









# IZMIR AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL 1996-1997

*Through the Looking  
Glass...*







*How do I get where I'm going from here???*  
*That depends a great deal on where you want to go...*

### *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

**T**he year was one of journeys, discoveries and explorations of the world of thought, identity and self. Through the looking glass, deep into ourselves and past the surface that is seen by all...beyond the realms of ordinary thought...the students embarked on a voyage of personal discovery, friendships, and the strange twists and turns that life throws one's way. Through the days of carefree laughter and ones shrouded in the gloom of teenage angst, the separate lives of the students came together in the five

story building that was to most the center of their daily lives.

The walls of the school building have absorbed the sounds of lessons gone by and whispered confidences. In each nook and cranny, lies a secret, or a tale to be told if the walls had the ability to tell them. It has seen the short sagas of countless student lives, some flitting in and out in a mere two years, while others dally for their entire school experience. The very structure of the building bears reminders of the students who have passed leaving their art and their sayings pain-

ted upon the walls. For years now, the stalwart Sultan has stood guard over the stairs, and Shakespeare and Einstein have looked in benevolence (or is that pity?) down on the hardworking students in Mr. Woods and Mr. Painter's classes. For nearly fifty years, IHS has been the pseudo-home for a myriad of cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and people, some only finding common ground in the fact that they attend the same school. This is was the final year of glory for the building, and the Class of 97 will be the last to graduate from its doors. This is not nearly as final as it



sounds, as the location of the new school building in the district of Basmane, will be only a few blocks over from its present one. For some, it is of no concern, as they are preparing to leave the city, and others, who have climbed the stairs each morning, carry within them a reluctance to leave a place that has served them so well. Yet even those who know it best, look forward to the change and improvements the move will

bring. Mr. Taylor may not be able to brag that he has been teaching History in the same classroom for the past two decades, but he'll find something else to be the object of his boasting. (Such as his nifty laser pointer!) The time for change has come. That view seems to be shared by the biggest change-over in Izmir's faculty. Our new principal, Dr. Allen Davenport, (comparable in appearance to Earnest Hemingway and in this context to the Mad Hatter) lost the title new within a

week, and rapidly became a vital part of school life. After the surprise over his abrupt appearances and ironic humor, the majority of the school population had built with him a common ground over shared jokes and happenings. Appearing about the school and constantly interacting with the students, Dr. Davenport became a real person to a student body who had long considered principals named faces that merely hid in the

it was the heightened competition, the travelling experience, or the emptiness of the school when the teams were gone that pleased them.

The year was full of changes not only for the school, but for the city, the country and the world. Some of them were subtle, like the slow indicators of the Islamic Fundamentalist movement making minute, but noticeable leeway in the city. The appearance of the occasional women in black gave a reality check to those who still thought they were in America, but the workings of this movement that concerned the students the most were the vague rumors that plans to close down the First Kordon were under way. That, and the increasingly strict age laws that barred some from their favorite haunts in Izmir's nightclubs brought an occasional worried face. Mr. Wood could be heard teasing the girl students, with predictions that before their stay in the country was through, they would be wearing the veil.

A small change that indicated the extent of Turkey's economic problems was the inflation. As the value of the Turkish lira decreased in leaps and bounds, the currency of choice for students and Turkish nationals alike was the dollar. While the more traditional and religious East was having its small influence, the most obvious influences were becoming more and more Western. This was wel-



office. A development that made the pupils smile, and caused some head-shaking over missed school hours by the teachers, were the trips to Spain, Portugal, Bahrain and Germany that tantalised students to join sports teams, the drama festival, and band. While the district had been expanded the year before, allowing other teams to fly to Turkey to compete, this year was the first that took IHS students out of the country. Everyone enjoyed this novelty, whether

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come by most, as it made many feel less foreign on the streets and in the cafes and restaurants scattered throughout the city.

Globally, the year will be remembered as the year that brought extraordinary powers to the genetic scientist, and one that showed the masses a cosmic spectacle unseen for four thousand years. The fact that man can now clone not only animals, but his own kind as well brought series of debates over ethics, religion and research. Hale-Bopp comet brought a sense of wonderment to people who gazed in awe, realizing that the last

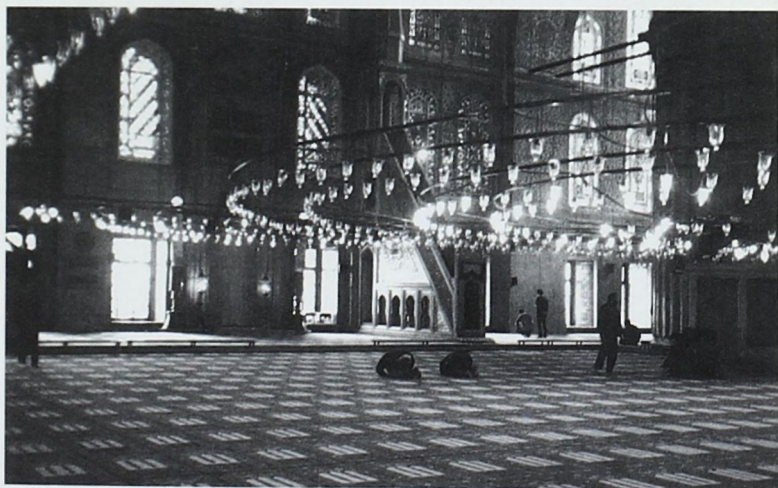
people to have seen the comet dated back to the ancient Egyptians.

Other things may vary from person to person, but are ti-

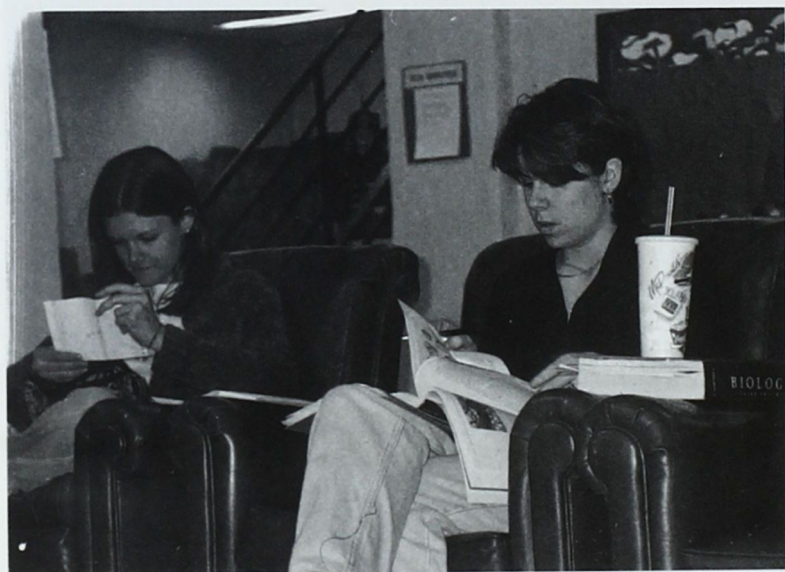
meless... the memories. Certain memories will always haunt those who have lived in Izmir's arms. Gazing from their perches on darkened balconies, many a student has watched the glittering throbbing mass of lights that decorate the horizon at night... some have been down among the action. They have jostled their ways through the busy cobble-stoned alleyways of the bazaar area, some in search of actual bargains, and others merely feasting their eyes on the rich array of items spread before them. The smell of spices wafting from a stall, or fresh baked ekmek, the feel of the time-worn columns and slabs of marble that stand as proud relics of great civilizations lost have sent chills up spines, as one can almost feel the quick passing of the lives who have touched it; all of this has imprinted itself in the students mind.

We will remember.....

*Editor - Nina D Amore*









# HOMECOMING '97



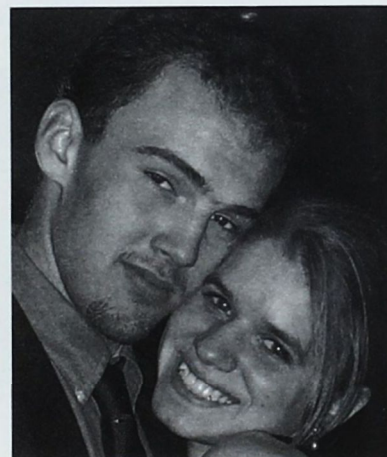
*Ardy, Mo, Megan, Jo and Brittany... What is going on?*



*Ardy and SCA President Mel - caught scheming*



*(Above) A group huddle... (Right) Efe and Nicole...closer than ever...*



The 1997 Homecoming Dance was held on Saturday the 22nd of March on the top floor of the Mercure Hotel. Surrounded by a huge balcony and equipped with a pool and plenty of tables, even those too bashful to dance found plenty to do. Sponsored by the SCA, the dance was the biggest of the year. This was probably due to the fact that everyone wanted to see who would be crowned in the Homecoming Court. Students filled out ballots at the door, and several could be seen standing by to influence others in their favor. Knowing full well that this was one of the major attractions, sly Mr. Wood decided to keep the announcement of the court until well into the dance. Crowned King and Queen were Mel Basar and Megan Swisher. For each class, a Prince and Princess were

selected and were as follows: 12th grade - Tim Johnson and Jennifer Paterson, 11th grade - Antonio Lewis and Nina D'Amore, 10th grade - Devon Kendall and Melissa Lebel. DJ-ing for the dance were Tyron Nock and Tim Johnson. While all of the music they played wasn't necessarily everyone's favorite, it was loud and that was good enough for most people. The dance floor stayed full, even though the high heels and pantyhose of the girls, and the ties and slacks of the guys made for frequent trips to the various bathrooms to check appearances. Despite the pre-requisite complaining, everyone looked their best and got obvious enjoyment out of the chance to dress up. The dance was a success, and left everyone looking forward to the grand finale....PROM!

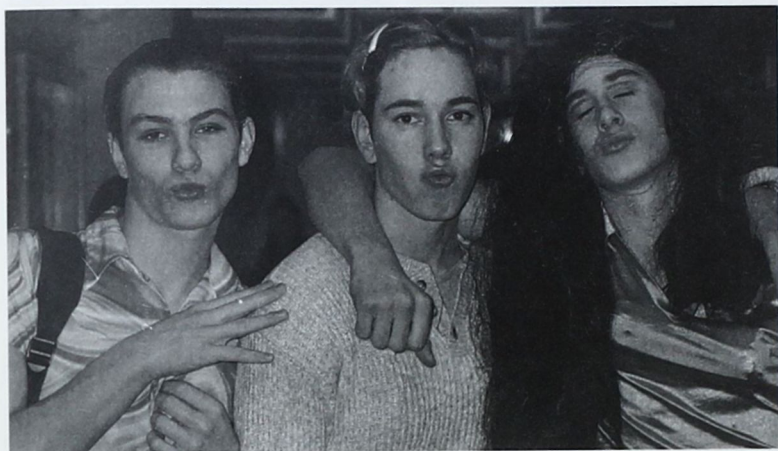
*King Mel Basar and Queen Megan Swisher share a special moment...*





# "FREAKS...ALL OF THEM"

*Spirit Week 1997*



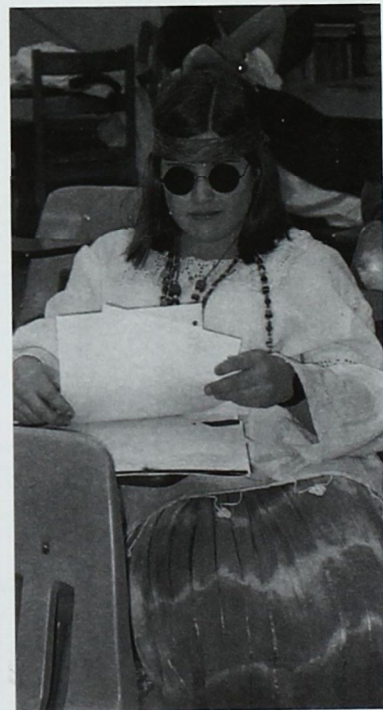
*Eric, Nic, and Nick show their feminine sides.*



*Nick, Mel and Ardy are the Mad Hat-ters.*



*Katie New displays some fancy headwear.*



*(Left) Love and Peace from Michelle, and more of the same from Melissa Ozkurt, above.*



# IZMIR HIGH DANCES

A chance to mingle with friends from school, dress up in formal or goofy wear, dance to American music and congregate at night in a smoke-free atmosphere; these are among the reasons that IHS dances are popular. From the most haughty senior, to the youngest seventh grader, the dances are an opportunity to get to know people other than those who sit in your classroom from day to day. Ranging in location from hotel to hotel across Izmir, to nightclubs, to the good old school gym, one finds that it is the people, rather than the place, that makes the event a fun one.

No matter where it is, there are always a few characteristics that show up time and time again. Food-wise, you have the free drink your ticket entitles you to, the prerequisite bowl of chips and snacks in the middle of the tables, and a huge cake that is never finished. People-wise there are the wallflowers who don't know why the function

is called a dance, the people who spend more time checking their hair than dancing, the small minority that gets up and complains that there is too much rap music, and of course the people who think it's a sin not to be moving while the music's on. One also shouldn't forget the people who breeze in, make an appearance, and breeze out in a rush

to show they have some place more important to go.

All in all, the dances are fun...though most would say that they don't compose a huge section of their social life. Only real complaint some had, was over the abundance of chaperones. I overheard one person saying, "There are more teachers here than kids..."

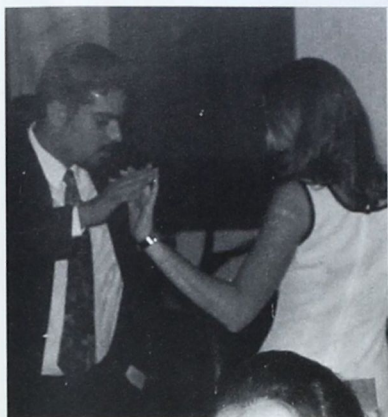


(Left) Chatting on the dance floor...  
(above) ... trying a new move with  
team work.  
(below) Melissa Lebel is not so sure.





# THE WILD AND THE DULL...



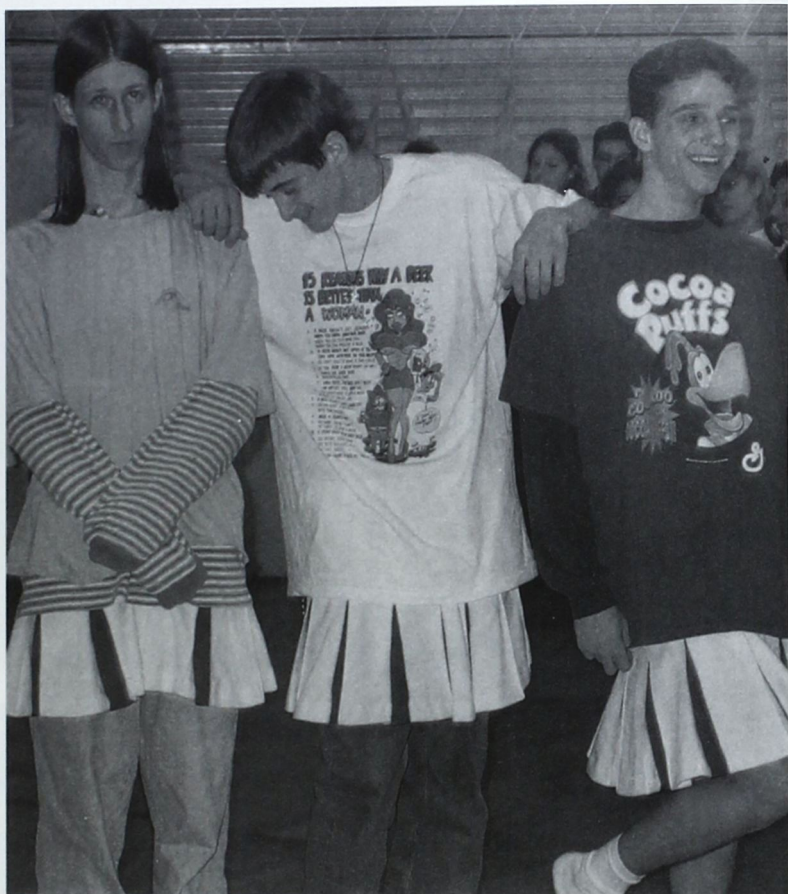
*Davood Azimi and Jennifer Paterson concentrate on some fancy footwork (Right) D.J.'s Daniel Estrada and Antonio Lewis, (Below) Katie New and Mo Azimi gaze off serenely.*



*Is that Efe Cummings sleepwalking or just a new step? (Above) Tyren Nock taking a break.*



# SULTANS SHOW SPIRIT



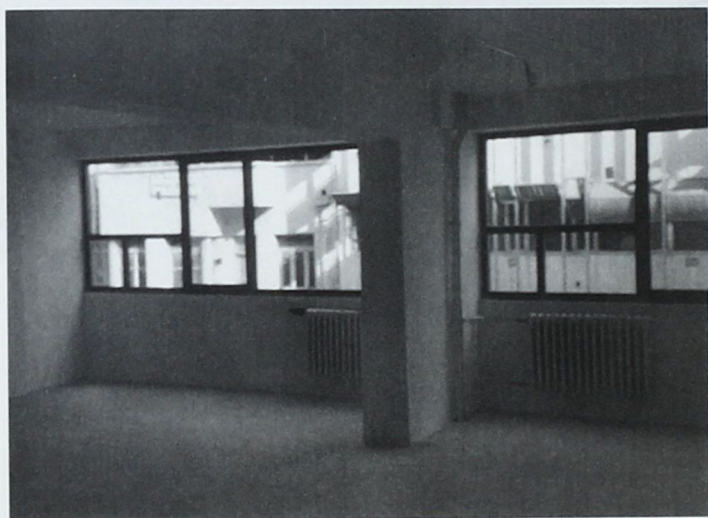
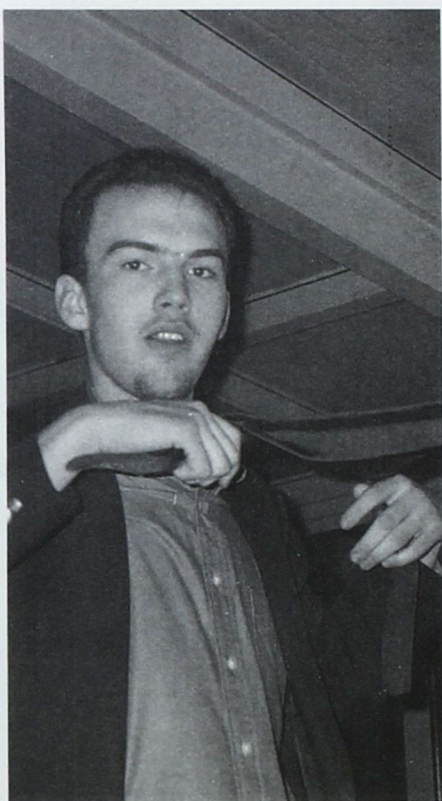
Which girl is this sitting on my lap? Ardy Akhavan's blind-folded face could be read like a book as he tried to gauge the weight on the person sitting on his lap, and match that weight with a girl from the volleyball team. His arms were tied behind his back to prevent any clue-giving poking and feeling. Memorable was his look of disgust when he was unblindfolded and beheld David Wildes perched primly on his knee. Similar fate had befallen four other members of the men's soccer, and the shouting that immediately followed was only calmed by vigorous shouting over the mike.

This was only one event that took place during a pep rally. Usually the students were let out for the last period of the day and rushed to the gym where a series of skits, contests, and cheers were held. Some students painted their faces and wore red and white to prove their school spirit, while others went to more extreme measures. This was demonstrated when the wrestlers were caught wearing the cheerleader's skirts, and the eighth grade girls showed up with hair a la Pippi Longstocking. The pep rallies were an excellent way for the students to psyche themselves up for their games and to release a day's worth of pent-up screams and energy.

(Below) It's 'fro time! (top) Mo Azimi strides to recognition.  
(above) Wrestlers strut their stuff.









# STUDENTS LEADING THE WAY...

## *SCA and NHS 1996-97*

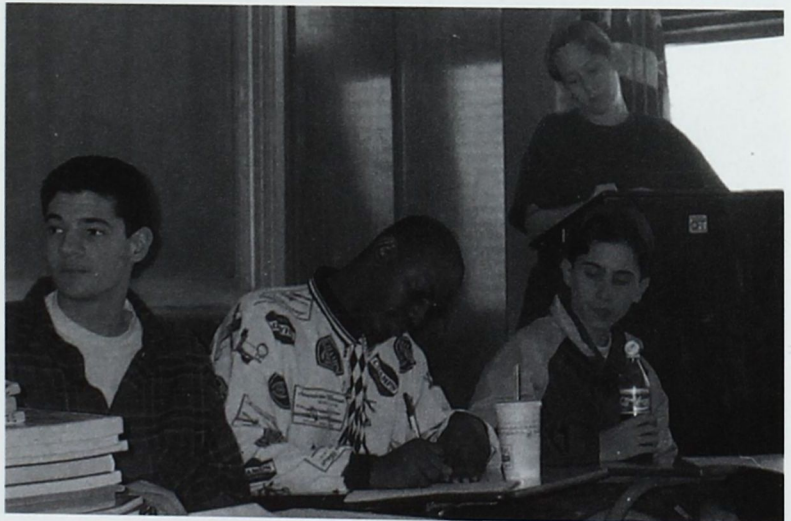


*Top left: Ben Cipollone, Bel Basar, Tim Johnson, Dominic D'Amore, Brittany Hackler, Michelle New, Sarah Murrell; Onur Coskun, Nicole Kania, Antonia D'Amore, Thomas Lungrin, and Catherine Ford.*

**T**he Student Council Association, better known as the SCA, is the heart of a well-run school. This was certainly the case in our school this year. Lead by their President, Mel Basar, and Sponsor Bill Wood, the council held everything from a Homecoming Dance, to bake sales, to a certain failure of a burrito sale that nobody will ever let them live down. Helping him along the way were Vice-President Onur Coskun, Secretary Sarah Murrell, and Treasurer Tim Johnson. Halfway through the year, Onur, along with his twin, had to move on to a new school. Taking his place was Efe Cummings, who also doubled as the Junior Class President. Though these people were the executive office, and the ones whom the most pressure was applied to, the SCA would not have succeeded without the support of the faithful

class representatives. Two people from each class were elected to attend the SCA meetings, and report back all good news, and bad news. (Such as when the bulletin boards

were due up.) By working together, and allowing as many people as were interested to participate, the year went by quickly and very smoothly.







*NJHS and NHS members, not all shown: Rochelle Ronken, Catherine Ford, Mel Basar, Dottie Isaak, Irene Martorelli, Mo Azimi, Michelle New, Nina D'Amore, Nick D'Amore, Sarah Murrell, Rebecca Perry, Katie New, Joanna Fernandez, Mary Kuconis, Melissa Ozkurt, SuRin Campbell, Efe Cummings, David Wildes, Ron Gevry, Jessie Wood, Matt Hoffman, Eric Galloway, Pattie Murrell.*

The National Honor Society is a long-standing tradition that recognizes students that have shown not only academic excellence, but outstanding citizenship and an unfailing will-

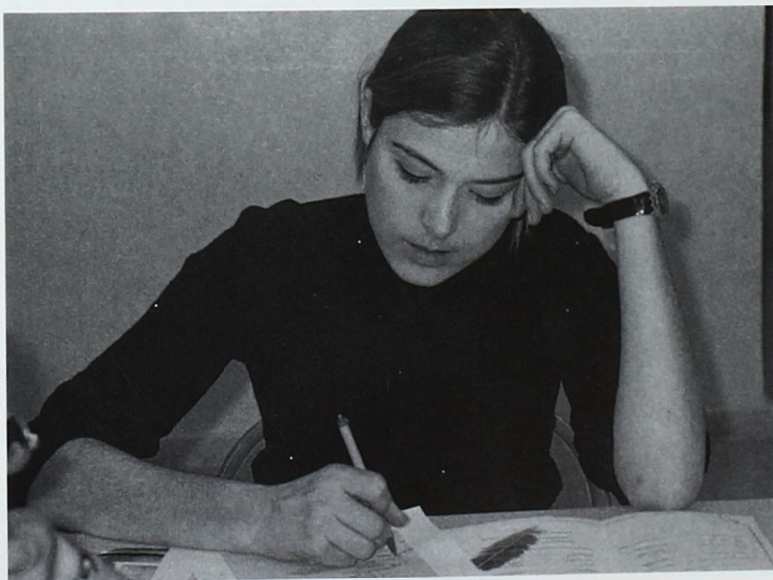
ingness to help when needed. In our school, the NHS is a fairly large organization, considering the size of our student body, and one that obviously fills out all of the characteristics required.

The society was led this year by

President Jennifer Paterson, Vice President Mel Basar, and Secretary Dottie Isaak. Along with the other members, they provided community services such as free babysitting, tutoring and teacher assistance to members of the community. Activities such as those were not the entirety of their good deeds. Their reach extended beyond the American community and into Africa, where they sponsored a girl in Sierra Leone, making it possible for her to have food and schooling.

To raise money for these events, they held fund-raisers as mundane as bake sales, to ones as unusual as a Turkey Raffle, all under the supervision and guidance of Mrs. Rosie Uluer. It was this creative spirit that kept the society on their toes, and made the year a successful one.

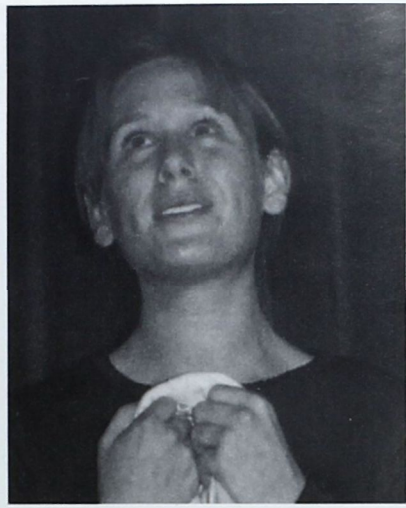
*NHS President, Jennifer Paterson, looks over her busy schedule.*







*Efe Cummings, Ardy Ahkavan, Eric Phillips, Patrick McKuen and Catherine Ford take a bow for their one act play.*



*Sarah Murrell captures the pious look for her interpretive piece.*

# TAKING A BOW

## *Turkey/ Spain/ Islands Drama Festival*

**D**rama first began as a ceremony in honour of the god of wine in ancient Greece. Over the thousands of years it developed into a rich art, to be banished by the Christian church as a pagan practice. Luckily this narrow-minded at-

titude did not last, and going to the theatre has again become a world-wide pastime.

The Speech and Drama Festival this year was open to grades nine through twelve, unlike years before when the seventh and eighth graders could also participate. This may have been due to the fact that the festival was held in Lajes, a base in the Azores. This meant that the team from Izmir had to travel twenty-one hours, with lay-overs in Lisbon, Paris, and Frankfurt before reaching their destination. Once there and safely housed with the hosting families, they entered a whirlwind of activity in which they had to present their pieces over and over again, while watching others do the same. Every evening they watched one of the schools present their one-act play, and gave their production *Aria Da Capo* in return on one night.

It may sound like all they did was work, but that was not the case. Ardy and Eric had

*Joanna Fernandez gets bossy on stage.*

their chances to roller-blade, the disco-crazy to go dancing, and for all of the teams to mingle with each other and make some new friends. When it was time to go, the team made their way back to Izmir somewhat reluctantly, getting there at three in the morning.

Only two brave souls made it to school that day, Efe Cummings, and Sponsor Dave Simpkins. The next day, all pieces were presented at the Turkish American Association for viewing by the community. The audience was much impressed with the play, which was a satyr of war and went right over the heads of many of the people. Nobody had problems relating to Ardy Ahkavan's story of *Killer-The Stingy Loser Who Can't Kiss*, and the adults especially enjoyed Michelle New's piece glorifying the attributes of coffee.

The festival is an extremely successful venture on the part of DoDDs, and should continue giving all of the young thespians a chance to shine.







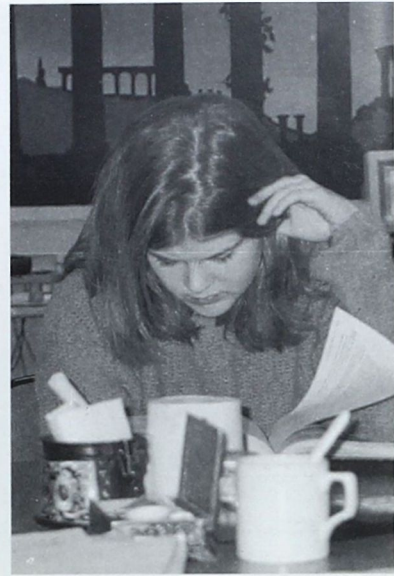
*Eric Phillips, is he a clown or a philosopher?*



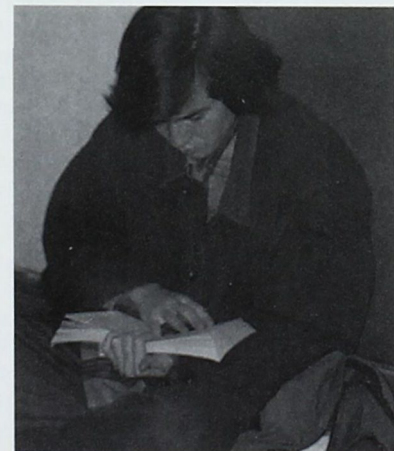
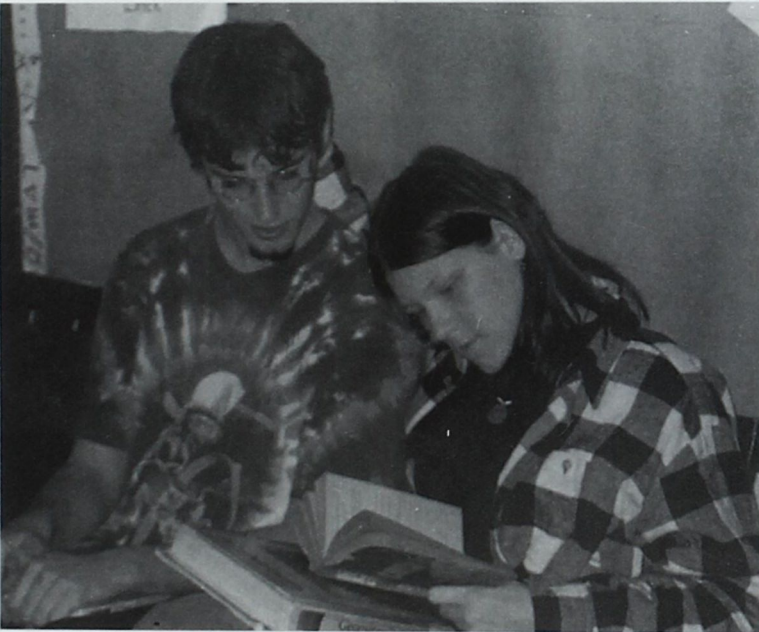
*(below) A snooty Catherine Ford takes a bite.  
Sarah Murrell and Rochelle Ronken struggle in "The Miracle Worker."  
Davood Azimi portrays a sinister figure in black.*







## CLASS OF '97







# SENIORS - NOT A MULTITUDE - BUT MULTIFACETED

**S**ENIORS! In many schools in America, this word strikes fear and awe into the hearts of the underclassmen. They are the rulers of the school, and cursed are those poor freshmen who stumble into their paths. While the Seniors at IHS may have ruled in the sense that they had leading positions in almost every aspect of school life (SCA and NHS Presidents, team captains etc. etc.), they were not viewed as tall ogres, but more as another group of friends and rivals. On the top in age and also alphabetical order was Kash Abbasi. Known for his perfectly sculpted goatee and string of girlfriends, Kash, when in school, made his presence well noticed. While the duration of his school times were spent working on keeping his grades up to par, and working out to keep his body at the same level, he

graduated early and began work in Russia.

With an attendance record comparable to Kash's, there was another early graduate, T.J. Albert. While not offering many of his insights during class time, added color to the class in another way. Brightly tie-dyed shirts, and the occasional wise message printed on his clothing, said enough for him. Seen most often around school huddled in corners with his better half, T.J. took no notice of the chaotic surroundings, and simply carried on with his life.

Another goatee-wearing Persian helped fill out the class ranks, although Davood Azimi also graduated early (Is there a pattern here?) and began the hard route of the leather business under his father's supervision. While in school, he kept busy providing the newspaper with artwork, and was heard thro-

ughout the halls muttering about the immaturity of all the kids, meaning everyone under nineteen years of age.

Ignoring Davood's comments, the leading man of the school, Mel Basar, was seen streaking through the halls, chain flapping behind. Despite all the positions held in school, he found plenty of time for his roller blading, ball-playing, music-making pastimes. His perpetual grin, and complete inability to keep his eyes open made him a favorite with the underclassmen, as did his unique hair. As nice as he sounds, he is a force to be reckoned with on the tennis court!

Then there was Daniel Estrada. More at home working on his truck, or helping look after his multitude of siblings, he did not make the school the center of his life. He did contribute his share, however, by D.J.-ing for many of the school



dances. Spotted on the weekends with his video camera in hand, people often wondered for what purpose was he recording all that he saw. That, however, is Daniel's secret.

Hiding behind the pages of a good book, Matthew Galloway found the perfect escape during school hours. The writer, the thinker, and either a man of few words, or too many, (depending on how well you knew him) impressions of Matt varied extremely from person to person. Those who thought that all he did was read, were sadly mistaken, as he found numerous other things to do with his time.

His partner in crime and general good times was Dorothy Isaak. Ever polite, sweet and innocent, one always wondered what lurked beneath the charming smile. The same smile helped her uphold her various leadership positions, establish good student-teacher relations, and devastate the hearts of more than a few of the high-school guys. Level-headed and soft-spoken to an extreme, Dorothy was still a mystery to many people.

No mysteries with the daddy of the senior class. Tim Johnson was the blunt, straight-forward one of the bunch. What was on his mind

was never far from his mouth, as several referees could tell you. He proudly displayed his basketball skills, but not half as proudly as he did the pictures of his son. Though understandably pre-occupied sometimes, Tim pulled off the year with considerable success.

The Jolly Green Giant T-shirt may have turned a few heads when he first came, but the school soon became used to the strange logos that decorated Kyle Lund's clothing. Along with Lucky Charms and his faded green cords, the chain and his scruffy Vans added to his grunge image. Unlike the apathetic rock singers this look was inspired by, Kyle had a scholarly attitude that belied his image.

Images aren't everything, or so Michelle New could tell you. With her perfect grades, the necessary extra-curricular activities, and a generous portion of writing and theatrical talent thrown in, one would think that her year was spent wasting away at her desk. Far from that, Michelle found fun in everything, from berating her teachers on the homework (and research paper) load, to partying in all of the town's clubs.

By her side for the majority of the year was her cheese stick-munchin,

calculus book-toting bud. Never seen without food, Jennifer Pater-son kept up her energy for the workload that the NHS and newspaper provided. While that load was considerable, it was never quite as bad as she made it sound, for, despite complaints, she always found the time to join in on any festivities occurring.

Off to West Point, the acceptance there was a long-held dream that became a reality for Malia Scharff. Her public-speaking skills, and poise should be a great asset wherever she goes. Dividing her time between an active social life, schoolwork, and practicing her out-of-school-sports - ballet and tae kwon do, Malia kept busy in all aspects of her life.

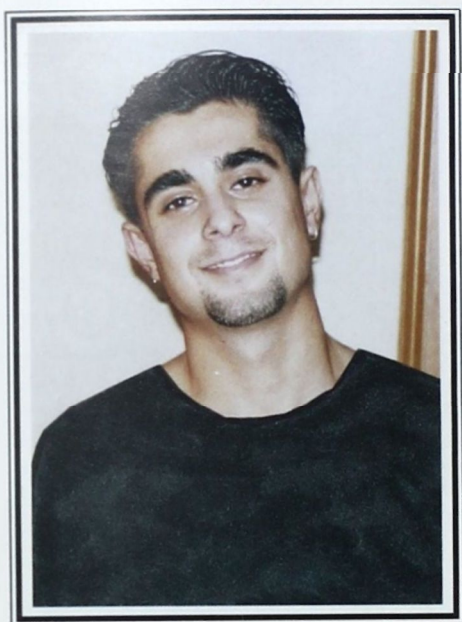
Not so busy, as perhaps the President of this class was. Not only did Megan Swisher have the class to run, schoolwork to do, and basketball courts to dominate, there was also her daughter to take care of. Balancing all of these was quite a task, but she managed to get through it all with energy and a healthy dose of attitude. (A lovable attitude, but one none-the-less.)

Last, but certainly not least, we had our basketball playin', cornbread lovin'.....Poo? While many people may never have figured out exactly the meaning behind Essie Taylor's shirt, they managed to get over their curiosity, and to like her for her easy-going nature and friendly smile. Her voice was heard throughout the building, and kept everyone's spirits up, as it was usually accompanied by loud laughter. That was merely a quick glimpse at the different individuals that made up the Senior Class of 1997.

Coming from vastly diverse ethnic and geographic backgrounds, they will move on to places even more varied. One thing is sure, despite any hesitation they may have about venturing out into the real world, they will succeed at whatever they lay their hands to. Best of luck to the Class of '97!







*Khashayar Abbasi*

*"It's not my fault I'm Persian..."*

*Kash*







*Travis Albert*

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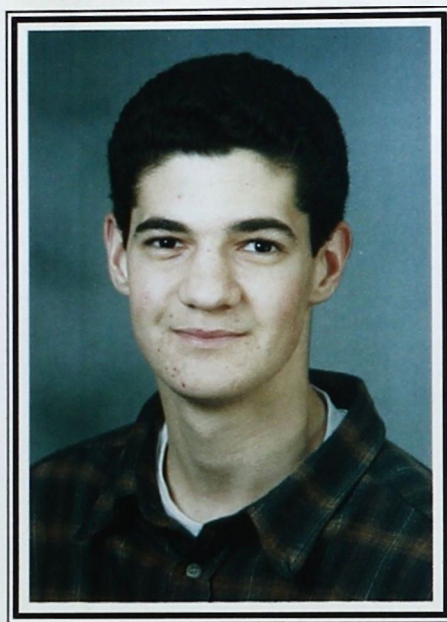
*Davood Azimi*

*"This above all, to thine own  
self be true,  
And it must follow as the  
night the day,  
Thou can'st not then be false  
to any man."*

*W. Shakespeare*



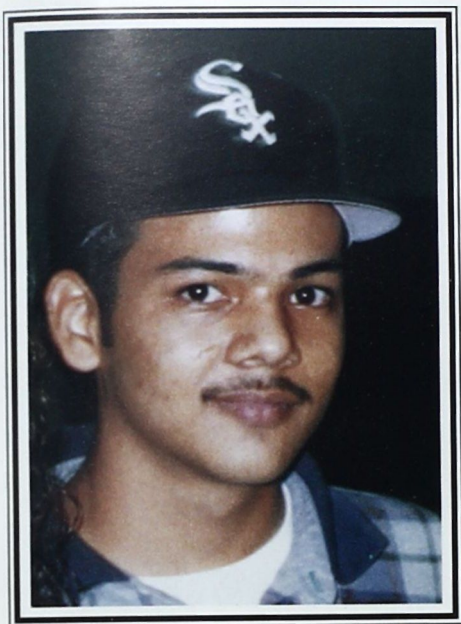




*Mel Başar*







*Daniel Estrada*





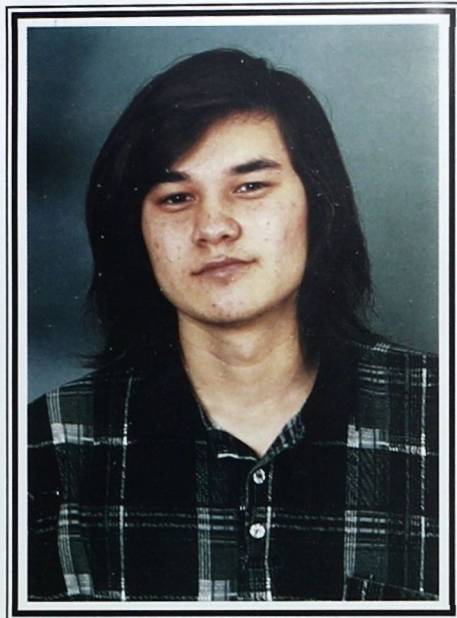
*"God Made a little Gentian -  
It tried to be a rose -  
And failed — and all the summer laughed  
But just before the snows*

*There rose a Purple Creature -  
That ravished all the hill -  
And summer hid her forehead -  
And mockery was still.*

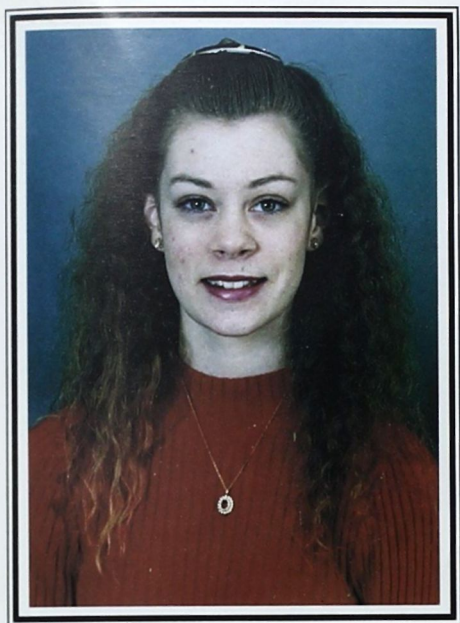
*The frost were her condition  
The tyrian would not come  
Until the North invoke it -  
Creator — Shall I — bloom?"*

*Emily Dickinson*

*Matthew Galloway*







## *Dorothy Isaak*

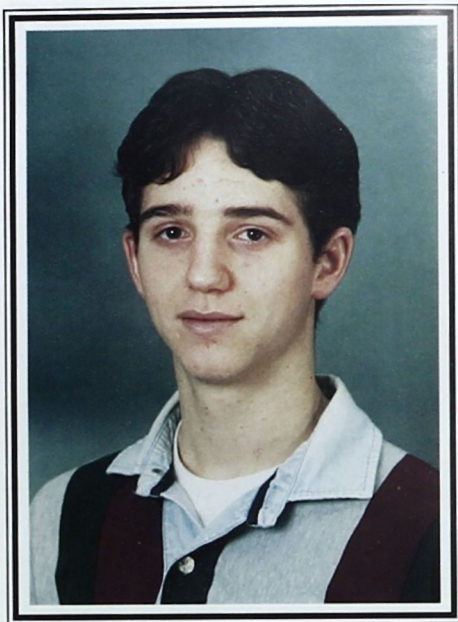
*Standing in the Doorways of Yesterday's  
Tomorrows, the Future is in our grasp.*



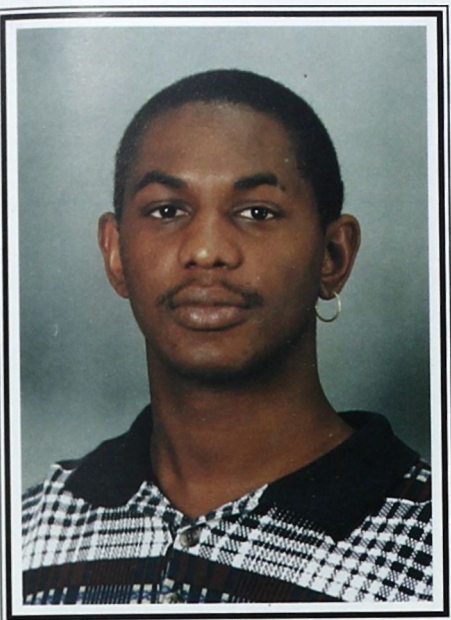




*Kyle Lund*







*Timothy Johnson*

*You only live once,  
so have fun!*

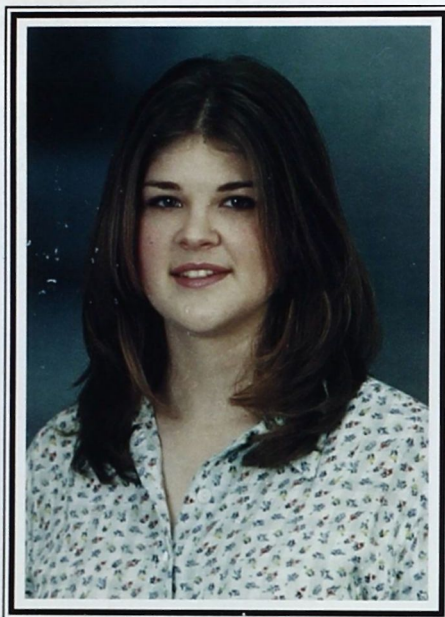




*"I never lose sight of the fact  
that just being is fun."*

*Audrey Hepburn*

*Michelle  
New*









*If you can imagine it, you can  
achieve it... If you can dream it,  
you can become it...*

*Malia  
Scharff*







*Megan Swisher*

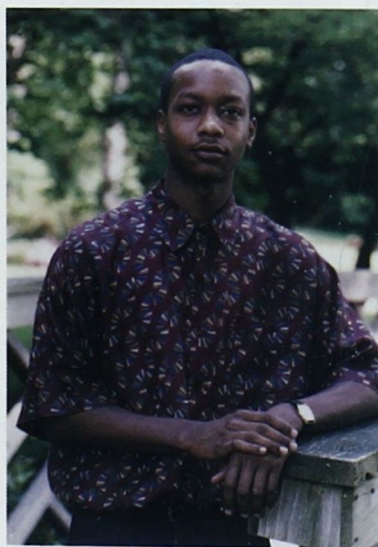




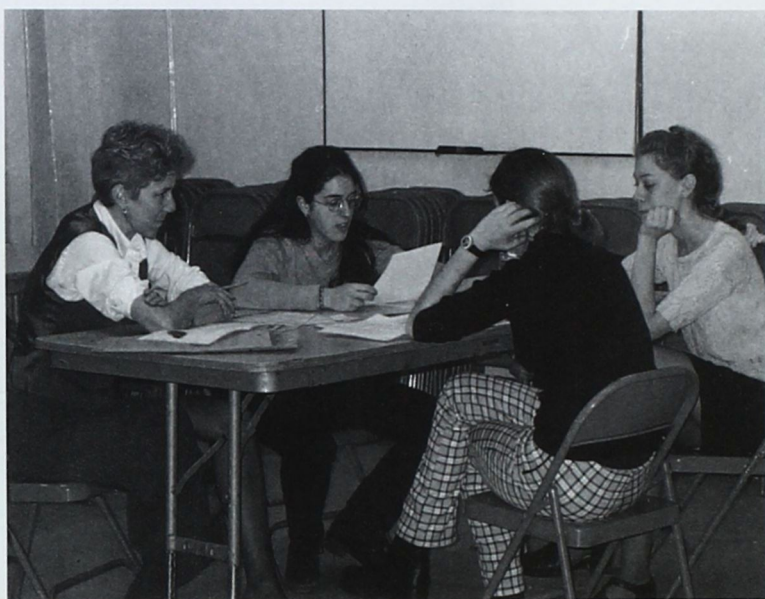


*Essie A. Taylor*

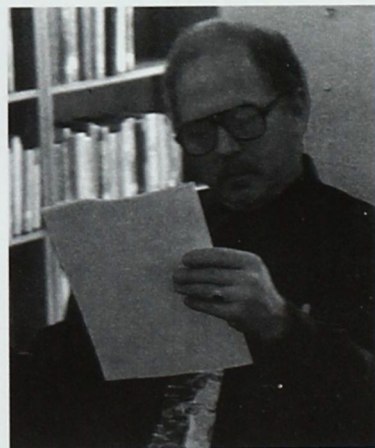
*This is not the end, it is only  
the beginning.*







# CLASSES



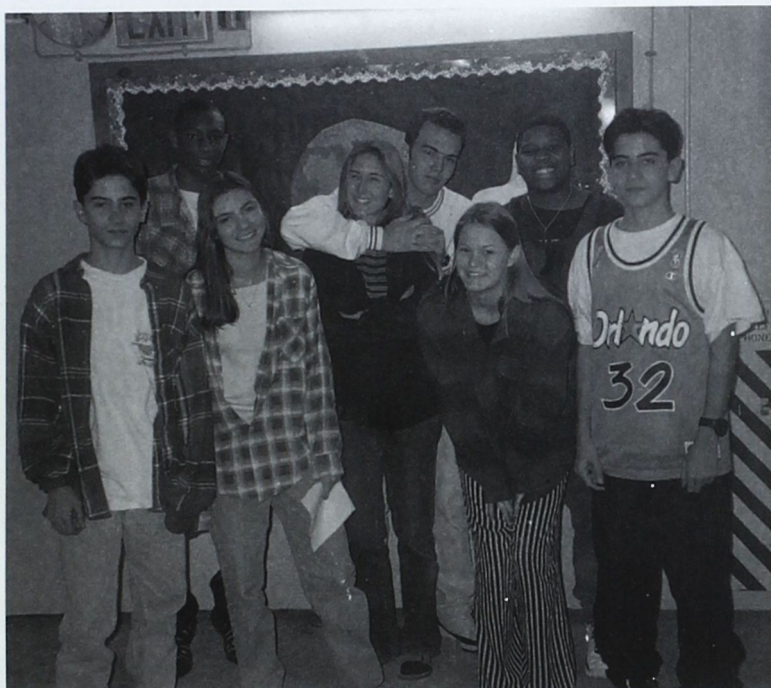


# SPIRITS ABOUND...

## *Junior Class of 1998*

**N**ot yet seniors with the promise of graduation waiting in June, but already under the onslaught of college mail, the pressure of SAT taking, and the multitude of visits to the guidance counselor for advice, many of the juniors spent the year in a frustrated state of limbo. Anxious to just finish everything and get school out of the way for another year, but just as determined to have a good time doing it, the junior class was a dynamic, and sometimes explosive group.

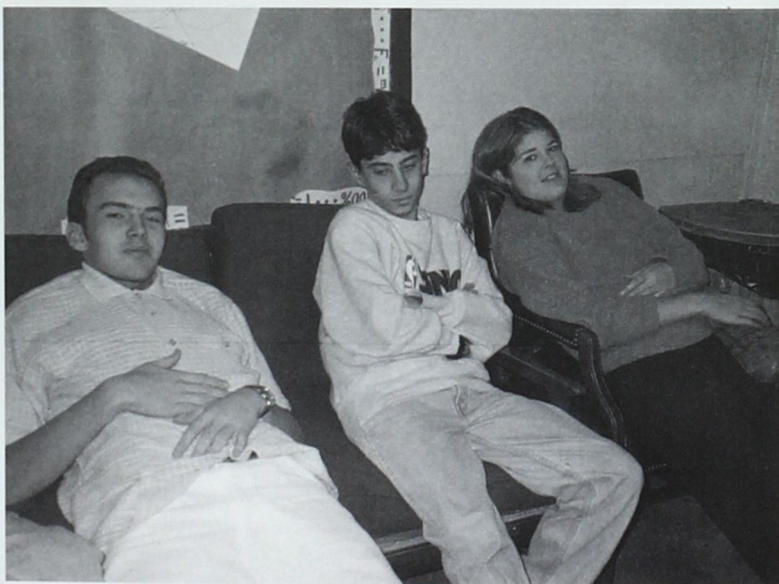
The class meetings could only be described as chaotic, as President Efe Cummings tried to motivate the class into working for the big goal of the year, a successful Prom. There were fights over things as important as where all the money from a recent fund raiser had gone, to who was taking who's seat. Things did, however, get finished in the long run. Supervised by Sponsor Bill Wood, the class held the inevitable bake sales, sold raffle tickets for a Christmas Basket, and made Valentine Grams for distribution throughout the school. There was also a certain hot dog sale that everyone tries to forget about, as several hours of work made a grand profit of eight dollars. Despite setbacks, the class banded together in the end and did pull off the desired Prom in true IHS fashion. Congratulations Class of 98!



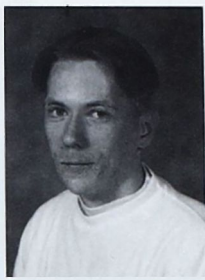
*Leading the class of 1998: Efe Cummings - President; Clinton Williams - Vice President; Joanna Unlu - Secretary; Antonio Lewis - Treasurer; Nina D'Amore and Brittany Hackler - SCA Representatives.*



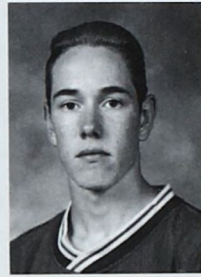
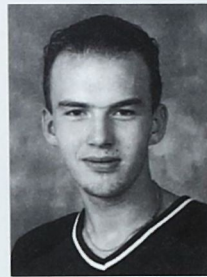
*(top) Brittany Hackler shows off her crazy hat: (right) Efe Cummings, Onur Coskun and Michelle New "chill" on the famous Junior couch.*







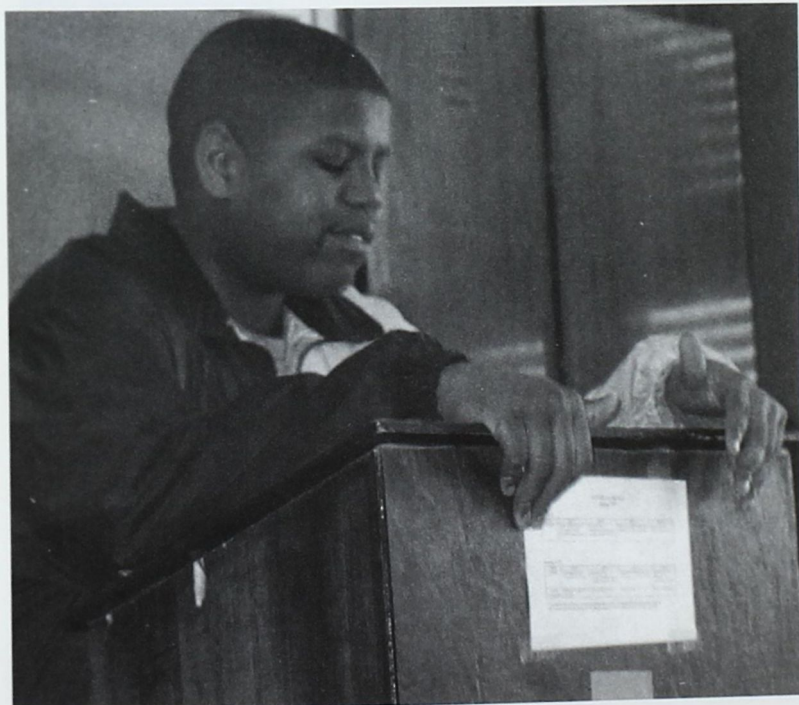
Curtis Albert  
Mohammad Azimi  
Errol Borchers  
Bilge Coskun



Onur Coskun  
Efe Cummings  
Nina D'Amore  
Nic Gilbert

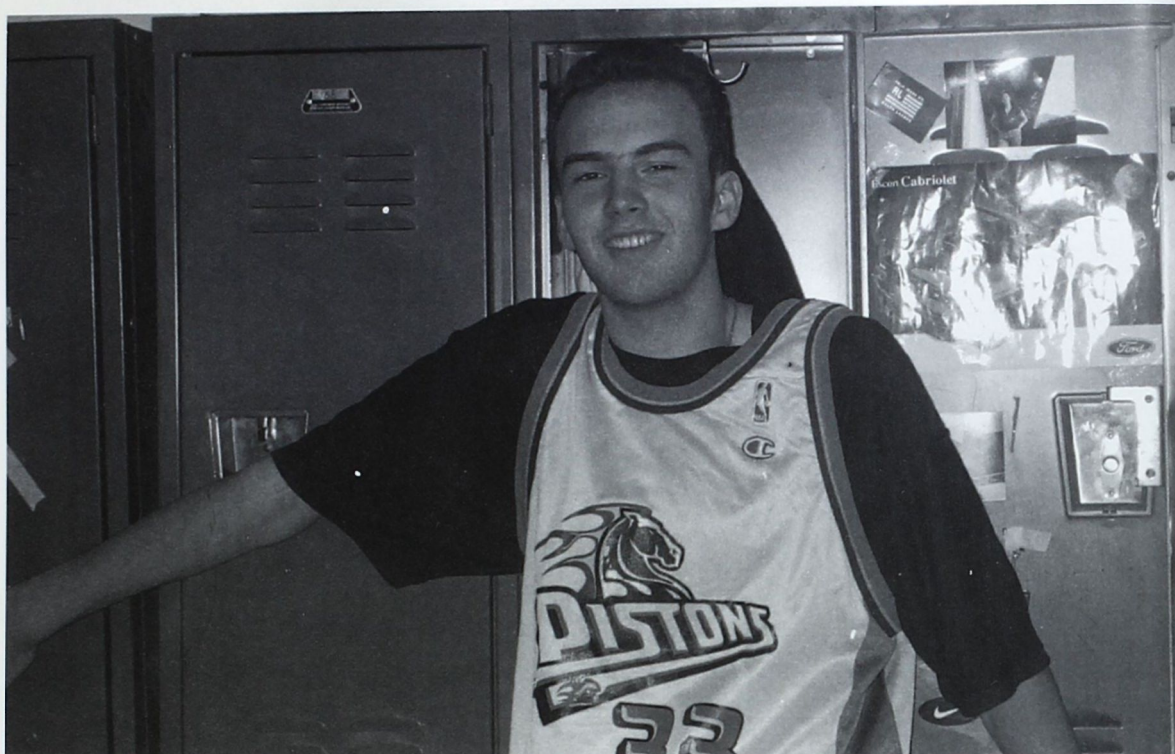


Brittany Hackler  
Antonio Lewis  
Irene Martorelli  
Ozkan Ozkan

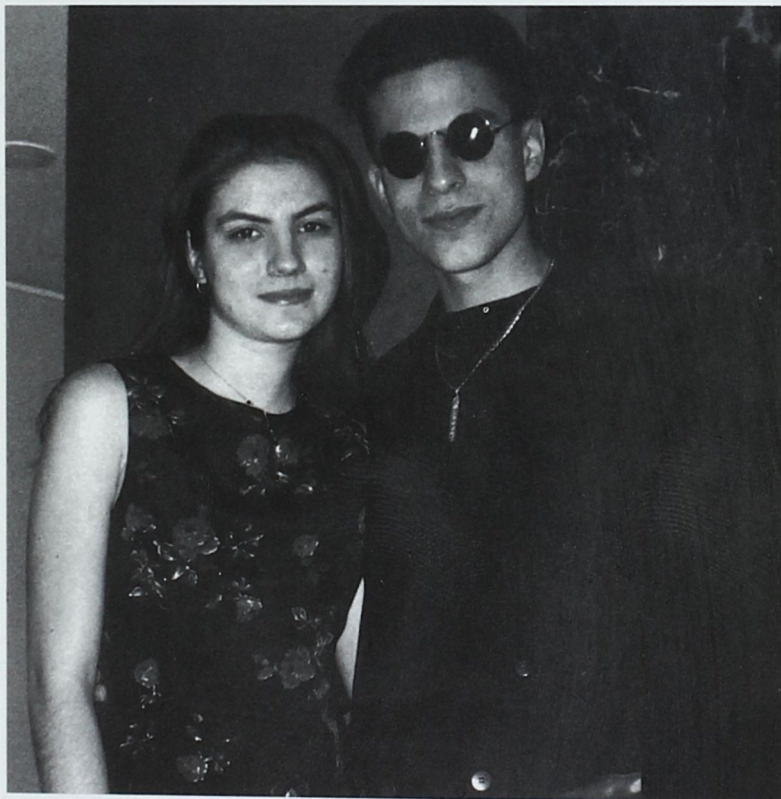


Clinton Williams shows the 'right'  
way of giving a speech.





*Mr. Wood, sponsor of the Juniors, gives a very "important" lesson during class.*

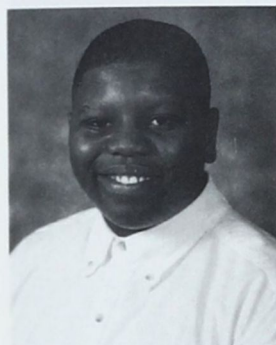


*Efe Cummings, Junior Class President, protects his locker.*





Vanessa Phillips  
Joanna Unlu



Clinton Williams  
Ozge Yilmaz

*Juniors listen attentively during a class meeting.*



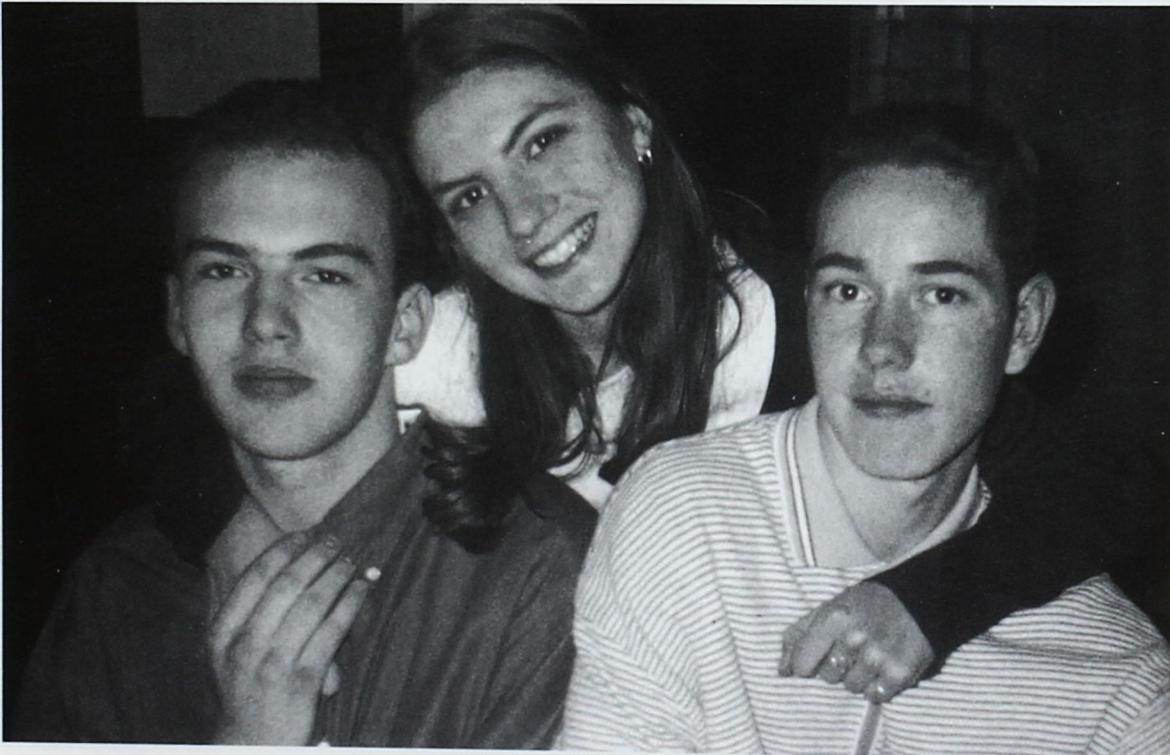




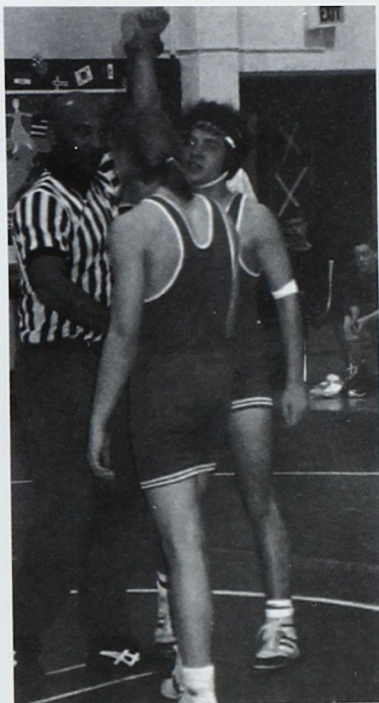
*Who is that with Santa, and who is Santa?*



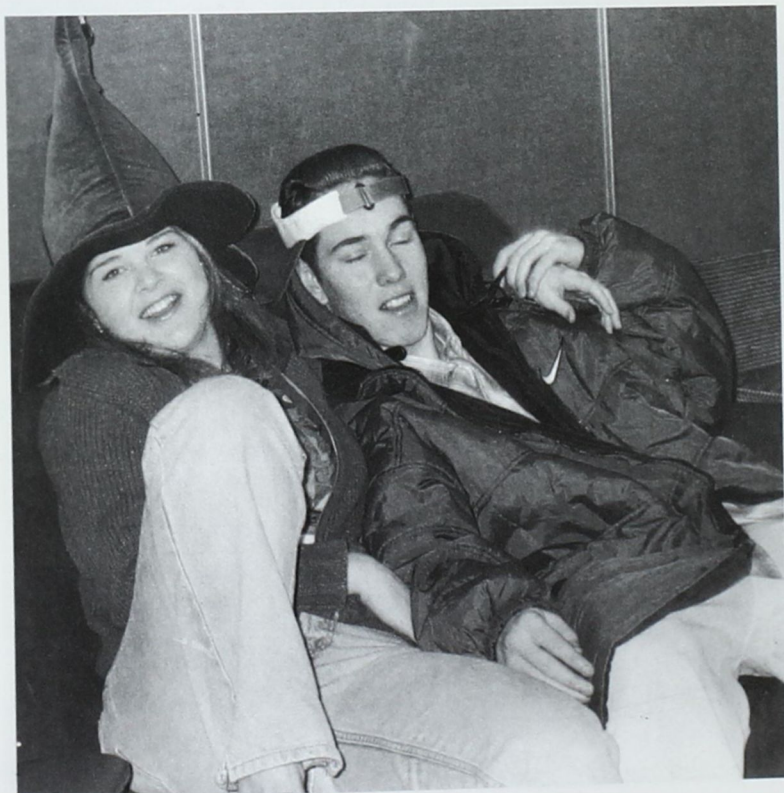
*(above) Brittany Hackler shows off some cheerleading moves. (below) Efe, Joanna and Nick are all smiles on an athletic trip.*







(left) Junior basketball players: Mohammad, Efe, Antonio, Clinton, Onur, Nick, and Bilge. (above) Ozkan lifts his hand in triumph after a wrestling win.



(left) Michelle New and Nick Gilbert define "chilling." (above) Curtis Albert gives a nervous grin on a science class hike.



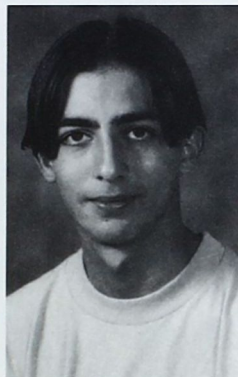
# SOPHOMORES ARE ON THEIR WAY...

## *Through the Looking Glass*

**T**he Sophomore class was..... somewhat sophomoric. Constantly sure they were in the right, the class got into all sorts of mischief. Whether it was arguments with Vanessa over the religious content of their bulletin boards, or an attempt to drown out the soccer banners of the twin's favorite team with ones of their own, the class always made themselves noticed. There was the memorable time that Nick and Ardy tore up an old lace dress, and attempted to wear the remains, and the ever-annoying red dot that marked the aquisition of yet another laser pointer. (Certain teachers/soccer coaches should watch what they are doing, before starting such annoying fads!)

Despite their antics, the class was also academically strong, having a huge majority of the class on the Honor Roll and in the National Honor Society, with some even being selected Student of the Quarter. People from this class filled out the ranks of the sports teams, and ventured to distant places for events such as Creative connections, Honors Band and Drama Festival.

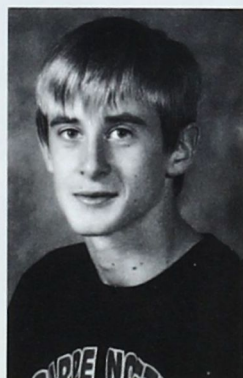
Lead by their President Ardy Akhavan and his faithful cabinet, the class didn't achieve much in the way of fund-raisers or activities, but they did manage to have Beavis and Butthead active members of the bulletin board committee several times in a row. While some thought that their constant appearances were repetitious and silly, most people got a kick out of seeing Beavis in a Santa outfit.....



*Ardy Akhavan  
Stephannie Baker*

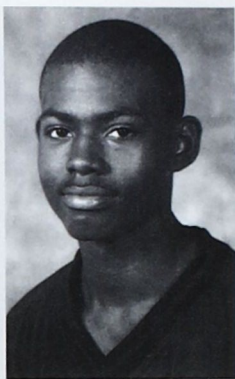


*Badi Dahlawi  
Dominic D'Amore*

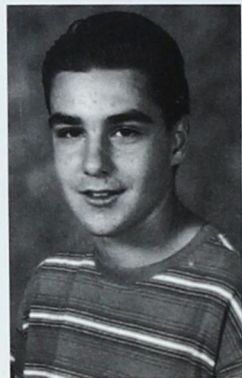


*Jacob Short surprised while hiking on the science class trip.*

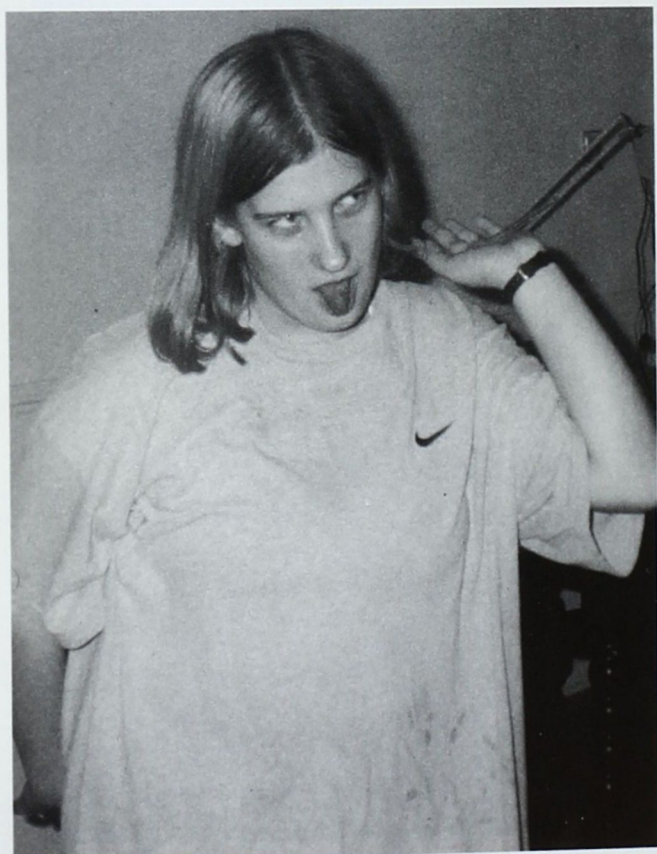




*Hayley Hackler  
Vonetta Harts  
Devon Kendall*



*Melissa Lebel  
Patrick McKeown  
Ali Mohammed*

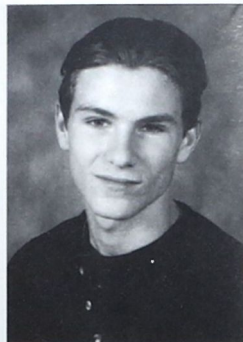


*(left) Stephannie Baker dances to the Pharoah Pharoah, while it's all cheese with Sarah Murrell, below.*





Sarah Murrell  
Rebecca Perry  
Eric Phillips

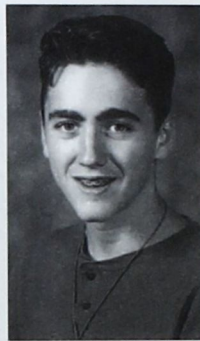


(right) Jake Short, Curtis  
Albert and Meredyth Temple  
enjoy Homecoming. (below)  
A backward glance by Sarah  
Murrell, and Nick D'Amore  
and Ardy Akhavan show  
some school spirit at an  
assembly.





*A typical Sarah look.*



*Virgil Rivera  
Jacob Short*



*(left) Catherine  
Ford and Virgil  
Rivera are deep in  
conversation, while  
below, Susanne  
Schnell and Nick  
D'Amore hang out  
in front of school.*





*Nick D'Amore and  
Mel Basar strug-  
gling to stay  
awake.*



*Eric Phillips, Joanna Unlu, Brittany Hackler, Kyle Lund and Tim Johnson at lunch.*

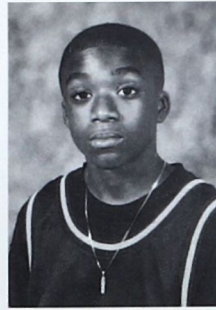
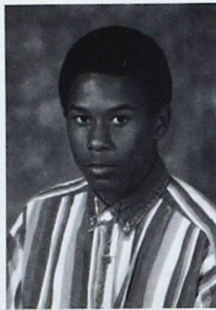
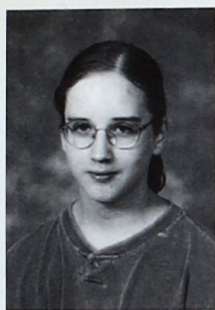




*Just chillin'!*







Nicholas Albert  
Anthony Curtis  
Delondon Dear  
Joel Douglas

# FULL-SPEED AHEAD-FRESHMEN '97



Ali, Clinton, Anthony, Delondon and Antonio give the dance a thumbs up.

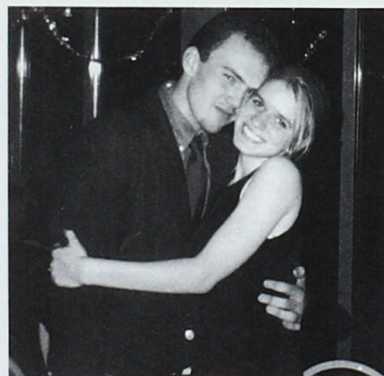


**F**reshman, the class of 2000, underclassmen.... whatever it is that you happen to call them, nobody can deny the profound impact they had on our student body this year. Whether you were a sophomore looking in dismay as your younger sibling joined you in what you considered YOUR locker hall, or a coach looking in delight at all of the new talent in their practices, the freshman certainly made their presence felt.

On the sport's trips, they kept the plane, or bus, or whatever other mode of transportation DoDDS thought of using (donkey cart, camel?), full of noise and laughter. The organizations such as National Honor Society, and the SCA, sud-

denly seemed twice as large as normal, as new high schoolers stepped in to take their place in the ranks. The band was grateful for all of the musical talent this class presented, as was the Leadership Conference for the new ideas and insights brought in. While not always the most motivated of classes, when they threw themselves together and worked at a project, be it a bulletin board or a fund-raiser, the result was always surprising and usually creative.

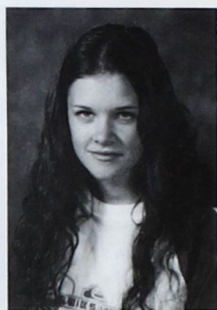
Now with a year of high school experiences under their belts, a year of sports training and brain training, the freshman will return and according to the expectations of most, become even more of an asset to our school.



(top) Meretyth Temple takes a stroll, while Efe and Nicole are together again.



Joanna Fernandez  
Catherine Ford  
Katie New  
Tamesha Rader



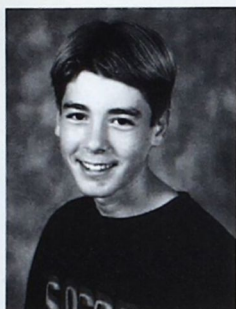
Nicole Robinson  
Angie Romasanta  
Rochelle Ronken  
Susanne Schnell



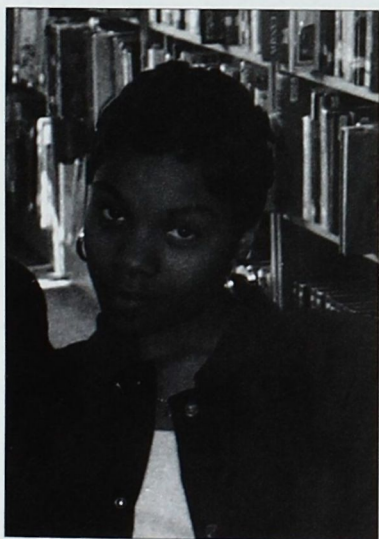
*Delondon stretches back on the couch with a smirk, as if to say, the Juniors only THINK this is their couch...*



*Andrew Simes  
Lakina Simpson  
Sarah Swisher*



*(right) A handsome couple, Rochelle  
Ronken and David Wildes, dance the  
night away at the Homecoming  
Dance. (below) Coy 'Kina.*







*Michelle Taylor  
Meredyth Temple  
David Wildes*

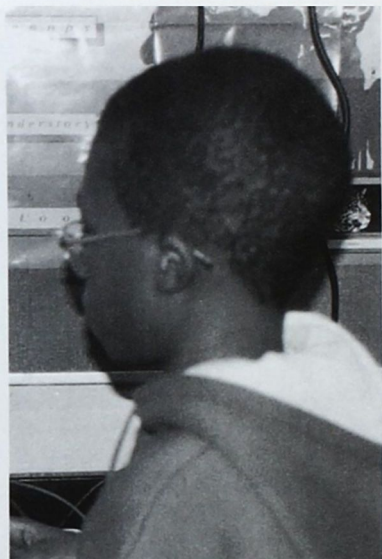


*Rochelle Ronken, Catherine Ford, Katie New, and Meredyth Temple show their best Honor Society smiles.*







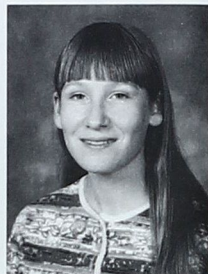
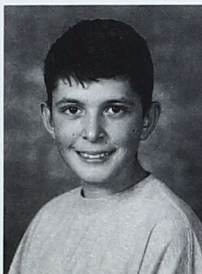
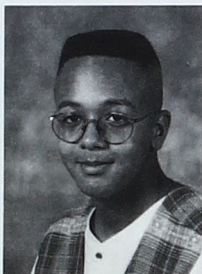
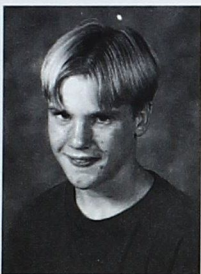




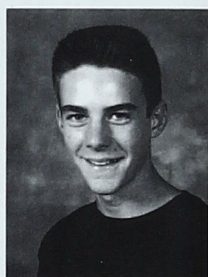
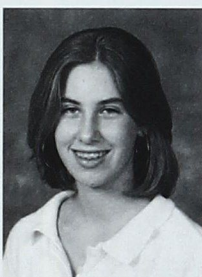
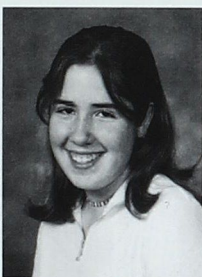
*Shamika Boyd  
Eric Galloway  
Ron Gevry  
Lindsay Gustaitus*



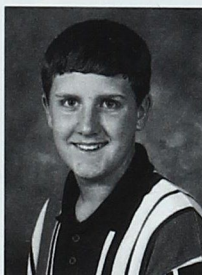
*Matthew Hoffman  
LeDarian Hunter  
Valerio Martorelli  
Patty Murrell*



*Sheena Patti  
Natalia Rollins  
Lianna Scharff  
James Short*



*Samantha Warren  
Bradley Wesche  
Jessica Wood*



## EIGHTH GRADE

**T**he eighth grade, while still technically middle schoolers, had a huge amount of freedom this year, and participated in many of what are typically high school events. There were eighth graders attending this year's Leadership Conference, and also participating on various sport's teams, such as the Cross Country team. They came in hordes to the school dances, and dominated pep rallies. Some of the girls in the class won adoration from the men of the higher classes, and more than once have the eighth grade boys been caught in the sacred senior hall. Being the largest class in the school,

they kept the teachers hands full, and the eyes of many upon them.

Despite a purported lack of school spirit, in almost every school-wide competition, the eighth graders came out near the top. They gave some stressful moments to the senior and juniors, concerning the outcome of the Spirit Chain Contest, and their efforts in the screaming contests during the pep rallies made the other classes give them a grudging respect.

The eighth grade had a prosperous, and more importantly to them, an enjoyable year, and for the most part are looking forward to the promises of being truly in high school.





*The Eighth  
Graders just love  
that Science Lab.*



*Valerio with his  
"creature" - It's  
alive!*





*V-I-C-T-O-R-Y, the Eighth Grade chants the Sultan's battle cry.*



*(above) Sheena Patti and Ron Gevry posing for a picture on their way to class; (right) Jessie Wood takes a dip for a Science experiment, brrrr.*







*The romantic Valerio displays his heart, LeDarian is with his - what is that thing?!, and Matt watches cluelessly.*



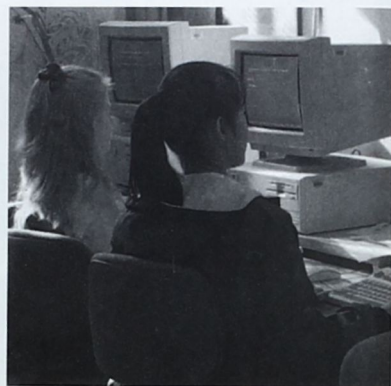
*Jessie Wood, Sheena Patti, Natalia Rollins, and Lindsey Gustaitis display their warpaint for the pep rally. (left) Oh, those Science experiments!*





# LIVING IT UP...

## *Seventh Grade on the Rise*



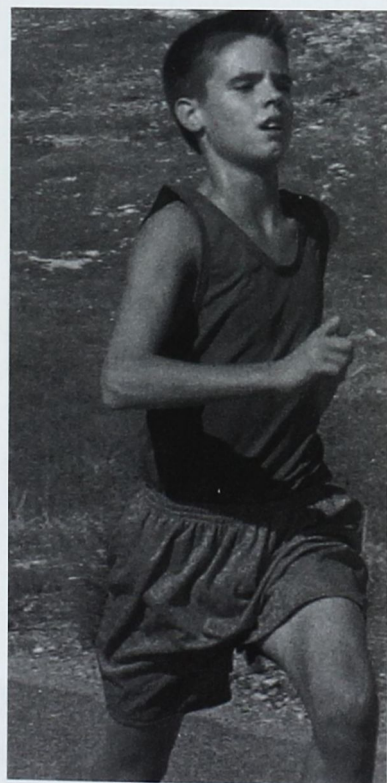
(left) Class officers Melissa Ozkurt (Secretary), Mary Kuconis (President), SuRin Campbell (Treasurer), Tiren Nock (Vice President), Nicole Kania and Thomas Lungrin (SCA Reps. (above) SuRin and Sara hard at work. (below) Cross-country runner, Eighth grader, Derrick Birdsell keeps his stride.

**T**he seventh grade, being the youngest grade in the high school, often enter the year quietly and with a feeble attempt not to be noticed. They creep through the hallways with their heads down, and their books in hand. This is however, an impossibility in a school of our size, especially when the junior high make up nearly half of the population. This year, the seventh grade, with Mrs. Taylor as their sponsor, were a vital part of the school dynamics.

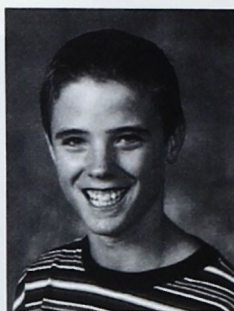
The sevys were the class who gave a heightened sense of competition to the bulletin board contest, be-

ing the only underclassmen who gave real challenge to the other classes. They had a few fundraisers which proved to be successful and hoarded the money for later use. Their laughter and pranks kept the halls alive, as did the morning and lunchtime rush to go check their cc:mail. (Sometimes it was all just a bit too lively for the long-suffering computer teachers.)

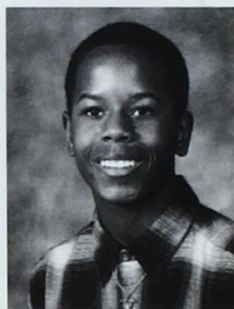
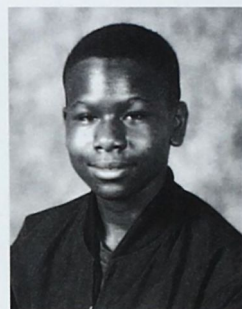
With the end of this year, the seventh graders are looking forward to wherever eighth grade may take them, and are ready to begin again. First, however, there is summer vacation to enjoy. (As if anyone forgot!)







*Alisa Albert  
Lara Borchers  
Derrick Birdsell*



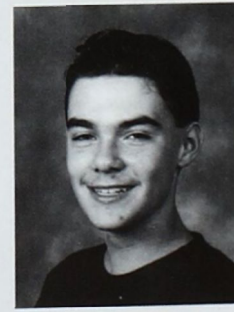
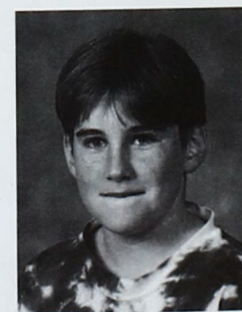
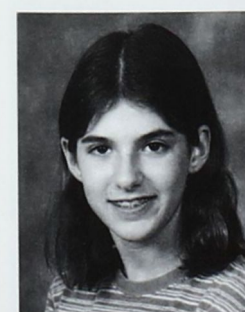
*SuRin Campbell  
Jaysee Collier  
Jeff Dear*



*Nae Nae Douglas  
Jessica Greeling  
Darin Hoffman*



*Lindsay Howell  
Nicole Kania  
Mary Kuconis*



*Michelle Lebel  
Thomas Lungrin  
Murat McKeown*



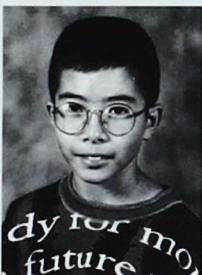
*Lisa Nesselrath  
Tiren Nock  
Samantha Owen*



*Melissa Ozkurt  
Kelly Ronken  
Sara Smith*



*Alex Soriano  
Cindy Stauffer  
Patrick Stewart*



*Asia Crain*







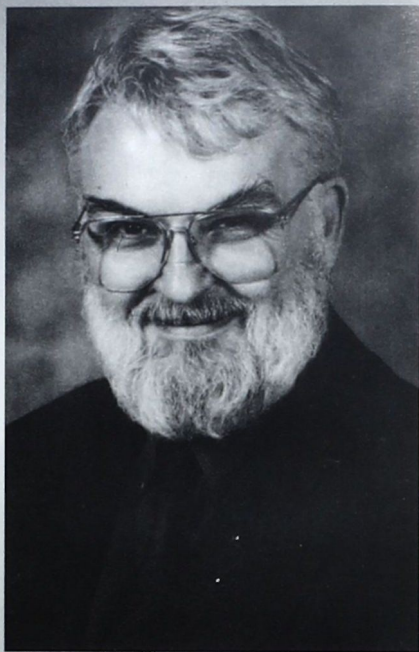


**L**ong ago in a place far, far away, I graduated from high school. Now, as then, I find my mind drifting in and out of the friendship and places that were known as my school. No doubt you too will drift back in your mind to your school. Izmir Turkey is probably one of the most interesting and historical areas that a person could ever live. There will be another and maybe even more exotic place as you face life and travel the many roads not yet paved for you.

As you pave that road with your learning and ex-

perience, the ruts and holes get fewer and farther in-between. Some will be plowed and others merely gone around, but all will be seen and acknowledged and can be conquered. Memories will expand and history grow fainter and less clear with your travels.

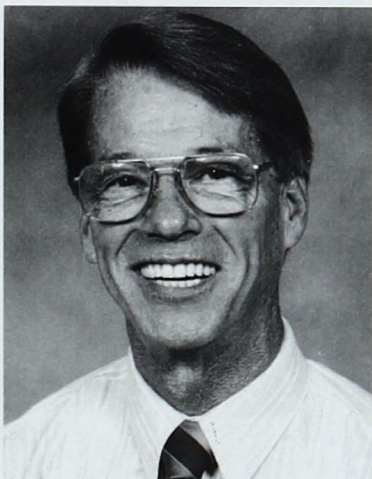
However, after the years of travel and hundreds of friendships come and go, Izmir American High School will still be in your mind's eye. Enjoy your time here and make the most of your education in and out of the classroom. It is a big world and yours is the grand adventure. Have a great year!



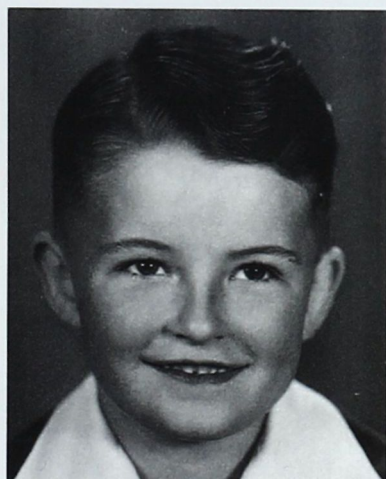
*Dr. Allen Davenport  
Principal*



*Maria Kutrubis  
Secretary*



*Robert Seider  
Asst. Principal*



*Little Dr. six years old*



# BROADENING PERSPECTIVES

*As We Step Into Our Futures*



*Imren Aloba*  
Host Nation



*Clara Botana*  
Spanish, French



*Carol Braun*  
PE



*Sharon Casey*  
Athletic Director

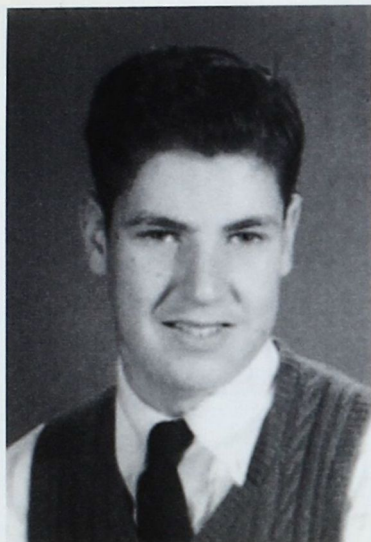


*Surprising enough this 17 year old became a teacher rather than a star of the silver screen.*

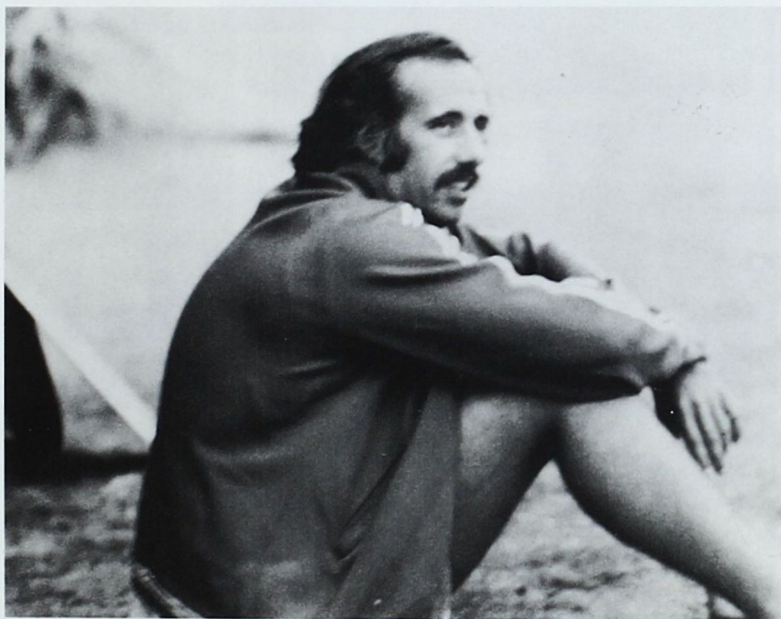


*A cruising college freshman*





*(top) High school math genius, (middle) Soon to be English Major, (top right) Huck Finn? (right) Bathing beauty?*



*Joan Cobanli  
Science, Home Ec.*



*Terry Douglas  
Computer Guru*



*Judy Driesen  
Media Center*

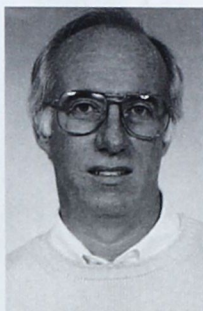


*Lynne Jakubauskas  
Nurse*





*Richard Painter  
Math, Science*



*Alan Scharff  
Math*



*Charles See  
Science, Math*



*Geri Shimabukuro  
Music*



*Depressed about wasting  
man-minutes...*



*What shall I do, join the Navy or go  
to college?*



*Off to the Prom?*



*John Taylor  
English, Social  
Studies*



*Linda Taylor  
English, Social  
Studies*



*David Simpkins  
Business*



*Carol Stone  
Art*



# Mad-Hatter's Tea Party



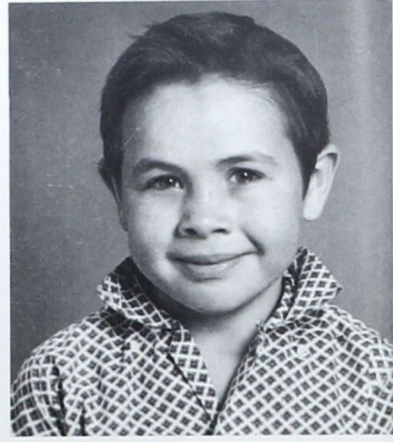
Dale Thompson  
Counselor



Rosie Uluer  
Computers, CWE



Bill Wood  
English, Social Studies



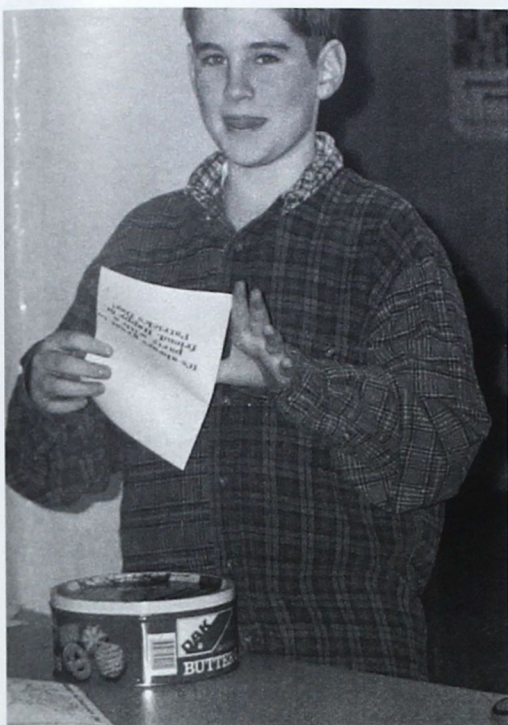
Does that smile hide a pair of fangs?



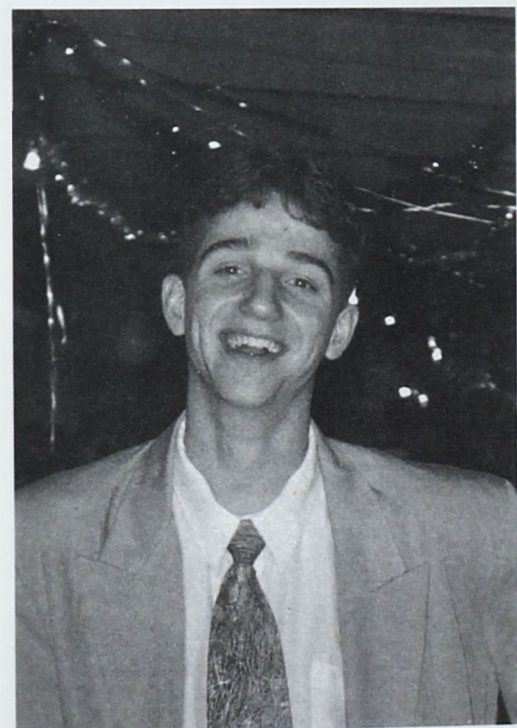
(left) Run-away  
model? (top) How  
many camels did he  
spend on her? (right)  
Oh, the chill!







# ACTIVITIES







*Newspaper staff - Alex Soriano, Matt Galloway, Nina D'Amore, Joanna Unlu, Brittany Hackler, Ozge Yilmaz, and Editors Jennifer Paterson and Michelle New.*

## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER...

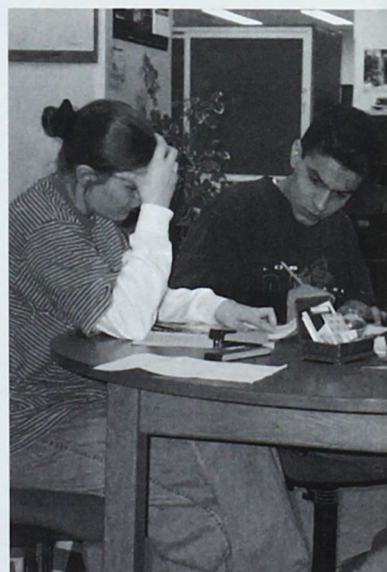
Putting together a newspaper looks deceptively easy, but veteran Editors Jennifer Paterson and Michelle New, could tell you that it is a time-consuming, energy-draining task. There are dead-lines to meet, issues to lay-out, articles to correct, meetings to hold, tasks to assign, and last minute articles to scribble out. There are problems to fix, and only a meager selection of two solutions. Do it yourself, or wait...

The journalists are forever coming up with inventive excuses as to why they can't have the article in until a day or

two after it's due. Disks get lost and hide in the black hole of irretrievably lost items. Copiers break down, and there are lovely moments when you gasp in surprise that the people who made attempts to write an article were in fact native English speakers. Sometimes the easiest thing to do was sit back and laugh as Sponsor- Dave Simpkins prepared to tear out his hair, or make a run for the fire escape.

Despite these problems, the staff, along with the help of the faithful Journalism Class, managed to pull things together and publish a quality newspaper.

*Brittany and Mo work diligently on layouts*







Yearbook staff - Brittany Hackler, Jessie Wood, Michelle New, Lianna Scharff, Editor Nina D'Amore, Lindsey Gustaitus, Joanna Unlu, Rochelle Ronken, Meredyth Temple, and Irene Martorelli. Not pictured Vanessa Phillips.

## MAKING SURE YOU REMEMBER...

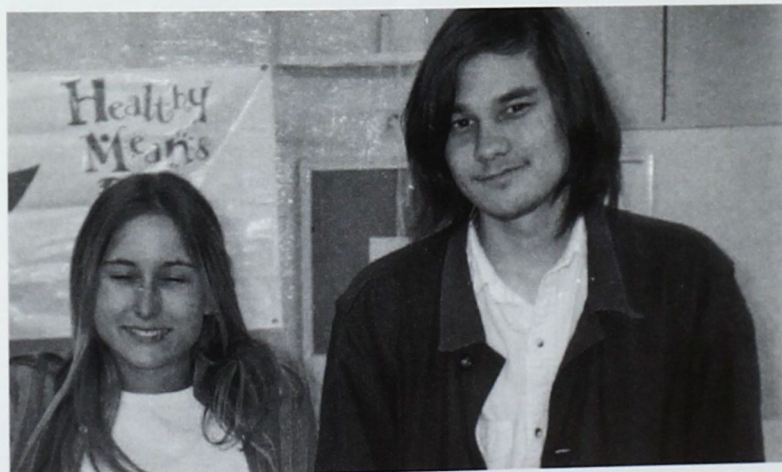
There are body copies to be written, layouts to do, pictures to take, film to develop, covers to design....the list goes on and on. Putting together a yearbook is not an easy task, nor is it a short-term one, and it is made even more difficult with limi-

ted staff. By limited staff, meaning limited amount of people willing to put in the time, as there are always plenty to help share the credit.

The small yearbook committee worked hard, putting in their seminar hours and the occasional ones out of school.

The members were relative newcomers, at first not knowing the difference between a pica and a pencil. Fortunately, they quickly learned the ropes. The brunt of the task still fell on the shoulders of the Editor, who spent the countless hours proofing, correcting, writing and laying out pages. Much of this book was done sprawled out on her bed, or hunched over her keyboard at home.

Many thanks to the group of parents who contributed the leg-work and phone calls to gather the ad pages, especially Ms. Wesche and Ms. New! This was a great help!



Editor Nina D'Amore and Asst. Editor Matt Galloway.





*The entire Band at St. John's Cathedral for the Spring Concert.*

## RHYTHM...BUT NO BLUES, BAND '97



*Nick Albert beats out the rhythm.*

While this year's band classes were smaller than some previous years, what they lacked in quantity, they made up in quality. The hour and a half that the block schedule allowed for class time put considerable polish on the members abilities, yet made them somewhat relieved to be able to put away their instruments at the end of a session. (The same feeling was probably matched by Ms. Shimabukoro when she could sit down and hear the

blessed sound of QUIET!) Their hard work paid off, and in March they performed with excellence during the Band Festival in Ankara.

Another band is composed with musicians from schools all over DoDDS Europe. To become a member of this band, students had to send in a tape recording of their playing. These tapes were judged by a board, who then selected the members. There were two band members selected from IHS to be in the Honors Band. Sophomores Nick D'Amore and Sarah Murrell travelled to Germany to play.

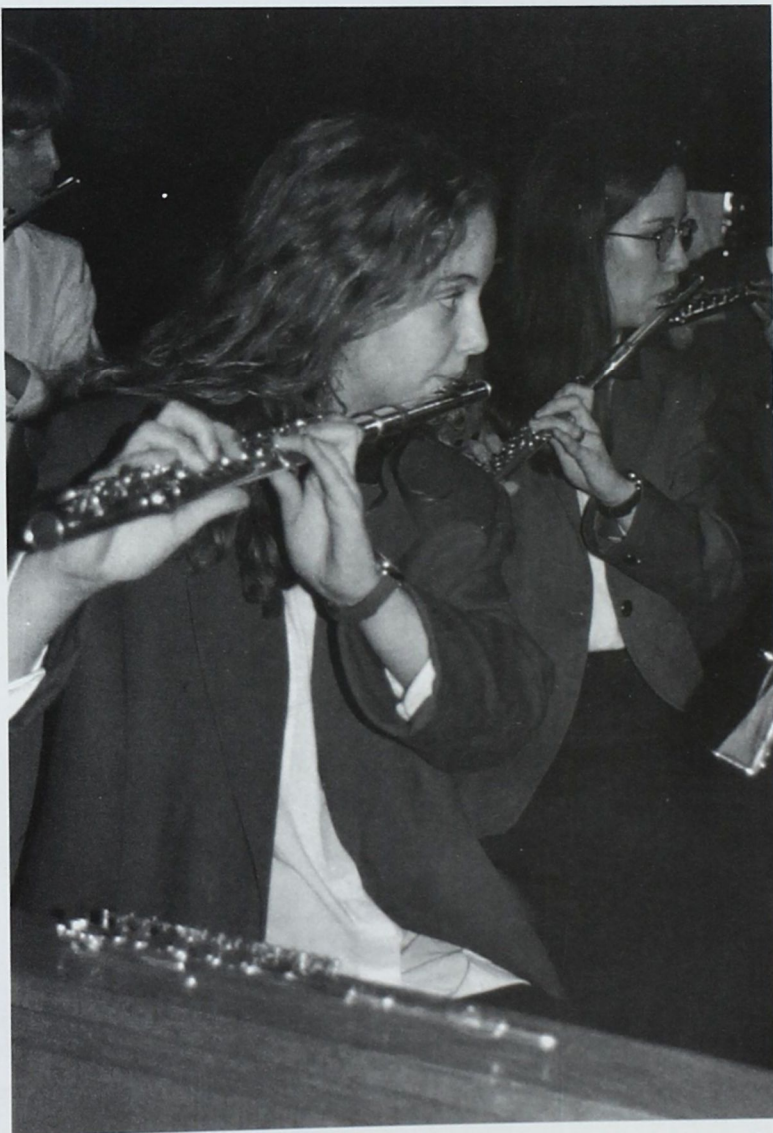




*(above) SuRin Campbell displays her excellent musicianship on the piano,  
(below) Cindy Stauffer plays a flute solo.*



*(above) Eric, Anthony, Virgil, and Mel get serious with the brass. (below) Rochelle and Catherine in flute harmony.*





# IZMIR SULTANS SOCCER POWER

After living in Turkiye for any length of time, we have all had sleepless nights filled with the loud honking, cheering, and singing that mark the victory of somebody's favorite soccer team. As annoyed as we will sometimes become, we know that when it is our team that defeated its arch-enemy, we are ecstatic and almost as obnoxious. (Not quite, though.) This year's Sultan soccer team gave us much more reason to celebrate, than did last year's team with their near perfect record which was broken during the last game. They won it!

The boy's practice, led by Mr. Taylor and several assistant coaches, was deemed too hard by many of the players, but none-the-less they stuck it out. It was said that practice was just not as fun without Mrs. Le Duc with her track shorts, especially the stretching part. Even without her, they had fun slipping around in the mud on rainy days, and making a general nuisance of themselves with their water bottles on the hot days.

The team had a pretty good idea of what they were up against when they headed to Spain. Most of them remembered Bahrain's orderly ranks from last year's competition, and had decided that they were just a whole other level of soccer. They had a bit of surprise when they realized that the team from Rota seemed to be stuck up on that level also. That didn't discourage them though, because they still had Lajes to toy with, and the Turkiye teams to win or lose against. They were a bit disappointed, achieving the dignified title Fifth Place in the Turkey-Spain-Islands District. It was an extremely successful season, partly due to the fact that they had such an enthusiastic mascot. Larry the Lobster was present at all games to lend luck and support to the players. Woe betide any person who has the audacity to suggest that he is just a red plush lobster, not a person...

*JMel Basar and Ardy Akhavan after the ball*



*Mel takes control and heads down field.*





(top) Coach Taylor, Errol Borchers, Tim Johnson (Capt.), Kyle Lund, Mohammad Azimi, Jacob Short, Mel Basar (Capt.) (bottom) Andrew Simes, Ardy Akhavan, Anthony Curtis, Ozkan Ozkan, Nick D'Amore, Delondon Dear, Onur Coskun, Bilge Coskun, Virgil Rivera.



Onur Coskun poised and ready.



Bilge Coskun steals the ball



Anthony Curtis plays aggressive soccer.





*Coach Stellato, Michelle New, Rebecca Perry, Katie New, Nina D'Amore (Capt.), Melissa Lebel, Sarah Murrell, Stephanie Baker, Susanna Schnell, Irene Martorelli, Jennifer Paterson (Capt.) Ozge Yilmaz, Joanna Unlu, Brittany Hackler, Vanessa Phillips, Sarah Swisher, and Malia Scharff.*

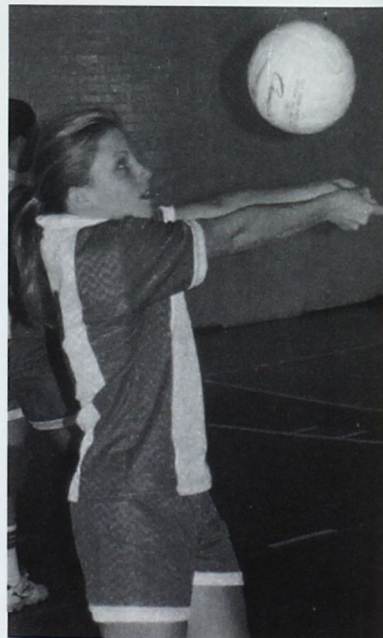
## BUMPED TO THE TOP

A game involving high levels of coordination, endurance and skill, volleyball is among the three sports played during the fall season at Izmir American High School. Though it is a pastime of many members of both sexes, volleyball is a strictly female game in this school. The team, under the guidance and supervision of Ms. Sandra Stellato, were better known as the Lady Sultans. Ladies in name only, as their aggression on the court would tell you.

Every day after school, the members sweated through a practice that consisted of seemingly endless rounds of stair-climbing, and drills on every technique of the game imaginable, including the most-hated....the jumping drill. Assisting

Ms. Stellato regularly, were Mr. and Mrs. Blose, a husband and wife team whose expert insights on the finer points of the game helped to polish and enhance the overall performance greatly. The team began as relatively un-skilled and inexperienced, but rapidly gained both on the court during the sports meets.

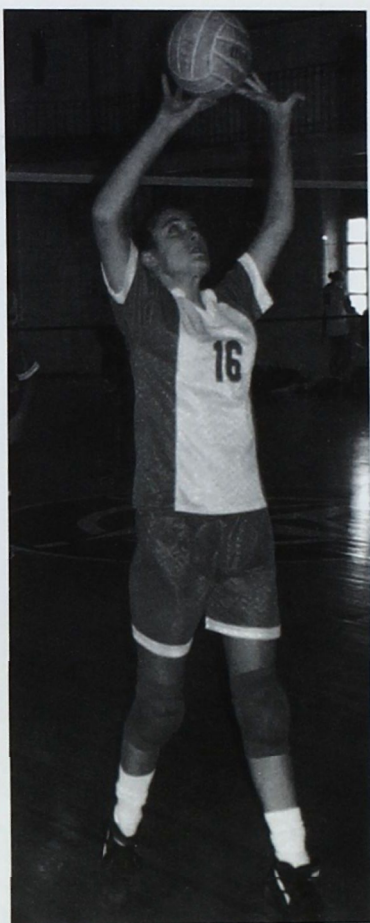
The first competition was located in Ankara, holding both a triumph and a disappointment for the Sultans, who won their games against Incirlik, yet were defeated by Ankara's team. While their defeat was a let-down, it was not entirely a surprise. Being beaten by the Ankara team was a tradition of many years, and one that Ankara was not very happy to see crumble in front of them. The same could not be said for the Lady Sultans, who were







*Varsity team in a collective hug, after another win. (right) Jennifer Paterson practices her sets before the game.*



*Bump, Bump, Bump, examples by Vanessa Phillips, Nina D'Amore, and Joanna Unlu.*

over-joyed when their retaliation in Izmir's meet led to a victory for both the Varsity and Junior Varsity over both the other teams. Ankara and Izmir then went to the tournament in Rota tied for first place in Turkiye. The title sounds impressive, but it didn't last very long. In Rota, Izmir placed fourth, being beaten by the teams from Bahrain and Ankara, and never having a chance to play against the team from Incirlik, whom they routinely defeated. A small compensation for this defeat was the fact that their Varsity Captain Nina D'Amore and Co-Captain Jennifer Paterson were picked for both the All-Conference team and the All-Tournament team.

Overall it was an exciting season, and left all the returning players looking forward to the next year's competition, which should prove to be equally fulfilling.



# RUNNING THEMSELVES RAGGED

Somebody pulled some strings and caused the administration to swear up and down not to make the teams travel by bus to Incirlik. This gave Mr. Scharff the courage to venture back out into the wonderful world of coaching. While cross country was not the most popular sport, (not many people had an urge to run miles and miles) it was certainly a larger team than this school has seen in quite a few years, and this math-teacher-who-happens-to-be-a-health-major made the best of what he had. While the team itself was larger than usual, those who could compete were few, as much of the team was made up of seventh and eighth graders. Whether or not they could travel or compete, all members came faithfully out to practice and ran lap...after lap...after lap. Other than that, they ran, and did a bit of stretching, and then ran a bit more. Needless to say, after practice, it was one very tired team that climbed onto the buses.

In the competitions, the team did not fare well as a whole due to its size, but individuals had their chances to shine. Eric Phillips consistently placed third or fourth in races that sometimes contained over twenty people. The team did as well as able, and showed the other teams that you don't have to be large to earn respect.



*Matt Galloway, TJ Albert, Curt Albert, Eric Phillips, Jake Short, Jessie Wood, Lindsey Gustaitis, David Wildes, Derrick Birdsell, Matt Hoffman.*



*Lindsey Gustaitis (left) and David Wildes (right) give it their all during a race.*







*(above) Jessie Wood strides along looking pained, as does Eric Phillips (left). Who said this was easy?*



*(left) Matt Galloway manages to look peaceful while running.  
(above) With the sun beating down, the Izmirians show the other teams what running is all about.*



# TAKE IT TO THE HOOP



*Sponsor Ms. Braun, Tamesha Rader, Essie Taylor, Jennifer Paterson, Melissa Lebel, Stephanie Baker, Coach, Irene Martorelli, Lakina Simpkins, Joanna Unlu, Michelle Taylor, Rebecca Perry, and Michelle New.*

**S**uicides, drills, sweat, aching calves, and the loud directions of your coach in your ear, basketball seems more a test of will than a game, but is surprisingly one of the more popular sports played throughout the year. Some of the players have a true love for the sport, while others are merely tantalized by trips to Ankara and Bahrain, where the final tournament was played.

None-the-less, the entire team sweated their way thro-

ugh the required practices, and even came in for extra punishment on the weekends. Pushing them on, were Captains Jennifer Paterson and Essie Taylor.

The hard work of the Izmirians paid off though, as they came out tied for first in all of Turkiye. (Shh...nobody mention that there are only three schools!) Ready to go and do the same in Bahrain, the team had two major obstacles, mainly the teams from Rota and Bahrain. This put them into third place, but they were ab-

le to justify this on the grounds that those two schools have respectively four and ten times more students than we do. While the competition may have not been wonderful for the team standing, it certainly helped with the social life of the teams, and many inter-school relationships and friendships were formed. The season couldn't have been as successful with out the help and guidance of Ms. Braun and several outside coaches. Many thanks to all of them!



*Jennifer Paterson, it's mine, and you can't have it!*



*Michelle New expertly avoids the hands of an Ankara player.*



*A possessed looking Joanna Unlu dribbles down the court.*



*Michelle Taylor ready to pass.*



*Jennifer puts her back to Ankara.*



# READY TO RUMBLE



*Clinton Williams, Anthony Curtis, Mo Azimi, Devon Kendall, Efe Cummings, Ben Cipollone, Tim Johnson, Antonio Lewis, Mel Basar, Nic Gilbert, Bilge Coskun, Earl Lewis, Coach Jerome, Coach Oscar, Ali Mohammed, Onur Coskun, Delondon Dear.*

**R**eady to rumble, the Izmir Boys Basketball team was fierce, hard-working, and sometimes too aggressive. They slaved away under the supervision of Sponsor Dale Thompson, and Coaches Oscar and Jerome. Despite the long hours spent shooting hoops, drilling, and working on improving not only their muscle mass but also the all-important cardiovascular side of it, the sheer numbers of the other school's basketball teams proved to be too much

for them. Lead by Captains Mel Basar, Tim Johnson and Efe Cummings, it almost seemed that they had more captains than regular ball players.

But what the Izmir Sultan don't have in size, they made up for with skill...and lots of energy. The high-jumpin', far-shootin', elbow-jabbin', quick-foulin' side to their game made them gain respect from the other teams, even if the respect wasn't followed by tons of game winning. In Bahrain, they put up a valiant effort, but came out in fourth

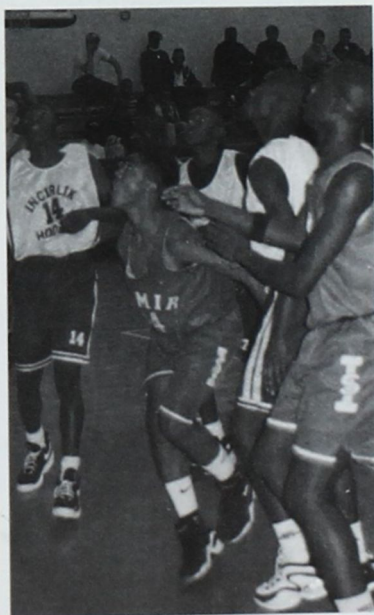
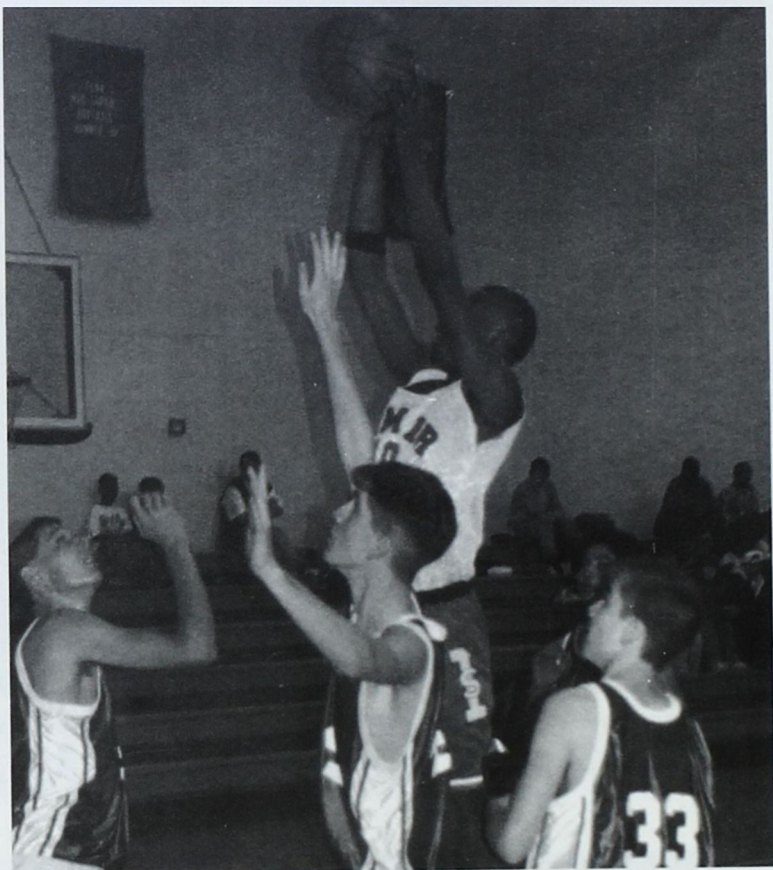
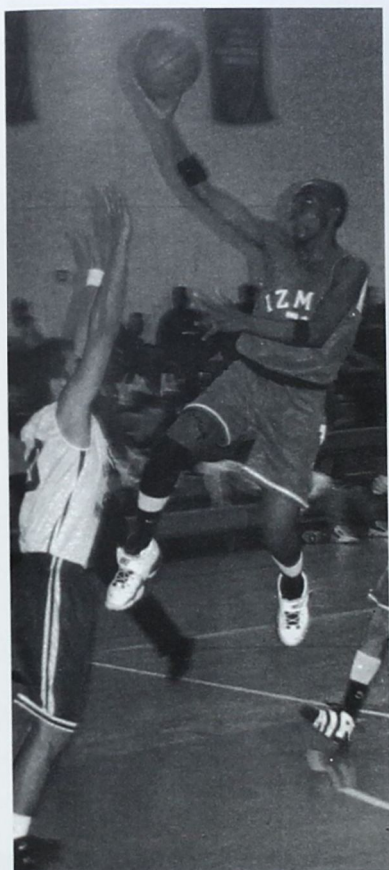
place. They didn't let this get them down, and proceeded to explore the island and make friends with the various people they met there.

Even if they couldn't see them everyday, there is always e-mail to keep up those friendships!

Overall, it was a successful season in the fact that techniques were learned, some games were won, and a lot of fun was had. And that, for those who forget, is what high school sports are all about.



# BOYS BASKETBALL 97







# GREAT BALLS OF FIRE...



*Cheerleading squad consisted of Vanessa Phillips (Capt.), Katie New, Nicole Robison, Brittany Hackler, Susanna Schnell, and Rochelle Ronken. Sponsors were Ms. Wesche and Ms. New.*







*High kicking Katie New demonstrates her flexibility, (below) the entire squad in a pyramid formation.*



# CHEERLEADING







## WRESTLERS - QUALITY,

Perhaps one of the oldest competitive sports known to man, wrestling has long since attracted a huge population of athletes and followers. Although it is a popular sport world-wide, in America it has been drowned out by 'All-American' sports such as football. It has been deemed self-degrading to 'roll around on mats' with others of the same sex, and many boys have problems with the clinging closeness of a wrestling sing-

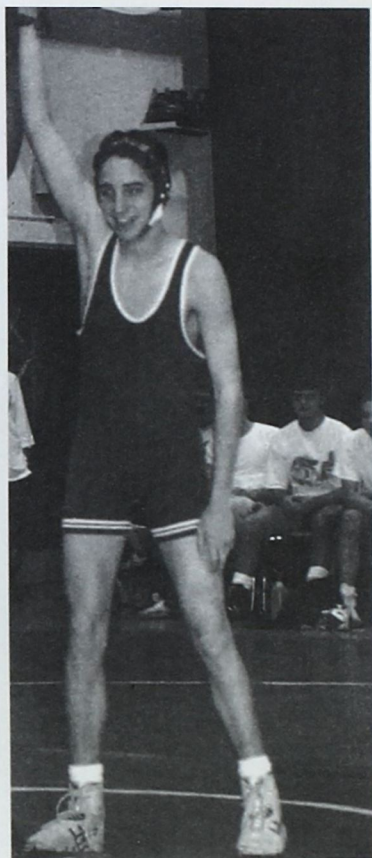
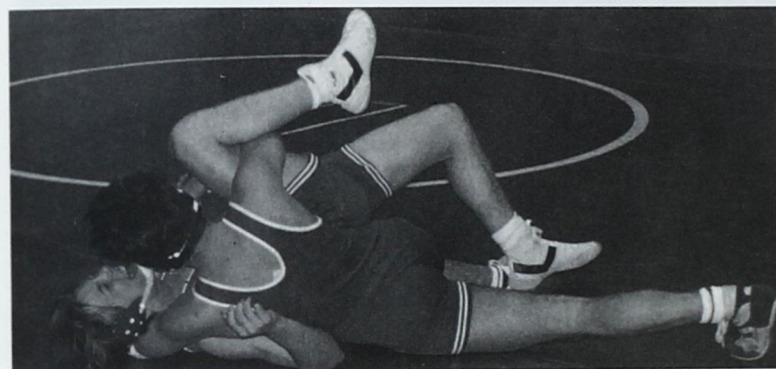
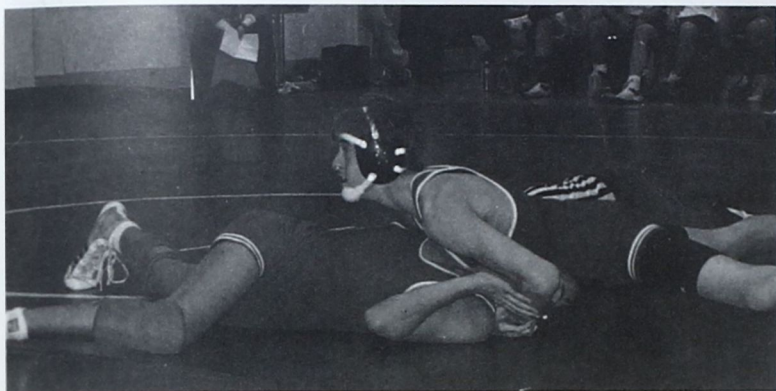
let. (unless worn by a female of course.) Others, however know better.

Any person who has struggled to unlock the iron grip of an opponent as he proceeds to ram your face into the mat, knows that it is not only a sport, but a difficult one. Any person who has gone onto a mat secure in their size and muscle mass, only to be outmanuvered and beaten by a person half their size, knows that there is more than meets the eye in the long hours of practice. Those who laugh at

the seemingly short time spent on a mat during a game, come to find out that six minutes can seem an eternity. The Izmir Wrestling team was small in size, but dedicated and acceptant of their fate.

Led by Coaches Charlie See and Gerard D'Amore, they did endless sets of push-ups and sit-ups, monkey walks and running stairs, until getting down and actually wrestling seemed like a treat.





## NOT QUANTITY...



*(clockwise) Kyle Lund raises his hand in victory; Ozkan Ozkan in head-to-head congratulations from Coach D'Amore; wrestlers take a hike; Ardy Akhavan, give the guy a break; Nick D'Amore, is that a pin?*





*The proud '97 tennis team: Nick D'Amore, Mel Basar, Mohammad Azimi, Ardy Akhavan, Katie New, Jennifer Paterson, Melissa Lebel, Joanna Unlu, Sarah Murrell, Virgil Rivera, Andrew Simes, and Stephanie Baker.*

## IZMIR TENNIS 1997

A game of skill, endurance, precision and a necessary swiftness matched in few other places, tennis is not what it appears. While many can't see the point or the level of difficulty this game involves, those who joined the team to merely travel and escape the vigors of track and field, were in for a shock. With drills, endless competition for ranking, the constant switching of partners in a search for the best matches, and the WHOLE LAP around the track the tennis team has to run, practice was not all fun and games.

Led by Coaches Mr. Painter and Mrs. Casey, the team was relieved to find that there was something competing with the endless streams of mathematical equations in Mr. Painter's head, and that Mrs. Casey

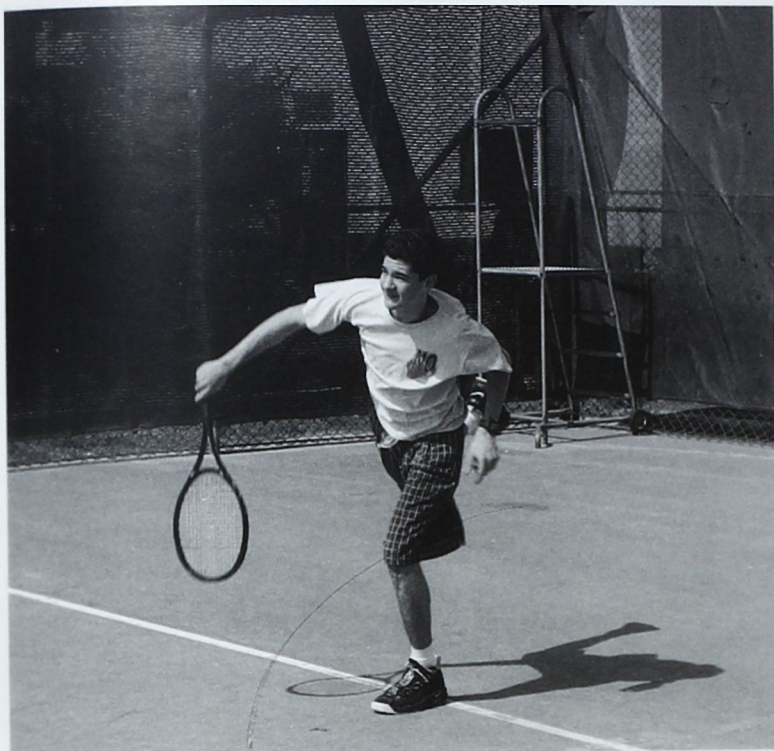
brought some cheer to the otherwise grim situation of making team cuts. The team endured a whole FIVE weeks of practice before moving on to compete in their ONE tournament in Incirlik. There the team had chances to not only compete in tennis, but in such intellectual sports as Frisbee throwing and Rollerblading.

Unfortunately, the yearbook is due at the printers before the games, so I cannot immortalize any scores. From having been there before though, I can predict that the weather skirts, ties and slacks that were mandatory on the plane ride, and that while they put up a valiant effort and conquered the smaller schools, the sheer masses of Bahrain's team proved to be too much. And...I'm sure they had fun...

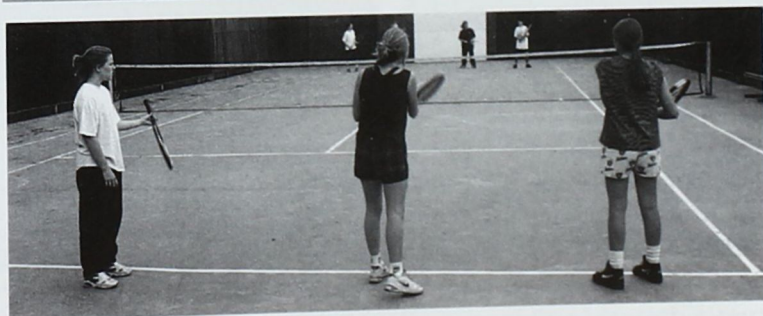


*Nick D'Amore makes a timid swing.*





*Mel Basar shows what power is, and no, he has two legs.  
(right) Katie looks around, a bit lost.*







*The '97 Track Team: Michelle Taylor, Eric Phillips, Malia Scharff, Brittany Hackler, Devon Kendall, Clint Williams, Essie Taylor, Anthony Curtis, Derrick Birdsell, Lara Borchers, Angie Romasanta, Joanna Fernandez, Vonetta Harts, Antonio Lewis, Rachel Heffelfinger, Delondon Dear, Alisa Albert, Earl Lewis, Melissa Ozkurt, Mary Kuconis, Jessica Greehling, and Michelle Lebel.*

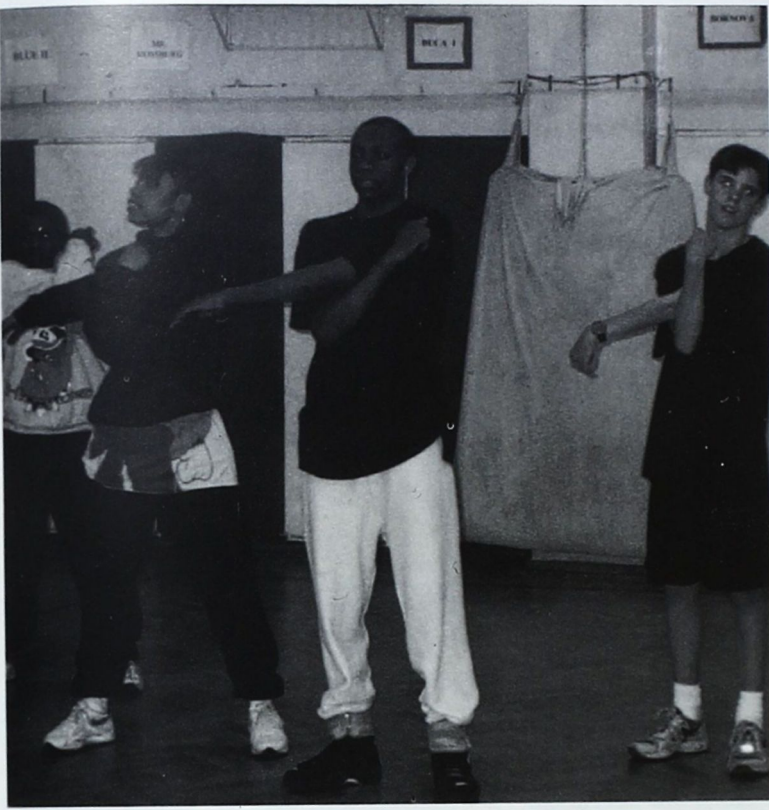
## DESTINED TO REMAIN

While some can't understand the delight in the endless laps and sprints run, the sweat, and the various aches and pains that track and field brings, those on the team could tell you of the other side. There is the adrenaline rushing through your veins, the breeze on your face, and the knowledge that you could eat at McDonalds six times a day and still burn it all

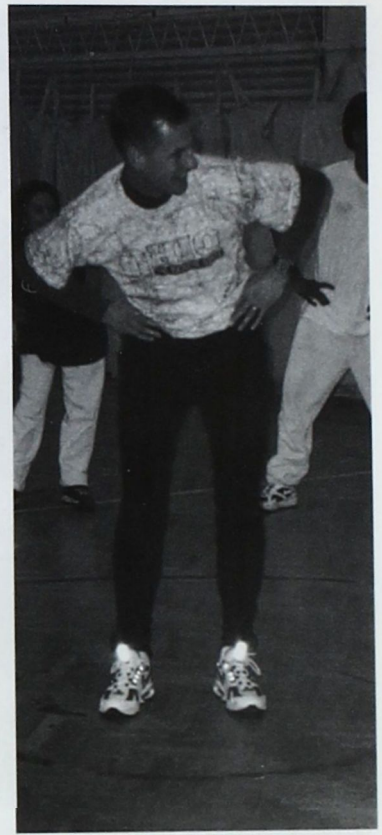
off. And of course the best is the end...when its over and you can rush to the ice-cold drinking fountains that Sirinyer is famous for. (Not only to drink, but to soak as much of your body as you can stand.) The Track and Field team was under the supervision of Coach Uluer, and Assistant Coach Scharff. They patiently listened to Ms. Uluer talk about the importance of stretching and healthy eating, and Mr. Scharff's famous calcium lecture. They ran,

they sweated, they ached, and they had a good time. All of this in preparation for the one meet held in Adana. A week long, the meet included teams from Ankara, Adana, Bahrain, Rota and Lajes. Most unfortunately, I can't tell you how they did, as the yearbook deadline came way before the meet did. I am sure, however, that all did the best possible and gave a good show on Izmir's behalf.



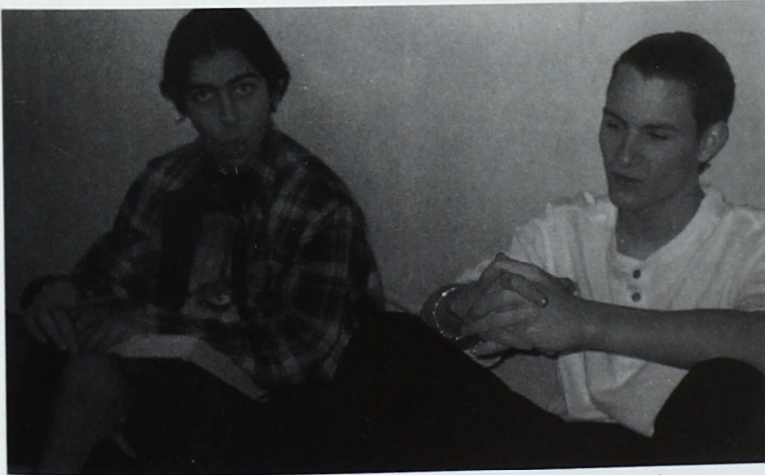


*(above) Vonetta, Essie, Antonio, and Derrick stretch and warm up before taking the bus to Sirenyer Garrison. The Yearbook Staff would like to apologize for the lack of Track and Field photographs being used in the book. We were unable to take a camera into Sirenyer to photograph the practice of our participants in action.*

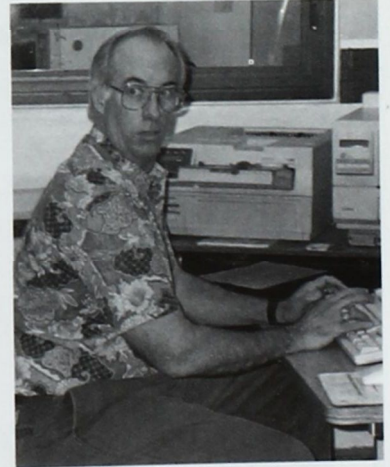


*Spandex-May leads track warm-ups.*

## UNSEEN... TRACK AND FIELD 1997



*Ardy and Eric show their disappointment in the lack of track pictures*



*Mr. Scharff, will that make you late for track practice?!!*



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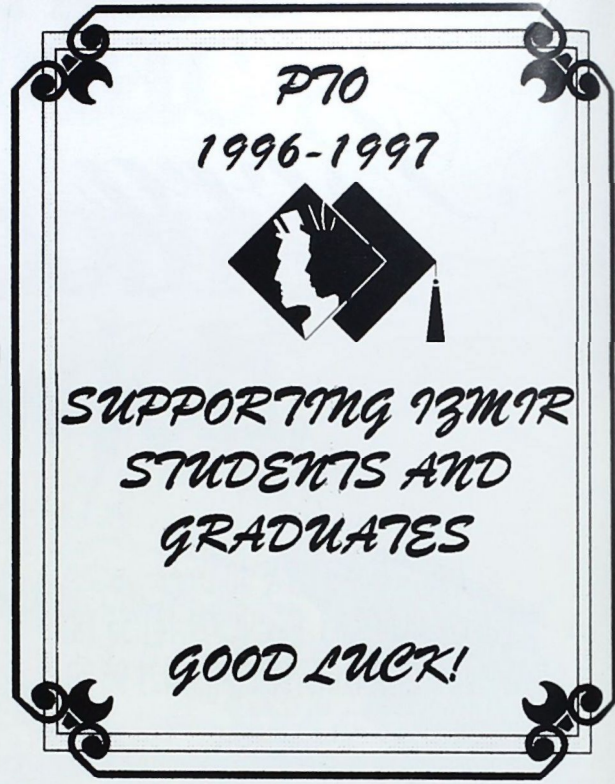
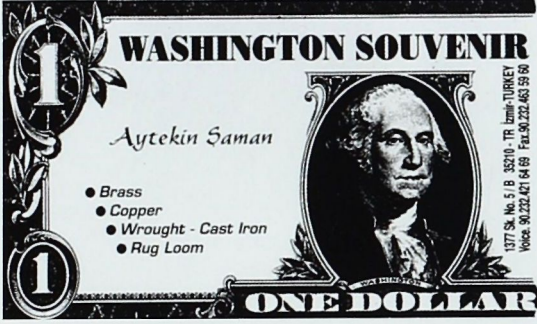


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*Congratulations to the*  
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*Wishing you all the best of luck*  
~



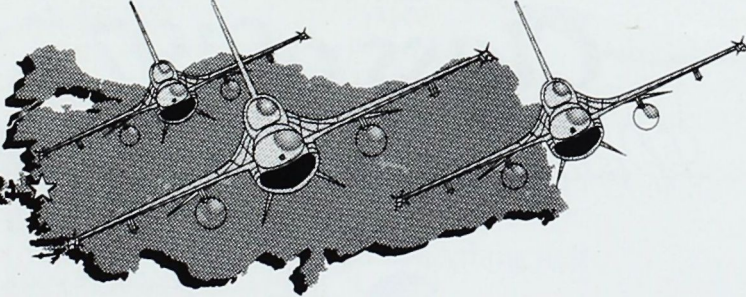




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USAF Chaplains Theme 1996-1997

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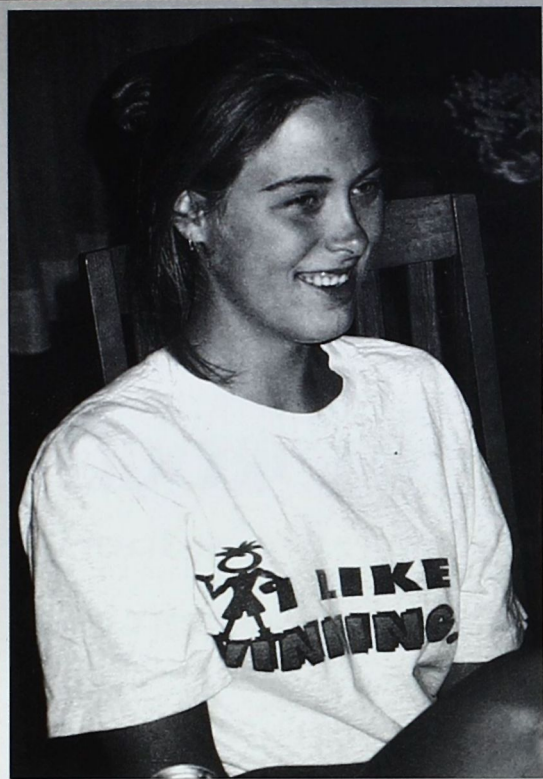
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Eddie L. H. Lewis

**TREASURER**  
David W. Elliott

April 2, 1997

**MEMORANDUM FOR IZMIR AMERICAN HIGH SCHOOL  
FROM ELWOOD MAXFIELD MILITARY LODGE #39**

1. We the members of Elwood Maxfield Military Lodge #39 send our best wishes to the graduating Class of 1997. One of our primary goals is to support the pursuance of higher education among all students here attending the Izmir American School system. This is further evident by our theme for this year, **"Knowledge is our future"**.
2. Once again, best wishes and congratulations to the graduating Class of 1997.

Ira L. Dickerson  
President

Ed L. H. Lewis  
Secretary





## **VINNELL, BROWN & ROOT**

**“ COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE ”**

We wish the Izmir American High  
School Graduating Class of 1997  
the best health, happiness and prosperity.





Always remember it isn't the  
final destination that is  
important but the journey  
along the way. You certainly  
have made the most of the  
"precious Present"  
of your life thus far!

We are so very proud of all that  
you have become and  
look forward with  
joy to what the future  
holds for you!

love,

Mom, Dad, Katie, and Rosie



## *Roza's* Kilims Carpets and Handicrafts

## *Roza's* Kilims and Carpets



1377 Sok.No:2/A Alsancak  
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(232) 421 27 29  
Fax: (232) 463 80 18  
Home: (232) 421 31 77



Dedicated to our Baby- Good  
luck at BYU, "MOUSE"

We're proud of you!

Love

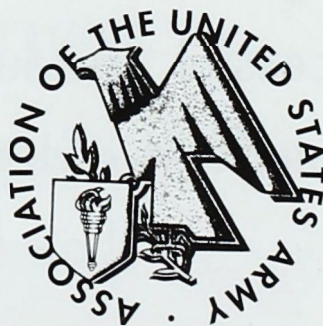
Mom and Dad

TURKIYE CHAPTER

## ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

### IZMIR SULTANS !

Khhash Abbasi  
TJ Albert  
Davood Azimi  
Mel Basar  
Daniel Estrada  
Matthew Galloway  
Dottie Isaak  
Tim Johnson  
Kyle Lund  
Michelle New  
Jennifer Paterson  
Malia Scharff  
Megan Swisher  
Essie Taylor

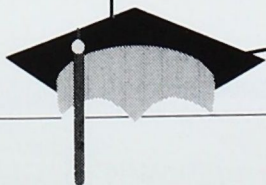


PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE CONTINUING EDUCATION  
OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

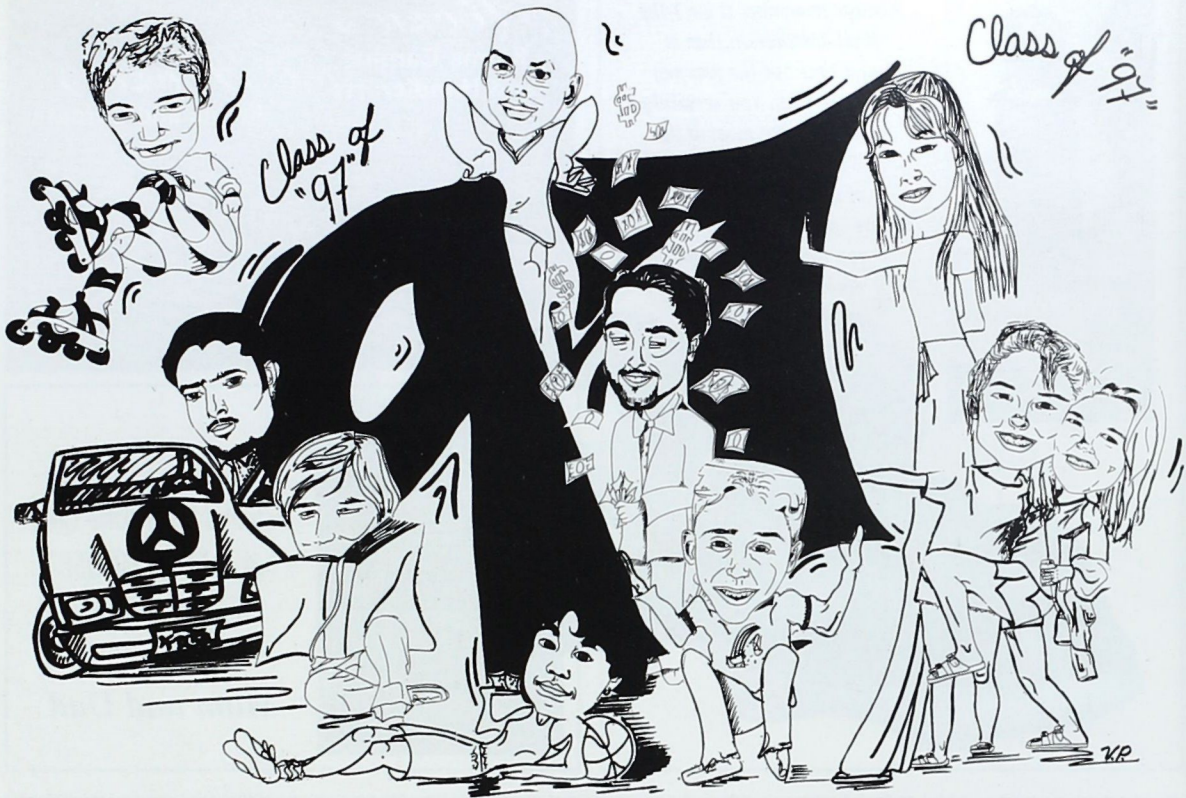
**CONGRATULATIONS &  
BEST OF LUCK ALWAYS**

to the

**CLASS OF 1997 !!**







Congratulations to the class of '97 for a successful graduation and good luck to the students of Izmir American High with their new school.





*You have provided countless hours of  
entertainment for us. As you know, we love  
you so much and we're so very proud of the  
young man you've become.  
God Bless You,*

*Mom, Dad, Curt, Nick, and Lisa*



**OVERSEAS**  
*Brats*®

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For information regarding the Izmir High  
School Alumni Association,  
contact

**"Overseas Brats"**



CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE ENTIRE SCHOOL,  
STAFF, AND ESPECIALLY THE SENIORS  
FOR WORK WELL DONE AND ASPIRATIONS ACHIEVED  
FROM THE YEARBOOK STAFF







# SULTANS 97