Highland High School Presents
Our Feature Presentation

Highland High School
Box 8 Highland, KS 66035
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The editors and the Highland High School journalism staff would like to present their version of the students and faculty in 96 pages of fun-filled, action packed adventure.

-Jennifer Collins and Courtney Harness-
Life at Highland High School often seemed like a movie: friendships, relationships, fights, and psycho killers with pipes. However, the few odd and humorous things that did not happen in the students lives, happened at the movies.

The students went to the movies to drool over their favorite actors and actresses, to laugh at goofy movie plots, and to cry over mushy love scenes. "I think students go to the movies because there is nothing else to do around here," said David Orozco.

Whatever their reasons, students and teachers alike flocked to the movies. "It’s pretty obvious why people see movies," said Stephen Blevins. "They are hoping while in the midst of so many people that maybe they will witness first-hand the true miracle of love and happiness."

Not only were movies seen by everyone in the high school, most people learned something, no matter how trivial, from the movies.

"Apollo 13’ was an influential movie to me. I grew up during that time, and when I was that age it seemed very glamorous. Seeing the movie made me realize the danger involved,” said Angie Neibling, teachers’ aide.

These pages designed by Courtney Harness and Jennifer Collins.
**Movie Quotables**

"I was way off!"
---Dumb and Dumber

"There are no victims in this room."
---Dangerous Minds

"I bet she dates one of the Yankees."
---Tommy Boy

"As if!"
---Clueless

"Every man dies, but not every man really lives."
---Braveheart

"It’s too d*** hot for a penguin to just be walking around."
---Billy Madison

"Go home! Are you too good for your home?"
---Happy Gilmore

"Fat guy in a little coat."
---Tommy Boy

"Get busy living or get busy dying."
---The Shawshank Redemption

"You’re still just a little Latin boy in drag."
---To Wong Foo

"Victoria. I love you."
---A Walk in the Clouds

**Some We Liked**

"I liked ‘Happy Gilmore’ because I like golf clubs and Bob Barker and dairy cows and work gloves."
---Bob Hopkins

"Showgirls’ was great because it had a whole lot of nakedness."
---Brian Simpson

"I thought ‘Fear’ was really exciting. It had a lot of gruesome and funny parts in it."
---Heather Hunsaker

"I liked ‘Something To Talk About.’ It dealt with serious relationships, but it was a comedy."
---Chris Blevins

"Mad Love’ was great because it was romantic, dramatic, and adventurous all in one. Chris O’Donnell kicked some hiney!"
---Bridget Blevins

"I know this makes me sound like a school teacher, but I loved ‘Apollo 13’ for its examples of working in groups and problem solving under stress."
---Donna Parish

**Some We Didn’t**

"The Brady Bunch’ was dumb because Marcia’s nose looked like a rubber blob."
---Jerry Rathmann

"I don’t know if I liked ‘Shorty’ or not because we left in the middle of it and went to eat ice cream."
---Kim Ruhnke

"I didn’t like ‘To Wong Foo’ because it had no point and because Wesley Snipes and Patrick Swayze don’t make good cross-dressers."
---Billy Corlett

"I fell asleep during ‘Crimson Tide.’"
---Cheyenne Dorrell

"Sgt. Bilko” was the stupidest movie. It was the typical funny, dumb movie where everyone else laughs and you don’t. It was just stupid!"
---Hillary Harness

"Mallrats’ was really stupid. It was like a Nickelodeon show with really bad acting."
---Tabitha Reist
The board members and administrators were similar to producers and directors in a hit movie: they provided the students with education, entertainment, and alternatives.

Several teachers and many underclassmen learned the importance of working together during the educational extravaganza trip in Potosi, MO. "It was a lot of fun, and we learned teamwork skills," said Hilary Harness. "We bonded with our peers in a positive environment."

The students were Oscar winning actors and actresses in this hit movie of 1995-96.

Linda Joseph, art teacher, makes copies of entry forms for the DVL and Highland Art Day contests. Photo by Donna Parish.
Holly Vandall, Nancy Powell, Lisa Wescott, and Amanda Romine study and socialize on the stage during Break. Photo by Donna Parish.

Toni Larson, Spanish teacher, sits comfortably in the teachers' lounge while waiting for her next class to begin. Photo by Donna Parish.

The JV quiz bowlers, Nathan Twombly, Joe Swain, Levi Lucas, and Hilary Harness, quietly discuss a question at the JCN meet. The team ended up taking fourth place. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by William Simmons.
Cheryl Rasmussen, principal, and Jan Collins, superintendent, direct the students towards a prosperous school year.

The board along with Rasmussen and Collins has made many important decisions concerning the middle high students. The middle school was moved to the lower level of the high school. "It has been a challenge to balance the junior high and senior high students. It was also challenging to learn about the middle high students and work with them," said Rasmussen. "The success of moving the 7/8 grades to the high school was to all the hard work of everyone involved," stated Collins.

IBM computers were added to the high school lab. "The improvement of district technology and the increased integration of technology within the curriculum was successful," Collins said. By Chris Blevins.

The school board members, consisting of Dan Tilton, Dick Tracy, Bill Batchelder, Mike Blevins, Roger Gormley, Sally Waggoner, and Nancy Batchelder, are dedicated to the school. Photo by Amanda Twombly.

Jan Collins, superintendent, prepares for a busy day. This year Collins returned to the chemistry classroom one hour a day. Photo by Bray's.

These pages designed by Chris Blevins.
The administration puts a lot of trust in the high school students and enables them to do many things to broaden the students' education outside the classroom. In this picture Kole Meyer is climbing the Alpine Tower at Camp Lake-wood during the Educational Extravaganza Trip. Photo by Cheryl Rasmussen.

Cheryl Rasmussen, principal, discusses with other teachers during her lunch period. Photo by Donna Parish.

Cheryl Rasmussen, principal, makes plans for the 1995-96 school year. Photo by Bray's.

Jan Collins, superintendent, and Cheryl Rasmussen, principal, watch the boys' basketball team play at Pleasant Ridge. Photo by Donna Parish.
Doug Andrew- P.E. / Girls' Basketball Coach
Jamie Baker- Band
Gary Blanton- Maintenance
Sue Cluck- Cook
Mary Lou Colley- Librarian
Frances Collins- Cook
Sharon Collins- Cook
Angie Eberly- Inter-Related
Dennis Hanlon- Maintenance

Ted Hutchcraft- Math
Linda Joseph- Art
Gary Keehn- Science
Toni Larson- Spanish
Jill Liesemeyer- Computers
Angie Neibling- Teachers' Aide
Sallye Marsh- Cook
Marla Olson- Teacher's Aide
Donna Parish- History / English / Journalism

Secretary Ginger Scott goes about her daily duties in her office. Photo by Bray's.

Also not pictured above are
Bob Simmons and Randy Snyder
Joann Karn steadily works, with a smile, on the school’s bookkeeping so things stay in order. Photo by Bray’s.
Little Rascals

Jerod Blanton
Miranda Boos
Travis Clary
Andrea Collins

Evan Dillman
Stephanie Fee
Kari Garrett
Stephanie Glass

Fred Green
Chris Hopkins
Josh Keebler
Adam Lackey

David Orozco
Bobby Paxton
Nancy Powell
Amanda Romine
Travis Clary said, "The funniest thing I saw this year was Josh Keebler breaking his glasses twice in the same basketball game. He soldered them back together at half time just at the last minute."

Lisa Westcott said, "I think that going to the school dances and hanging out with my friends were the most memorable things of my freshmen year."

Class Officers
President: Andrea Collins
Vice President: Jon Theobald
Treasurer: T.J. Simpson
Secretary: Kari Garrett

Pages 10-15 designed by Stephen Blevins and Darin Peters.
Megan Batchelder
Denise Blevins
Stephanie Blevins
Brant Clary

Eric Cole
Chris Collins
Colby Collins
Nolan Cruse

Karie Diveley
Cheyenne Dorrell
Brad Elrod
Stacey Fee

Kristy Green
Hilary Harness
Ashley Hill
Heather Hunsaker
Adam Tyler
Jennifer Yates

Paul Idol
Emily Jeschke
Erin Jeschke
Rilie Kafer

Levi Lucas
Kelly Merkel
Kole Meyer
Justin O'Bryan

James Powell
Barbara Purvis
Thatcher Reist
Matthew Richesin

Rocky Ruhnke
Dawn Simpson
Emily Stevens
Joe Swain

Adam Tyler
Jennifer Yates

Class Officers
President: Rilie Kafer
Vice President: Chris Collins
Treasurer: Stephanie Blevins
Secretary: Emily Jeschke
Norma Beck
Bridget Blevins
Chris Blevins
Mandy Brock

Jeff Butrick
Bobby Hopkins
Rachael Jeschke
Kristi Kelley

Brad McCauley
Will Simmons
Shane Smith
Shawn Tilton

Angela Trusty
Clint Windmeyer
Not pictured: Joe Orozco
Mandy Brock, Kristi Kelley, Bridget Blevins, and Clint Windmeyer huddle around to plan for Prom, while enjoying a Pepsi, during Advisor Base. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Bob Hopkins said, "The most memorable experience of this year was when two unsuspecting boys were cruising down Highway 36 and thought they were getting harassed. Come to find out 'Bob Cop' wanted to have a talk, and ticket me for my lack of tail lights."

Kristi Kelley said, "The funniest thing I saw was when Chris Blevins and Stephen Blevins pushed Bridget Blevins into the men's restroom occupied by Jan Collins."

Class Officers
President: Mandy Brock
Vice President: Bridget Blevins
Treasurer: Kristi Kelley
Secretary: Rachael Jeschke

VHS
The senior class of 1996 had a cast of 16 that was expected to fill many roles. They were athletes, musicians, artists, and comedians. Although a lot was expected of them, the members of the class of '96 rose to the challenges placed before them.

During their last year, the class of '96 pulled together to make unforgettable memories. Wes Keller said, “I had the opportunity to go through my senior year with Jay; it is very special to me to even graduate with Jay.”

“My senior year turned out to be great,” said Jerry Rathmann, “The only thing I didn’t like was that some of the girls in the class seemed to overrule the guys.”

Amanda Twombly writes out questions for an interview.

Photo by Darin Peters.
Courtney Harne, National Honor Society President, goes over some last minute instructions with advisor Ted Hutchcraft about NHS Initiation while Tabitha Reist gets her harp ready for playing. Photo by Donna Parish.

Stephen Blevins and Wes Keller find some time to joke around while building their go-cart in Agriculture Mechanics. Photo by Norma Beck.

Mark Allen shakes the hand of his Shriner uncle, Don Allen, as he receives a Shrine Bowl license plate. Photo by Donna Parish.
"A Walk in the Clouds"

Mark Christopher Allen

Jennifer JoAnn Collins

Stephen James Blevins

William Edward Corlett
President: Jennifer Collins
Vice-President: Tabitha Reist
Secretary: Amanda Twombly
Treasurer: Jason Davis
Class Motto: Be not afraid of going slowly; be afraid of standing still.
“Up Close and Personal”

Mark Allen- Citizenship Award 12, Shrine Bowl, DVL 1st team punter 12, DVL 1st team offensive/defensive lineman, 1A-2A 1st team State offensive lineman, Football 9-12, Track 9-12, Basketball 9-12, Class President 10, Rivers and Streams Team Award 11, FFA 9-12, Choir 9-12, Musical 9-12, Stuco 11, School Play 10, Homecoming Candidate 11 & 12, King of Courts Candidate 11, King of Courts 12.

Stephen Blevins- All Around Student Award 12, DVL Honorable Mention Running Back 11, DVL Honorable Mention Defensive Line 12, Rivers and Streams Team 10, Choir 9, Musical 9-12, FFA Sentinel 10, FFA President 11-12, FFA State Degree 11, FFA Star Greenhand 9, Star Chapter Farmer 12, FFA Chapter Degree 11, Class Vice-President 9, SOS 9-12, Journalism 11-12, 2nd Place Sports Writing at KSPA Contest 11, 1st Place Sports Writing at KSPA Contest 12, Football 9-12, Football Co-Captain 11-12, Basketball 9-12, Basketball Captain 12, Homecoming King 12.

Jennifer Collins- Honor Cord 12, Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9, Track 9-11, Track Manager 12, Class President 11-12, Class Secretary 9-10, Stuco 11-12, SOS 9-12, Choir 9-12, Swing Choir 10-12, School Play 10, Musical 9-12, Journalism 11-12, Yearbook Editor 12, Quill and Scroll 11-12, NHS 10-12, Cheerleader 9-12, Cheerleader Captain 12, Homecoming Candidate 12, Queen of Courts 12.

Billy Corllett- Football 9 & 12, FFA 12, Track 9, At Grant Hills High School, California: Soccer 10-11, Voices of Christ Club 10-11, Equestrian Club 11.

Jason Davis- Football 9-12, Track 10-12, FFA 10-12, Class Treasurer 12.

Dylan Dorrell- Football Manager 9-12, Basketball Manager 11-12, Track 9-10, Choir 9-12, Swing Choir 10-12, Music Contest Solo 9-12, Musical 9-12, Male Lead in Musical 11-12, Music Leadership Award 12, Best Actor 12, Stuco 11-12, Band 9-10 & 12, Art 10-12, School Play 10, FFA 12, Quill Bowl 9-12, KNZA Senior Essay Award 12.

Jay Gormley- Football 9-12, 1st Team DVL Running Back 12, 2nd Team Line Backer 12, All-State Honorable Mention Running Back 12, 2nd Team All-Area Running Back 12, Track 9-12, 2nd Place Triple Jump State Track 11 & 12, Basketball 9-12, 1st Team DVL Basketball Tournament 12, All-County Basketball 12, Kansas Sports Magazine Honorable Mention All-State Running Back 12, Class President 9, Class Vice-President 10, Stuco 12, SOS 9-12, Rivers and Streams Team Award 11, Learn and Serve Community Service Award 12, Choir 9-12, Swing Choir 9-12, NHS 10-12, FFA 9-12, Musical 9-12, Homecoming Candidate 12, King of Courts Candidate 12.

Courtney Harness- Honor Cord 12, Volleyball 9, Track 9-10, Track Manager 11-12, Cheerleader 10-12, Cheerleader Co-Captain 11-12, Class Treasurer 9 & 11, Stuco 9-12, Stuco Treasurer 12, Kansas Honor Scholar 12, Governor’s Scholar 12, Band 9, Journalism 11-12, Yearbook Editor 12, Quill and Scroll 11-12, Second place in Editing at KSPA Contest 12, NHS 10-12, NHS Secretary 11, NHS President 12, Queen of Courts Candidate 12, Rivers and Streams Team 10-12, Quiz Bowl 9-12.

Wes Keller- Football 9-12, Second Team Offensive Guard 12, Class Treasurer 10, Choir 9, Musical 9, FFA 9-12, FFA Sentinel 9 & 11, FFA Secretary 10, State FFA Degree 12, FFA Chapter Pin 10, Agriculture Mechanics Award 12, District Entomology 2nd Place 12, Rivers and Streams Team Plaque 11, Kansas Wildlife Award 11.

Rebecca Lackey- Stuco 12, Journalism 11-12, Business Manager (Journalism) 12, 1st Place Advertising KSPA Contest 12, NHS 10-12, Choir 9-12, Musical 9-12, Volleyball 9-11, Track 9-12, Basketball 9-11, Basketball Cheerleader 9 & 12, Football Cheerleader 9-10 & 12.

Darin Peters- Track 9-11, Basketball 11-12, Football 9-12, Honorable Mention All State Football 12, DVL Second Team Running Back 12, DVL Honorable Mention Linebacker 12, Journalism 11-12, FFA 11-12, King of Courts Candidate 12.

Jerry Rathmann- Track 10-11, FFA 10-12, Second Place FFA Fruit Sales, Football 11-12, Special Team Award (Football) 11, Most Improved Student Award 11, Community Service Award 11.

Tabitha Reist- Valedictorian 12, Honor Cord 12, Volleyball 9-11, Track 9-11, Class Vice-President 10 & 12, Class Secretary 11, Kansas Honor Scholar 12, Stuco 9 & 11-12, SOS 9-12, Choir 9-12, Swing Choir 9-12, Musical 9-12, Female Lead 10, Best Actress 12, NHS 10-12, NHS Vice-President 11-12, Band 9-12, Homecoming Queen 12, School Play 10.

Kim Ruhne- NHS 10-12, SOS 9-12, FFA 10-12, FFA State Degree 12, FFA Star Agribusinesswoman 10, FFA Sweetheart 10, Chapter Secretary 11, Chapter Student Advisor 12, Quiz Bowl 9-10 & 12, Choir 9-10, Stuco 11, Rivers and Streams Team 10-12, Queen of Courts Candidate 12, Volleyball 9-12, Basketball 9-12, DVL 2nd Team 10, All County 1st Team 10 & 12, All County 2nd Team 11, DVL Unanimous 1st Team 12, DVL Pre-Season Tournament Team 12, Journalism 11-12, 1st Place Headline Writing at KSPA Contest 11, 2nd Place Newswriting at KSPA Contest 12, Newspaper Editor 12.

Brian Simpson- Football 9-12, Track 9, Basketball 9-12, Stuco 10, Choir 9-11, FFA 9-12, Musical 9-11.

Amanda Twombly- Salutatorian 12, Honor Cord 12, Choir 9-12, Musicals 9-12, Journalism 11-12, First Place in Editing at KSPA Contest 12, Second Place in Newspaper Design at KSPA Contest, Newspaper Editor 12, Quill and Scroll 11-12, Band 9-11, Volleyball 9-10, Volleyball Manager 11-12, Class Secretary 12, Stuco 11-12, NHS 10-12, Kansas Honor Scholar 12, KSU Math/Science Award 12.
On May 11, the senior class along, with sponsors Jan Collins and Gerre Walsh, departed the high school to arrive in Colorado Springs, CO approximately twelve hours later. That evening after settling into hotel bedrooms, which they called homes the next four days, they journeyed through the Garden of the Gods climbing on top of huge rock formations.

The next day, the seniors toured The Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame where famous cowboys left their memoirs for the public to view, and they toured the Olympic training center learning that “quitters never win, and winners never quit” from the tour guide. This day ended with a fun evening of go-karts and paintball. “Paintball wars were better than I imagined,” said Tabitha Reist. “I was having so much fun that I didn’t even notice the pain from being hit by paintballs.”

Another favorite of the senior class was white water rafting. Although the water temperature was only 30 degrees and the students had to sign a waiver saying that they were at risk of dying, all survived the trip and dried off quickly on the 90 degree sunny day. The afternoon was spent walking across a thin wooden bridge over the Royal Gorge and shopping.

On May 15, the class of ‘96 and its two sponsors left Colorado Springs to arrive in Highland after yet another long, tiring twelve-hour trip, but this time they all shared great memories of the last five days. By Jennifer Collins.

These pages designed by Jennifer Collins and Courtney Harness.
Jason Davis, Mark Allen, Brian Simpson, Jennifer Collins, Jay Gormley, and Darin Peters have the ride of their lives on the Arkansas River. Photo by American Adventure Expeditions.

Speed demon Tabitha Reist rounds the corner of the track to cut off another innocent bystander. Photo by Jennifer Collins.

Brian Simpson, Wes Keller, Jay Gormley, Stephen Blevins, and Jason Davis show off their skintight wetsuits. Photo by Jennifer Collins.
Academically, the students prepared themselves for the real world, both in and out of the classroom.

Gary Keehn, science teacher extraordinare, won Wildlife Conservationist of the Year awarded by the Kansas and National Wildlife Federations.

The science students dissected, tested streams, and studied chemical make-ups, while the English students read poetry and furthered their language skills.

The Constitution class learned about laws, punishments, and the government. “Constitution is my favorite class because ‘Ma’ Parish makes it enjoyable and informative,” said Billy Corlett.

The history and Spanish classes studied ancient cultures, religions, and languages, and the home economics and woods classes worked on projects.

Because of its great academics and teachers, the Highland Schools were fully accredited for the next four years.
Gary Keehn, science teacher, helps Clint Windmeyer build equipment for natural resource management class. Keehn saves a lot of money by making his own rivers and stream equipment. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Rilie Kafer, Stacey Fee, Dakota Smith, Angie Eberly, special education teacher; and Joy Meyer, parent, set up a booth for the educational extravaganza carnival. The carnival raised money for the academic trips to Houston and to the YMCA camp near St. Louis. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Kim Ruhnke.
General science focused mainly on macro-invertebrate stream studies. The freshmen in general science took numerous field trips, including an overnight campout at the Omaha Zoo.

"The sophomores had more of an indoor lab class this year. We did 10-12 dissections of various organisms," said Gary Keehn, science teacher. They spent the rest of the year doing individual research projects.

"I really liked biology. My favorite part was going out, doing hands-on projects with nature," said Denise Blevins.

Chemistry was taught by a duo this year, Jan Collins, superintendent, and Keehn. The class did labs along with regular chapter assignments.

"I thought chemistry was a lot more challenging than I expected, and overall I hated every minute of it," said Bob Hopkins.

The college biology class was based on the college syllabus. They managed to incorporate more field labs and dissections, because of the year long course instead of taking it by semester.

The Natural Resources Management class was a research-based, hands-on course, dealing with environmental issues. The class adopted the native grass plot at roadside park west of Highland, and they will manage it.

The science classes have been interacting more and more with the surrounding rivers and streams. Through these interactions, they have received many grants. The money from these grants has gone toward equipment for stream studies and DREL Research.

"Our stream studies are more advanced, and our data is used by professionals, unlike other schools, which makes our rivers program unique," said Keehn. By Bridget Blevins and Jeff Butrick.
Thatcher Reist and Chris Collins try to locate the different parts of their starfish in biology. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Gary Keehn lectures to the biology class on the proper lab techniques. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Shane Smith, Jason Davis, and student helper Willie McClane make equipment for macro-invertabrate studies. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Stephen Blevins, Jay Gormley, and Wes Keller amuse Jennifer Collins with their humorous dissecting techniques on a dogfish shark during college biology. Photo by Gary Keehn.

These pages designed by Jeff Butrick and Bridget Blevins.
The history, English, and Spanish classes concluded the year by fulfilling the goals that were set to be accomplished. Between class-related field trips and classroom work, there was no time to slack off.

Some changes occurred in these classes. "In world and American history, we learned how to throw an atlatl (a prehistoric spear used for hunting)," said Donna Parish, history, journalism, and English II teacher, "I emphasized prehistoric cultures more than I had before."

"I've developed some units according to theme and worked novels together in senior English. I've charted my freshmen's accomplishments in their speeches and in their writings," said Joyce Rush, English I, III, and IV teacher.

On Nov. 17, the Spanish I, II, and III classes headed to Kansas City for a Spanish dance production. This gave students a taste of the old Spanish culture. Mandy Brock, junior, said, "I enjoy Spanish III, but it confuses me."

"I find Spanish II difficult. I'm not accustomed to foreign languages at all," said Heather Hunsaker, sophomore: By Kristi Kelley.
Angela Trusty works hard on her World War I assignment to meet the deadline. Photo by Rachael Jeschke.

Adam Tyler looks stumped on a question on his chapter two test for Spanish II. Photo by Donna Parish.

Amanda Twombly watches while Donna Parish looks for any vital mistakes that need to be corrected in the 500 word story. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Brad McCauley waits patiently while Joyce Rush gives him help on his essay. The juniors were required to turn in a 1,000 word essay over a debatable subject. Photo by Angela Trusty.

These pages designed by Rachael Jeschke and Kristi Kelley.
This is the 35th year Ted Hutchcraft has been teaching math classes. He teaches physics, calculus, GTA, Algebra I and II, and pre-algebra classes. Marla Olson helps in teaching pre-algebra and Algebra I.

"I enjoyed the enthusiasm of the students the most this year," said Hutchcraft. "The thing I will never forget about this year was being in the hospital for about a week, and not teaching my classes."

Jill Liesemeyer is new to the faculty this year. She teaches computers, business math, keyboarding, as well as junior high classes.

"My first year of teaching has gone pretty well. I've enjoyed it a lot. I think this was the best place to start my teaching career."

"In my business math class, we have touched on a lot of topics, and I think my students are learning. We've covered topics like insurance, credit, taxes, and the stock market," said Liesemeyer.

"The one thing about this year that I'll never forget is when my junior high volleyball team drenched me with water after a game," said Liesemeyer.

"The students' enthusiasm is what I enjoyed most this year. The students immersed themselves in their work," said Liesemeyer. By Rebecca Lackey.
Jill Liesemeyer helps Kelly Merkel with a computer assignment. A year of computers in addition to keyboarding are required for graduation. Photo by Donna Parish.

Denise Blevins, Algebra II student, works out a problem. Photo by Rebecca Lackey.

Ted Hutchcraft goes over some questions at the JCN Quiz Bowl meet. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Rebecca Lackey.
The home economics, woods, and agriculture classes have learned a lot of hands on skills this year.

Laura Schmitz, home economics teacher, has been busy with her bunch of students. "I've done a lot more with healthy eating and nutrition," said Schmitz. "We have also done different things with figuring fat contents." Rachael Jeschke, home ec student, said, "The most challenging project was learning to manage money with a limited budget."

Alan Terry, woods teacher, has done the same things this year that he has done for many years. Terry said, "Bookwork gives a basis; then the students can apply what they learn from it." He likes for students to figure out how to get a complex project or any project completed.

Elmer Schmitz, agriculture teacher, is happy that there is a large group of students in his classes. Schmitz believes that the students get more from his class if they work hands on. Schmitz said, "We've tried to involve people by going to the FFA contests this year." Schmitz reports that the students are not hard to get along with and he is happy that the school has students that are so agreeable.

By Angela Trusty.

These pages designed by Angela Trusty and Amanda Twombly.
Laura Schmitz gives Lisa Wescott some suggestions that may improve her sewing project. Wescott is taking home economics for the first time in her high school years. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Nolan Cruse adds the final brush strokes to his color wheel. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Darin Peters fits dowel rods to the corners of his dressing screen in woods class. Photo by Norma Beck.
Clubs created many leaders whose skills were used and whose performances were greatly appreciated.

FFA members competed in numerous contests and participated in many community service projects. “Teaching kids about safety made me feel good about myself,” said Chris Blevins.

Quiz bowl, journalism, and STUCO members spent many activity periods and evenings practicing, meeting deadlines, and planning activities. “Putting out the yearbook was a real headache at times,” said Jennifer Collins, yearbook editor, “But it all came together in the end.”
Hilary Harness and Courtney Harness play cards while waiting between quiz bowl matches. Photo by Donna Parish.

Levi Lucas, Adam Tyler, Chris Blevins, Kole Meyer, and Jay Gormley start lining up for the beginning of the National Honor Society initiation. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Norma Beck.
The National Honor Society initiated 19 new members this year, all sophomores, and the Quiz Bowl team had a competitive year.

Although NHS doesn’t actively do anything, it affects the members. “A NHS membership listed on a resume shows colleges that you are willing to work hard to maintain good grades,” said Amanda Twombly. Ted Hutchcraft, sponsor, said, “The National Honor Society is more a privilege than anything.”

“This year’s Quiz Bowl team has been very competitive,” said Hutchcraft, co-sponsor. Although the varsity team didn’t win a first, they placed second at the Highland Tournament. Courtney Harness said, “We had a fun, but disappointing season.” Kim Ruhnke said, “Overall, I thought the Quiz Bowl team could have done better, but we could have done worse.” By Norma Beck.

The members of NHS are Front Row: Tabitha Reist, Stephanie Blevins, Emily Jeschk, Stacey Fee, Jennifer Yates, Cheyenne Dorrell, Ted Hutchcraft, sponsor; Second Row: Heather Hunsaker, Denise Blevins, Hilary Harness, Courtney Harness, Rachael Jeschk, Rebecca Lackey, Rilie Kafer, Kristy Green, Kelly Merkel; Third Row: Mandy Brock, Kristi Kelley, Bridget Blevins, Kim Ruhnke, Jennifer Collins Amanda Twombly, Megan Batchelder, Erin Jeschk; Back Row: Thatcher Reist, Kole Meyer, Chris Blevins, Brad McCauley, Chris Collins, Jay Gormley, Jeff Butrick, Levi Lucas, Adam Tyler. Photo by Bray’s.

The 1995-96 Quiz Bowl members are Front Row: Nathan Twombly, Kim Ruhnke, Courtney Harness, Kole Meyer; Back Row: Joe Swain, Thatcher Reist, Levi Lucas, Kelly Merkel, Kristi Kelley, Andrea Collins, Hilary Harness. Photo by Bray’s.
Before the initiation ceremony Mandy Brock listens to cousin Chris Blevins recite his speech. Most members gave speeches and welcomed the new members. Photo by Donna Parish.

Courtney Harness, NHS President, shakes Stacey Fee’s hand and welcomes Fee into the National Honor Society. Photo by Donna Parish.

Thatcher Reist, Kim Ruhnke, Dylan Dorrell, and Courtney Harness work on a problem during a varsity Quiz Bowl meet. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Norma Beck.
It was an exciting year for the 48 members in the FFA Chapter. An excessive amount of participation in nearly every contest this year enabled the chapter to win an array of awards.

At the Northeast District Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Stephanie Blevins placed 6th individually. The A team, which consisted of Stephen Blevins, Stephanie Blevins, Chris Blevins, Bridget Blevins, and Denise Blevins, placed 6th as a team.

The chapter team at the Northeast District Leadership School placed 2nd in the Parlaw Demonstration, 3rd in Ritual Demonstration, and 2nd overall. Stephanie Blevins received Master Ritual. The Greenhand team received 1st in the Parlaw Demonstration, 2nd in FFA Information, and 1st overall. Andrea Collins received Master Ritual Secretary and 8th in Information. Travis Clary placed 4th and Josh Keebler placed 5th in information.

Mark Allen was honored with the Northeast District Home and Community Development Proficiency Award, and the Northeast District Wildlife Management Proficiency Award. Wes Keller won the Northeast District Ag Mechanics Proficiency Award. Allen, Keller, and Kim Ruhnke also received their State FFA Degree.

At the Northeast District Entomology contest, the A-team and the B-team placed first. The A-team consisted of Allen, Keller, Ruhnke, Jay Gormley, Emily Jeschke, and Kelly Merkel. The B-Team consisted of Shane Smith, Rocky Ruhnke, Jason Davis, Darin Peters, and Jerry Rathmann. These were just a few of the awards received by the chapter.

By Stephen Blevins and Jeff Butrick.
Seniors Billy Corlett, Darin Peters, Mark Allen, Stephen Blevins, Wes Keller, Kim Ruhnke, and Jay Gormley present their advisor, Elmer Schmitz, with a token of their appreciation at the Chapter Banquet. Photo by Donna Parish.


Kim Ruhnke presents Roger Gormley with an Honorary Chapter Membership. Many senior parents were presented with this award at the Chapter Banquet. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Stephen Blevins and Jeff Butrick.
The Student Council plays an important role in the lives of the students. Since the first day of school, STUCO has been active. They try to give the halls of this establishment a cheery and uplifting feeling.

Every month, the students with birthdays in that month receive a festive locker decoration celebrating their birthdays.

A new project of the STUCO this year was a "Turkey for a Teacher" prize for the most popular teacher of the students.

STUCO also sponsored a "Secret Pals" project during the Valentine's week. This helped boost school spirit and proved to be a fun time for many.

Bridget Blevins, junior, stated, "I thought we should have been much more active, but what we did was O.K."

STUCO was the sponsor of the Homecoming festivities. Included in the festivities were Spirit Week, a bonfire, pep rally, and a dance after the football game.

Kristi Kelley, STUCO president, said, "I think everything we've done so far has been successful and fun, but I wish we could have gotten more accomplished." By Bob Hopkins.

The STUCO members are Front Row: Denise Blevins, Stephanie Blevins, Rebecca Lackey, Rachael Jeschke, Mandy Brock, Cheyenne Dorrell, Rilie Kafer, Amanda Twombly; Second Row: Hilary Harness, Kristi Kelley, Natalie Webb, Jennifer Collins, Jay Gormley, Dylan Dorrell, Rocky Ruhnke, Andrea Collins; Back Row: Bridget Blevins, Tabitha Reist, Courtney Harness, Travis Clary. Photo by Bray's.

Stephen Blevins receives crown and flowers from Taryn Gibson as Bridget Blevins and Rebecca Lackey look on during the Homecoming festivities. Photo by Amanda Twombly.
Amanda Twombly studies page layouts as she completes one of her many duties and responsibilities as a newspaper editor. Twombly also received first and second place finishes at the KSPA Journalism contest. Photo by Angela Trusty.

Chris Blevins and Rachael Jeschke work vigorously in the darkroom to complete contest entries. Photo by Angela Trusty.

The journalism class came home with a cornucopia full of awards from the Kansas Scholastic Press Association journalism contest held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

First place finishes included Rebecca Lackey, advertising; Amanda Twombly, editing; Bob Hopkins, infographics; and Stephen Blevins, newspaper sports writing.

Second place finishers were Chris Blevins, advertising; Amanda Twombly, newspaper design; Courtney Harness, editing; Bridget Blevins, yearbook sports writing; and Kim Ruhnke, newswriting.

Besides achieving excellence in the KSPA contest, the journalism class managed to produce eight issues of the famous *The Bluestreak Speaks* and a quality yearbook.

Kim Ruhnke, newspaper editor, stated, “I think that we’ve done very well, and our paper has been a quality product, and we’ve gotten lots of compliments. I’m very proud of our work.” By Bob Hopkins.

These pages designed by Bob Hopkins.
Fine arts students presented their talents through musicals, paintings, and instrumental music.

Crowds arrived to view the fall production of "Fiddle on the Roof"; Swing Choir and soloists made their way to State Music Festival; art students placed first in art history quiz bowl at Highland Art Day; and for the first time in many years, the band played at Sub-State basketball.

Kelly Merkel, Swing Choir member, said, "We rehearsed a lot for State and for Tour, but everything went together smoothly in the end."

Jeff Butrick, Levi Lucas, Jay Gormley, Kelly Merkel, Tabitha Reist, and the rest of the townspeople sing about their traditions. Photo by Courtney Harness.
Junior and senior high band students do their part in cheering on the boys’ basketball team during Sub-State. Photo by Kristi Kelley.

Eric Cole works on a acrylic with happy little trees during art class. Photo by Chris Blevins.

These pages designed by Kim Ruhnke.
"If I were a rich man, yiddle deedle deedle diggah didle deedle didle dum." These were the words that echoed throughout the Culbertson Auditorium during the choir's rendition of "Fiddler on the Roof." Dylan Dorrell played the lead, Tevye. Tabitha Reist shared the spotlight as Tevye's wife, Golde.

A supporting cast and crew of about fifty students put on two smooth-running performances to the delight of friends and family. The students' hard work and concentration paid off.

Cheryl Rasmussen, choir director, said, "I was very pleased with how the musical went. The depth of its message was presented on stage effectively." Donna Parish, assistant director, was in charge of costuming the performers and keeping the stage crew under control. Parish said, "The songs of the musical have not been let go, thanks to Stephen Blevins, who has a tendency to repeat the lyrics word for word. The funniest part about it is, he wasn't even in it." By Bridget Blevins and Rachael Jeschke.

Andrea Collins, and Erin Jeschke, accompanists, became the "unsung-heroes" of the musical, as they led the performers through many numbers. Rachael Jeschke also accompanied. Photo by Kim Ruhnke.

Dylan Dorrell, Tevye, contemplates the situation concerning his families' changing traditions. Photo by Stephen Blevins.

These pages designed by Bridget Blevins and Rachael Jeschke.
Chris Blevins, Rabbi, marries Motel and Tzeitel (Clint Windmeyer and Stephanie Blevins) under the traditional wedding canopy. Photo by Kim Ruhnke.

Rachael Jeschke, Denise Blevins, Stephanie Blevins, Cheyenne Dorrell, and Emily Jeschke finish their rendition of *Matchmaker*. Photo by Courtney Harness.
The choir and band had a very rewarding year. Choir began with the musical "Fiddler on the Roof." Cheryl Rasmussen, choir director, said, "Fiddler on the Roof" is a challenging musical because the music and theme make it hard to pull off. I was very pleased with the outcome of the musical." Rasmussen tried to use all different styles and variations of music that the students might enjoy.

The choir competed at the Delaware Valley League music contest and received Is.

Soloists who competed in DVL were Stephanie Blevins, Cheyenne Dorrell, Emily Jeschke, Mandy Brock, Rachael Jeschke, Tabitha Reist, and Dylan Dorrell. They all received Is.

At Regional contest, Cheyenne Dorrell and Blevins received IIs, but the rest of the soloists advanced to the state competition with Is.

The state music contest was held in Wichita and Dylan Dorrell, Tabitha Reist, Rachael Jeschke, and Brock all received Is for their solos. Emily Jeschke received a II on her solo.

Band was active in football games, basketball games, and other extracurricular activities. Jamie Baker, band director said, "We’ve progressed a long way. It’s been an “eye-opening first year.” I’ve come
from larger and more competitive schools, and so I’m used to seeing band students hungry for competition. Here, I’ve had to get used to a non-competitive band.”

Bobby Paxton, who plays the tenor saxophone, was the only band student to take a solo to Regionals and received a I.

The band participated in the pep band at Concordia for Sub-State Basketball. “Band was a lot better this year than it has ever been,” said Andrea Collins. Baker would like to extend a personal thanks to Cheryl Rasmussen, principal, for playing in the pep band all year. By Rachael Jeschke.
The Swing Choir participated in the Delaware Valley League music festival at Wathena High School. They received a I rating, singing “Don’t Listen To the Hammer Ring.”

At Regional music contest, the Swing Choir received a I that qualified them to sing at State. The State music festival was held in Wichita. The Swing Choir received a II rating. Rachael Jeschke said, “Even though we received a II rating at State, everybody had fun and put forth a gallant effort.”

The Swing Choir did not drift too far from home for tour. They went to Wathena, Troy and Hiawatha High Schools the first day, and then headed to Kansas City to the New Dinner Theatre. The next day, they went to the recording studio to record the tour songs. After finishing, they bused to Highland to end the tour.

Virgil Bauer, member of the community, said, “I really enjoyed the last few numbers because the kids were really enjoying themselves. It was the best tour I have heard in high school.” By Chris Blevins.
Rachael Jeschke, who was voted outstanding vocalist of the year, sings a solo in “Oh Happy Day.” Photo by Courtney Harness.


The Swing Choir takes a sentimental moment to sing “Beauty and the Beast,” with Jay Gormley and Jennifer Collins providing solos. Photo by Courtney Harness.

Jay Gormley is being persuaded by his friends to “Just Kiss the Girl,” Mandy Brock. Photo by Courtney Harness.

These pages designed by Chris Blevins.
The art students participated in the annual Highland Community College Art Day. The art history team, which consisted of Courtney Harness, Thatcher Reist, Hilary Harness, and Kole Meyer received first place. Tabitha Reist was bestowed with an artist excellence award for her canvas painting. Tabitha Reist’s painting, Prelude #6, was hands with musical notes in the background. She said, “There were so many good things there I didn’t expect to win anything, so I was very honored.”

At the Delaware Valley League Art Competition, two students received recognition. Travis Clary and Emily Stevens received honorable mentions. Both Clary and Stevens entered pencil drawings. Linda Joseph, art instructor, commented, “I had a good number of students enrolled this year. I was very pleased at the amount of participation I saw at the DVL contest.”

The third contest attended by the art department was the American Federation of Women’s Club contest. This contest had an extreme variation of categories. Those receiving blue ribbons were Brant Clary, Dylan Dorrell, Robert Paxton, Cory Spangler, and Stevens. Those receiving red ribbons were Jerod Blanton, Travis Clary, Courtney Harness, Paul Idol, Levi Lucas, Paxton, Amanda Romine, Cory Spangler, Stevens, and Natalie Webb. By Bob Hopkins and Chris Blevins.

Paul Idol works on his painting which he will enter in the HCC Art Day contest. Photo by Chris Blevins.

Megan Batchelder paints some finishing strokes on her landscape painting. Photo by Chris Blevins.
Chris Collins prepares his canvas painting by working on the focal point. Photo by Bob Hopkins.

Linda Joseph, art teacher, instructs Kari Garrett on her project. Photo by Chris Blevins.

Brant Clary works furiously to complete his canvas painting of a fisherman. "This painting was the favorite at the awards night," said Donna Parish. Photo by Chris Blevins.

This page sponsored by Smithton Lodge.
The sports’ programs had award-winning individuals who ran races, made touchdowns, shot baskets, built pyramids, and served balls.

The boys’ basketball team won Regionals. “I was excited we went to Sub-State, but I thought we could have gone farther than the first game,” said Brian Simpson.

“Football had a very good season, but I was a little disappointed with the last two games,” said Mark Allen.

Bridget Blevins hands off the baton to Kelly Merkel during the weight women’s relay at the Wathena Quad. The 4 x 100 meter weight women’s relay team placed third. Photo by Courtney Harness.
Jennifer Collins bumps the volleyball while her teammates set up for the next hit. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Jay Gormley (#32) and Darin Peters (#42) both go for the rebound while working around the Jackson Heights defense. Highland ended up losing the ball game 57-63. Photo by Norma Beck.

Megan Batchelder (#5) shoots up an easy bucket for two points over a Jackson Heights player. Highland lost the game, 33-41. Photo by Rachael Jeschke.
Despite a few problems now and then, the volleyball team ended its season with a 15-14 record, 5-4 in league play.

Stephanie Blevins was unanimously selected to the All-Delaware Valley League Volleyball squad. Kim Ruhnke was selected to the all-tournament team after the Highland Tournament. Blevins said, "I felt that it was a great honor to be selected to the all-league team because there was a lot of competition in the league. As a team, I thought we pulled together at the end. I had a really fun year."

In Regionals, the ladies defeated Kickapoo, but fell short to Wetmore. The ladies did come out ready with that killer instinct, but lost in three games.

The JV squad participated in the Jackson Heights tournament. They defeated Troy in the championship match, earning them first place. The JV, like the varsity, showed much improvement from their first game. By Kim Ruhnke.

| Record: 15-14 |
|---|---|
| Opponent | Streaks |
| Midway | 4 |
| Lansing | 1 |
| Valley Falls | 3 |
| Pleasant Ridge | 1 |
| Oskaloosa | 1 |
| Troy | 2 |
| Jackson Hts. | 1 |
| Centralia | 1 |
| Hiawatha | 1 |
| Atchison | 2 |
| Horton | 1 |
| JCN | 1 |
| McLouth | 2 |
| Nodaway-Holt | 1 |
| Wathena | 1 |
| Regionals | 1 |
| Kickapoo | 1 |
| Wetmore | 1 |
Andrea Collins slams one home for game point (notice scoreboard) again t Atchison as Megan Batchelder anticipates the win. Photo by Stephen Blevins.


Kim Ruhnke (#21) and Heather Hunsaker (#14) attempt to block an oncoming spike. Photo by Stephen Blevins.

These pages designed by Kim Ruhnke.
The 1995 football program ended with an outstanding record of six wins and three losses. Along with the impressive record, many players received honors for their outstanding performance.

Mark Allen received first team Topeka Capital All-State Lineman and KQTV Elite Eleven. Allen also earned a trip to the Shrine Bowl as a lineman. Jay Gormley earned Honorable Mention Topeka Capital All-State running back, while Darin Peters received Honorable Mention Topeka Capital All-State linebacker.

Among the many Delaware Valley League selections were Gormley, first team running back and second team linebacker; Allen first team offensive tackle, defensive lineman, and punter; Peters, second team running back and honorable mention linebacker; Stephen Blevins, honorable mention defensive lineman; Brian Simpson, second team center; Wes Keller, second team offensive guard; Clint Windmeyer, second team quarterback and defensive back; and William Simmons, second team tight end.

Keller said, “I think that everyone grew off of last year’s season. This year we had more size and experience.” By Stephen Blevins and Jeff Butrick.
Head Coach, Ron Shelton, congratulates the team after their victory over the Pleasant Ridge Rams. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Stephen Blevins (#22) turns the corner before being brought down by a Centralia defender. Photo by Courtney Harness.

The Highland offense pushes back the Centralia defense as Jay Gormley (#34) plants and prepares to score. Photo by Courtney Harness.

These pages sponsored by Hord Communications Plus.
The summer of '95 kept the cheerleaders very busy with fundraisers. They held a car wash, a sand volleyball tournament, a bake sale, and a pork dinner. The cheerleaders also attended a three-day cheerleading camp. At camp, Stephanie Blevins was chosen All-American cheerleader. "It was a great honor to be selected All-American cheerleader by the NCA cheerleaders," said Stephanie Blevins.

The cheerleaders started their season by sponsoring a Spirit Spreader, which was held for area schools. At the Spirit Spreader, the cheerleaders learned different chants, cheers, and routines from NCA cheerleaders.

The football cheerleaders made numerous run throughs, and with the help of the basketball cheerleaders, held a bon-fire pep rally to boost spirit during Homecoming week. Heather Hunsaker said, "I thought the bon-fire pep rally was really fun. It got the team, as well as the community, pumped up for Homecoming." The basketball cheerleaders performed a dance routine at the Delaware Valley League basketball tournament which was held at Pleasant Ridge.

The cheerleaders were nominated to cheer in the Kansas Shrine Bowl football game at Washburn University in Topeka. They will cheer on Mark Allen who was selected to play in the game. The cheerleaders were sponsored by Marti Ann Allen. By Rebecca Lackey.
Cheyenne Dorrell and Heather Hunsaker base Natalie Webb in an extension prep as they try to get the crowd cheering at the game against Valley Falls. Photo by Donna Parish.

The basketball cheerleaders Standing: Stephanie Blevins, Emily Jeschke; Kneeling: Courtney Harness, Jennifer Collins, Rebecca Lackey, Natalie Webb; Sitting: Cheyenne Dorrell, Heather Hunsaker. Photo by Bray’s.

These pages designed by Rebecca Lackey.

The basketball cheerleaders pose before their performance of the Bump Routine. They performed for the DVL Basketball Tournament at Pleasant Ridge. Photo by Rachael Jeschke.
The varsity girls' basketball season started off at a strong pace winning their first three out of five games and placing second in the DVL Spectacular at Pleasant Ridge. At the end the ladies were on an even track at 11-11.

The leading scorer was Kim Ruhnke who was an unanimous choice for the Delaware Valley All-League. Ruhnke said, "I thought the season could have been better, but we still did well despite having a very young team.” The ladies had only one senior and one junior leading the varsity squad. Ruhnke also made the Immaculata tournament team, the DVL tournament team, and the first All-County team.

Bridget Blevins said, “I thought the season was exciting, and we had a lot of young talent. We have a lot to look forward to next year.” Bridget Blevins was chosen for the second All-County team. Blevins was also the second leading scorer for the team followed by Emily Jeschke and Megan Batchelder. Batchelder was also the leading rebounder for the Streaks followed by Ruhnke and Blevins. The team had an average of 33% made field goals and a total of 46% made free throws for the season.

The Bluestreaks had an exciting season with many close games. Many of their games were won and lost by final shots in the fourth quarter or in overtime. The ladies fought for a good position in the Regional bracket. The Streaks were ranked fourth going into Regionals and their record was 9-10. In the first round the Streaks beat the Elwood Panthers 58-23. But in the second round the Streaks faced a tough match up against the Centralia Panthers and lost 29-50.
Kim Ruhnke (#21) drives the lane for an easy two points against the Jackson Heights Cobras. Photo by Norma Beck.

Megan Batchelder (#5) throws up a shot over a Cobra defender. Photo by Norma Beck.

Girls’ Basketball Record

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Streaks</th>
<th>Opp.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oskaloosa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Troy</td>
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<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midway</td>
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<tr>
<td>*(Centralia</td>
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These pages designed by William Simmons.
The boys’ basketball team finished their season strong with an overall record of 15-8, and a Delaware Valley League record of 5-4.

The Streaks season began with an exciting third place win at the pre-season D.V.L. Spectacular Tournament held at Pleasant Ridge.

Mid-season, the Streaks traveled to Leavenworth to partake in the Immaculata Tournament. The boys earned a fifth place plaque by defeating Maur Hill in the consolation game.

Post-season was promising for the Bluestreaks. The guys won the Class 1A Regional Tournament, which earned them a trip to Sub-State in Concordia.

The first round opponents for Highland were the Axtell Eagles. Despite a whole-hearted effort by the entire team, the Bluestreaks fell short, 44-59, thus ending a well-played season.

Some of the players earned many honors throughout the year. Jeff Butrick was named to the Immaculata All-Tournament team, received first team All-County honors, and was voted unanimously to be on the DVL All-League Team. Jay Gormley earned DVL All-Tournament Team honors, a place on the first team All-County team, and earned Honorable Mention DVL All-League Team. Clint Windmeyer earned second team All-County, and Honorable Mention DVL All-League Team. Will Simmons earned a place on the second team All-County Team. By Kim Ruhnke.

These pages designed by Kim Ruhnke.
Boys’ Basketball Record

15-8

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<th>Streaks</th>
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<td>*Oskaloosa</td>
<td>68 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DVL Spectacular**

- Horton 63 46
- Jackson Hts. 57 63
- JCN 47 42
- Troy 59 76
- Midway 67 42
- *Horton 60 56
- *Valley Falls 64 48
- Elwood 93 24
- *JCN 65 58
- *Pleasant Ridge 62 47

**Immaculata Tournament**

- Wathena 63 65
- Maur Hill 64 42
- Midway 62 52
- *McLouth 50 65
- *Jackson Hts. 59 65
- Hyman Hebrew 57 20
- *Wathena 42 50
- *Troy 49 44

**Regional Tournament**

- Powhattan 104 28
- Centralia 66 44
- Midway 43 38

**Sub-State Tournament**

- Axtell 45 59

*denotes DVL game

Darin Peters (#42) takes the jump shot in the lane against Jackson Heights while Clint Windmeyer (#34) and Jay Gormley (#32) prepare to block out, and Jeff Butrick (#30) acts as safety. Photo by Kristi Kelley.

Jay Gormley shows off his jump shot and his "ups" during the second round of the DVL Spectacular against Jackson Heights. Photo by Kristi Kelley.

Clint Windmeyer puts up a jumper while being guarded by several Troy Trojans during the Homecoming game. The boys won, 49-44. Photo by Kristi Kelley.
The Cross Country team expanded to five members: Emily Jeschke, Matt Richesin, Jon Theobald, Joe Swain, and Evan Dillman. Coaching the team was Gary Keehn.

Jeschke went to State after a sixth place finish at Regionals. "I enjoyed the season more this year because I knew what to expect of the courses and of myself," said Jeschke.

Keehn was also the head coach for a very large and talented track team. He made sure long distance runners and sprinters were in tip-top shape for every meet. Assisting Keehn were Angie Eberly and Elmer Schmitz. Eberly taught the jumpers proper form and technique, while Schmitz helped the throwers work on grunting ability and approach.

After finishing first in triple jump at Regionals, Jay Gormley jumped at State in Wichita. "It is an awesome feeling when they announce your name in front of all those people at the State meet," said Gormley.

Mark Allen also made it to State after finishing second in shot put and third in discus. Allen said, "I am really glad I made it to State because it is my last year." By Bridget Blevins.

The members of the track team are Front Row: Elmer Schmitz, coach; Nathan Twombly, Courtney Harness, Emily Jeschke, Natalie Webb, Jennifer Collins; Second Row: Rebecca Lackey, Hilary Harness, T.J. Simpson, Adam Lackey, Kim Ruhnke, Angie Eberly, coach; Third Row: Gary Keehn, coach; Andrea Collins, Denise Blevins, Heather Hunsaker, Bridget Blevins, Rachael Jeschke, Kelly Merkel, Stephanie Blevins, Erin Jeschke; Back Row: Jason Davis, Mark Allen, Evan Dillman, Thatcher Reist, Colby Collins, Levi Lucas, Jay Gormley, David Orozco, Megan Batchelder. Photo by Donna Parish.

The Cross Country team are Front Row: Jon Theobald, Joe Swain, Evan Dillman; Back Row: Gary Keehn, coach; Matt Richesin, Emily Jeschke. Photo by Donna Parish.

Natalie Webb takes a deep breath as she finishes the 800M Run. Photo by Donna Parish.
Jay Gormley flies through the air and nails a first place finish in triple jump at the Midway Invitational Meet. Gormley finished second in State in this same event. Photo by Donna Parish.

Mark Allen heaves the discus placing first at the Midway Invitational meet. This was one of his many throws on his way to place third at Regionals and go on to State. Photo by Donna Parish.

Levi Lucas soars over the high jump bar at the Midway Invitational meet finishing second. Photo by Donna Parish.

These pages designed by Bridget Blevins.

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Special events was a time for the students to appear on stage, on the field, and on the court.

Homecoming and King and Queen of Courts brought home Bluestreak alumni because of their popularity, while Barnwarming was a favorite among the community because of the comical chores done by the Sweetheart candidates.

Prom, presented by the junior class, gave the students a chance to dress up, eat fine food, and dance the night away. “Prom was fun because it gave us a chance to look studly,” said Brad McCauley.

Awards Night honored students who had achieved superior grades and recognized them with awards, pins, cords, and plaques. Graduation was the finishing touch for the seniors as they received their diplomas.
The band energetically performs "Pomp and Circumstance" at the beginning of graduation under the direction of Jamie Baker. Photo by Bray's.

Chris Collins and Mandy Brock dance while Bob Hopkins and Heather Hunsaker embrace each other in the background. Photo by Bray's.

Clint Windmeyer and Denise Blevins twist to a country tune. Photo by Bray's.
Homecoming was held at half time of the Bluestreaks’ victory over Jackson Heights, 38-8.

The candidates were escorted around the track in the back of white, extended-cab, short-bed, Ford pickup trucks. Tabitha Reist and Stephen Blevins were crowned Queen and King. The other candidates were Kim Ruhnke, Jay Gormley, Jennifer Collins and Mark Allen.

The crown bearer was Cameron Twombly, son of Scott and Leigh Ann Twombly. The flower girl was Taryn Gibson, daughter of Chris and Trish Gibson.

“I was surprised that I won Homecoming King,” said Blevins, “I just didn’t think I’d get it.”

The night before the game the cheerleaders held a bonfire to get the football players “fired” up before the big game. The cheerleaders also did their routine and held a wheelbarrow relay for the candidates.

Earlier that week, Stuco conducted the famous Spirit Week. Spirit Week consisted of just get out of bed day, hat/T-shirt signing day, hippie/nerd day, twin day, and blue and white day. Most of the students had fun participating in these events.

Blevins also said, “I missed the usual Homecoming parade, but I thought all the other activities made up for it.” By Kim Ruhnke.
Homecoming candidates Jennifer Collins and Mark Allen. Photo by Bray's.

Mark Allen and Jeff Butrick show their spirit on "Hippie/Nerd" Day during Spirit Week as Clint Windmeyer looks on. Photo by Kim Ruhnke.

Taryn Gibson and Cameron Twombly were privileged with the honor of flower girl and crown bearer during the Homecoming ceremonies. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Newly crowned Homecoming King Stephen Blevins and Queen Tabitha Reist soak up all the attention. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Homecoming candidates Kim Ruhnke and Jay Gormley. Photo by Bray's.
Denise Blevins reigned as 1995-96 FFA Barnwarming Sweetheart. Runner-up was T.J. Simpson. The other candidates trying for Sweetheart were Stephanie Blevins, Bridget Blevins, and Kristi Kelley.

The night started off with activities for the younger kids in the community and ended with the crowning of the Sweetheart.

The chores that the younger kids took part in were catching a greased hog, looking for candy in a bale of hay, and tossing eggs. The chores for the candidates were kissing a hog, carrying buckets of cow manure, milking a cow, detasseling corn into a Pepsi bottle, and identifying farm equipment. “My favorite chore was milking a cow because it is a real farm chore,” said Denise Blevins.

Bridget Blevins stated, “I thought the chores were gruesome, but fun. I’m glad I got the opportunity to stick my hand in that big bucket of manure.”

Each of the candidates had to give a speech over “How is Technology Affecting Today’s Consumers.” Denise Blevins said, “My facts about the topic were strong points in my speech.” By Darin Peters and Chris Blevins.

T.J. Simpson tries to get milk into a Pepsi bottle in “Milk a Cow” chore. Photo by Donna Parish.

Stephanie Blevins runs to the finish line while carrying a bucket of cow manure. Photo by Norma Beck.
Denise Blevins was selected as the 1995-96 FFA Barnwarming Queen. Photo by Bray's.

Bridget Blevins grips onto a bucket of cow manure as she is timed in the obstacle course. Photo by Norma Beck.

Stephen Blevins and Chris Blevins get down as they lip sync "Sold" by John Michael Montgomery. Photo by Norma Beck.

FFA President Stephen Blevins pecks Denise Blevins on the cheek after she is awarded Queen. Photo by Norma Beck.
"The King and I"

After a cancellation due the 30 degrees below wind chill on Feb. 9, the King and Queen of Courts was finally announced on Friday Feb. 16 during the basketball game against Troy. Mark Allen and Jennifer Collins were named royalty.

The Queen attendants were Kim Ruhnke and Courtney Harness. The King attendants were Darin Peters and Jay Gormley. The crown bearer was Aaron Shelton, and the flower girl was Hannah Lackey.

Collins wore a navy, tea-length dress with white lacing around the collar. Harness wore a short navy suit with satin trim around the collar. Ruhnke wore a tea-length, red satin dress with a choker collar.

"It was kind of embarrassing when everyone started chanting ‘KISS HER,’ said Collins, “but all in all it was a great privilege to be selected Queen.”

Allen said, “I was really honored to be chosen King.”

The dance honoring the Royalty was held Feb. 17, after the basketball game against McLouth. “I thought the dance was one of the better dances we have had all year,” said Jeff Butrick, junior. By Bridget Blevins.

King Mark Allen and Queen Jennifer Collins were crowned during half time of the boys' basketball game against Troy. Photo by Bray’s.
Queen attendant Courtney Harness and King attendant Jay Gormley. Photo by Bray's.

Queen attendant Kim Ruhnke and King attendant Darin Peters. Photo by Bray's.

Will Simmons participates in Spirit Week by showing off his favorite hat. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Queen Jennifer Collins and King Mark Allen display affection for each other in their over-night gear during Spirit Week. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

These pages designed by Kristi Kelley and Bridget Blevins.
By the time the sun had set on April 20, the vehicles were washed and waxed, the makeup was done, and everyone was ready to party. Prom was once again in full swing. Mandy Brock, stated, "I thought going with all of my friends in the limo was very fun."

The Juniors spent all of the previous week preparing for the gala event. The theme was "The Tide Rises the Tide Falls." They had help from many sources, but most of the credit went to Bill and Betty French who arranged and set up the decorations.

The banquet provided an excellent menu of steak, scalloped potatoes, salad, rolls, coffee, and tea. The meal was prepared by Judy Allen.

Jennifer Collins said, "I thought it was hilarious when the goldfish were harassed into a psychotic craze."

There were a few complications. The D.J. was over a half hour late and received an earful when he arrived. Although this delayed the festivities, it allowed time for pictures and conversation.

After-prom was held in St. Joseph where everyone bowled the night away. Chris Blevins, said, "My most memorable moment was at the after-prom party when Bridget harassed me while I was bowling and put me under 300." Then the group moved on to Perkins to enjoy an early breakfast and head for home. By Bob Hopkins.

Kim Ruhnke, Megan Batchelder, Myria Smith, and Jay Gormley dance the night away. Photo by Bray's.

These pages designed by Bob Hopkins.

Chris Collins, Mandy Brock, Thatcher Reist, Kristi Kelley, Jeff Lynch, Bridget Blevins, Bob Hopkins, and Heather Hunsaker await for the banquet to get underway. Photo by Bray's.
Awards night was held to recognize the students for their achievements that they had made throughout the school year.

After a comical class history from Wes Keller and Stephen Blevins, the Armed Services Scholar Athlete Award was given to Chris Blevins. The Marine Corp Scholastic Excellence and Distinguished Athlete Award was presented to Jeff Butrick. “I was surprised to receive this award because I thought one of the senior athletes would get it. It was truly an honor,” said Butrick.

Rilie Kafer and Mark Allen walked away with the Citizenship Award from Mary Lou Colley. I DARE YOU is a leadership award that was received by Chris Blevins and Mandy Brock for their outstanding leadership. Justin O’Bryan and Thatcher Reist were awarded the Perfect Attendance Award, and Mark Allen earned the Community Service Award for serving over 200 hours of service. Stephen Blevins was recognized as All-Around Student. Dylan Dorrell won the KNZA Senior Essay Award, presented by Joyce Rush.

Ted Hutchcraft gave the Math and Science Award to Amanda Twombly. Becky Lackey earned the Extra-Ordinary Effort Award.

Salutatorian of the 1996 Senior Class was Amanda Twombly and Valedictorian was Tabitha Reist. Angie Neibling prepared an unforgettable tribute to the Class of 1996 of childhood memories. By Rachael Jeschke and Kristi Kelley.
Amanda Twombly accepts the Salutatorian plaque from Cheryl Rasmussen. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Justin O’Bryan is awarded a perfect attendance award for missing two hours or less throughout the school year by Ginger Scott. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

Linda Joseph presents Emily Stevens with an award for her efforts given to produce award-winning art work. Photo by Bridget Blevins.

These pages designed by Rachael Jeschke and Kristi Kelley.

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Ruth Twombly, class of 1969, encouraged the class of 1996 to find “The Measure Of Success” that they would like to obtain in their lives. Twombly added a bit of humor by showing the infamous broken figurine on her valedictorian plaque. Twombly also added that the graduates were already successful as they were soon to receive their diplomas.

Valedictorian Tabitha Reist gave a very straightforward speech on how the community was there for everything that the school and her class participated in, and how she appreciated it. She also stated that her first impression of the townspeople were that they were just a bunch of “nosy gossips,” and today she sees them as the same thing, yet they were there for her every time she needed them.

Amanda Twombly, salutatorian, based her speech on the ending of their high school careers and opening a new chapter in the book of life. She ended with congratulating her classmates and wishing them good luck in the future.

After the graduates received their diplomas they paraded off the stage one by one, finishing with Jay Gormley holding up his index finger showing that their class was number one. The graduates formed the annual line outside the school to receive congratulations and hugs from the people that attended. By Jeff Butrick.
Tabitha Reist gives her valedictory address. Later in the program she accompanied herself on the piano while she sang “Think of Me.” Photo by Bray’s.

Graduates receive hugs and best wishes from their friends and relatives. Photo by Bray’s.

Jay Gormley and Wes Keller receive a well-deserved congratulations from teacher’s aid Marla Olson. Photo by Bray’s.

Jerry Rathmann leads the line of graduates down the stairs and out the door as they are now done with high school. Photo by Bray’s.

These pages designed by Jeff Butrick.
The Class of 1996 would like to thank their parents for all of the encouragement and the support throughout high school.

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As the list of credits scroll across the screen, the 1996 yearbook presentation comes to The End. This production was brought to you by the staff of *The Bluestreak*. The staff would like to especially thank Russell Karn, Jostens, and everyone who purchased advertisements.
Heads of many of the 186 member nations gather in New York to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in October.

French transportation workers strike against their government throughout the month of December, shutting down the airlines and the metro system, after France increases the retirement age from 50 to 65 and lengthens the work week from 37 to 39 hours in efforts to cut spending.

Arap artist Christo creates "Wrapped Reichstag" for the city of Berlin by covering the former home of the German parliament with one million square feet of silver fabric in June.

Pope John Paul II visits New Jersey, New York and Maryland, and addresses the United Nations. He speaks out on social, economic, political and moral themes.

In late May, a doctor performs emergency surgery aboard British Airways flight 32 using a coat hanger, a knife and fork, and a scissors sterilized in brandy to save a woman whose life is threatened by a collapsed lung.

Shock waves hit the Middle East when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is shot and killed while leaving a peace rally in Tel Aviv November 4. His murderer, Jewish extremist Yigal Amir, fanatically opposes peace negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Tahitian protests escalate into riots after France detonates a nuclear test device 750 miles from the South Pacific island. France's September resumption of tests after a three-year moratorium brings global condemnation.

Marxist Cuban President Fidel Castro abandons his Havana cigar and military fatigue for a suit and tie on a diplomatic visit to New York in October, where he tries to convince the U.S. to lift its 33-year-old trade embargo on still-communist Cuba.

Madman Shoko Asahara, leader of the Japanese apocalyptic religious cult, Aum Shinrikyo, is arrested on May 16 and charged with the Tokyo subway nerve-gas attack that left 12 people dead and injured 5,500 more in March.

In a powerful address to the U.N.'s Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, attended by 30,000 women from 180 countries, U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton declares, "Women's rights are human rights." to a desk-thumping applauding audience.

Fifty years after the end of World War II, Japan remembers those killed by the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. A solitary building left standing after the blast, now a memorial called the Atomic Bomb Dome, symbolizes the horrors of war and the price of peace.
An earthquake kills 51 people on the resort-studded Pacific coast of Mexico. The quake measures 7.5 on the Richter scale and is felt 330 miles away in Mexico City.

Quebec, Canada's largely French-speaking province, defeats an October referendum on Quebec independence by a margin of less than one percent.

In July, without public explanations, Burma's military rulers free the country's most famous political prisoner, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the pro-democracy movement and Nobel peace laureate, after six years of house arrest.

Russian figure skater Sergei Grinkov, 28, collapses and dies from a heart attack during practice with his wife-partner Ekaterina Gordeeva on November 20. The pair won two Olympic gold medals and four world pairs titles.

Quebec, 1995

The first U.S. president to visit Northern Ireland, President Clinton receives a warm Christmas welcome for his show of support for peace between Irish Protestants and Catholics.

Great Britain's Princess Diana shocks Buckingham Palace with a tell-all BBC interview. Defying royal protocol, she discusses her marriage to unfaithful husband, Prince Charles, her struggle with depression and bulimia, and an extramarital affair. The majority of English people express their support and sympathy.

Securities trader Nicholas Leeson is arrested in Germany in March 1995 for fraud, forgery, and breach-of-trust. Leeson racked up a $1.32 billion loss that caused the collapse of Barings PLC, the 233-year-old British bank.

In November, the Republic of Ireland narrowly passes a referendum calling for an end to the country's 1937 constitutional ban on divorce.

While competing in an international balloon race in September, two hot air balloonists, one English and one American, are shot down when their balloon drifts off course over Belarus. The Belarusian army sees the balloon as a security threat and fires without warning. The balloonists fall to their death.

More than four years after Desert Storm, Iraq's President Saddam Hussein remains in power, though two of his sons-in-law defect to Jordan on August 8 and call for Hussein's overthrow.

Hope blooms for peace in Bosnia when Bosnia's President Izetbegovic (left) shakes hands with Serbia's President Milosevic on the opening day of the November cease-fire talks, in Dayton, Ohio. Croatia's President Tuđman looks on. The ensuing Paris peace agreement of December sends 60,000 NATO peacekeeping troops to the war-torn country.
San Francisco sewer lines burst under pressure from battering rainstorms, creating a monster sinkhole that swallows a $2-million house in the Sea Cliff district. One-hundred-mile-per-hour winds knock out power to tens of thousands of homes and nearly blow a truck off the Bay Bridge.


The nation comes to a standstill on October 3 as more than 150 million people watch live TV coverage of the outcome of the nine-month-long trial of the century. After less than four hours of deliberation, the jury finds former football star O.J. Simpson not guilty of the murders of his ex-wife Nicole and his friend Ronald Goldman.

Illinois suffers a record heat wave in July, with temperatures as high as 104°. The heat takes the lives of 457 people statewide. At Wrigley Stadium, Jaime Navarro helps faithful Chicago Cubs fans stay cool.

After a year of fame as a conservative revolutionary, Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich slumps in popularity, tainted by the government shutdown, his stalled Contract With America, and investigations into his political action committee and his financial affairs.

Two-thousand volunteer firefighters battle a raging wildfire in eastern Long Island, New York, for three days in August. The fire, following a 21-day drought, consumes 5,500 acres of pine barriers and damages a dozen homes. There are no injuries or fatalities.
The image of firefighter Chris Fields holding one-year-old Baylee Almon, who later dies, comes to symbolize the horror of the April 19 bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building that killed 150 adults and 19 children.

As more Americans invest, Wall Street enjoys a bull market. In November, the Dow Jones Industrial Average hits 5000, a milestone indicating healthy corporate profits and low interest rates.

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Despite Americans' doubts and fears, U.S. troops head for Bosnia in December. The 29,000 U.S. forces, serving under NATO command beside 40,000 European allies, face the task of keeping peace among the country's warring Serbs, Croats and Muslims.

The State of South Carolina sentences Susan Smith to life in prison for the drowning murder of her two young sons in 1994.

An anonymous donor sends St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis $1 million in the form of a winning ticket from McDonald's November "Monopoly" sweepstakes game.

In the wake of a growing number of random attacks from assailants with knives and guns, White House security is forced to close Pennsylvania Avenue to traffic.

After allegedly ignoring federal pollution regulations for years, General Motors agrees under threat of an $11-million fine to recall 500,000 Cadillacs at a cost of $45 million.

Warren E. Burger, Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1969 to 1986, dies in June at age 87. Though appointed by President Richard Nixon, he ordered Nixon to turn over tapes in the Watergate hearings that effectively ended the president's career.

The Washington Post publishes a manifesto written by the unidentified killer known as "The Unabomber," at large since 1978 and wanted for 16 mail bombs that have killed 3 and injured 23. FBI agents scrutinize the article for clues to the bomber's identity.

A Chicago commuter train slams into the back end of a loaded school bus. The accident, allegedly caused by a poorly timed stoplight placed too near the tracks, kills 7 students and injures 28 on October 25.

American women celebrate the 75th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which granted women the right to vote. Women's suffrage leader Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) first organized the fight for suffrage in 1848.

A record snowfall paralyzes the East Coast in January 1996, stranding travelers and killing 100 people. Seven states, from Virginia to Massachusetts, declare emergencies. Philadelphia gets 30.7 inches of snow.
As the result of an improperly cleaned test tube at a fertility clinic, a woman in the Netherlands gives birth to twin boys, each from a different father.

A stunning photograph from the Hubble Space Telescope captures a moment in the birth of a star in the Eagle Nebula. 7,000 light years from Earth. Light from the young star's nuclear furnace lifts towering pillars of hydrogen gas and interstellar dust.

Fossils of a jawbone (left) and leg bone (right) found in Kenya in August reveal a previously unknown species of upright hominid that lived four million years ago, pushing the emergence of bipedalism back half a million years. Walking upright is a key adaptation that separates humans from apes.

In March, the Federal Drug Administration approves a chickenpox vaccine. Rarely fatal, chickenpox affects 3.7 million Americans annually.

Archaeologists discover a 3,000-year-old tomb in May that is believed to hold the remains of 52 sons of Ramses II, Pharaoh of Egypt.

Researchers announce that they have isolated a gene linked to obesity. Mice with a mutated OB gene are injected with the hormone leptin, resulting in dramatic weight loss. The public is tantalized at the prospect of leptin as a slimming treatment for use in humans.

The world's first test-tube gorilla is born at the Cincinnati Zoo in October as part of an effort to save the western lowland gorilla, an endangered species that numbers fewer than 450 animals.

Media attention focuses on melatonin, a naturally occurring hormone used to induce sleep and slow the effects of aging. Laud ed as a wonder drug, a kilogram of synthetic melatonin sells for as much as $10,000.

In a procedure known as tissue engineering, scientists grow a human ear under the skin of a laboratory mouse. Researchers hope the procedure will play an important role in the future of transplant surgery.

As a protective measure against counterfeiting in the era of digital publishing, the Treasury Department redesigns U.S. currency bills, to be issued over the next five years, starting early 1996 with the new $100 bill.
Former rivals in space become comrades in space after the historic docking of the U.S. space shuttle Atlantis and Russia's Mir space station on June 29. Astronaut Robert Gibson (in red) greets cosmonaut Vladimir Dezhurov.

In June, volcanic eruptions give birth to a baby island. A new member of the Tonga Islands emerges near New Zealand. 900 feet high and 140 feet wide.

A team of French and British explorers believe they have found an ancient breed of horse previously unknown to scientists. In November, the four-foot high horse with a triangular head, which resembles the vanished horses of European Stone Age drawings, is named Riwoche for its home region in Tibet.

New research shows that the meat-eating Tyrannosaurus rex did not loom upright, but stalked along lower to the ground. The discovery is reflected in the reopened exhibits of the famed dinosaur halls of New York's American Museum of Natural History after three years of redesign.

Astronomers using the Hubble Space Telescope observe new moons orbiting the planet Saturn, adding at least 2 moons and possibly 4 to Saturn's previously known total of 18.

In November, Visa introduces a cash-storage card that eliminates a pocketful of loose change. A chip in the plastic card tracks the amount of available cash, which is accessed with a reader at the place of purchase. The card can be taken to the bank and reloaded.

The movie Apollo 13 opens in the summer after filming many of its scenes inside NASA's "zero gravity" plane, which mimics the weightlessness astronauts experience in space by diving into a 23-second freefall.

After a decade-long search, scientists isolate what may be the most important cancer-related gene. The defective gene known as ATM is associated with cancers of the breast, colon, lung, stomach, pancreas and skin, and may be carried by two million Americans.

In November, volcanic eruptions give birth to a baby island. A new member of the Tonga Islands emerges near New Zealand. 900 feet high and 140 feet wide.

Now virtual reality comes in a handy travel size with Nintendo's latest, Virtual Boy, a portable 3-D video-game system with stereophonic sound.

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October satellite photographs show the recent rapid deterioration of the earth's ozone layer above Antarctica. Pollutants produced mostly by the U.S. cause the hole in the atmosphere's protective layer to increase to the size of Europe.
Already well known for her appearances in Aerosmith music videos, 19-year-old Alicia Silverstone achieves stardom with the 1995 summer movie hit _Clueless_.

Millions of Americans tune in to Martha Stewart’s TV show, subscribe to her magazine, and read her books. The popular cooking and home-decorating entrepreneur builds an empire by packaging a distinctive American nostalgic style.

Bill Gates, founder and chairman of the computer giant Microsoft, becomes the wealthiest man in the world on the success of his company’s software. His book _The Road Ahead_ hits the _New York Times_ best-seller list.

Hot actor Antonio Banderas falls in love with another screen sex-symbol Melanie Griffith during the filming of _Two Much_. Banderas will co-star with Madonna in the film version of _Evita_ and will star in Steven Spielberg-produced _Zorro_.

Seventies superstar John Travolta’s motion-picture comeback in the 1994 hit _Pulp Fiction_ continues with starring roles in _Get Shorty_ and Broken Arrow.

Sandra Bullock follows up her star-making role in _Speed_ with the gentle romance _While You Were Sleeping_. Bullock’s fresh, wholesome image earns her an “Entertainer of the Year” nomination from _Entertainment Weekly_ magazine.

With $150,000 saved during her 75 hardworking years as a washerwoman, Oseola McCarty establishes a scholarship fund for African-American students at the University of Southern Mississippi. For her selflessness, she is awarded the Presidential Citizens Medal.

Pamela Lee of “Baywatch” fame and husband Tommy Lee, Motley Crue drummer, are the life of the party this year, frequently caught by the press engaging in public displays of affection.

Trailblazer Shannon Faulkner (hand to head) withdraws from the Citadel after collapsing during “hell week.” Faulkner singlehandedly attempted to bust the gender barrier at the all-male South Carolina military institution.
America is disappointed in its high hopes for Colin Powell's 1996 presidential candidacy. At the close of his whirlwind book tour for My American Journey, the General and his wife Alma announce in November that he will not seek the Republican nomination.

Stand-up comic and sitcom star Ellen DeGeneres makes the best-seller list with her book My Point...And I Do Have One.

Calvin Klein's provocative CK Jeans campaign causes an uproar in August, bringing nasty headlines, threats of retailer boycotts and an FBI investigation. The scandal only seems to help sales.

Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley announce their divorce almost a year after their surprise marriage. The tabloids have a field day speculating about the reasons for the marriage (was it a cold-hearted career move?) as well as the causes for the break-up (was he after Elvis' fortune?)

Breaking the Surface, the autobiography of Greg Louganis, former U.S. Olympic gold-medal diver who revealed earlier that he has AIDS, debuts at No. 2 on the best-seller list.

Popcorn magnate Orville Redenbacher, who transformed popping corn into a gourmet item, dies on September 19 from heart failure.

Two Chinese women set a new Guinness world record in November by living in a room for 12 days with 888 poisonous snakes. The previous world record, set in Singapore in 1987, was 10 days with 200 snakes.

Miss Oklahoma Shawntel Smith is crowned Miss America on September 16. During the broadcast of the 75th pageant, viewers phone in their votes to retain the swimsuit competition.

John F. Kennedy, Jr., is cofounder and editor-in-chief of George, a glossy new magazine covering American politics. Hounded all his life by the press, Kennedy joins their ranks, contributing a feature interview to each issue.

America's heartland favorite of America's heartland for his You Might Be A Redneck If... jokes, Georgia-born stand-up comic and author Jeff Foxworthy gets his own ABC sitcom in which he plays himself.

Model Beckford Tyson, singled out by Ralph Lauren for his all-American looks, signs an exclusive contract with the fashion designer in 1995.

Actress Demi Moore becomes the highest paid woman in Hollywood, able to command $12.5 million per movie, even after this year's flop at the box office The Scarlet Letter, loosely based on Hawthorne's classic.

A 10-year-old St. Louis schoolboy, Larry Champagne III, becomes a hero by taking control of his school bus after the driver suffered a stroke. Champagne is later awarded a $10,000 scholarship by the bus company.

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Batman Forever, with Val Kilmer in the title role and Chris O'Donnell as Robin, becomes the third Batman movie and the summer's top-grossing film.

Whitney Houston stars in the December film release, Waiting to Exhale, adapted from Terry McMillan's best-selling novel about the lives of four middle-class African-American women. Houston sings the title song for the movie soundtrack, which enjoys brisk sales.

The fifth actor to play 007 in the enduring film series begun in the 1960s, Pierce Brosnan abandons his Aston Martin for a BMW Z3 Roadster in Goldeneye, the latest and, some say, best James Bond movie.

Disney Pictures continues its line of animated blockbusters with the Native American legend Pocahontas. The picture preview in New York's Central Park to an outdoor audience of 200,000.

Although ABC cancels her TV series "My So-Called Life," 17-year-old Claire Danes hits the big screen in How to Make an American Quilt. To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday, and Romeo and Juliet with Leonardo DiCaprio as her co-star.

In the suspense-thriller Seven, heartthrob Brad Pitt attracts a wide male audience with his performance as a detective on the trail of a serial killer whose murders are based on the seven deadly sins.

After an unpromising start, Conan O'Brien quietly gains popularity as host of NBC's "Late Night," a slot previously filled by David Letterman. Letterman's current show on CBS slowly loses viewers.
Ten years after creating the popular comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," cartoonist Bill Watterson retires in December.

Horror-fiction author Stephen King signs a deal with Signet books to release his upcoming story, The Green Mile, as a paperback series.

Fox TV's "The X Files" stars David Duchovny as an FBI agent who investigates supernatural phenomena. The show becomes a surprise hit, giving millions of viewers reason to look forward to staying home on a Friday night.

Disney Entertainment spends $19 billion to purchase the ABC television network in July.

MTV introduces "Singled Out," an over-the-top dating game show where contestants ask random, pointless questions of a crowd of suitors, sight unseen, until the zany answers have eliminated all but that one perfect love match.

According to a Roper Youth Poll, the two hottest TV shows among teens this season are the daytime soap "Days of Our Lives" and the evening soap "Melrose Place."

"The Jon Stewart Show," a late-night talk show aimed at Generation X, fails to catch on. During the final taping, host Stewart says, "To all those people who said my show wouldn't last, I have only one thing to say. Good call."

Devoted fans will not be denied another season of NBC's sitcom "Seinfeld" after all. Creator Jerry Seinfeld decides to keep his "show about nothing" going for an eighth season.
Their down-to-earth style and soulful pop songs make Hootie and the Blowfish popular favorites. Their debut album Cracked Rear View sells over 5 million, and the group is named Best New Artist at the MTV Music Awards in September.

Twenty-year-old Canadian newcomer Alanis Morissette raises some eyebrows with her up-front, aggressive lyrics and attitudes. Nevertheless, her album Jagged Little Pill goes double platinum.

Sixties icon Jerry Garcia, guitarist of The Grateful Dead, dies of a heart attack on August 9 at age 53. Garcia's musical roots in blues, country and folk are apparent in hits like "Truckin." Legions of Deadheads mourn his passing.

Brandy, whose self-titled platinum album and single "I Wanna Be Down" hit high on the R&B charts, sweeps the first Soul Train Music Awards in August. The 16-year-old singer wins Best New Artist, among other awards.

Beatlemania returns in 1995 with ABC's six-hour documentary The Beatles Anthology, the video releases of A Hard Day's Night and Help! and the album collection Anthology, featuring previously unreleased material.

The chart-topping movie soundtrack Dangerous Minds features Coolio's rap anthem "Gangsta's Paradise," the number-one single of the year according to Billboard magazine.
The Chicago-based rock band Smashing Pumpkins release their epic double album Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness to critical and public acclaim.

Mariah Carey's Daydream sells over 5 million copies, taking number-one spot on the Billboard album chart. Carey performs with Boyz II Men on the hit single "One Sweet Day."

In October, David Bowie and Nine Inch Nails wrap up the U.S. portion of Bowie's world tour. At each show, Bowie and Trent Reznor's band play a set together. In December, Bowie tours Europe with Morrissey as his opening act.

The Red Hot Chili Peppers tone down their trademark bawdiness in their newest album, One Hot Minute.

Former Nirvana drummer Dave Grohl plays a new sound as guitarist and lead singer in the Foo Fighters, an alternative rock band that enjoys three singles off their self-titled debut album in 1995.

A hard-luck story turns into overnight success in the case of Canadian Shania Twain, born in poverty to an Irish mother and an Ojibway Indian father. Twain's 1995 hits include "Whose Bed Have Your Boots Been Under?", "Any Man of Mine" and the title tune to her 3-million-selling album The Woman in Me.

Success doesn't mellow the style of alternative rock band Green Day, who release their anxiously awaited fourth album Insomniac, their fastest and darkest album to date.

Seal's hit off the Batman Forever movie soundtrack, "Kiss From a Rose," is all over the summer playlists. The single propels the artist's self-titled album to the double-platinum mark.

With the record-setting sales of his album Fresh Horses, only three musical acts in U.S. history outsell country music icon Garth Brooks: the Beatles, the Eagles, and Billy Joel.

Selena, the 23-year-old Tejano music queen, is gunned down in Corpus Christi in March 1995 by Yolanda Saldivar, former president of her fan club. The July release of a collection of Selena's hits, Dreaming of You, sees some of the fastest sales in music history.

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Jeffrey Scales, USA TODAY

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eLightning Crashes to VICI1ms of the Ok lahoma City bombing. The rock band's Throwing Copper album yields three hit singles, Billboard Music Awards names them Rock Artist of the Year.
International soccer star Michelle Akers, world's top woman player, leads the U.S. women's soccer team to a 2-1 sudden-death victory over Norway in the U.S. Cup title game in August.

Jeff Gordon, 24, dominates the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing's Winston Cup, winning 7 of NASCAR's 31 races and earning $4.3 million in 1995, a record for the sport.

The University of Nebraska demolishes the University of Florida, 62-24, in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl to win their second consecutive national college football title and cap Cornhuskers coach Tom Osborne's 23rd season.

The Houston Rockets, led by center Hakeem Olajuwon, win their second consecutive National Basketball Association championship in June, sweeping the series with the Orlando Magic in four games.

Twenty-one-year-old tennis champ Monica Seles, returning to competitive play two years after being stabbed at a tournament in Germany, wins the 1995 Australian Open.

Hall-of-Famer Mickey Mantle, a switch-hitter and one of the great sluggers in baseball history, dies of cancer on August 13. Mantle hit 536 home runs in his 18-year career and compiled a lifetime batting average of .298.

The New Jersey Devils win the National Hockey League's Stanley Cup, beating the heavily favored Detroit Red Wings in four straight games.

The most controversial moves are off the field this season as the Cleveland Browns NFL franchise announces its move to Baltimore and the Houston Oilers announce their move to Nashville.

In May 1995, Peter Blake's Team New Zealand in "Black Magic 1" defeats Dennis Conner's team in "Young America", in the first 5-0 sweep in the 144-year history of the America's Cup.
The Atlanta Braves edge the Cleveland Indians 1-0 in game six to win the World Series on October 28. Closing pitcher Mark Wohlers leaps for joy.

The National Basketball Association fines the Chicago Bulls $25,000 when Michael Jordan wears his previously retired number 23 jersey for luck during championship playoffs against the Orlando Magic in May 1995.

The Northwestern University Wildcats—long a gridiron laughingstock—pile up ten victories in 1995 and go to the Rose Bowl for the first time since 1949.

Former L.A. Lakers point guard Earvin "Magic" Johnson announces a return to basketball in January 1996. Johnson retired in 1991 when he discovered he was HIV positive.

In his first fight in four years, former world heavyweight champ Mike Tyson disposes of challenger Peter McNeeley in 89 seconds. Tyson, who in March finished a three-year jail term for a rape conviction, earns $25 million for the August boxing match.

In September, Baltimore Orioles shortstop Cal Ripken, Jr., achieves a record-setting 2,131 consecutive games.

Betsy King wins her 30th tournament on June 25 and gains entry to the Ladies' Professional Golf Association's Hall of Fame, one of the most difficult attainments in sports.

Quarterback Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins sets four lifetime passing records during the 1995 football season: 47,063 yards, 342 touchdowns, 3,686 completions and 6,467 attempts.

German tennis star Steffi Graf, who won three of five Grand Slam titles in 1995, ends the professional tennis season ranked number one in the world.

National Basketball Association referees strike against the league for much of the autumn. Fill-in officials spark complaints of substandard refereeing.

Russian basketball center Dennis Rodman (91) debuts with the Chicago Bulls after his trade from the San Antonio Spurs.

For a record fifth straight time, Miguel Indurain of Spain wins the 22-day, 2,270-mile Tour de France, the world’s premier bicycle race. On the 15th day of the race, Italian road-racer Fabio Casartelli is killed in a seven-man crash.

Known for his temperamental personality, his many tattoos and his aggressive playing style, basketball center Dennis Rodman (91) debuts with the Chicago Bulls after his trade from the San Antonio Spurs.

Master of the sinking fastball and still learning to speak English, L.A. Dodgers pitcher Hideo Nomo, formerly with the Nittetsu Buffaloes in Japan, is named Rookie of the Year. Nomo is the second Japanese-born player to join the U.S. major leagues, and the first All-Star.
The most recent fad in purses takes the form of small backpacks.

Designer water spreads to the pet world. Dotting pet owners buy tuna-flavored bottled water for Fluffy and beef-flavored bottled water for Spot.

Girly things enjoy a surge in popularity with young women, who wear baby barrettes, knee socks, tiny t-shirts, little jumpers, and funky Mary Janes, and kid around with “Hello Kitty” accessories.

Taking her place among controversial talk-show hosts as the “Oprah for the junior set,” Ricki Lake speaks to such concerns as, “Mom, when my boyfriend gets out of jail, I’m taking him back.”

The angel message of “fear not” strikes a deep chord with Americans’ yearning for spiritual growth and comfort in a stressful time. People enjoy angel collectibles, angel sites on the Internet, and angel books and magazines.

“Some pretty cool people drink milk” is the message carried by a high-profile ad campaign featuring a raft of popular celebrities sporting a white upper lip on behalf of the healthy beverage. The milk-moustache effect is created with latex, a rubber-based paint.

Diners are treated to variations on theme cafes, as Hard Rock Cafe is joined by Fashion Cafe, Planet Hollywood, Harley-Davidson Cafe, and London’s Cyberia Cafe where patrons sip coffee and surf the Internet.

Young people continue to follow the wide-leg jeans trend, forsaking tight jeans for a loose baggy fit.

The tattoo craze leads to some regrets but recent laser developments keep people from being marked for life. Pulsed laser light, a different wavelength for each color in the tattoo, removes pigment without leaving scars.

Americans consume culture and history as attendance at America’s 8,000 museums climbs to 600 million people per year, more than movie, theater, and sports attendance combined.

Logo-wear reaches a new level of sophistication. Among the reigning makers of athletic wear, only Nike can spark recognition without the use of its name.