original building was a three-story structure with four rooms on each floor. Today there are three floors, two wings, two gymnasiums, and 32 classrooms. Of those 32 rooms, four of those are computer labs. Changes took place in 1884, 1886, 1890, 1894, 1958, 1965, 1981, and continues to change today. The early changes saw the addition of dormitories along with more classroom space. Numbers had increased from 90 to 250 students by the turn of the century.

By 1914, direct records were being kept of everything from classes offered to what time classes began and ended. One such record indicates that in 1925 classes began at 8:50 a.m. and ended at 3:00 p.m. Upon the disclosure of such startling information, I thought this should be grounds for reform of our own beginning and ending times, on account of tradition of course. Then taking a closer look at the reality of why the school day was so short, I decided to reconsider my appearance at the next board meeting with this "later start/earlier out proposal." At this time Nebraska was still a young state. The majority of the inhabitants lived on farms and homesteads. The students did not have the luxury of cars and either walked to school or stayed in the dorms.

Another aspect of school life that was different at this time was the classes offered. While students were still plagued with the burden of English, Algebra, Physical Education, and Chemistry, they also embraced knowledge from their study of Agriculture, Botany, Latin, Book Keeping, and Roman History. All students followed the same schedule

was in use. It remained St. Bon's until 1965 when we finally received our current name, Scotus Central Catholic. Accurate records of when St. Francis was completely torn down were not found. However, Memorial Hall was built in 1958 and the cornerstone reads 1965. Scotus, which is Latin for "the Scot," was named after John Duns Scotus. He was a priest, writer, and teacher during the 13th century. He was honored for his brilliance, and deep theological writings. In 1993 Pope John Paul II made him "blessed." His feast day is celebrated on November eighth each year.

Finally, our rich heritage of extra curricular excellence erupted when a men's basketball team was formed in 1931. At first the five-member team only played other local teams at the YMCA, but with the help of Creighton graduate, Paul Ernst, the team began competing in area tournaments. All of the boys on that first team happened to be Irish. Ernst jokingly called them the Shamrocks because of their nationality. Although it was only a nickname, obviously it took hold. Tooley Drugstore donated the first uniforms which adorned the team in the same green we know today. Their success in the beginning was also notable, like the colors and name, also remains today. Shortly after the debut of basketball, baseball was added in 1941 to the short list of activities for students. Girls were allowed to participate in archery in 1937, as well as cheer the boys on, or be involved in clubs. In 1941 this changed. A girls basketball team was started. At first it was intramural, but after some time exploded into what we know of it today. The beginning of our activities may have begun with sports, but it was followed shortly after with many more competitive events.

As time has gone by, our school has seen many changes from names, to buildings, to classes, and to activities. Someday, we may come back here to find what is so familiar to us as Scotus may not quite be the same place we knew when we last departed. Nonetheless, we can be assured that the time we spent here, and memories created continue with the tradition of excellence in Catholic education.

### The dates some activities began at SCC

- 1931 Men's Basketball
- 1936 Bona-Venture School Newspaper
- 1936 Jr. Sr. Prom
- 1936 Cheerleading
- 1936 Sewing Club
- 1937 Women's archery
- 1941 Pep Club
- 1941 Track
- 1947 Home Economics
- 1949 County Government Day
- 1949 Yearbook
- 1950 Band
- 1950 Speech
- 1951 Homecoming
- 1952 Hot Lunch \$.30
- 1954 The Golden Rule: Football players will be tracksters as well
- 1954 Sweetheart Royalty
- 1955 Shamrock Boosters Club
- 1956 Mock Trial
- 1959 Volleyball
- 1959 Shamrock Club Sportman Banquet
- 1959 Athlete of the Year Award
- January 10, 1966 Bomb threat cancels school
- 1980 Cross Country
- 1981 Campus Ministry

## Rules Can't Be Changed Just By Whining

By Amanda Sackett

Okay, here's the low down on what you've been whining about. The story with six extra days-sorry, but that is not true. The state requires that we be in school 1,080 hours. This does not include passing periods and lunch. To earn our credits, the state requires that each school offers so many credit hours. Credits are determined by the number of minutes in class, multiplied by the number of days in session, then divided by 900. Therefore, if students were in class for 50 minutes, 180 days, divided by 900 the state would say the school receives 10 credits for that class. The problem is that Scotus is only in class 46 minutes for 176 days. When divided by 900 that only equals 8.9 credits which would round up to nine. Other days which students are dismissed are not supposed to count either, such as state sports, snow days, heat days, etc. You can see that Scotus does not have any of these days scheduled in. Spring break in return is spread out over the two Fridays of state basketball.

The state determines how many credit hours the schools offer, but the school board has set the number of credits given for each course. The state does not decide how many credits to give each student for their classes, rather, they fix a required number of course credits per subject the school must meet.

Next topic for discussion: DRESS CODE. Frequent complaints by the students are in regards to the no outside stitching on the pockets of pants and not being allowed to wear sandals. First of all, the administration has nothing to do with determining the dress code in school. They simply ask parents, "What do you want your kids to wear to school," therefore, establishing a parental board to determine in school dress codes. This board only considers changes when the dress code has been consistently challenged. If the students want to change any of the dress code rules, they need to submit a list of his or her complaints and/or requests to this board before one of their meetings to give them time to look them over. If students were to just go to a meeting and say that these are the things we feel need to be changed, the board would be more likely to turn them down. Frankly, it would be due mostly to a lack of information and time to review the topic.

Another concern with sandals is the health hazards involved. The school is required to provide a safe learning environment for all students, and some feel that sandals create problems. There is no way students would be allowed to wear sandals without socks, but it is a subject which needs to be further discussed. Also, science labs create problems. If chemicals were spilled on someone's feet and they were wearing sandals, the school would be liable. It is all just a safety concern. A suggestion to avoid these problems was to allow students to sign a consent form as they would do to go on a field trip. Mr. Walding could not reply to this. The only way to change the dress code in school is to take your requests to the parents.

Sophomore, Tory Ketter feels, "At this school, there is way too much whining from the student body. If they want something done, they need to act on their feelings, not their mouths."

Mr. Walding, along with many other teachers, is willing to put in time to answer other questions and inform the students and parents of why the rules are how they are. Walding stated that no matter how rational you may try to be, it will not satisfy everyone. If students want things changed then they need to take action. Tell the administration what you feel needs to be changed. If you do it in a respectful manner they will listen. The school board and administrators need to be informed of what is to come in the next few years. According to Walding, "Students pass in and out of this school in a six year period. Ten years ago I wouldn't have anticipated body piercing, nor can one predict the future."

## Searching for Your Pot of Gold

By Shanna Melliger

St. Patrick's Day is possibly the only national holiday that is given recognition outside its native land. This clearly indicates the Irish influence throughout the world. Though not a national holiday, March 17 is recognized in many areas, but the biggest observance is in Ireland. Nearly all of the businesses, with the exception of restaurants and pubs, are closed on March 17. Being a religious holiday as well, many attend mass where it is the traditional day of offering prayers for missionaries throughout the world, before the serious celebrating begins in earnest.

The earliest celebrations on the date of St. Patrick's death were noisy affairs. As the Irish immigrated around the world, they took the splendid celebration with them. The United States and Canada have celebrated St. Patrick's day since colonial days. It began as a religious holiday but later became a well known festival.

The Irish show their unity by "the wearing of the green." Some people think that green became the color of St. Patrick's Day because it occurs at the beginning of spring, when all turns green. The color green is also connected with hope and nature. There are many other traditions and legends affiliated with St. Patrick's Day.

Many people question how the shamrock ties in with it all. St. Patrick is recognized for bringing Christianity to Ireland. While trying to teach the Irish about the Holy Trinity, they became very confused and did not understand how there could be three gods and yet only one. After a moment of contemplation, St. Patrick picked a shamrock and illustrated the wildflower having three leaves united with one stock. This was his living proof of the Holy Trinity. Still today the shamrock remains the national emblem of Ireland and is worn proudly on St. Patrick's day by Irish people all over the world.

Also, many ponder over the history of the leprechaun. The leprechaun is a tiny elf-like creature living in the forest of Ireland. With him is a pot of gold, often seen at the end of the rainbow. Should you encounter this tiny elf, run quickly and try to catch him, and the pot of gold will be yours. Careful though, because he is a tricky fellow and will easily slip through your fingers. His shenanigans and playfulness are known to be the curse of gold hunters.

The blarney stone has a legend of its own. It is said that if you kiss it, you will be endowed with the gift of eloquence and persuasive flattery.

These are just some of the legends and lore of the Irish holiday. May you all have a happy St. Patrick's Day, and remember to wear your green!



The former St. Francis Academy sat on Scotus' current location until 1965 ■

Photo from 1954 St. Bon's yearbook.

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## Hypocritical.

By: Seth Labenz

While basketball guard, Chris Herron, played for the Fresno State Bulldogs he and his teammates would make their pregame entry by running through an inflatable tunnel shaped in the form of a can of Coors Silver Bullet beer. After dismissing Herron from the team because of substance abuse, the school removed the inflatable tunnel but allowed Miller beer to sponsor subsequent games. In fact, coach Jerry Tarkanian continues to do paid ads for Budweiser. -Sports Illustrated, Dec. 15, 1997.

This do as I say not as I do mentality, hypocrisy if you will, seems to be running rampant throughout America and threatens to undermine the fabric of our society. Consider the classic hypocritical types: the lecherous priest, the flattering socialite full of false earnestness, or the reform politician with his hand in the till. What they show is the pretense of virtue, idealism, or sympathetic concern used to further selfish ends. Their victims are the more to be pitied because of the painful betrayal of trust involved in their victimization.

Hypocrisy then, is the practice of professing beliefs, feelings, or virtues that one does not hold or possess. In some ways hypocrisy could be viewed as an honesty deficit disorder to the highest degree. When we allow hypocrisy into our thought processes, we have a tendency to overlook character flaws that otherwise would have a negative reflection on a person or group.

The calendar may have turned a page, but the athletic arena has not. The National Basketball Association, better known as the NBA, has been sponsoring a "stay in school" campaign for years. So why does it draft sophomores and juniors right out of high school promising these kids fame and fortune?

Then there's Tiger Woods, potentially the greatest golfer the sport has ever known or just a greedy individual who's main goal in life is to cash in on his enormous talents. Tiger paints himself as a black man who's had to battle his way through the indignity of prejudice, although he grew up enjoying a comfortable, California existence while playing golf morning, noon, and night. In fact, Tiger told Sports Illustrated when he was named its 1996 Sportsman of the Year that he "has no desire to be king of endorsement money". Well, I don't know how you define a king, but Tiger has five-year endorsement deals with Nike, Titleist, American Express, and Rolex for 40 million, 20 million, 13 million, and 7 million dollars respectively.

This mentality has also invaded the thinking of a few famous people. The most obvious example is our infamous president, William Jefferson Clinton. He states his own views on the Richard Nixon Watergate scandal:

"Yes, the President should resign. He has lied to the American people time and time again and betrayed their trust. He is no longer an effective leader. Since he has admitted guilt, there is no reason to put the American people through an impeachment. He will serve absolutely no purpose in finishing out his term. The only logical solution is for the President to save some dignity and resign".

-Omaha World Herald, Nov. 1, 1998.  
Being extremely explicit in its content, Madonna's best selling sex book was passed on recently by the American Library Association. Many librarians did not want to have to defend the book in front of angry library

The hypocrisy of this little white lie becomes obvious when we think of what would happen if Daniel Steel's next best seller were to appear in a similar heavy metal cover.

I've given you examples. It is a fairly straight forward matter to condemn this sort of behavior. We use it to take monetary advantage, to bend the truth to fit our selfish needs, and as a crutch to avoid making the hard decisions that we confront in life.

Let us put honesty back into our public institutions, our every day being, and stop adding insult to our injury.

## Higher Learning at The Greatest Place on Earth!

By Emily Wick

It seems that in all the excitement of choosing a college, most students don't step back and examine their experiences. I think that we should all be able to observe unnoticed while a nervous student is interviewed for a scholarship or a senior and his concerned parents are taken on a campus tour. I'm sure that we would acquire a new sense of humor about the whole process.

Have you ever met a student from a college who works in the admissions department? While some of them are the typical laid-back college students, there are a few who seem eternally perky and excited. These caffeine pill addicts apparently haven't been off campus for years because they talk about it like it was heaven on earth. It makes you wonder what sort of nazi-like college propaganda they've been exposed to.

For example, I was recently at a college for a scholarship interview and touring day. There were about 30 high school seniors and their parents and for each one there was a student guide. After lunch, in the bathroom, I heard one of the guides talking to her "charge". It was nauseating. She even told her that she still sees her admissions counselor a lot and they are really good friends. Wow, big surprise, since she works in the admissions office.

You would think that for all the great and knowledgeable things that you are supposed to learn there, colleges would be creative and intellectual when devising questions to ask interviewees. Unfortunately, that does not seem to be the case. Such trite things as "Where do you see yourself in ten years" and "Why do you want to come to fill in the blank university?" have popped up in many an interview. While putting a humorous twist into your answer may point out the stupidity of these questions, replying "Barefoot and pregnant" or "I hear they have great keggers" are not the kind of answers that will clinch your scholarship.

As many seniors have found out, college searching is filled with long applications, frustrating tours, and weighty decisions. But if we all take a closer look, the path to the next four years is a fairly comical one. Just remember to steer clear of anyone who has a constantly bobbing head or a nametag with smiley faces added to it and all will go well.

## Fashion, Fashion, what's your passion?

By Becky Dierks

Blue shirt, khaki shorts. White shirt, navy slacks. White shirt, plaid skirt. Blue shirt, navy shorts. Is this your idea of fashion? Maybe to the most avid uniform supporter, but to the rest of us...what is fashion? Probably not a pair of bright orange tennis shoes, unless you are Tom Marler, or wearing a huge belt-buckle, since none of us go to Lakeview.

And just what exactly does fashion consist of? Is it purely your clothes, or does attitude play a part? If it is just clothes, what makes you fashionable? Is it what we see on TV and in movies and magazines? Or does it vary from place to place, person to person, situation to situation?

Teachers Mr. Brockhaus and Mrs. Salyard agree on many areas of fashion. The 70's fads that are coming back are ugly, long hair and earrings for guys are disgusting. Body piercing shouldn't be known or shown and anything risqué or revealing is repulsive. Mrs. Salyard gives a big thumbs down to all of the above. "I guess I'm just a conservative guy, but I just don't get some of the things people wear today," said Brockhaus. However, the teachers both agree that the clothes don't change who the person is.

Even though our everyday lifestyle (attending Scotus) doesn't allow for any passing-period fashion shows, we can still get a taste of it in our spare time. Everywhere you turn there are pictures and propaganda telling you how to dress, and showing you what is in. Even your mom criticizes you, saying, "You're not leaving the house looking like that are you?"

With all this attention on your ensemble, what's a person to do? Who has the time to agonize over every little detail to make sure they're up to par? The best advice is to not sweat it - wear what you're comfortable in. Just be ready to deal with the fashion police and the hundreds of pairs of judgemental eyes you cross paths with everyday. After all, don't you still remember the horrid attire your second grade teacher used to don?

## Do Spring Sports Receive Support?

by: Jenny Flint

Should the cheerleading season end with winter sports? When the cheerleaders try out they only try out for a season that ends after winter sports. Several spring athletes would like this changed. Spring sports are just as important as the rest of the sports during the year. The last two years boys and girls' soccer have made it to state. Neither team received a pep rally. Track teams have made it to state many years, but have they received a pep rally? No! I understand that it is not the cheerleaders fault, but I believe someone should step in and lead a pep rally for any spring sport making it to state.

I am not saying that we do not receive any support. We have received locker signs in the past. Last year during district and state soccer we received signs on our lockers, and I have noticed that the track people received signs on their lockers. Signs give us great support, but only by a small margin. I am sure every spring athlete appreciates the recognition they are given. It is nice that the cheerleaders do this for us, but it is unfair to them because it is considered their off season. After attending all the football, volleyball, and basketball games throughout the year, it is understandable that they deserve a break. If they do not take care of it though, I think it is unfair that no one else takes over the responsibilities.

Why should we be neglected from having the entire student body participate in our triumph? Why should we be neglected from giving speeches in front of a crowd? Spring sports should be granted the privilege of pep rallies, because we too need the support of the entire student body. Nothing feels better than being excited about a big game and than having the whole student body cheering you on and wishing you well.

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## "Sentimental

By Matt O' Day

On Tuesday, March 3rd, the Scotus band made significant progress toward new uniforms with their annual dinner concert. This year's program, "Take a Sentimental Journey to the Big Band Era", featuring famous swing arrangements from the 1940s, helped to raise interest and funds for the band.

This concert generated more interest thanks in large part to the addition of a trio of singers: Seniors Kelli Hahn and Molly McGuire and Junior Angie Shemek. Also adding to the atmosphere were the junior dancers: Mandy Beiermann, Brad Balak, Dawn Beran, Rob Burbach, Casey Birkel, Jeremiah Grell, Lynn Dolezal, Eric Hinze, Sara Edison, Andy Ingemansen, Majja German, Drew Johnson, Katrina Landholm, Aaron Krajcek, Lacey Wozny, Tim Sleddens, Kristin Zach, and Nate Tenopir, coordinated by Trisha Mahoney.

Mrs. Kosch helped to recruit the dancers by offering extra credit for her Junior American History class, which began studying the 1940s just days before the concert. She also helped write and direct the dialogue between narrators Shawn O'Neil and Amy Pemberton.

Despite the addition of singers and dancers, the focus of the evening was still on the bands themselves. All of the Columbus Catholic Schools' bands, from the Elementary Band to the Senior High Jazz Band performed, featuring the music of Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington and Nat King Cole, among others. This music offered many opportunities for soloists, who included Senior Matt Kaspar, Juniors Megan Cimpl, Matt O'Day and Jenny Levos, and junior high students: Drew Paprocki, Mikayla Wurdinger, Gina Starzec, Angela Vavricek, Scott Hengler, Jared Swantek, Cody Fry and Holly Knapp in the Junior High Band and Junior High Jazz Band.

"Last year at the Malt Shop Memories [last year's dinner concert] it occurred to me that music and history are cousins," says Kosch. A fan of Glenn Miller and swing in general, Kosch helped to publicize the concert in her class.



Above: To get the audience in the mood, Amy Pemberton and Sean O'Neil perform a short skit before the concert. Below: Tim Sleddens and Kristin Zach swing dance as part of the night's entertainment. Photos by: Zach & Schaad



## Chick Flick vs



## Macho Movie

By: Emily Wick and Matt O'Day

### She Says

Most of today's films don't have enough of a story line to be dragged on for three hours and this movie was no exception. A fresh change, however, was that the producers realized this and *Office Space* was an unconventional 90 minutes.

As for the comedy of the film, it was also unconventional, being less physical than the comedy I have come to expect. This appealed to me as a fan of subtle humor. I enjoy films that aren't filled with flashing neon signs pointing out the comedy as if the audience doesn't get it. Unfortunately for *Office Space*, the comedy was only a bit better than the story line, and it was WEAK. Perhaps I was a bit let down by the previews from which once again *Office Space* was an exception, but not in a good way. The movie was actually worse than the previews made it out to be. I expected more of the story to be about what the main character, Peter, does to lose his terrible corporate computer job. Instead it twisted into predictability. The funniest character in the movie was based on a cartoon character Mike Judge had created before he made *Office Space*.

Overall, I give *Office Space* a so-so review, partially because of it's length, but also for some of its subtle humor. But as Jerod Trouba put in, "That was not worth \$5.50."

### He Says

*Office Space*, a "Dilbert"-esque comedy, follows the lives of three corporate programmers as they try to survive among consultants and a muttering eccentric named Melvin who says he will "burn this place down."

The main virtue of this movie is its length. The plot is a little thin and very predictable. There are plenty of jokes though, so while *Office Space* will not exactly win Best Picture, it will make a good video pick down the road when you don't have to pay \$5.50 to watch it.



Colleen McGuire, Megan Bern, Andy Skarka, and Matt Kaspar, clockwise from top left, perform at the band tribute to 50's music. Photo by: Molly McGuire

## Scotus Production "The Wizard of Oz" a Roaring Success

By Kelli Hahn

On February 19th and 20th at 7:30 p.m., a cast of 84 Scotus students performed their version of the classic tale, "The Wizard of Oz".

"I chose to do this musical because it was a play with a large cast. I wanted to include the junior high, and it was a popular movie that everyone knew," replied the director, Ms. E.J. Gardner. "The Wizard of Oz" is about a young girl named Dorothy Gale and her dog, Toto. Dorothy gets caught in a twister, is knocked out by a window frame, and dreams of a land called Oz in which she meets a diverse cast of characters including a scarecrow without a brain, a tinman without a heart, and a cowardly lion.

"I was very excited about the role I received," said junior Dawn Beran, who landed the role of the scarecrow, "It seemed to go by very fast and now that it's over I miss it. It was a whole barrel of fun while it lasted."

Junior high students were allowed to try out for this play, and for them this proved to be a fun and rewarding experience, but for many actors this was their last play. The cast included 18 seniors. "I'm sad that this is the last high school production I get to be in," said senior Jessica Bolte who was a member of the chorus and stage manager.

The play proved to be a success with a grand total of 1200 people attending the two shows. "It was a lot more people than I expected," said Gardner.

## Say What?

by: Kristin Zach

Although new words for our expanding vocabulary are a part of our every-day lives here at Scotus, there are many words that seem all too familiar to us all. Students catch each other saying the same words and adjectives over and over, but "you've got to realize" that teachers have their own famous quotes to be heard in their classrooms. What do your teachers say over and over until you can guess what they are going to say before they even say it? Perhaps "that would be a great burning question". Try to match these well-known quotes to the speaker, your teachers.

### Quotes

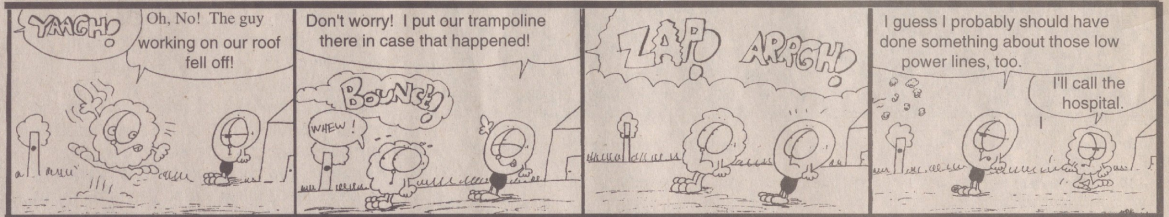
- "You guys gotta realize." & "That's virtually all you gotta know."
- "Mole money, mole money, mole money."
- "That's good to know but it's not on the test." & "The fair is in July."
- "We've got a lot to do today." & "That'd be a great burning question."
- "Uhhh...geo-code #56. What else?"
- "That's all well and good."
- "As far as..."
- "We're praying now." & "With freedom comes responsibility."

### Teachers

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Mrs. C. Johnson     | Mr. Mahoney       |
| Mrs. Matz           | Mrs. Kosch        |
| Mr. McGill          | Mr. Brockhaus     |
| Mrs. Dusel-Misfeldt | Fr. Steve Emanuel |

## Little Dude

By: Mike Adelman



The guard to the gate of Emerald City, Tory Ketter (center), welcomes (left to right) the Cowardly Lion (Angie Shemek), Dorothy (Kelli Hahn), the Scarecrow (Dawn Beran), and the Tinman (Ryan Greiner). Photo by: Staff

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## Scotus Speech Team Pulls in at 1st

By: Rhonda Marxsen

On Tuesday, March 9, the Scotus speech team competed at Districts in Pierce. Scotus came in first with 96 points, Wayne came in second with 85 points, and Lakeview was third with 77 points.

Scotus Medalists include: freshman Meghan Bernt, who placed 4th in Humorous Prose; junior Angie Shemek, placed 4th in Persuasion; and junior Dan Dvorak, placed 4th in Extemporaneous.

Other Medalists and State Qualifiers include: junior Casey Birkel, placed 1st in Poetry; senior Tricia Mahoney, placed 1st in Informative; junior Sara Naughtin, placed 1st in serious Prose; junior Kristen Schumacher, placed 1st in Humorous Prose; junior Dawn Beran, placed 1st in Humorous Prose; junior Lynn Dolezal, placed 3rd in Informative; senior Courtney Mimick, placed 3rd in Poetry; junior Nicole Schumacher, placed 3rd in Extemporaneous; junior Amanda Trofholz, placed 3rd in Serious Prose and 3rd in Entertainment; and Dawn Beran, Lynn Dolezal, Sara Naughtin, and Casey Birkel placed 3rd in Group Drama.

More finalists include senior Virginia Hall, who placed 5th in Persuasion and Meghan Bernt and freshman Jill Micek, who came in 6th in duet acting.

All 16 of the Speech Team members qualified for finals. This is a new school record. This District team record is the 10th title in 21 years. Speech Coach, Mrs. Bernt seems to be very pleased with the way everyone performed. She believes all gave 100% effort. While winning six of eleven contests this year, Bernt is extremely proud of the Speech Team.

State Speech will take place at UNK on March 18.

## Scotus Girls Come Up Short

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus Shamrock girls' basketball team, coached by John Petersen and Scott Miller, came up just short of a trip to the State Tournament on Wednesday, February 24. The Rocks' desire for another state title diminished when they were defeated by the North Bend Tigers at Schuyler High School. The Tigers won with a score of 44-34, ending the Shamrocks' season with a record of 18-4.

The district final game was scheduled to be held on Monday, February 22, but after a large amount of snow and ice, it was rescheduled for the coming Wednesday. "We felt we were well prepared having two extra days to work on their [North Bend's] plays. We had a great practice the day before, and we did all we could to make it to state. We feel that all-in-all, we had a great season," commented starting junior, Heather VanAckeren, on the postponement of the game.

The Shamrocks and Tigers sure gave their fans something worth their money to watch. The game was extremely close from the start, as expected. The score at halftime was 18-16, North Bend with a lead of two. The Rocks knew they could pull a victory off, but they needed to play nearly flawless.

Coming out into the second half of play, the score again fluctuated back and forth. The Shamrocks gave up a few three-point plays and committed other small errors that led to a sad ending.

The Rocks knew that in spite of the disappointment of defeat, they had nothing to hang their heads about. "We had a great season. Each of our four defeats were from teams that qualified for the state tournament, led by North Bend, who won the C-1 State Championship title," commented head coach John Petersen.



Sophomore, Kendra Schneiders, center, takes a shot in the Shamrocks' district final against North Bend Central. Junior, Heather Van Ackeren, (33) prepares for the rebound while North Bend players look on.

Photo by: Amanda Sackett

## Pre Season Soccer Starts with a Kick!

By Kendra Liss

Pre season soccer started on March 1 with tryouts and the 1999 soccer teams were chosen on Friday, March 5. Everyone who tried out prepared by attending open gym. Weather cooperated, which allowed practices be held outside. Although everyone could not be picked, everyone tried their hardest throughout the week.

This year's girls' soccer team consists of seniors: Stephanie Kruse, Jewelia Grennan, Jenny Flint, Sara Rief, Tiffany Ketter, and Ari Kunneman. The juniors are Amanda Sackett, Ceisha Kudron, Heather Van Ackeren, Sara DeTurk, Melinda Henggeler, and Shanna Melliger. The sophomores are Melissa Schmidt, Kara Wessel, Christa Buettner, and Lori Swanson. The freshmen are Meghan Pile, Natasha Bender, and Katie Korth. The girls hope to have a very successful season.

The 1999 boys' soccer team consists of seniors: Jason Cieloha, Robbie Diederich, Jerod Trouba, EJ Brezenski, Tom Rogers, and Matt Mroczek. The juniors are Joe Citta and Drew Johnson. Sophomores are Cade Kudron, Tyson Becher, Jeff Kosch, Aaron Mielak, Brock Pillen, Justin Harsh, Travis Fry, and Seth Labenz. The freshman boys are Tim Mlinar, Chris Rogers, and Greg Buelt. Tyson Becher and Travis Fry quoted, "We believe that Seward is going to come out with a smashing season, maybe state, so it's going to be tough. The same with that great team up on the hill, Lakeview. Our motto: Faith, Hope, Glory, and beating Schuyler is priceless. Warriors, come out and playeaeae!"

The first home soccer games are at 4:30 on the 25th, against York. Both the boys and girls' soccer teams hope to be very successful and do their best this year. The 1999 soccer season promises to be an exciting, and hopefully victorious season for everyone.

## Lakeview Ends Boys' Season

By: Gregg Dohmen

Lakeview used strong zone defense and hot shooting to upset the Scotus boys in the C1-7 subdistrict final on Thursday, February 26. The Vikings defeated the Shamrocks before a near capacity crowd at the Columbus High Gym. It was the Vikings' second victory over the Shamrocks, the first coming by a score of 33-30 on February 6.

The 'Rocks started off hot, grabbing a 14-6 lead near the end of the first quarter. Lakeview's zone defense and physical play then limited the 'Rocks to only seven points the rest of the first half. Meanwhile, Lakeview rattled off nine consecutive points and took the lead 15-14. Lakeview stretched their lead to 25-21 at halftime in spite of having two starters, Dusty Jura and Jeremy Killham, on the bench for much of the second quarter with foul trouble.

Lakeview extended the lead to eight points, 34-26, in the third quarter. Then senior, Matt Mroczek, who was the game's leading scorer with 18 points, drained a three pointer and three free throws to close the gap to 39-36 midway through the fourth quarter. Lakeview then struck the fatal blow to the Shamrocks' chances by scoring the next four points and taking a 43-36 lead with less than four minutes to go. Two free throws by Killham closed out the Viking scoring before senior, Thadd Recek ended the game with a last second three point shot.

Lakeview, who shot well over 50%, was lead by Killham with 15 points and six rebounds and Calvin Kapels with 11 points. The Shamrocks were lead by Mroczek's 18 points and Jerod Trouba's eight points and seven rebounds.

The Shamrocks ended their season at 16-6. Lakeview, ranked eighth by the Omaha World Herald, advanced to the C1-4 district final against West Point on Monday, March 1 in Norfolk. The Vikings (16-7) proceeded to defeat the Cadets 49-29 and earn their first state tournament birth since 1972.



Bonczynski looks for the basket, Mroczek and Gannon look on, while Beiermann gets ready to rebound against Lakeview in the second round of districts. Photo By: Jewelia Grennan

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# ROCK EDITION

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Jewelia Grennan and Michelle Moser dance the night away with their dates while stopping for a moment to take a picture.

photo by: Amanda Sackett

## Girls Go For Broke '99 Prom "Unforgettable"

By: Becky Dierks

Prom, as depicted by TV and movies is the biggest night in a teenagers life. All the romance and excitement of the year is supposed to be packed into one night. It's no wonder that everyone spends so much time, money, and energy preparing for this great event.

But does everyone? As a female, I know all the effort that can go into prom. Shopping for a dress and a date begins months in advance for most; then you have to find shoes, earrings, a necklace, garter, purse, makeup, nail polish, hair accessories and a hairdo to match.

After that you need to find a boutonniere, underwear that won't show, pay for getting your hair done, buy film for your camera, and professional pictures. By that time you could be anywhere from \$100-\$400+ poorer than you were a few short weeks earlier. Not to mention what women put their bodies through - tanning for weeks, starving themselves to look great in their dress, and cleansing religiously so no blemishes have a chance to pop up on the "Big Night".

Okay, so maybe this is an extreme, but most girls go through a lot!

And what do guys do to get ready for prom? A few weeks ahead of time they go get fitted for a tux. They don't even have to try on a million things like women do with dresses. They don't have to worry about the color, because that's already been decided by their date, and they won't have to try to find something no one else will have because they will all be wearing the same thing. They spend about \$80 on the tux, then another \$15-\$20 on the corsage. As senior Gregg Dohmen put it, "I spent 15 minutes at Suitors. Ha!"

For women, the whole day - and maybe even the night before - is spent getting ready - painting nails, shaving legs, doing hair and makeup, and some do even more prepping. For guys, they spend 15 minutes in the bathroom and they are ready to go.

So what's my point? For prom, like life, guys have it easier - not to mention cheaper. I guess my point is that prom is overrated. All of the work goes to one night that is so built up in your mind that you will inevitably be disappointed.

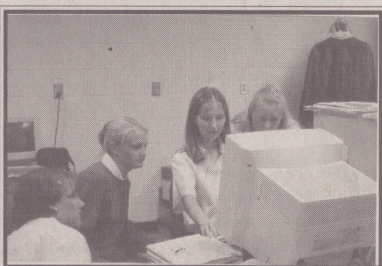
Not to be Little Ms. Negativity here, don't get me wrong, prom is great. But it would be a lot more fun if I didn't have to spend weeks and my life's savings on it.

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The newspaper staff would like to apologize to all of the local businesses that bought ads this year. We have worked diligently on this Senior tribute paper and with the lack of time due to new hardware and software. We strive to provide the best for all of our readers.

## It's '99 and They're Back Again!

By Kendra Liss

Scotus Cheerleading tryouts for the 1999-2000 season were held on Monday, April 19 at Scotus. Only nine girls tried out. Of those nine girls, six former cheerleaders made the squad and one new member will be joining them.

The 1999-2000 cheerleaders are...

Seniors- Sara Peterson, Kristin Zach, and Dawn Beran; Juniors- Kara Wessel, Kristin Wondercheck, Megan Albers, and new member Amanda Tworek.

Cheerleading will be somewhat different next year with Mrs. Becky Miller as their sponsor. The squad will be smaller than ever, with only six, but the cheerleaders are optimistic. "We may not have as many girls out there, but we are determined to be a good squad next year," said junior Kristin Zach. The cheerleaders will be attending an outside camp this summer, instead of having a company come to the school. Miller would like the girls to see how they compare to other squads in Nebraska and get a feel for their own ability. Another change for the 99-00 season is that the cheerleaders will not be going to all of the away games next year, but don't fret, you will never miss their faces at the home games. Even with all of the changes from last year, the 99-00 cheerleading season promises to be just as strong. "Cheerleading is really dying down. Most people don't appreciate all that we do," remarked sophomore Kara Wessel.

## Columbine Shootings Hit Home

By: Kristin Zach

Mixed feelings of sympathy, anger, fear, and shock filled the hearts and minds of America on April 20th when two Columbine High School students in Littleton, Colorado shot and killed twelve of their classmates and one teacher before killing themselves.

Although this rampage occurred almost 500 miles away, many Scotus students felt a connection to the Littleton massacre. Sara Edison and I both have first cousins who attend Columbine High School. I had visited the school only a year ago, so seeing the pictures of Columbine all over the news really hit home to me. When I saw my cousin speaking at his prom date's televised funeral, I realized just how real this was.

With the media asking tough questions about the safety of all American schools, many high school students were frightened to go back to school. Scotus was no different. As if that was not enough, the Columbus schools received a bomb threat nine days later on April 29th. This situation has left many parents and students questioning what the plan of action would be if a crisis were to occur here at Scotus. Superintendent Bill Gannon assures that Scotus does have a plan. However, the plans cannot be revealed in order to insure the safety of our school.

About eighteen months ago, administrators from our school met with local law enforcement agencies, the Columbus Police Department, the Platte County Sheriffs Department, and members of the Nebraska State Patrol to discuss Emergency Action Plans. Many emergency situations, including bomb threats, students bringing guns to school, intruders in the school, fires, tornados, and other crisis were discussed at this meeting. The plans were then presented to the staff at a mandatory meeting.

So you can be rest assured that the administrators of our school are doing everything that they can to ensure our every day safety.

## "Act Well Thy Part"

by: Jenny Flint

Would you be willing to make a complete fool out of yourself to join a club? Each year the Thespians make initiates do crazy things so they can join. The Thespians is the National Honor Society of the theatre. It is a nationwide society consisting of those who love the theatre. Every year at Scotus the Thespians have a week of initiation. This year what they could do to the initiates was a little restricted. The week was full of laughs and enjoyed by other students in the hallways.

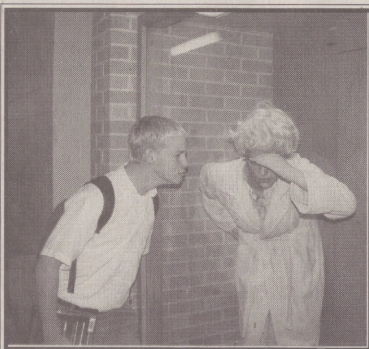
Whether the initiates were being made to say the Thespian motto, act as a servant for other members, or dress in wierd costumes, the good time had to come to an end. It was time for the final initiation to the Thespians. The initiates that completed everything would be the newest members. The new members are freshman: Meghan Bernt, Jenny Kryczki, Jill Micek, and Rachel Mimick; sophomore: Lindsey Pritchard; juniors: Sean O'Neill and Andy Skarka; and senior: Courtney Mimick. **Congratulations!!**

## Flag Corps: A Time of Decision

By: Jenny Flint

As the 1998-1999 flag corps bids farewell to their seniors, they open the door to a new era of flag corp members. Auditions for the 1999-2000 flag corps members began on Monday, March 29, before school. They had to tryout by performing part of a dance that the previous year's flag corps had performed. There were many girls that tried out, so the selection was difficult. "With all the talented young girls out there, it was tough to choose a team," commented Mrs. Schaad.

After a long week of tryouts, the new 1999-2000 flag corps team was chosen. Mrs. Cox had a little help choosing the team from Mrs. Schaad, Mrs. Hash, Mrs. Blanco, Mrs. Mlinar, and Mrs. Dusek-Misfeldt. The members were posted outside Mrs. Cox's room Thursday, April 1st. Next year's seniors include Casey Birkel, Michelle Moser, and Amanda Sackett; juniors include: Sarah Engelbert, Becky Hadcock, Tammy Laudenklos, and Megan Morris; sophomores include: Angela Fisher, Sarah Karges, and Natalie Krings; freshman include: Jesse Johnson, Nikki Kranz, and Ashley Pritchard. The new members will be providing you with flag dances throughout next year.



Senior Matt Robak harrases, Thespian inductee, Jenny Kryczki during initiation week at Scotus.

Photo by: Newspaper staff

## What You Thought We Learned in School

By the SENIORS

Here is a little quiz to see if you can remember some of the "key" lessons throughout your years at Scotus.

1. What was Robert E. Lee's horses name?
2. Who got pregnant on Degrassi Junior High?
3. What are striations?
4. How many sides does a tetrahedron have?
5. What are Ms. George's cats names?
6. Name the Robber Barons of the Gilded Age.
7. What are the four presuppositions of theological anthropology?
8. What does DNA stand for?
9. Where does patty paper come from?
10. Who wrote *The Prince*?
11. Name the three types of clouds.
12. What process is used in making Kimchee?
13. What were the wars between Carthage and Rome called?
14. Name the first five books of the Bible.
15. When did the Soviet Union dissolve?

## College Survival Tips

1. For those of you who will be washing your clothes on a regular basis, you will need lots of quarters. The washing machine does not accept pennies no matter how hard you try.

2. The Freshman Fifteen could take on a new meaning for those of you who will buy 15 boxes of Ramen Noodles for a dollar.

3. Beware of any friendly guy with a turban coming up to you in a mall inviting you to join his prayer group. He is not Roman Catholic.

4. If you don't bring shower slippers, that's not athletes foot. Bring soap on a rope so you don't drop it, especially for you guys in the audience.

5. Don't bring your appetite. You will experience a new found appreciation for Scotus cafeteria food and a dislike for cereal.

6. Bring many cans of Lysol, unless you want your room to smell like a frat house.

7. Save yourself from rising gas costs, bring rollerblades and a bike (this could also help you keep down that freshman fifteen).

8. No more Godfather's and Pizza Hut for you, be prepared for thousands of Dominos coupons and other cheap, greasy pizza places.

9. Caffeine is a must. Do the Dew.

10. If you like privacy during your showers, bring a big towel and a robe.

## Senioritis? Not US.

By: Virginia Hall

It's 8:00 on a Wednesday night and your math homework sits open in front of you. On your computer you see an open document with the words "English Essay" typed underneath your name...the remaining portion of the document is blank. Drew Carey blares on your TV. What do you do?

Well if you're a senior, chances are you'll shut your book, close the computer file, bring up 'Solitaire' and relax to the numerous anecdotes of Drew Carey and Mimi.

Throughout the course of high school, each of us has anticipated our senior year. Do you, however, anticipate the long hours of relaxation, procrastination, and slacking off? If not...get ready to do so. As long as there are seniors, there will be the contagious bug known simply as 'SENIORITIS.'

But is it just a disease of the senior class? Senior Jeff Swoboda does not think so. "It happens at the end of every year, regardless of your grade," he says. Perhaps this is true. However, underclassmen realize that how they perform fourth quarter could prevent them from getting into college. Seniors, in contrast, have probably already been accepted to two or three schools and don't expect to be rejected at the last minute. Guidance counselor, Becky Miller, explains that "once you're in, you're in. They're not going to turn around and reject you based on your fourth quarter performance." She is not, in any way, condoning the senior slide, merely accepting its presence.

## Where Oh Where Has Our Class Gone?

(Not listed in order of disappearance)

1. Shawn McGrane
2. Sean Gonka
3. Ryan Humpal
4. Aaron Keller
5. Laura Bosio
6. Adam O'Neill
7. Blake Pelan
8. Angie Kadavy
9. Anne Donovan
10. Kevin Cook
11. Andy Adcock
12. Kory Engel
13. Nellie Velasquez
14. Sarah Pueppke
15. Shanna Held
16. Lucy McQueen
17. Laura Mlinar
18. Adam Fischer
19. Rob Hadland
20. Tony Bahr
21. John Tworek-Hofstetter
22. Justin Fischer
23. Lisa Schneider
24. Molly Arrington
25. Nathan Pile
26. Jason Cave
27. Donald Bovinett, Jr.
28. Jay Schacemeier
29. Honey Cope
30. Kathleen Brockhaus
31. Toby Hottovy
32. Bethany Schlaikjer

## Where Oh Where Is Our Class Going?

- Platte: 14%  
 Wesleyan: 13%  
 Southeast-Lincoln: 11%  
 Southeast-Milford: 5%  
 UNL: 26%  
 UNK: 17%  
 UNO: 10%  
 Other: 4%
- Majors**
- Architecture: 2%  
 Business: 18%  
 Psychology: 5%  
 Engineering: 5%  
 Nursing/Medicine: 19%  
 Art/Graphic Design: 7%  
 Education: 6%  
 Computer Science: 8%  
 Communications/Journalism: 2%  
 Undecided: 15%  
 Other: 13%
- 84%: in-state  
 12%: out-of-state  
 4%: undecided

### Senior Quiz Answers

1. Traveler
2. Spike
3. Marks that glaciers leave on rocks.
4. four sides
5. Julio and some goat
6. Carnegie, Rockefeller and Vanderbilt
7. Free will, original sin, invited to participate in salvation, created in the image and likeness of God.
8. Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid
9. Nied's Meats
10. Machiavelli
11. Stratus, cumulus and cirrus
12. Fermentation
13. Punic Wars.
14. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.
15. It did? That wasn't on my map.

## Marriage Simulation

by: Kelli Hahn

"Why do we have to learn this?" When will I use this in real life? These are perhaps the two most commonly asked questions by high school students. My parents have yet to use the pythagorean theorem while doing their taxes, and I know of no one who bases their life on the novel *The Grapes of Wrath*. Although many school subjects may seem irrelevant to life in the real world, I know of one unit that will affect each and every one of us in one way or another.

Senior theology students participate in a one quarter long marriage practicum based on real-life teachings of the Catholic Church. The third quarter of the year, Fr. Steve takes time to give notes on the history of marriage, the meanings of marriage rituals, the purpose of marriage, what steps to take if you want to get married in the church, and other useful insights you've always wanted to know but never asked.

The marriage practicum is designed to give students an idea of what married life is like. At the beginning of the quarter, each student chooses a partner. The partner may be someone in your class, someone older or younger than you, or someone that does not attend school at Scotus. There is no strict criteria for selecting a partner, as long as the person is of the opposite sex and is willing to help with the project, they are an acceptable spouse.

You and your significant other are assigned worksheets to do together throughout the course of the simulation. These worksheets cover everything from shopping for engagement rings, to planning a wedding, to picking out the colors for your master bath. They also ask you to prepare a budget for your household, and many require you to discuss marriage with your parents.

For the duration of the practicum, the students are also exposed to the church's teaching on divorce, annulments, and marriage outside the church. Each class also has a speaker visit. The students are encouraged to ask the speaker, (who this year was Mr. Brokhaus), questions about marriage and their opinion of it. This helps the students gain a better understanding of marriage in real life.

The marriage simulation is a valuable experience. It is one lesson you will remember even after you graduate from Scotus. However, you only get out of it what you are willing to put in; those students who put more time and effort in come back with a more rewarding result. I hope Scotus continues to teach the marriage simulation, because it really is something you'll use in real-life.

## Memories in my Mind on the Road to '99

As I look down the hall I begin to cry, I know that it is all over-the years, the memories. Then I walk out that door and release a sigh.

It feels like only yesterday we began here, so small and ignorant we were, never thinking we'd reach our senior year.

In 7th grade we were worried about doing our hair everyday, hoping that we would make friends easily, and wishing that it would soon be May.

In 8th grade we were older and thought we were cool, hanging out with friends or a boyfriend or two, dreaming of summertime and hanging out at Wick's pool.

As freshmen we dreamt of our first dance, wondering if we would have a date, after it was all over the boys left the girls in a trance.

Sophomore year learning about fungi was fun, and remembering that you were older than the freshman, and no more hearing about your favorite pun.

Junior year how could we forget about the mole, 6.02X10^23 or about our first prom, where we danced all night to rock-and-roll.

Senior year finally came, it's GRADUATION DAY, as we look back over the years, no one knows quite what to say.

We reminisce about the memories we share, we think back to our younger days, with the immature games of truth-or-dare.

It is now the moment we have all been waiting for, as we say our last goodbyes to dear old Scotus High, we turn our heads and walk out the door.

We realize we have our futures to plan, we are scared but excited for what's to come, we are the Class of 1999, we are proud, and we will succeed!!!



1999 Seniors bonded last summer during their trip to Europe. The trip was sponsored by Mrs. Kiser, Scotus' jr. high guidance counselor. Pictured above in the 1st row from left to right: Michelle Rongisch, Virginia Hall, and Becky Dierks; 2nd row: Katie Geilenkirchen, Jenny Cimpl, and Nick Cumberland; 3rd row: Jeff Swoboda, and Gregg Dohmen.

Photo By: Becky Dierks

### Special thanks to the following businesses for their support throughout the year:

"Pat" Sackett Electric  
 Farr Better Feeds  
 Paige Columbus Bank  
 Columbus Florists  
 Tooley Drug  
 Husker House

Amigos  
 Valentino's  
 Anderson Floral  
 Husker Steel  
 Unico  
 SunMart  
 Teacher's Corner

Nebraska Sports  
 Sylvan Learning Center  
 Connecting Point  
 Northwest Electric  
 Taco John's  
 El Matador  
 Hansen's Bookstore

Columbus Federal Bank  
 New World Inn  
 Art Editions  
 Century 21  
 Blimpies  
 First National  
 Hair ETC.

Kelly's Jewelry  
 Goc's  
 Little King  
 Mr. Wize Buys  
 Dairy Queen  
 Columbus Music

## Tracy Sock

Tracy would like to be remembered as just being herself. She feels her greatest contribution was taking care of the elderly. She is involved in S-Club, LaCheetah Track Club, FBLA, and Campus Ministry. She describes herself as someone there when someone needs helpful advice on everyday problems. Her friends say she always gives an objective opinion. Her motto is what you make out of your life is what comes out.

## Tania French

Living by the mottos carpe diem (sieve the day), act don't react, and just be yourself. Tania enjoys playing softball, running, gardening, surfing the net, hunting, and taking care of and riding her horse. She is involved in Campus Ministry. Tania feels that just being here was enough of a contribution. She was always there for anyone that needs her. She describes herself as a shy teenager, but once you get to know her, you will find out that she's all right. Tania says, "I am too nice for my own good." Her main goal in life is to make her parents proud of her.

## Luke Niedbalski

Luke wants to be remembered as a student who always tried to give his best. Unfortunately, that could be tough with a motto like, "Why have homework, it's pointless and I'm not going to do it anyway." Luke belongs to Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants forever, and holds the honor of being the most improved Spanish II student. Others recall his unique stories which include falling asleep on his bike.

## Matt Kaspar

Matt Kaspar would like to be remembered by being the only senior in the band. His outside school hobbies include sleeping and killing small, defenseless animals. Matt has been awarded KLIR Student of the Week, Optimist Club Youth Appreciation Award, and band student of the year. His school activities include football, track, baseball, Thespians, speech team, band, and one act plays. He feels his greatest contribution is letting all the teachers have an opportunity to teach such a great student. His friends describe him as friendly and as "the one in the band."

## Tony Bierman

Tony would like to be remembered as a nice and funny person, and for all of the cool things he did. Outside of school, he enjoys playing basketball, soccer, and golf. At school, Tony was involved in campus ministry and football. He thinks his time has been his greatest contribution. Tony considers himself to be a nice and funny person. "I like to run, but when I run too fast I fall down," is Tony's motto to live by. Tony's friends see him as being energetic, hilarious, crazy, and a nice guy who is always there for other people.

## Becky Dierks

Becky is described by her classmates as energetic, funny, open, outgoing, and creative. She tries to live by the motto, "Don't think that the world is out to get you, you'll let life pass you by without noticing the good things." In school, Becky is involved in campus ministry, S-club, and art club. Becky says that her greatest contribution was making everyone else feel normal compared to her, but she also says she will probably be remembered as the "Albino Girl."

## Amy Hash

"A smile is the carnation in the buttonhole of life." "If you cannot convince them, confuse them." These are mottos Amy Hash tries to live by. Involved in everything from FBLA to volleyball to Foreign Language Club, Amy keeps busy and illustrates her dedication by receiving awards such as the Elanor M. Loshbaugh Memorial Scholarship and Girls State volleyball and basketball championships.

## David Walker

David prides himself on being an Eagle Scout, as being Who's Who Among American High School Students, and as KLIR Student of the Week. His motto is, "Not others how you want to be treated." Outside of school he enjoys putting models together. His school activities include Campus Ministry, NHS, S-Club, and the swim team. He wants to be remembered as the person who brought calculator games to Scotus and he feels his greatest contributions are Tetris, Pac-Man, and Mario Brothers. Others will remember him as a very nice and intelligent guy.

## Keith McDermott

Keith advises you to "be the very best and respect your elders." Not surprising for someone who has been described as responsible, very mature, and a hard-worker. During high school, Keith has made the transition from a vandal to an EME, even giving part of his paycheck to the Catholic Church. Keith describes himself as a kid who likes school and likes to get good grades and believes "Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right."

## Courtney Mimick

Courtney has been described by her classmates as artistic, creative, and unique. This shines through in her mottos, "If you don't like me, that's your problem," and "If you can't join 'em, beat 'em." Her greatest accomplishments are being a first year state qualifier in speech, having a drawing published in "Seventeen", and being art club president. She'd like to say "hi" to her mom and let everyone know that she is a Hy-Vee frozen and dairy fiend.

## Sarah McPhillips

The senior class would say Sarah is open-minded, good to complain with, and looks great in vinyl. When not spending time in the art club, chess club, and campus ministry she enjoys going to church, playing polo, and participating in the synchronized swimming team. Sarah is a person who "motivates others when they feel down and their classes get too tough, like hers have this year." She would like you to "imagine a world without war and imagine us attacking that world because they'd never expect it." Obviously she is not a fan of the current fighting over in Kosovo.

## Jenny Cimpl

Jenny likes to live by the motto "You're only young once, but you can be immature forever." She has received the honors of "A" honor role, KLIR student of the week, and history student of the year. Outside of school, Jenny enjoys golfing. She is involved in art club and Godfather's softball. In school she is involved in NHS, campus ministry, golf, mock trial, flag corps, S-club, and chorus. She would like to be remembered as someone who was extremely calm, organized, and level headed. She describes herself as emotional, colorful, slightly off-centered, neurotic, and a procrastinator.

## Gregg Dohmen

Gregg says his greatest contribution to Scotus was any useless tidbits such as the gross national product of Chile or the Detroit Tiger's second baseman in 1987. Gregg is involved in Greenpeace, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, American Vegetarian Society, Stonecutters, Palestinian Liberation Organization, Irish Republican Army, Kosovo Liberation Army, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In school, he is involved in FBLA and campus ministry. Outside of school he enjoys lawn bowling and reading computer instruction manuals. He is also one of the "chosen few" with Husker tickets. Gregg lives by the motto, "All fun is based on immaturity."

## Tiffany Ketter

Tiffany Ketter prides herself in winning the 1998 state soccer championship. Outside of school she takes part in things such as dance at Lynette's Dance Studio and more soccer for the Tidal Wave soccer team. She dedicates time here at Scotus to FBLA, Campus Ministry, Flag Corps, and of course soccer. When asked to describe herself Tiffany states, "I'm a fairly quiet person that people really don't know, but I wish they did." She lives by the motto- "Your choices are half chance, just like everybody else's."

## Tricia Mahoney

Tricia Mahoney is involved in cheerleading and speech team. She prides herself on her unique ability to give all the wrong answers at the wrong times. When she has free time, she enjoys dancing, sleeping, collecting exotic seahorses and brushing and flossing her teeth, constantly. Her accomplishments include the Hugh O'Brien Youth Foundation, KLIR Student of the Week, and Amigo's coloring contest. Tricia advises, "Take nothing too seriously and when all else fails, take the time to have a good chuckle."

## Shae McKay

Shae would like to be remembered for her athletic ability and her great participation in Scotus activities-even though she says she doesn't have any great contributions. She enjoys hanging with her friends, playing Godfather's softball, and watching Keri B. and Nicole pick fights. She describes herself as a girl who likes to talk and is very outgoing. Her positive outlook on life is shown in her motto, "Life is a bowl of cherries." Others remember her as the one who liked Andy Adcock in Biology, says she can take a joke well, and usually isn't over-emotional like other girls.

## Betsy Kunneman

You may remember Betsy Kunneman from two years ago, pre-boyfriend Andy. She was formerly the first half of BetsyKari, but now days she spends her time golfing, playing volleyball, windsurfing, running, and rollerblading. Her motto is, "Live life to the fullest," and her greatest contribution is being a part of her calculus group. Her classmates describe her as smart, sweet, very studious, and of course-twins.

## Tara Mimick

Tara says her outside school hobbies are washing her hair, hanging out with boys, and hanging out with boys. She has been involved in the Buffy Club and the LaCheetah track club. She says that her honors are the junior high triple jump record and the honor roll a few times. Others describe her as funny and of course-twins with Nicole. She describes herself as tall, beautiful, slender, oh wait, never mind.

## Jenny Flint

Jenny lives by the motto "Live life how you want, not by how others think you should." Her outside school hobbies include bird watching, counting the stars, and making shapes out of clouds. In school, Jenny participates in soccer, FBLA, Campus Ministry, and the school newspaper. She prides herself as being a member of the 1998 State Championship soccer team. She wants to be remembered as the person who changed their hair color the most. Lingo club and S-club support her activeness. A good listener, nice, and demanding are all words that people would use to describe Jenny.

## Keri Brichacek

Keri Brichacek is the president of the Foreign Language Club. She likes to live by the motto "My mind is like a parachute, it works better when it is high (on life)." At school she is in the Lingo club, FBLA, campus ministry, and flag corps. Outside of school Keri participates in dance, softball, trap shooting, gardening, and swimming. She would like to be remembered as an all-around American girl, and for her school attendance. She sees giving blood as one of her greatest contributions. She sees herself as someone who is full of goals and ambition.

## Jewelina Grennan

Jewelina participates in softball, sand volleyball, and swimming outside of school. She has received awards for being Academic All-Conference, Academic All-State, and "A" honor roll. Jewelina is involved in volleyball, soccer, church youth group, basketball, FBLA, flag corps, EME, and campus ministry. She would like to be remembered for her excellent tumbling skills. Jewelina feels that her greatest contributions are helping others and setting an example.

## Robert Diederich

Robert Diederich prides himself on being the first born in his family. He feels his greatest contribution is research on some government project he cannot talk about. Although he is not involved in any of these, his outside of school hobbies include: boy scouts, girl scouts, youth group, FFA, and 4-H. He also enjoys snake chasing, making sundials, collecting pogs, and rewriting the bible in hieroglyphics. He would like to be remembered for talking to Otis, the Scotus Ghost, in the hallway on November 7 and giving him a noogie. He also won \$20 on a bet he couldn't levitate from third floor. His school activities include ILL Club (I love life) and soccer. He is president of NHS, Vice President of Student Council, mock trial and campus ministry.

## Mandy McKown

"Talk, talk, talk...HyVee, HyVee, HyVee...laugh, laugh, laugh. This lovely girl likes to wear crazy socks and has been described as a country music queen. She says her outside school hobbies are dance and work, and it is impossible to describe herself in 15 words or less. Mandy believes "life goes fast so just have fun."

## Ryan Greiner

Ryan Greiner wants to be remembered as crazy, but intelligent and obsessed with becoming a doctor. He is in many clubs, some of which are Columbus Youth Council and NE Minority Public Health Association. Ryan has received awards for 1998 Best Actor of the Year, 1999 NE Youth Advocate of the Year, and Student of the week. The motto he tries to live his life by is "Network, Network, Network, that's the key to success." The clubs he is active in are NE Public Health Association, Citizens for a Healthy NE, and Columbus Youth Council among others. Ryan participates in school activities including drama, speech, and campus ministry. He describes himself as a highly motivated person who knows when to be serious, but always puts time aside to be crazy.

## Marika German

The mottos that Marika German tries to live by are "Be Yourself" and "Follow your Heart". Marika would like to be remembered as not being an Eskimo, although she's originally from Alaska. Marika has lettered in cheerleading for three years. She has also lettered in swing choir. Marika has been involved in Syada, Reach, FBLA, S-Club, Campus Ministry, and Mock Trial. Outside of school, Marika is busy shopping, working, partying, and traveling. Marika also prides herself on contributing to the fantastic pep rallies for the last three years.

## Stephanie Kruse

Steph Kruse says whether she likes it or not she will be remembered as the girl who was never in class and always wandering the halls- always with a pass. She's been involved in a few state championships, but most importantly- she is the most improved student in modern problems. Her motto is "Everything you need to get done you can accomplish during Activity Period." Other people describe Steph as the shortest Homecoming Queen to be good at everything- even racquetball

## Jeff Eikmeier

Jeff Eikmeier is described by his classmates as funny and a party animal. Jeff would agree because his motto is "have lots of fun." His outside school hobbies include: playing cards, fishing, hunting and eating. He has been involved in sports throughout high school such as football, basketball, soccer and baseball. Jeff has been first team all-state in football and all state honorable mention for soccer for three years. He has also been involved in NHS, FBLA, S-Club, and campus ministry. Jeff said he doesn't know where to start with his greatest contributions to Scotus because he has so many. He describes himself as "cool, awesome, great, better than anyone else and a genius."

## Virginia Hall

Virginia was described by her classmates as being a kind computer whiz who is always there to help. She loves to write and read and can always be spotted carrying a book. One of Virginia's greatest accomplishments was being nominated for Best Actress at District One-Act Plays. Her motto is from the movie Ferris Bueller's Day Off, "Life moves pretty fast, if you don't stop and look around once and a while, you could miss it."

# SENIOR CLASS BIOGRAPHIES

## Brooke Rayman

Brooke was on the 1998 runner-up varsity girls state golf team. She was academic all-conference and the silver key winner in the Scholastic Art Competition. Outside of school, Brooke enjoys golf, dance, skiing, traveling, and having fun. Her motto is "You don't stop laughing because you get old, you get old because you stop laughing." Brooke describes herself as having a fiery personality, hyper, and generous. Others describe her as a good listener, open minded, and as having a tendency to stress out. Brooke has been involved in art club, FBLA, campus ministry, flag corps, girl's golf, yearbook, school plays, S-club, and NHS.

## Ashley VanDyke

Ashley describes herself as a friend who is always there to help. She would like to be remembered by her nickname, "Poop." Ashley is involved in FBLA, campus ministry, S-club, and volleyball. Outside of school she enjoys playing softball. She tries to live by the motto, "Live your life to the fullest." Her friends describe her as hyper and quiet (what a contradiction in personality perception).

## Tom Rogers

Tom would like to be remembered as a member of the best boy's soccer team ever and as one of the five senior boys to own a State Gold Medal. Tom was part of the All-State soccer team, All-State football team, and received a state title in soccer. Tom was a 1998 Homecoming candidate and tries to live by the motto, "Ah, what can you do?" Outside of school he enjoys softball, spending time with friends, watching t.v., sleeping, and Star Wars. Tom was involved in S-club, FBLA, and campus ministry, but he feels his greatest contribution was scoring a winning goal in the 1997 semi-finals State Soccer Tournament. Tom describes himself as built like a tank but soft like a teddy bear. His classmates describe him as a good friend and great athlete.

## Jeff Wemhoff

Jeff wishes that he could do high school all over again. He feels his greatest contribution is his love for others. He tries to live by his boy scout motto, "Be prepared." Jeff is involved in chess club and Eagle Scouts. Outside of school Jeff enjoys being a true Eagle Scout. Jeff wants to be remembered for his boyish charm (how the girls melted in their place as he walked by). His friends describe him as goofy and funny. Jeff says he cannot describe himself because a picture says a thousand words.

## Jerod Trouba

Jerod says that the world spends too much time stating the obvious. He would like to be remembered as a person who spreads unlimited amounts of joy around the world and as the only kid who got a new car but still drove the old one. He describes himself as fun-loving, free thinking, open, cheap, and argueable. "I look at things realistically," he remarks, "I am the hottest thing alive, next to Stephanie Kruse." Others describe Jerod as a crazy and easy going guy. His awards include Modern Woodman of America Essay Contest, All-Conference football and basketball, and All-State Honorable mention for basketball. Jerod says, "Excluding yourself and trying to be different never made anyone any friends." Outside of school, he enjoys fishing, hunting, sleeping, and working. He is also active in FBLA, campus ministry, basketball, football, soccer, and track. Jerod considers his greatest contribution to be breeding hogs; he contributed plenty of food to this world.

## Roy Morris

Roy says "feces occurs," but he doesn't care about much of anything. He will be remembered as being a nice and friendly classmate and for his old beat up car. He lettered in football, hence he is a member of S-Club. He likes to hunt and cause trouble, and says he doesn't plan on coming back to Columbus unless he has to.

## Scott Schmidt

Scott Schmidt's motto is "Have lots of fun, try hard, and be yourself." He says that he has too many awards and honors to mention. Outside of school, Scott enjoys fishing, hunting, softball, and having fun. His school activities include FBLA and Campus Ministry. He really doesn't care how he is remembered. He describes himself as being a good friend, and his friends agree by describing him as quiet but fun to be around.

## Sarah Tworek

Sarah Tworek is involved in FBLA and Campus Ministry. Outside of school she enjoys working at Hy-Vee, playing sand volleyball, going to church, and collecting rocks, sticks and bugs. She was involved in club soccer until she was sixteen. Her class rank is in the top half of her class, and she was the senior with the most tardies and detentions for them. She tries to live by the motto, "Live today like tomorrow will never come." She describes herself as having curly brown hair and purple contacts. Sarah feels there are so many things she had contributed to Scotus that she cannot list them all, but her coming to school everyday is the greatest contribution she has made. Her classmates describe her as friendly and happy.

## J. J. Swierczek

J. J. is an active member of FBLA, Campus Ministry, and S-Club. He also participates in football and baseball. He is proud of the fact that he has lettered in football and track for two years. He tries to live by the motto, "Hakuna Matata." Outside of school he enjoys baseball, playing cards, and picking on Wedge. Others describe him as being funny and being a good friend.

## Emily Wick

Emily Wick has been the Elk's Student of the Month and has been KLIR's Student of the week. She would like to be remembered as 5'10", blonde, super model, thin, smart, and with a great personality. Her motto is "Eh" (with a limp-wristed flick). Outside of school she enjoys golf. She is involved in the Bird-Watchers' Club (Rockin' Robins...and Other Fowl), Physic's Club (Mr. Salyard and You), and the Stamp Collecting Club (Post Office Players). Emily likes to use the phrase, "I have a lovely bunch of coconuts...do, do, do. Here they are a standing in a row...bum, bum, bum. Big ones, small ones, some as big as your head." She describes herself as unitive, procreative, faithful, chase, one, holy, catholic, apostolic, concubine, simony, monotheistic, rabbi, ekklesia, deuteronomy, and Peter. Her friends describe her as being nice and a good leader.

## Michelle Rongisch

Michelle would like to be remembered for her good fashion sense, easy-going personality, along with her "cute" love for having fun. Outside of school, Michelle enjoys schopping, going to the Y, rollerblading, tanning, and partying with friends. Michelle is involved in Campus Ministry, FBLA, track, the school play, and cross country. She went to state in cross country, was on the team that won district cross country in 1997, and was voted the best hill runner on the cross country team. Michelle feels she is hard-working, organized, but most of all...cute. She feels her greatest contributions are cross country, track, and other school activities that she has been a part of. Her mottos are, "It's cool like that Vato," and "I think I can, I think I can." Michelle's plans for the future include marrying a wealthy man and living on the west coast in a mansion with frequent shopping trips on Rodeo Drive.

## Sara Rief

Sara says "Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves, for they shall never cease to be amused." Her activities include soccer, golf, art club, FBLA, student council, being an EME, campus ministry, swing choir, being a class officer, and NHS. She does not want to be remembered as little Millie or Millie II. She says that the one word that describes her is "pious". Others describe her as a perfectionist and as a good friend.

## Amanda Wessel

Amanda Wessel lettered in track her freshman year. Amanda would like to be remembered by her open ear to listen to people's problems. She tries to live by, "Each day is a different day, so live each one to the fullest." Amanda describes herself as having a great personality, having fun with friends, and being energetic. Her classmates describe her as a party girl and funny. Outside of school Amanda enjoys work, roller-blading, walking, reading, running, and talking on the phone.

## Beth Evans

Beth has been involved in cheerleading, dance, NHS, campus ministry, FBLA, SYADA, Lingo's club, and Art club. With all of these activities she describes herself as laid back, stubborn, close-minded, opinionated, and lazy. "Hey, what's not to love?" Her greatest contributions include preparing pep rallies, two time blood donor, and an infinite number of opinions. Beth's life motto is "Try everything at least once." Beth wants to be remembered as the least likely to follow in her brother's footsteps.

## Jesse Fischer

Jesse won a pine wood derby trophy in the Cub Scouts for the coolest car. His outside school hobbies include bounty hunting and the 4-square club (just kidding). Jesse would also like to think he is involved in chess club. His contributions include the 40 hours of community service he did last summer and that he doesn't like cats. He wants to be remembered as the nicest guy in the school, and says, "If I can't do it NO ONE CAN!" Jesse describes himself as smart, cool, fun, tall, friendly, and wreckless.

## Kerry Stephan

Kerry won a coloring contest at age ten. Her motto is "Kick 'em while their down." She enjoys playing Godfather's softball outside of school. She feels that her greatest contribution is doing her 80 hours of community service. She is actively involved in school, and some of the organizations Kerry is involved in include: FBLA and campus ministry. Kerry was also crowned the 1999 Sweetheart Queen. Her friends describe her as friendly and crazy.

## Kelli Hahn

Kelli Hahn lives by the motto "spend all the money you can now; when you're in college you won't have any." She participates in school plays and musicals, decorating class hallways, student council, swing choir, FBLA, NHS, and thespians. She has received honors for first rating at District Music, Platte Honor Choir, All-State first alternate, and KLIR student of the week. Her outside school hobbies are art, music, working, and she enjoys sleeping but doesn't do it often. She describes herself in one simple word-super.

## Justin Johnson

Justin Johnson, the happy-go-lucky guy, describes his greatest contribution as setting a good example for all the young people and showing them it is possible to stay out of trouble. The motto he tries to live by is "The force is with you always." His outside hobbies include watching tv, seeing how long he can sleep in on the weekends, and taking naps in and out of school. The school activities that he is active in are: FBLA, campus ministry, the Star Wars fan club, and being an EME. Justin also modestly said, "I don't want to be remembered."

## John Burns

John Burns would like to be remembered as having a lot of fun, and he describes himself as the goofiest, strangest person you will ever meet. He is involved in S-club, checkers club, golf, and campus ministry. John was also crowned the 1999 Sweetheart King. John's outside of school hobbies include: water polo and the Westminster Dog Show with his dog, Champ. His favorite, however, just might be a professional softball coach of the team, Burn's Blubber. Some awards or honors John has received are Student of the Month, the Pine Wood Derby contest, and he won a Wal-Mart coloring contest. John's classmates describe him as crazy, sweet, a joker, a devil, and a handyman. One classmate commented that John probably has the most fun in high school. A motto that John tries to live by is "The last year's of your life stink anyway," and "Have fun, no limits."

## Jon Beiermann

Jon thinks it is important to "Live life to the fullest." He would describe himself as lazy, cheerful, a good guy, and a bad driver. His hobbies include: watching tv, playing Play Station, eating, and sleeping. While at Scotus, Jon has participated in cross country and track. He is a proud member of the Jon Beierman fan club. Jon says his greatest contribution was \$250 to the city through tickets for wreckless driving and running stop signs. Jon wants to be remembered for not doing anything that would get him in trouble at school.

## Chris Gannon

Chris wants to be remembered as the best student in AP English and the kid who lived to run and jump in track. He has been involved in basketball, track, cross country, and yearbook. He placed second in the class "B" triple jump in 1998 and will try for a better place in 1999. He says he's tall and sincere, and since he is here, he might as well make the best of it.

## Katie Geilenkerchen

Katie Geilenkirchen describes herself as a perfectionist who loves to party, a lover of fashion. She likes to argue and is a die hard Madonna, Steven Tyler, and Tyson Beckford fan. Keeping busy outside of school, Katie shops, lays out, parties, and exercises. One of the mottos she lives her life by is "Have fun now because for the rest of your life you'll be working." She is actively involved in Campus Ministry, NHS, FBLA, and Mock Trial. She has been awarded KLIR student of the week and has received many scholarships. Her greatest contributions are those of giving clothing to the needy and saving the lives of many livestock. She wants to be remembered by having a unique fashion sense that people in Columbus, NE do not appreciate and always having long hair.

## Kelly Garretson

Kelly Garretson wants to be remembered by being able to help others out. In school Kelly has been involved in golf, Campus Ministry, and the bowling team. Out of school Kelly has been in dance for 8 years. Kelly participated in the children's diabetic support group, and she is a board member of YABA (Young American Bowling Alliance). Kelly describes herself as a cooperative, understanding, nice, quiet and fun person. The motto she tries to live by is, "Live life to your full potential, you never know what will come up."

## Jeff Swoboda

Jeff prides himself on being Elks' Student of the Month, NATP Top Performer Award, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Duke TIP Talent Search, Nebraska Honors Program, and being awarded the Canfield Scholarship. His motto is, "Track is life, the rest is just details." He wants to be remembered as the first Scotus graduate to win the Heisman Trophy and he used to own a car that talked. Outside of school he enjoys softball, snow skiing, water sports, golf, and he is a moter sports fan. He is involved in FBLA, Campus Ministry, NHS, football, and IBA basketball. His classmates describe him as a good friend.

## EJ Brezinski

According to his classmates, EJ is loyal, supportive, and a funny guy. However he would like to be remembered as a calm, untempered kind of guy who never results to violence, and a guy "who appreciates fine-looking women." His school activities include soccer and football, and he is involved in campus ministry. EJ is also a two year veteran of the spanish club and an active member of the Scotus Futbol Club. He was All-Conference in 1997 and 1998 for football, and also received All-State Honorable Mention. EJ's outside school hobby is being a part time "cook of the year" at Village Inn. He says, "I love my work." He claims that his greatest contribution to Scotus was just coming here, because "this school would be nothing without me (not to be arrogant)." On the weekends, he likes to have fun and look for a date. EJ's motto to live by is "Yo, Adrian."

## Matt Mroczek

Matt's awards and honors are: All-Conference First team- Jr. and Sr. year, All-State Honorable Mention- Jr. and Sr. year, Sertoma Athlete of the Month for Basketball, Captain of the basketball team- Jr. and Sr. year, and MVP of the basketball team. He believes that there should be breath-alizers everyday before school and at all functions. Everyone else will remember that he is Don Juan's son.

## Tyson Owens

Tyson can describe himself in one word "jackball." His greatest honor is having 21 detentions in one year, and he wants to be remembered for his academic achievements. His classmates describe him as funny, friendly, cool, and absent from school. He says his school activities include sleeping and more sleeping. His outside school activity is Phishing.

## Nick Ernesti

Nick Ernesti describes himself as funny, interesting, and someone who likes to cause problems. He thinks his time has been his greatest contribution to Scotus. In school he is involved in football and football track. He is a member of S-club. He has received honorable mention for All-State football. Nick says you need to live life by going one day at a time. He would like to be remembered for causing trouble. His friends will remember him for working on his hot rod and for never running around.

## Josh Euteneuer

Josh describes himself as a fan of Mark McGwire, the Oakland Athletics, and all of baseball. In school, he was involved in football, NHS, and S-club. Outside of school he is ESPN's greatest athlete of the century and enjoys watching baseball, and playing Nintendo and softball. His greatest contribution to the school was "the one and only time I actually made a block on the punt return team." He lives by the motto, "Nintendo good, Play Station bad."

## Jill Janicek

"There's no wrong you can't make right again." Jill Janicek lives by this while she parties, travels, shops, and surfs for outside school hobbies. She has been involved in FBLA, Campus Ministry, and S-Club. She's fun, energetic, courageous, a good friend, listener, eager for the future, and graced the flag corps with her presence for three years. She would like to be remembered for...duh, cruising all of the time.

## A word of advice to the graduating Class of 1999:

Wear sunscreen. . . .

Enjoy the power and beauty of your youth. But never mind, you will never understand the power and beauty of your youth until they've faded. But trust me, in twenty years, you will look back at photos of yourself and recall in a way you can't grasp now, how much possibility lay before you and how fabulous you really looked.

You are not as fat as you imagine.

Don't worry too much about the future or worry knowing that worry is just as affective as trying to solve an algebra equation by chewing bubble gum. The real troubles in your life are apt to be things that never crossed your worried mind. The kind that blindsides you at 4PM on some idle Tuesday.

Do one thing everyday that scares you.

Sing.

Don't be reckless with other people's hearts, don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.

Floss.

Don't wast your time on jealousy-Sometimes you're ahead, sometimes you're behind. The race is long and in the end, totally with yourself. Remember compliments you receive, forget the insults. If you succeed in doing this, tell me how. Keep your old love letters, throw away your old bank statements.

Stretch.

Don't feel guilty if you don't know what to do with your life. The most interesting people I know didn't know at 22 what they wanted to do with their lives, some of the most interesting 40 year olds still don't. Get plenty of calcium. Be kind to your knees, you'll miss them when they're gone. Maybe you'll marry, maybe you won't. Maybe you'll have children, maybe you won't. Maybe you'll divorce at 40, maybe you'll dance the "Funky Chicken" on your 75th wedding anniversary. Whatever you do, don't congratulate yourself too much or berate yourself either. Your choices are half chance. So are everybody else's.

Dance

Even if you have nowhere to do it but in your own living room. Read the directions even if you don't follow them.

Do not read beauty magazines, they will only make you feel ugly.

Get to know your parents. You never know when they'll be gone for good. Be nice to your siblings. They are the best link to your past and the most likely to stick with you in the future. Understand that friends come and go. But a precious few, you should hold on to. Work hard to bridge the gaps in geography and lifestyle, for the older you get, the more you need the people you knew when you were young.

Live in New York City once, but leave before it makes you hard. Live in northern California once, but leave before it makes you soft. Travel. Accept certain inalienable truths: prices will rise, politicians will philander, you too will get old and when you do, you'll fanticise that when you were young, prices were reasonable, politicians were noble, and children respected their elders.

Respect your elders. Don't expect anyone else to support you. Maybe you'll have a trust fun, maybe a wealthy spouse, but you'll never know when either one will run out.

Don't mess too much with your hair or by the time you're forty, you'll look 85. Be careful whose advice you buy, but be patient with those who supply it. Advice is a form of nostalgia. Dispensing it is a way of wishing the past from the disposal, wiping it off, painting over the ugly parts and recycling it for more than it's worth.

But trust me on the sunscreen.

copyright: Microsoft Corporation

## Jessica Bolte

"Sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up." Jessica tries to live her life by this motto as she describes herself as a nice, sweet, caring person who will always lend an ear to anyone in need. Jessica is involved in many school activities and clubs, including softball and track. Some awards and honors she has received are Second Team All-State, All-Conference First Base, for softball, and Academic All-Conference in track. Her outside school hobbies include St. Isodore's youth group, summer softball, and working at Village Inn. Jessica would like to be remembered as a nice, sweet, caring person.

## Shannon Edwards

Shannon Edwards wants to be remembered as a tough cowgirl with sweaty palms who gave long speeches in English. She had been involved in cross country and track, basketball, volleyball, and swing choir. Her mottos are "Try to make the best of what you have," and "Accept yourself for who you are and remember who created you." Outside of school, Shannon enjoys the outdoors and animals. She describes herself as sincere, emotional, sensitive, well-rounded, and respectful. Shannon's greatest contributions have been working at a senior center, surviving high school, and just living.

## Neal Olmer

Neal has won anything and everything that could be won, or so he says. His outside school hobbies are hunting, fishing, hockey, and softball. Neal's classmates remember him as never losing a fight and being a fun guy. They also remember him as looking like James Bond in a tux, (the female classmates that is). Neal describes himself as an easy-going person who likes to party and was not highly motivated in school.

## Sarah Pillen

Sarah is described by her classmates as a nice, friendly golfer who is very motivated, and always losing her keys in her car (with the doors locked). She says that "Attitude is the key to any person's success." Sarah wants to be remembered as a trusting friend. Classmates will remember her as the Tiger Woods of Scotus who helped the golf team bring home many trophies. She also taught underclassmen in golf that they can improve tremendously with practice.

## Nick Cumberland

Nick Cumberland would like to be remembered for his incredibly good looks. His classmates say they will remember him as always being friendly, except when they would set off his car alarm. Nick has received Academic All Conference honors along with letters in football and golf. He has also been named Student of the Week and Elks student of the month. In school Nick is involved in Football, golf, Campus Ministry, and Lingos, the foreign language club. Outside of school Nick enjoys playing Godfather's softball and he loves parasailing. He thinks his greatest contribution was going 2 for 2 on the breathalizers at prom.



Seniors Ashley Van Dyke, Sarah Pillen, Kelly Stephan, Cara Hegemann, and Brooke Rayman stop to pose for a picture on prom night. Their hours of preparation on their hair, make-up, and dresses paid off for the girls.

Photo By: Amanda Sackett

## Mike Niedbalski

Mike would like to be remembered for his greatest contribution of coming to school every day and blessing us with his presence. Mike has too many awards and honors to be mentioned, because he feels that he is modest. He wants to be remembered for being a cool guy whom all the girls wanted in high school. Mike would be described as nice, crazy, wierd, and paraniid by his classmates.

## Kari Kunneman

Kari Kunneman was described by her classmates as a neurotic chapstick fiend who is always there to make you laugh. Kari does not want to be remembered for anything that has to do with Schuyler. Her hobbies include dancing at Barb's, playing Godfather's Softball, being in NHS and playing soccer. Her greatest accomplishment was being on the 1998 State Soccer Championship Team. Kari is a kind, sweet person who is always saying the most interesting things. (The AP English class would like to add, "It's called 'Life Changes,' Kari.")

### ULTIMATE PROCRASTINATORS (these people failed to supply the staff with info sheets)

Kristen Abegglen  
Scott Beiermann  
Matt Bonczynski  
Jason Cieloha  
Wedge "Adam" Cremers  
Aaron Dowd  
Katie Gonka  
Clinton Hamling  
Cara Hegemann  
Molly McGuire

Nicole Mimick  
Sarah Patocka  
Thaddeous Recek  
Matthew Robak  
Ryan Schnieders  
Kelly Stephan  
Rodger Welsh

## Jamie Puetz

Jamie Puetz would like to be remembered for her red face and says her greatest contribution is her leadership. She says she is a pretty good friend and possesses a good sense of humor. Jamie lettered in track her sophomore year and became an EME. Her hobbies and clubs include dance at Barb's, Godfather's Softball, Art Club, Campus Ministry, FBLA, and S-Club. She claims she doesn't have a motto and others describe her as happy and a good friend.

## Brent Melliger

Brent is in a million activities so they shall be omitted. Ninny will always be remembered for making the whole b-ball team run in 8th grade. He has been described as really nice, smart, and honest as well as a "great tiller of crops." Brent describes himself as religious, dedicated, intelligent, humble, cheap, and country oriented. Basically he is summed up by his motto, "Always do your best."

## Baseball Goes Co-op

By: Emily Wick

Scotus added yet another sport to its growing list when the Columbus High co-op baseball team took the field this spring. The team is scheduled for a two year trial period, after which it will have its permanent future decided. Four Scotus seniors made the cut for the inaugural season: Matt Bonczynski, Jeff Eikmeier, Matt Kaspar and J.J. Sweirczek. Coaching the Discoverers is New World Inn Juniors coach Mark Mueller.

The team was plagued by weather throughout the season, and saw six of its scheduled games cancelled. They finished with a 7-12 record, winning six of their last nine games. The Discoverers won two of those games against ranked teams. Some spectacular highlights from the season include a sixteen run fourth inning in the May 10 game against Bellevue West and a game winning home run by Nathan Pile against Fremont Bergan.

## Shamrocks Fight Off Vikings, Weather

By: Gregg Dohmen

The Scotus boys pulled out a thrilling 4-3 overtime victory on April 8 over the Grand Island Northwest Vikings at rain drenched Wilderness Park. Cade Kudron's goal just before the end of the second overtime secured the win for the 'Rocks.

The rain and wind proved to be the equalizer in the first half. Tom Rogers scored the first goal 10 minutes in off an assist from Matt Mroczek. Northwest then tied the game up before halftime off of a Brett Atwood goal.

With the game tied a 1-1 the 'Rocks came out and dominated the Vikings for the first 10 minutes of the second half. Scotus controlled the ball and had many scoring opportunities but were only able to convert for one goal. Tom Rogers scored his second goal of the game on a penalty kick after E.J. Brezenski was fouled in the penalty box. The Shamrocks appeared to be in control, but towards the end of the game Northwest tied it up on another Brett Atwood goal to send the game into overtime.

Cade Kudron scored less than five minutes into the first overtime, but Northwest's Kevin Dvorak scored the equalizer to make the score 3-3 heading into the second half of overtime. In the final minute of the contest, Kudron blasted a shot into the upper corner of the goal to give the Shamrocks the 4-3 win.

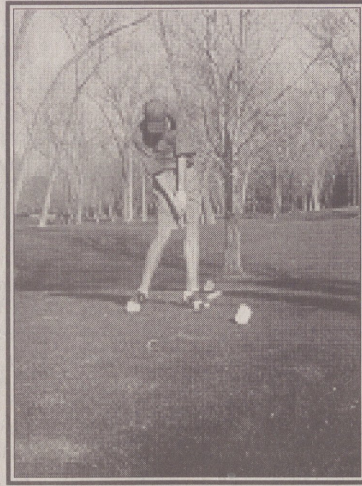


Freshman Janelle Janicek struggles to keep her mark during long jump competition at Memorial Stadium in Columbus.  
Photo by: Amanda Sackett

## Boys Golf Takes Second at Conference

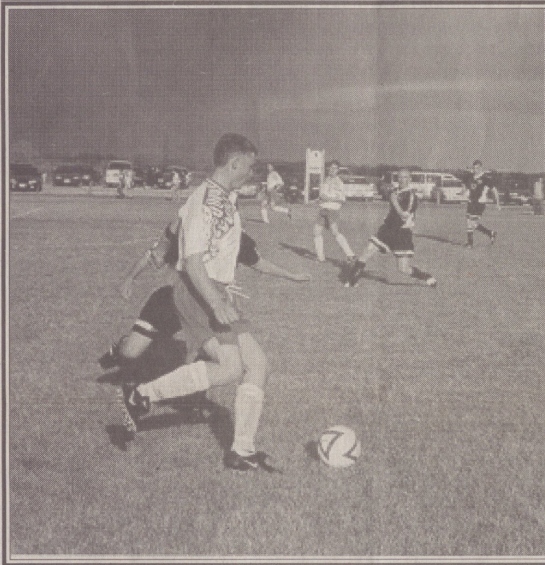
By: Kristin Zach

On Friday, May 7, the Scotus boys golf team competed at the Conference meet at Quail Run Golf Course here in Columbus. The boys finished second over all to Grand Island Central Catholic, who won by only three strokes. Ryan Schmieders took first place with a score of 77. Eric Hinze and Robb Burbach also finished in the top ten with scores of 81 and 83 respectively. The boys golf team will compete at Districts on May 17, also at Quail Run. They hope to advance as a team or individually to the State Meet, which will be held on May 25 and 26 at Mahoney Golf Course in Lincoln.



Junior Robb Burbach tees off at a local golf meet.  
Photo by: Kristin Zach

**The Rock Edition Staff would like to wish all athletic teams and the Class of 1999 Good Luck in your upcoming competitions!!**



Senior Matt Mroczek dribbles the ball past a defender in their win over Grand Island Northwest at Wilderness Soccer Complex in Columbus. The boys are scheduled to begin State tournament play at 3:00 pm on Saturday at Ralston.

Photo by: Gregg Dohmen



## Scotus Track Team

### Amid a Great Season

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus track team has had a very good season despite the uncooperative weather and the youth of the team. The Shamrock team consists of 7 seniors, 15 juniors, 22 sophomores, and 39 freshmen. The team returned only five state qualifiers from last season.

The first two track meets were indoor at UNK and Wesleyan. At the UNK Invitational, the girls finished fourth, and the boys finished ninth out of eleven teams. At the Wesleyan Invitational, the girls ended up third, with the boys in at ninth.

The Scotus team participated in many outdoor invites. The first invitational was the Scotus Relays, which included eight teams total. The girls finished in third place with the boys in sixth. The next invitational was at Wayne. Despite the tornado-like weather, the girls got second place, and the boys got fourth. At the Knights of Columbus Invitational, the girls had a second place finish, and the boys had a fourth place finish. At the Schuyler Invite, the girls earned second place, and the boys earned fifth place. At the most recent invitational, the girls finished in first place, and the boys finished in fourth place.

The Centennial Conference track meet was held on Saturday, May 8, at Pawnee Park. The meet started at 10:00 with field events followed by running events at 2:00. The weather was very nice although we were starting to get used to the rain and cold. The girls took home second place, while the boys brought in fourth place.

The track team is currently preparing for the District meet scheduled for Thursday, May 13, at West Point. They hope to qualify many individuals and relays for the State meet on May 21 and 22 at Omaha Burke. "Everyone has put forth a great effort and positive attitude. They all work very hard and hopefully we can get personal bests at Districts and State...weather cooperating," commented girls' Head Coach, Janet Tooley.

## Scotus Girls Headed For State

By: Amanda Sackett

The Scotus girls' soccer team started out this season where they ended the last and hope to finish the present. The girls remain undefeated this season in the team's attempt to repeat as Class 'B' State Champions. The team has faced weather and more this season. The girls finished off the B-5 district with a 10-0 win over Lakeview and a 1-0 win over Schuyler. The Shamrocks battled the wind and the Warriors to finally score the only goal of the entire game late in the first half. The team controlled the ball against the wind down the field. Freshman, Natasha Bender crossed the ball from the right wing, and senior, Stephanie Kruse headed it past Schuyler's goal keeper. The Shamrocks will play again Saturday in the first round of State against

The Shamrocks climbed the Top Ten lists this year to enter the State Tournament second All-Class and first in Class "B". The girls' other wins include victories over Fremont and Elkhorn at the Elkhorn Tournament, Lakeview (6-0), York(4-0), Plus in an overtime shootout, Grand Island Northwest( 8-0), Gretna(6-1), Beatrice(9-1), Seward(8-0), Hastings(5-0), Schuyler (6-1), and Council Bluffs St. Alberts(3-0) in regular season play. The Shamrocks also earned first place at the Omaha Westside Tournament with wins over Omaha Central(4-0) in the first round and Omaha Westside(1-0) in the Championship game. The girls played without three seniors, and they were, also, missing starting center fullback, Heather VanAckeren due to a knee injury she suffered in the Seward game. The team has battled injuries all year, yet they have a strong bench and have established themselves as the number two team in the state. Head Coach Teri Schuller commented, "Our passing is good and positioning has improved," on her team's improvement throughout the year.

The entire team is looking for a repeat State Championship. The girls' play Gretna in their first round match at Springfield Platteview. They are scheduled to play Saturday, May 15, 1999 at 5:00 p.m. If the girls continue to win they will play Monday at Platteview and Wednesday at Ralston for the final.



Senior Chris Gannon digs in to the sand after a long jump attempt.

Photo by: Amanda Sackett



Junior long jumper David Gubbels attempts to add a few more inches to his jump at a meet held at Memorial Stadium in Columbus.

Photo by: Amanda Sackett