

Mountaineer



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STAND OUT

2009



STAND OUT

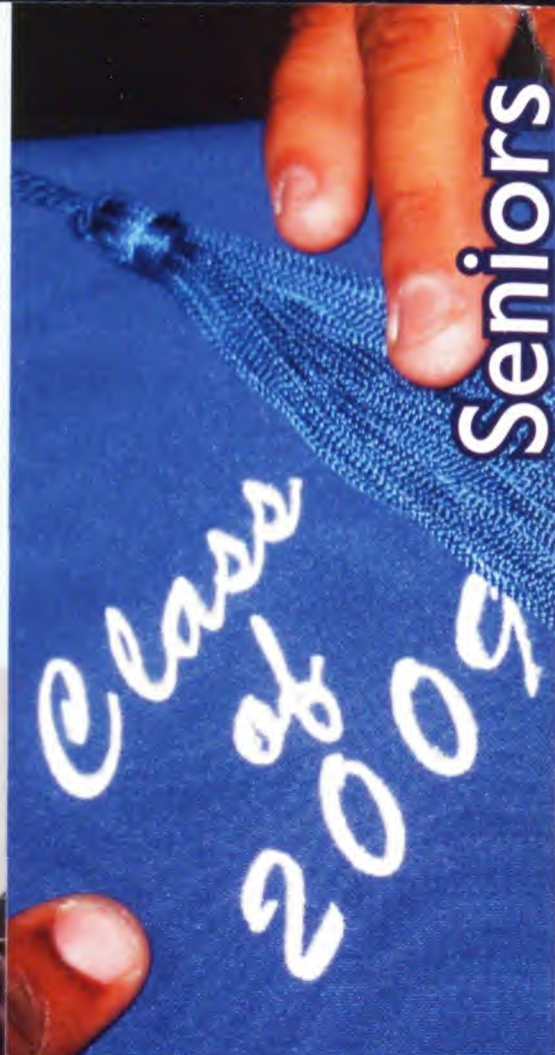
WEST ORANGE

HIGH SCHOOL



Student Life

2



Seniors



48

2009

Faculty



96

146

174

Sports



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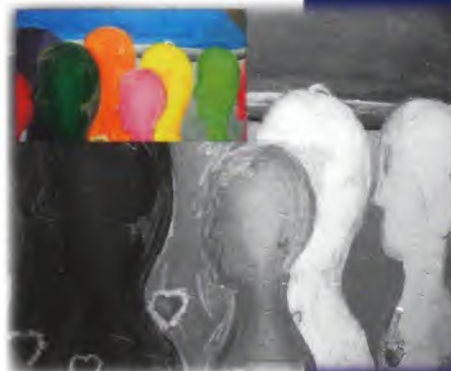
06/09

Business



**"TO LAUGH OFTEN AND MUCH; TO
APPRECIATE BEAUTY, TO FIND THE
BEST IN OTHERS; TO LEAVE THE
WORLD A BIT BETTER, TO KNOW
EVEN ONE LIFE HAS BREATHED
EASIER BECAUSE YOU HAVE
LIVED. THIS IS TO HAVE
SUCCEEDED."**

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



West Orange High School

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STAND OUT 2009



Aristotle once said, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit." The Class of 2009 at West Orange High School epitomized this in its never-ending strive for success. A day in the life of our Class of '09 consisted of far more than simple distinction in the classroom. Nothing shouted "West" more than the unbreakable relationships, the dancing, the music, all the unforgettable friends, and that certain spirit that roared deep within. From the groundbreaking clubs and extracurricular activities, to the engaging events, to achieving great heights outside of school, the Class of 2009 managed to incessantly excel and create memories that left an imprint on everyone within reach. Student Life resonated with the experiences that depicted our journey to where we stood. The brilliant occasions that summed up the Mountaineer experience were portrayed through the class's endeavors; memories that will forever live on showing us just how being ourselves truly allowed us to Stand Out.

STUDENT LIFE



—2009—

A time for catching up and anticipating the upcoming year, Grace Tirella and Jennifer Richardson try to get all of their stories into one morning at senior breakfast.



Destiny Umegbolu, Bernie Brice, and Marc Marcelin fill up to keep energized throughout the first school day of the year.



SENIOR BREAKFAST

A HEALTHY START TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

by: Cathia Tavares

Breakfast is the main meal of the day. It not only introduces food to a body that was starved of it for approximately eight hours, but also gets the day going to a wonderful start. A fifth of students in today's society do not eat breakfast every morning and thus suffer long term problems. Eating breakfast not only aids in weight management, but fuels the body to help provide energy, better concentration and problem-solving abilities throughout the day. The students of West Orange High School did not need to worry about these health effects. The summer was finally over; it was time to leave the Jersey shore and the hot vacation spots and pick up those pens and pencils for one last year at WOHS. Typical was hardly the word used to describe the first day back in the doors of the school. The cafeteria buzzed with the life and excitement of the senior class back in school and with their fellow peers. Students laughed, took pictures, and consumed their breakfasts eagerly. Students purchased their '09 jerseys and sweatshirts and showed off how proud they were to be part of the WOHS Class of 2009. Senior year was ahead and it seemed to only be getting better with time. High school was said to be the best years of a person's life and senior year was supposed to be the most memorable. There was no doubt in the minds of the members of the Class of 2009 that their senior year started out with a bang!



Briana Gaines, Danielle Conte, and Danielle McCall look refreshed after a summer of rest and relaxation.



Who says summer vacation is the best time of year? Best friends Valeria Perez and Nirali Patel are thrilled that senior year is beginning.

ROARINGFANS

Mark Pierre and Erik Rivera are ecstatic when the football team scores a touchdown.



Seniors can barely stay in their seats, as the football game against Wayne Valley gets intense.

Russ Thompson, Eric Hernandez, David Stolz, and Troy Landsberg spell out WEST to get the fans pumped up.



A LASTING TRADITION

by: Briana Pisauro

The Roman Coliseum has been a timeless monument to fans present and past for ages. A tremendous stadium, the Coliseum held around 55,000 spectators in its four above ground storeys. It was the largest, and possibly most popular, building of its era. The most prominent, wealthy men got seats closest to the center, while the poor and women received seats in the uppermost rows of the arena. The Coliseum was used by emperors to entertain the public with free games as well as to increase their popularity. The games were seen as signs of prestige and power, and could last anywhere from one day to several days. The games would usually start with comical acts and progress into displays of various exotic animals. The main attraction and finale was always a fight to the death between gladiators or between animals and gladiators. The fighters were usually slaves, convicted criminals, or prisoners of war. The roar of the fans was deafening as they cheered on their favored party. It was a source of entertainment in which everyone could participate. Although an earthquake in 847 A.D. destroyed the southern side of the Coliseum, the shouts and support from the fans could be echoed through the voices of the WOHS fans. The dedication, spirit, and passion found within the school's fans was unmatched by any other. Our fans were a symbol that competition and pride would always captivate hearts and provide a drive unlike anything else.



Dominic DePasquale, Anthony Casalino and Ryan Mulligan countdown the buzzer as a hockey game comes to an end.



Keren Baruch gets caught off guard as she navigates back to her seat in the stands.



Evelyn Gutierrez, Troy Davis, and Katherinne Avila can't hide their joy as Moises Vasquez pins his opponent.





JUNIOR PROM

A STARRY STARRY NIGHT

Neil Savalia has *boss-like* characteristics in his fresh tux.

by: Kristina Victoratos

As the members of the Class of 2009 changed, so did the fashion trends; consequently, we became more open-minded. Prom 2008 was a perfect combination of Hollywood inspired glamour accented with personal style. The Class of 2009 sported formal wear full of dazzling details, and vivacious color. Nature served as a big inspiration in 2008's prom scene, with spring colors and jewel tones being most prevalent. Subtle colors such as rose pink, sage green and deep lavender composed some of the season's hottest dresses. Metallics were new to the prom scene but did not overpower the classics like black and white suits and dresses.

This year, shoes were a mere compliment to an outfit, instead of an alluring show of their own. Heels were moderate to high with a thinner curvier stiletto as opposed to the clogs of yesteryear. Corsages and shoes were mere accents to one's attire, not an accessory that stole the show. Brighter dresses called for more delicate simple flowers, as more simple dresses were accented with brighter flowers such as a red or yellow rose. As for jewelry, little to none was spotted on the necks or wrists of the members of West Orange Class of 2009. Pendants and matching earrings as well as bracelets or rings were in, but 2008 was not a year for broaches, large necklaces, or wristwatches. Playful styling of the hair was most certainly in fashion this past year; hair was based on our discretion, which yielded, for the most part, soft curls and simple updo's. Matching from head to toe was a common theme; guys as well as girls exemplified this trend with matching their purses to their shoes to even the tiniest of other accessories.

When asked for one word to describe our Junior Prom, without thought, Krystal Steinik blurted, "Bold." 2008 Junior Prom was a non-conformist night to express our tastes and put our best faces forward, and we truly did so.



One of the most anticipated events of Prom is the pre prom party and it is certain Katerina Athanasiou, Kayla [name obscured] and Erynthia Christiano have mastered the important skill of the pre prom party. Arms up Ladies!

Move over *Dancing with the Stars*, Brianna Belgrave and Naima Barnes have Mr. Ianucci.



Russell Thompson, with his brother as MC, hosts a night of fun, while the band Shredz and the DJ keep the party going.

RELAYFORLIFE®



Clockwise from top: Once the event was brought inside due to harsh weather conditions, the crew gathers together for one final commemoration. As the opening ceremony begins, balloons are raised to signify hope. Dancing is one of the many activities used to capture the Cha-Cha spirit of the night.



Clockwise from left: On the turf, the crowd listens to empowering speeches from survivors and their family members. Alyssa Douglas inspires the crowd with her motivational story of fighting cancer. Relay for Life® flags represent all those who lost battles with cancer.



WALKING WITH A PURPOSE

by: Katerina Athanasiou

According to the American Cancer Society, Greek physician Hippocrates, the "Father of Medicine," used *carcinos* and *carcinoma* to describe non-ulcer forming and ulcer-forming tumors. These words mean "crab" in Greek and were probably applied "because the finger-like spreading projections from a cancer called to mind the shape of a crab." During the Renaissance Era, Italian scientist Giovanni Morgagni performed autopsies to relate a patient's conditions to the post-death pathological discoveries; Morgagni's thoughts paved the road for the study of cancer, oncology. The largest strides in cancer research came along in the 19th century. Along with the birth of the modern microscope came Rudolf Virchow's concepts that backed the modern pathological study of cancer. With a better understanding of cancer's detrimental effects came the development of cancer surgery and tumor removal's success.

The progress of cancer's study brought upon a multitude of theories as well. Hippocrates' humoral theory believed the body contained four humors (body fluids): blood, phlegm, yellow bile, and black biles, and that an excess of those biles meant that cancer was present. His thoughts were unchallenged for over 1300 years because religious beliefs limited researchers. During the 17th and 18th centuries, many even thought cancer was contagious. Stahl and Hofman's lymph theory stated that cancer caused fermenting and failing lymph, which was disproved by Johannes Muller's Blastema Theory of 1838. This showed cancer to be made of cells. Although a variety of medical advances were made, from the 1800s-1920s, many believed cancer to be due to trauma.

Nearly ten years into the 21st century, scientists are discovering, and inventing the most incredible cancer-related achievements ever. Through the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life®, an overnight event that raises funds for cancer research, hosted at West Orange High School on Friday, June 21st, 2008, students spent their time and energy to contribute. Final exams concluded, the last bell of the 2008 school year sounded, summer began, and the Class of 2009 started their senior year. After a busy and often stressful junior year, the class came together around a worthwhile cause: Relay for Life®. The first day of summer vacation was spent planning for a night filled with friends, laughter, and most importantly, support. While divided into teams, Relay for Life® unified '09 like nothing else. The costumes worn, laps walked, conversations exchanged were few of many aspects that made 2008's Relay special. Although rain and lightning attempted to dampen the optimistic atmosphere, the new seniors kept their spirits up. Even when moved indoors, students of every social circle found company in familiar faces and tunes. Relay for Life® marked the beginning of the end and set the tone for a memorable senior year.

Julian Landsberg gets ready to swing while Corey Madden hopes for a strike.



After a fun morning, Junia Milfort, Bianca Carreras, Jeffrey Lopez and Nnena Nwafor refuel to get back to the dance floor.



Daniel Fritz and Anthony Anello watch the senior boys go against the football team in a game of Tug-of-War.



SENIOR PICNIC

A DAY AT THE PARK

by: Marion Tanis

The actual meaning of Tug-of-War was pretty vague until the 19th century. The Oxford English Dictionary defines it as: "the decisive contest; the real struggle or tussle, a severe contest for supremacy." Legend has it that the sun and moon play Tug-of-War over the light and darkness. There were also stories of Viking Champions that circulated early Western Europe. The Vikings actually pulled animal skins over open pits to test their strength and endurance in preparation for battle. Later in human history, seamen would have competitions while they pulled ropes to tighten sails of their ships. The contest of pulling rope has been used in history for religious rituals, cultural traditions, and plain old fun. At the 2009 senior picnic, we made it clear that fun was on everyone's mind... before and after the game of Tug-of-War. It was a day that seniors waited for since freshman year. Imagine— an entire day where seniors were excused from all classes to attend a seven-hour pow-wow with fellow classmates and teachers. But as is commonly said, pictures speak louder than words, so take some time and enjoy the moments captured as much as the 2009 senior class did.



Maya Khandker lets loose on the jungle gym.



Tug-of-War is the main event of the picnic. It's a classic clash of the sexes.

Hannah Bielecke cannot wait to "Punch Buggy" her friends on the way home from school.



SENIOR RIDES

PRICES KEEP RISING, BUT WE KEEP DRIVING...

by: Russ Thompson

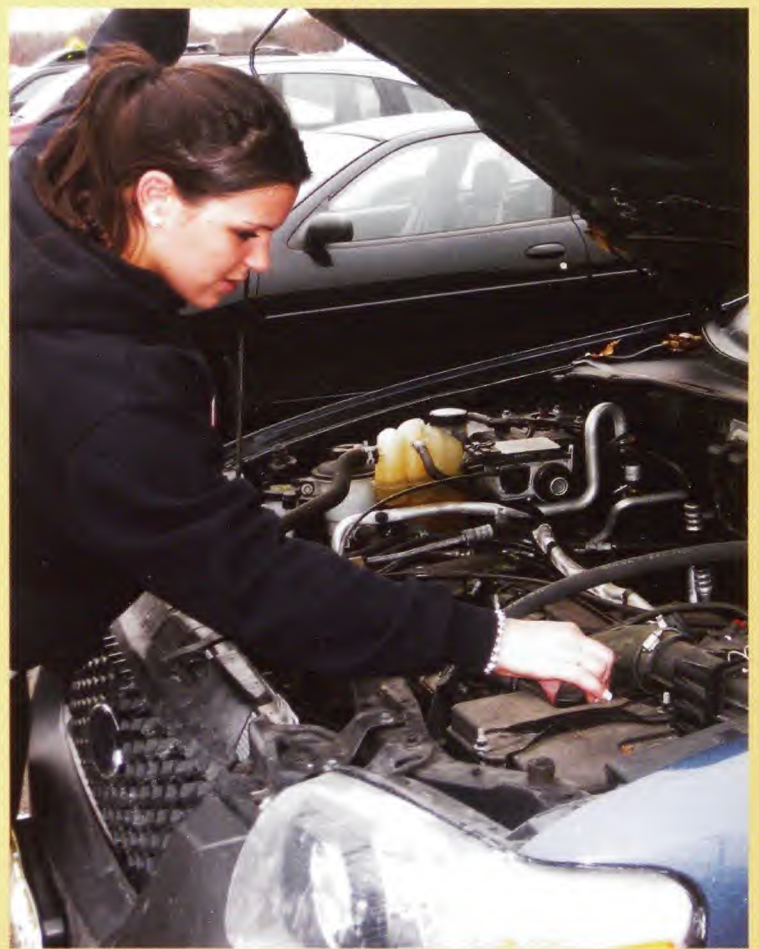
The price of gasoline in 2008 reached an all-time high. According to the motorist organization AAA, the national average retail price for gas rose from about \$1.50 a gallon to \$3.279 a gallon. The pricing of gasoline results from factors such as crude oil prices, processing and distribution costs, local demand, the strength of local currencies, and the availability of local sources of gasoline. Since fuels are traded worldwide, gas trading prices remain similar. The price paid by consumers largely reflects national pricing policy. Some regions, such as Europe and Japan, impose high taxes on gasoline; others, such as Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, substitute the cost. Western countries have among the highest usage rates of gasoline per person. However, the largest consumer of gasoline in the world, the United States, used an average of 386 million US gallons of gasoline per day in 2008.

On the brink of a gasoline price hike unknown to the world, the Class of 2009's students were left stranded between a rock and a hard place when it came to filling up the gas tank. In 2008, a report by Cambridge Energy Research Associates stated that 2007 was the year of peak gasoline usage in the United States, and that record energy prices would cause an "enduring shift" in energy consumption practices. According to the report, gas consumption in April 2008 was lower than a year before for the sixth straight month, suggesting 2008 would be the first year US gasoline usage declined in 17 years. Although gas prices seemed to slowly decline, they were still a large burden for WOHS students. Many students did not have jobs, or if they did, they were low paying. However, that hardly held them back. Hundreds of students still put their foot to the pedal, with no intention of stopping - no matter the cost.

From top: Travis China decorates his car in West colors. Michelle Antunes loves how red her car looks with a fresh sprinkling of white snow.



Samantha Formica is perplexed by the inner workings of her engine.



Cindy Amilcar doesn't care how cold it is; she could sunbathe for hours.

SPIRITWEEK

GOT SPIRIT?

by: Katerina Athanasiou

The United States of America felt like the Divided States of America in 2009. With young soldiers dying abroad, the stock market crashing, and a declining approval rate of President George W. Bush, it seemed our country was in desperate need of a unifying force. Just as the USA felt rather unpatriotic, West Orange High School seemed to be lacking school spirit. So we wondered, did our country's social state relate directly to the pride or lack there of within our school? The 2009 Senior Class Council attempted to gather the diverse students that compose '09 through Spirit Week. The four-day event was meant to be a celebration of creativity, fun, and most importantly, seniority. With quirky days like "80s Day" and "Geek Day," the grade dressed up and created a more light hearted environment to the typically mundane school day. But on the week of October 6th few participated. We asked, "Why"? What prevented students of West Orange High, a place filled with so much talent and so many incredible programs, from showing a little love for their school? Many hypothesized that our town's cultural, religious, and socioeconomic diversity made it difficult to unify WOHS, but some outstanding students proved otherwise.



Gregory White and Charles Barber can't stop singing Run DMC's lines, "We make a good team my Adidas and me."



After a Geek Day spent as Urkel, Charwin VanryckDegroot can't help asking, "Did I do that?"



Krystal Steinik presents the obvious while sporting the 09 Jersey.



Amy Huynh and Sujin Cho can pass as conjoined twins.

Marianne Casas, Ashley Almario, Shona Ritchwood, strike a throwback pose imitating the 80s era.



Do lumberjacks Kimberly Weston and Lucy Zipf want to join Fight for Green?

SPIRIT WEEK [THEMES]

DAY 1:

TWINS

DAY 2:

80's DAY

DAY 3:

GEEKS

DAY 4:

WOHS SPIRIT

Troy and Julian Landsberg take a break from sibling rivalry, but don't let them fool you.



Although they flash different smiles, Alyssa and Shaquan Douglas exude the same happiness with their twin-like dimples.



TWINS OF 2009

TWO OF A KIND

by: Alyssa Ringel



Miklos and Jenna Laszlo may not be identical, but their smiles are pretty close.

Roaming around the halls of West Orange High School, you might remember seeing double. Your eyes were not fooling you; there were seven pairs of twins in the Class of 2009. Being a twin is a win-win situation. Just ask Miklos Laszlo, who lives by his favorite saying, "You can't spell twin without win." He loved the fact that he and his twin sister Jenna got all the joy of having that special twin relationship. The twins in the Class of 2009 had bonds that were hard to ignore and were easy to see in our class. Of course, twins also want their individuality. To maintain their own lives, they find different interests that they can love by themselves. Fraternal twin Samantha Ringel said, "Alyssa and I are totally different. Although our mother had us doing the same things when we were younger, we eventually figured out what we liked the most by ourselves, and I think that's what defines us. Our friends can't think of us any other way."

It has been said that good things come in pairs. In the senior class of WOHS, that concept holds true. The twins in our class definitely helped make us unforgettable.

Sirena and Devona Harris are bringing the twin flavor to the open seas.



Dominique and Azia Lark don't mind spending time together at home or at school.



Nnena and Ngozi Nwafor do not need a mirror; they have each other.



Alyssa and Samantha Ringel may have been conjoined at the head... not anymore.

THE 2008 PRESIDE



Former Delaware Senator, Joe Biden, was elected Vice-President on November 4, 2008.

Former Senator of Illinois, the 44th President, Barack Obama.



The Obama-Biden sign sporting the same color scheme as WOHS, can be seen everywhere.



1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: the most famous address in the US.

by: Marion Tanis

The 2008 Presidential election was a landmark moment in United States history. Regardless of political belief, the issues that faced the future president were vast and incomparable to those of the 43 presidents prior. Both candidates would make history if elected into office. John McCain chose a controversial female running mate to serve as vice president and Barack Obama would become the first black president of the United States.

NTIAL ELECTION

Arizona Senator, John McCain.



Sarah Palin, Governor of Alaska and former Republican Vice-Presidential candidate, really shook things up for the McCain campaign.



New Jersey went to Obama, but McCain-Palin signs could still be seen in the yards of NJ Republicans.

The 2008 election also received the greatest amount of media coverage and analysis in history. At any given moment at least one of the candidates was the topic of discussion of every major news network. The voter turnout also reached a never before seen high. As a result, there were astronomical wait lines at major polling locations. But the American people were determined for change and made their voices heard louder than ever before.



HOMEcoming

THE COURT of 2009



Shamoy Harriott escorted
by De-Mario Joseph



Renee Newell escorted by
Khaleel Ford



Man-Chit Kwok escorted by
Gwendolyn Abreu



Kenny Philistin escorted by
Kimberly Francois



Newly crowned King and Queen, Paul Lombardo and Halima Williams enjoy the luxury of royalty as they greet their adoring fans in a victory lap around the track.



Latrece McKenzie and Quiana Finley give their feet a break after a night of dancing at the 2008 Homecoming Dance.

WELCOME BACK, WEST!

by: Cathia Tavares

West Orange High School was composed of 2,000 students— all from different socioeconomic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Every day, students following divergent paths came together under one roof to learn, grow, and develop into influential members of society. The eclectic mix of individuals and ideas made our community an exciting place to grow up. Annually, the Homecoming game unified our diverse hometown. Parents, former and current students, as well as teachers came together to enjoy an afternoon of football together.

Through cheering, laughing, and supporting West Football and Cheerleading during the 2008 season, camaraderie was formed. But of course, a Homecoming Game was incomplete without the crowning of a king and queen. The nominees for the Class of 2009 Queen were Halima Williams, Shamoy Harriott, and Renee Newell. The nominees for King was Paul Lombardo, Man-Chit Kwok, and Kenny Philistin. As halftime came slowly during the intense game of football against Westside High School, everybody waited in anticipation on that bright October afternoon. Finally, Paul Lombardo was crowned King and Halima Williams was crowned Queen. Smiles and flashing cameras exploded in the crowds as the new members of West Orange royalty took a lap around the track. As always, an incredible atmosphere brought our town together with a new Homecoming King and Queen as well as a victory for the football team.



Elijah Duplessis and Sasha Mars bring a little Hollywood to the dance.



Mardochee Louis
resists taking a bite
of the colorful cake
he's decorating at
Supreme Bakery.



Katherine McDonald
greete eager
Mountaineer Hockey
fans at *Richard Codey's
South Mountain Arena*.

WORKING SENIORS

MONEY MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND

by: Michelle Gonzalez

One typical component of the average high school student was without a doubt the “part-time job.” We spent a few bucks here and a few bucks there, but in the end, it all certainly added up. When not in class, attending meetings, or playing sports, many students were found around town, allotting every spare hour to an occupation. From babysitting to baking and pizza delivering to caddying, the possibilities were endless. However, there was one prevalent theme seen throughout WOHS students’ occupation choices; we love to work with food.

A common job associated with teenagers and young adults is a pizza delivery boy. The students at West Orange High School took it one step further, however, landing jobs at bakeries and ice cream parlors. Students moved from just delivering food to actually making it themselves. Victoria Rivas got to make cookies and pastries during her shifts at Gimmee Jimmy’s Cookie Bar, something very few teenagers get paid to do. “I love being able to decorate the cupcakes,” she said, “It relieves some of the stress of work and allows the employees to have a little fun.” Gimmee Jimmy’s was not the only bakery around, though. Supreme Bakery was located in our very own town and hosted quite a few WOHS employees. Another West Orange favorite, Mark and Julie’s Homemade Ice Cream, always housed at least a few student employees. You could be sure to see a familiar face every time you entered the ice cream parlor. Our love of food didn’t end in the cafeteria; it was something we carried with us wherever we went, even to our jobs.



A scoop for you, a scoop for me is Michael Lazar’s policy when working at Mark and Julie’s Homemade Ice Cream.



At a My-Gym for Kids, Marion Tanis jots down the contact information of a potential member during a weekend class.

SENIORS ABROAD

Nolan King feels right at home in the ruins of an ancient Sicilian Temple.



Elise Powers takes a break from walking to see how far she has come on the Great Wall of China.



American fruit will never taste the same to Suzanne Steinhart after tasting all of the fresh, ripe, and juicy fruits of Brazil.

Thanks to the Italian Club, Shane Mershon, Anthony Anello, Corey Madden, Sean Weng, Rachel Weinstein, Kristina Victoratos, Josie Quinn, and Charlotte Hamilton take a breather in the Coliseum after an eventful tour of Rome during their sophomore year.



Emily Carlson or James Joyce; who can tell the difference?

AROUND THE WORLD AND BACK AGAIN—

by: Michelle Gonzalez

Traveling abroad to embrace the food, customs, and culture of a foreign country is an invigorating experience. The memories and lessons gained from traveling are unforgettable treasures. Sophomore year, a group of students traveled with the Italian Club to Italy for a Spring Break extravaganza.

The ten day trip began at the end of April and was certainly a vacation to remember. Some students took their first plane rides as others experienced their first European excursion, but all were ecstatic and overwhelmed with positivity. The vacation was ultimately a picture perfect escape. The students were given freedom to capture the essence of Italy at their own discretion. Starting in Rome, the group traveled southbound to Capri and Naples and then headed up north to Florence, Sorrento and Venice, making their final departure back to America from Milan. They were introduced to the scenic and historic architecture, rich culture, and of course, the delicious cuisine of Italy. Rachel Weinstein said, "Italy was a life-changing experience with some of my closest friends. I will never forget it." The Italian escapade is one often brought up amongst the gallivanterers who were fortunate enough to tour a European country.

Clockwise from top: Creature announces his plan to create a dominant race with his mate after she is created. Dr. Frankenstein looks on, horrified. Creature talks about one of his experiences after his expulsion during one of his many monologues. In a dream sequence, Elizabeth and the mate discuss what will happen to the world if Victor does not marry Elizabeth.



FRANKENSTEIN

IT'S ALIVE!

by: Krystal Steinik

One of the first events of the West Orange High School school year is auditions for the fall play. Every year, the drama department alternates between putting a drama or a comedy on the stage in the fall and this year the drama *Frankenstein* was the play of choice. The play is based on Mary Shelley's novel of the same name which is read in sophomore English classes. Over the course of the story, Victor Frankenstein creates a being from old body parts and brings it to life. Horrified by what he does, Frankenstein rejects the being he creates, which drives the creature to do horrible deeds motivated by its solitude and hatred. After the nerve-wracking auditions process, which included callbacks to ensure the right people were cast in the correct roles, seniors James Huryk and Ashley Fredette were cast in leading roles as the Creature and Elizabeth. Other seniors and underclassmen made up the rest of the cast, with sophomore Marios Athanasiou playing the lead role of Victor Frankenstein. A stage crew was put together as well, with Shalin Durai-Selvam heading things up as stage manager. With a small cast that totaled six people and the daily rehearsals that often ran until after the last late bus departed, a lot of progress was quickly made towards making the play amazing. According to Ashley Fredette, "It took a lot of our time and a lot of effort but we all had a ton of fun doing it. We all got along because we've known each other for years and it was always easy to work with everyone in the cast." This sense of camaraderie shared by the cast and crew made it easy for them to put on a production of which they could be proud, as well as something spooky just in time for their Halloween opening night. Clearly, at West Orange High School, the students in the Drama Club productions stand together to Stand Out.



Clockwise from top left: The cast takes a bow after a successful rendition of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The creature mourns after the death of his maker. The cast and crew of *Frankenstein*. Elizabeth confronts Victor after not seeing or hearing from him for months.



Academic Quiz Team



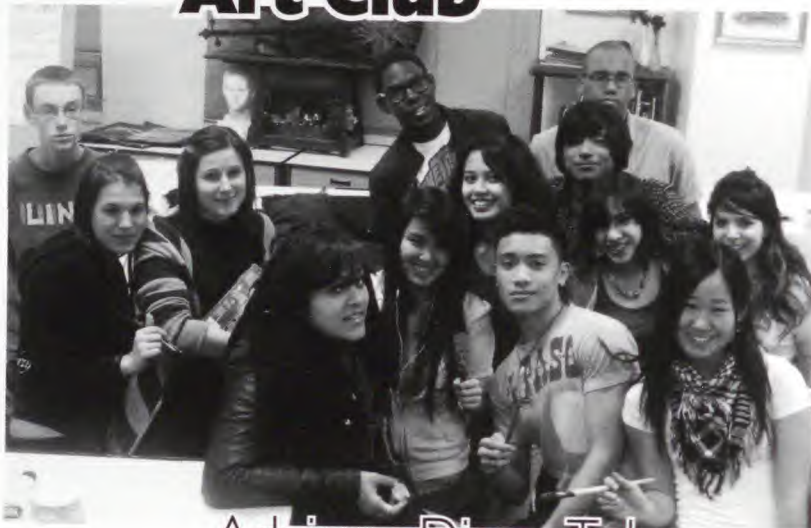
Advisor: Elizabeth Manning

Anime Club



Advisor: Anthony Prasa

Art Club



Advisor: Diane Tol

Boys Step Team



Advisor: William Farley

Chefs Club



Advisors: Nancy Donnelly & Susan Marshall

Chess Club



Advisor: Ara Berberian

Chinese Club



Advisor: Eileen Quirk

Current Events Club



Advisor: Brad Mitchell

Design Technology Club



Advisor: John Worobetz

Drama Club



Advisor: Sandra Van Dyke

Drill Team

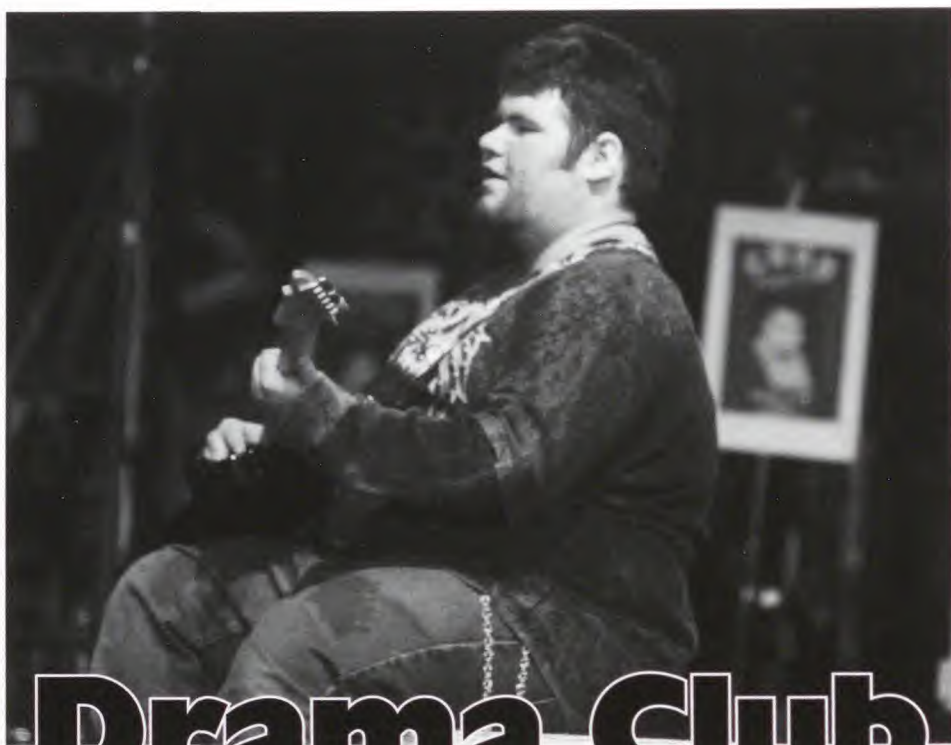


Advisors: Purvi Patel & Leslie Chung

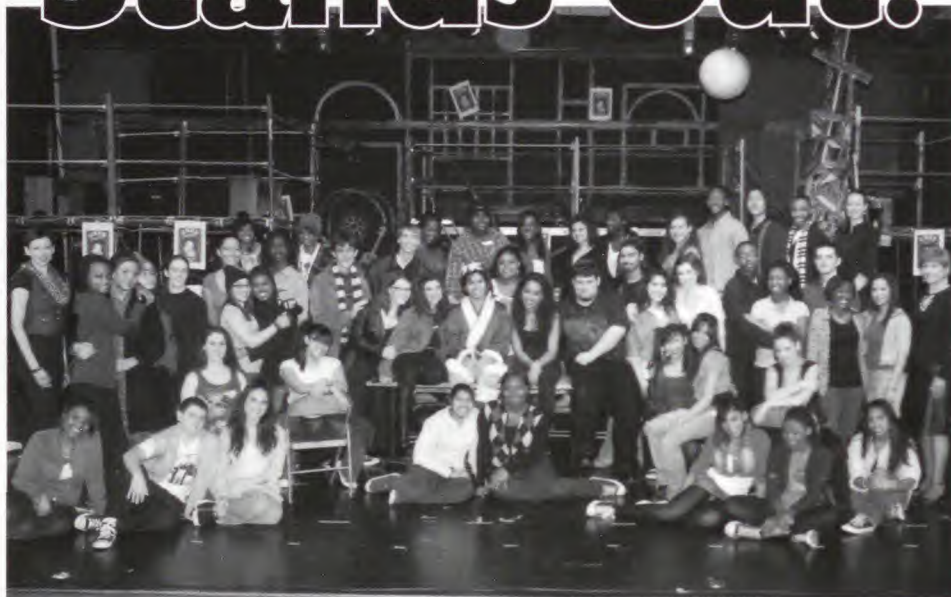
ESL Club



Advisor: Linda Ozarow



Drama Club Stands Out:



by: Katerina Athanasiou

Each year, the actors of West Orange High School live in the auditorium for months to put on an incredible show. At some points, scenes are nightmares and cues are missed, but everything comes together. For some reason, opening night is often filled solely with extended family of the cast and crew. Never has our community come together for the arts in such a momentous way as it did at *Rent*. There was a buzz around school; freshman and seniors alike were running into lunch to purchase tickets. The attention warranted by the event was well deserved. Everything from lighting to choreography was truly excellent. Even the pit was interwoven into the scenery, which was designed by the art department this year. TV36's Matt Stryker even put together a small film (an integral part of the play), which was cleverly worked into the rest of the show. Our school was unified by this massive, challenging project. Finally, the talent of West Orange was appreciated. The palpable energy surrounding the musical was invigorating. In a town as diverse and colorful as West Orange, it is quite difficult to find things that everyone can enjoy. Whether it was the popularity of the musical or its catchy songs drawing large crowds, *Rent* did much more than entertain audiences.

RENT



FCCLA



Advisor: Dora Wong-Macias

Fight for Green



Advisors: Tracey Reynolds
& Sonia Lauren

French Club



Advisor: Parnell Beaubrun

French Sale Club



Advisor: Dana Peart

Freshman Class Council



Advisors: Maria Montgomery
& Susan Whitty

Future Business Leaders of America



Advisor: Victor Paglio, Jr.

Future Educators of America



Advisors: Jessica Tybursky
& Frank Ianucci

Health Careers Club



Advisor: Debra Franek

Interact Club



Advisor: Lori Bollotta

Italian Club



Advisor: Vincenza Amabile

Jazz Band



Advisors: Lewis Kelly &
Lisa Martin

Jubilee Show Choir



Advisor: William Farley

Fight For Green Stands Out

FFG "Greens" WOHS

by: Alyssa Ringel

Fight for Green is truly a club of the future. It was started three years ago by Junior Reed Alvarado and is currently the largest club in the school with a grand total of 110 members. He wanted to start the club after seeing so many opportunities in our school to recycle and help save the environment. Joining with advisor Tracey Reynolds, Alvarado gathered friends and other environmentalists in order to "green" West Orange High School. The club's most prominent achievement is getting paper recycling bins in each classroom, which are then picked up every Friday by members in the club. This recycling program was developed in under a year and was recognized by the town newspaper. The club is also proud of the saplings they planted last year. Alvarado says, "FFG is a young and determined club and we're only going to do more. Watch out Mother Nature, here we come." In the future, the club plans on getting the entire school involved with projects and making earth day every day. They would even like to start a composting garden and get solar power for the school. The club is definitely going places and is getting positive recognition all over WOHS.



Junior Class Council



Advisors: Lauren Feehan
& Michelle Morais

Junior State of America



Advisors: Hope Thomas
& William Bradley

Key Club



Advisors: Chelsea Lauer
& Bryan Ribardo

Literary Magazine *Cobblestone*



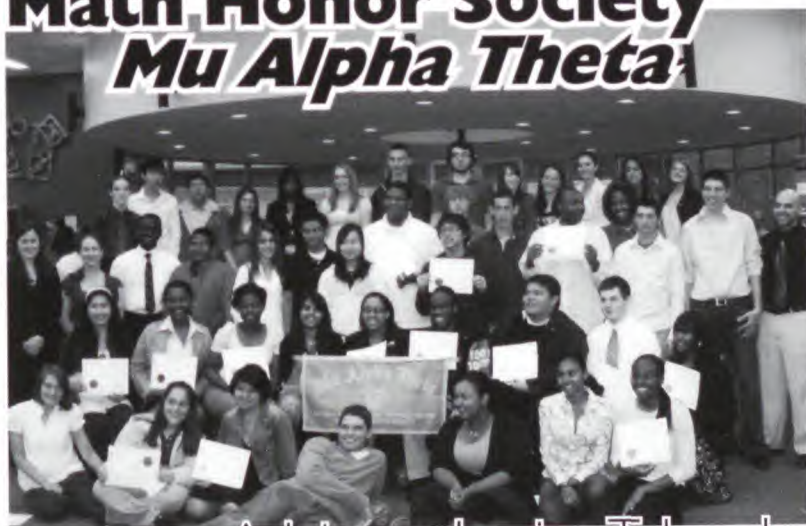
Advisors: Katie Baran &
Anthony Prasa

Yearbook





Math Honor Society *Mu Alpha Theta*



Advisors: Jessica Tybursky
& Frank Iannucci

Mock Trial



Advisor: Julie Brady

Cobblestone Stands Out:

by: Briana Pisauro

West Orange High School's literary magazine, *Cobblestone*, was a colorful expression of the creativity that existed within the building. Students came together in an attempt to express themselves and share their thoughts with those around them. The club set a great example of bringing the school together as both members and non-members were able to submit their work for consideration into the magazine.

This inventive club allowed students to reach out beyond the creative restrictions of a classroom and get out what they really felt and wanted to say. *Cobblestone* was able to branch out from being just a magazine, as well. Each year Cobblestone Café was held in the new cafeteria allowing the club to expand from just words and pictures on paper to live music and presentations.

For the 2009 presentation, Cobblestone Café showcased plenty of known, and unknown, talent that had been lurking through the halls of WOHS for the past four years of our high school career. Hosts Claire Rementilla and Alexandra Mason started the event off with a warm introduction to the crowd. Musical acts by seniors such as Rhema Boyo and Yoqueri Rodriguez sent a contagious rhythmic vibe throughout the cafeteria, while alternating poetry readings by students and teachers added to the atmosphere. The Drill Team kept the pace up with their upbeat moves adding a lot of energy to the event. No other activity at the high school was able to provide more insight into the real inner workings of the students at WOHS than Cobblestone Café. There is no representation more accurate of the teenagers that walked these halls than the words, music and images constructed from their own minds, thus making *Cobblestone* and its Café stand out.



Model Congress



Advisor: Douglas Drabik

Model UN



Advisor: Rachel Ostanski

Music Honor Society



Advisor: Erin McClure



National Honor Society



Advisors: Michelle Ehrlich
& Louis Pallante

Newspaper *The Pioneer*



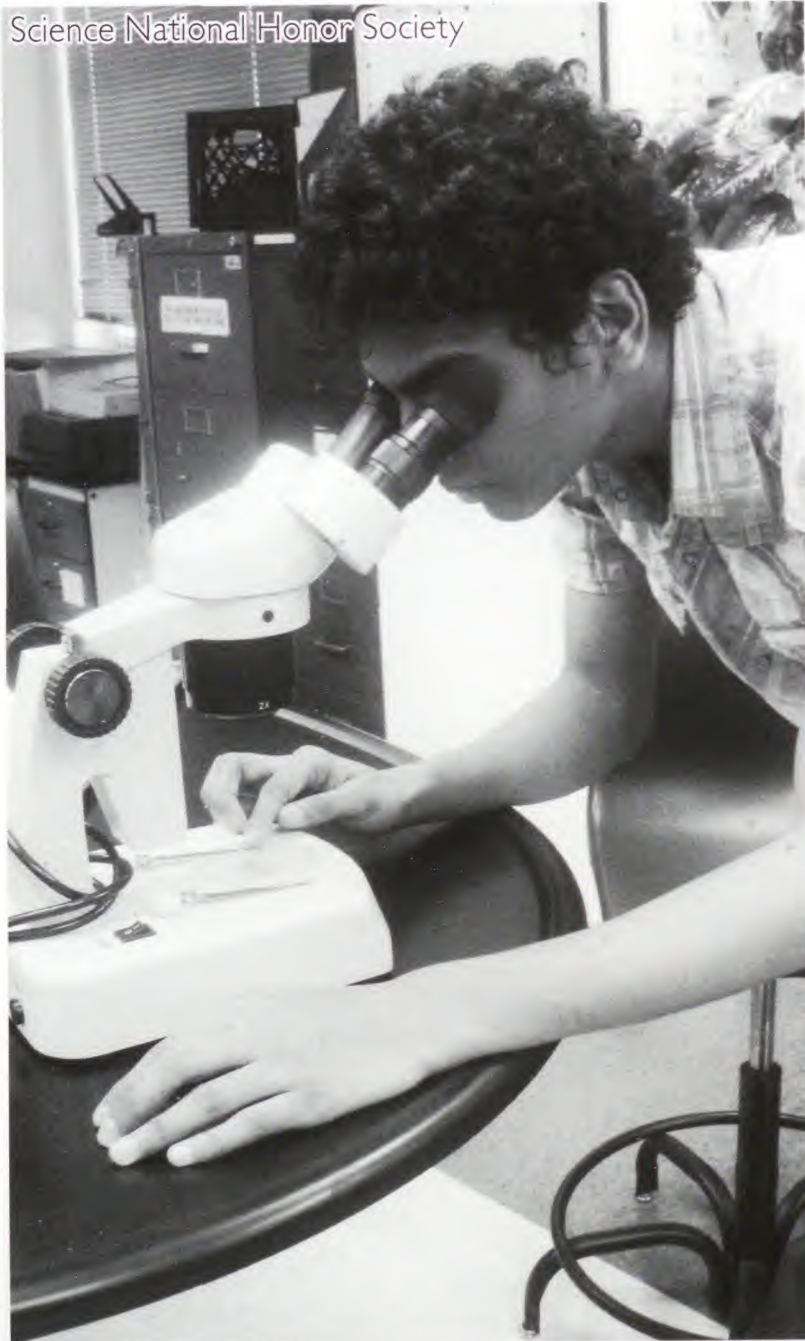
Advisors: William Ehrlich
& Megan Kiczek

Photography Club



Advisor: David Vodofsky

Science National Honor Society



Screen Writers Society





1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

Student Council: Senior Bowling



by: Michael Smithers

College applications and a plethora of school work are only two of the stresses on seniors. Seniors usually have a minimal time to just kick back, relax, and chill. Senior Bowling provided a place where the Class of 2009 could enjoy the company of their peers and take time off from stress. On the night of senior bowling, the seniors crowded Eagle Rock Lanes adorned in their various costumes. From cheap dates to the Wizard of Oz, the Class of 2009 took their themes seriously. Although gutter balls were plentiful, the seniors had fun just spending time and bonding with their peers. When the night came to end, the seniors were closer, and although it was not full of perfect games it was the perfect night.



Royal Strings



Advisor: Elena Peres

Science National Honor Society



Advisors: Sonia Laurení
& Ronald Brandt

Screenwriters Society



Advisor: William Bradley

Senior Class Council



Advisors: Loretta Holmok
& John Worobetz

Sophomore Class Council



Advisors: Michelle Ehrlich
& Shannon Russo

Spanish Club



Advisor: Carlos Perez

Spanish Honor Society



Advisor: Begoña Viqueria

Student Council



Advisor: David Vodofsky

Winter Guard Stands Out

Five, Six, Seven, Eight

by: Krystal Steinik

In the fall, the color guard works in cooperation with the marching band. However, as the days get colder, the group breaks out by themselves as the West Orange High School Winter Guard. This talented group of 15 girls practices Tuesday and Thursday evenings with an additional all day practice on Saturday. The Winter Guard also travels to competitions in the area on Saturday evenings. The Winter Guard, formed in 2004, has a successful history. They placed first in the Mid-Atlantic Indoor Network (MAIN) championships in 2006 and 2007. They also travel yearly to the Winter Guard International (WGI) championships in Dayton, Ohio where the group has met with triumph. They placed in the preliminaries in 2006 and the semifinals in 2007 in the Scholastic A division before placing third overall in 2008 for the Scholastic Open division, earning a promotion to the Scholastic World division. In 2009, the guard made it to the semifinals in the WGI championships in the Scholastic World division and came in first place in their division in the MAIN championships.

This year, led by captains Brittany Woods, Mersit Negash, and Shelby Cadet and coach Louis Hellinger the Winter Guard consistently places third in competitions in the area. The name of this season's show is "The Journey" and is based on the Chinese proverb, "The journey of a thousand miles starts with one step." The show represents the hardships of life and how a person can get through them. According to senior Delisia Morales, who joined the color guard in the winter of her freshman year, "Our show is serious. People don't delve into the seriousness and not as many of them clap because they don't understand it."

Some features of the show are a portion where dancers with rifles throw a toss and catch it in a plié while standing at the back of the floor and a section where a group of people with flags complete a complicated maneuver called a ripple five turnaround beneath a flourish port catch. The culmination of the show is when everyone comes together in the center of the floor. At this point, some people are tossing rifles while others are twirling flags and the rest of the guard is dancing. Everyone does this in close proximity to each other and, while it may look daunting and dangerous, it's no big deal for the Winter Guard. According to Morales, "Nobody in our class does the things we do." Obviously, originality is the West Orange High School Winter Guard's key to standing out.



Technology Student Association



Advisor: Anthony Prasa

Ultimate Frisbee Club



Advisor: Tom Gargiulo

Unity Club



Advisor: David Sehr

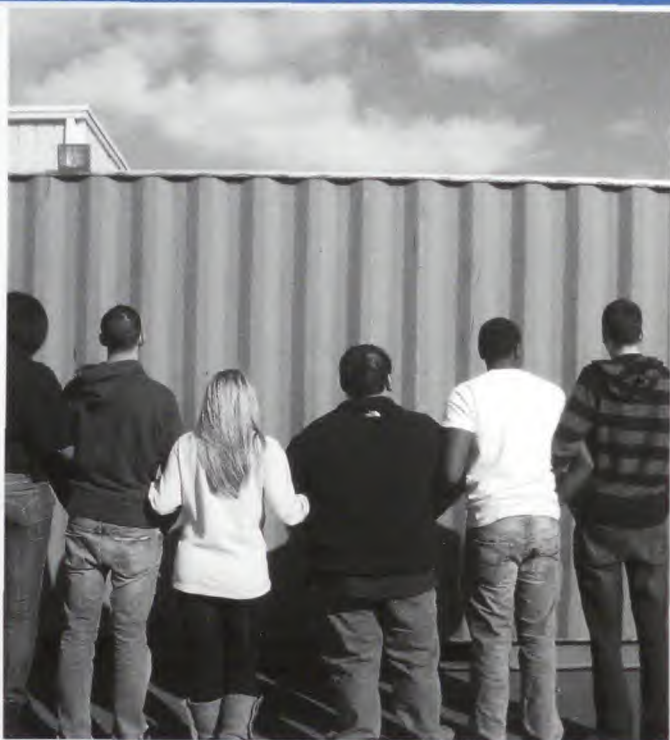
Yearbook



Advisor: Michelle Martino

Unity Club

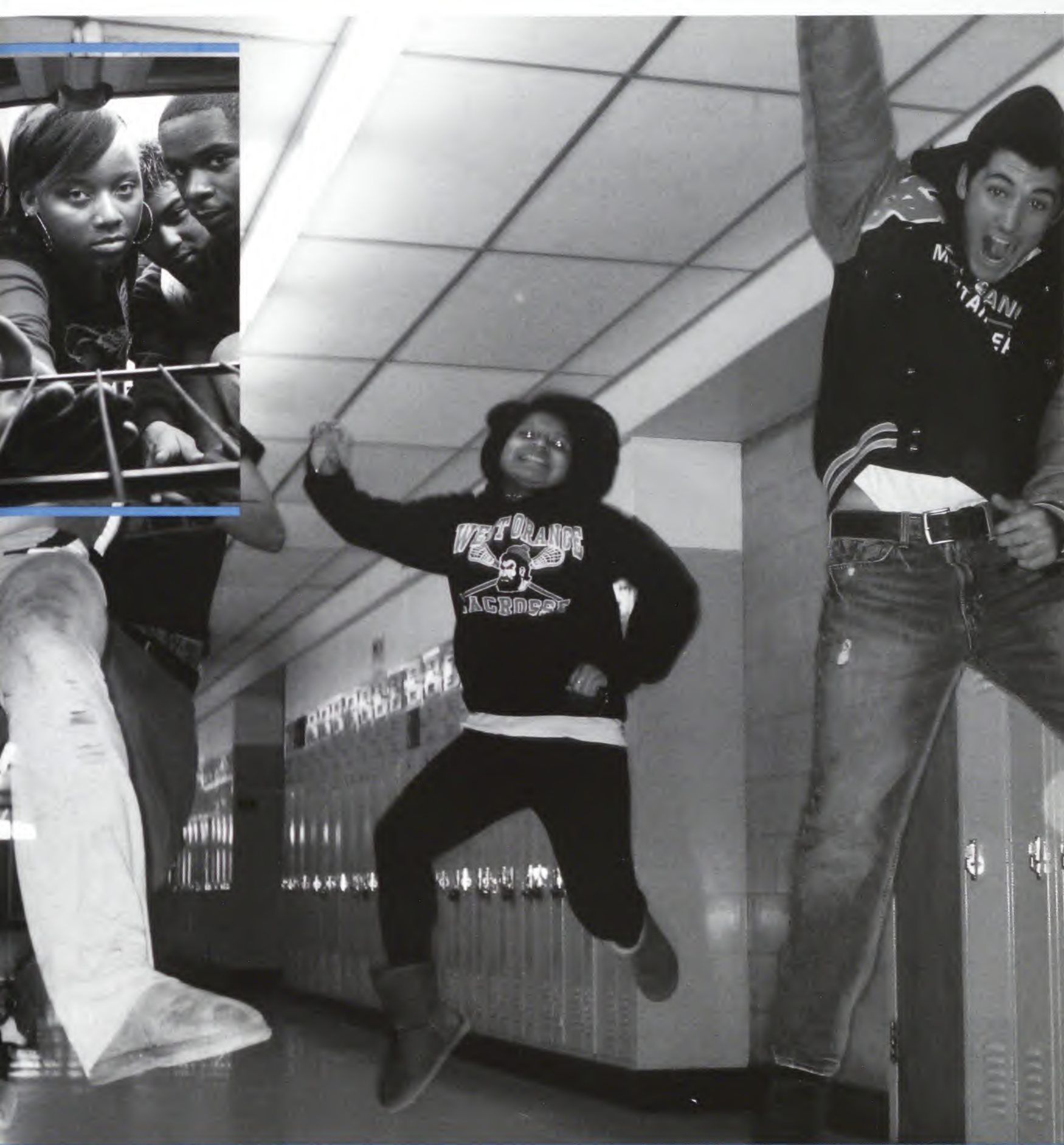




The
Stand
Out seniors of
2009 were nothing
short of remarkable.
With over 500 students, our
class made the halls of West Orange
High School come to life. We had such a
diverse mix of eminence among us that made
our class unforgettable. Where else could such
a myriad of potential be found? We reinvented what a
graduating class should be with our spirit and drive to prevail.
In true Class of 2009 fashion, all eyes were always on us, consistently
animating our four years of high school with excitement. The Class of
2009 will forever be highlighted in the history books of our school. Our
futures may not lead us back to WOHS but the salient imprint we left
on it will serve as our time capsule. No other class will ever out stand
the Class of 2009, the Stand Out class of West Orange High School.



WEST SENIORS



2009



Haseya
Abdoul-Karim



Heran Abiye



Berta Luz Abrego



Gwendolyn Abreu



Steven Aden



Shayna A. Agosto



Elizabeth Oluwatosin
Ajamu



Charles B. Alectus



Edmontz Alectus



Shaun E. Alli



Ashley N. Almario



Allis Patricia Althema



El Hussein M.
Aly Ahmed



Cindy Josephine
Amilcar



Anthony L. Anello



James Anthony
Anello



Elah Anin



Michelle Frutuoso
Antunes



Chinwe V. Anyaegbu



Ijeoma N. Anyanwu



Malcolm F.
Appiah-Adjei



Daniel J. Aquino



Deyvid Arango



Ore-oluwa O.
Araromi



Isabella Arenas



Elia Arias

*"Do not follow where the path
may lead. Go, instead, where there
is no path and leave a trail."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Roberto E. Arrojo



Aslie Z. Asberom



Katerina Athanasiou



Kayla Nicole
Attamante



Raymond Ausby



Kayon M. Austin



Katherinne
Karolina Avila



Samantha A. Bahia

Rhema Boyo



Jessica D. Bailey



Ralik Rajahn Bailey



Charles Irvin Barber



Marianna Barcelos



Naima Nefertari
Barnes



Carlos Andres
Barragan



Keren Kochava
Baruch



Benjamin Evan
Batchelder



Rider O. Becerra



Brianna Alicia
Belgrave



Shameek Tamaud
Benders



Kasendy Benjamin



Bonny Benny



Hannah R. Bielecke



Anthony Aaron
Biney-Amissah, Jr.



Edwin Josue Blas



Alice Boettinger



Sophie T.
Bonhomme



Dana S. Bowen



Latisha Boyd



Lavon Kia
Boykins-Jones



Rhema Boyo



Gloria Bozor



Gabrielle Josephine
Bravoco



Katlyn Dawn
Brennan



Bernie Brice

*"The future belongs to those
who believe in the beauty
of their dreams"*

-Eleanor Roosevelt



Mavis A. Britwum



Ayanna Jeanette
Brooks



Tarrique Brooks-Bey



Andrew A. Brown



Malcolm I. Brown



Nichole N. Brown

Aaron Handsman stands out in the Class of 2009:

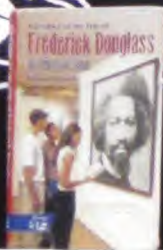
"Clever, Cunning and Cool"

by: Neil Savalia

No truer leader was known throughout West Orange High School than Aaron Handsman. His activism amongst the community, insightfulness and determination contribution to our school, but his extracurricular activities such as Key Club, contributing over four hundred hours of proved himself to be a unrivaled facet to

Others gave for the sake but Aaron's contributions were and he was a enjoyed from

served as the foundation of not only his scholarly widespread societal influence as well. Having been the head of Mock Trial, and Model Congress while still Aaron continually our community. of their resumes, always heartfelt genuine, as spirit who truly helping. Aside



Aaron's benevolent nature, Aaron's incredible sense of humor made him known to all. He had the ability to make others laugh at clever, witty remarks, constantly lightening the mood of any tough situation. This trait made him celebrated by all. When he walked down the halls, Aaron greeted all with an air of sincerity. Throughout his time at West Orange, Aaron rooted himself into every part of the community leaving a legacy that will be remembered forever.



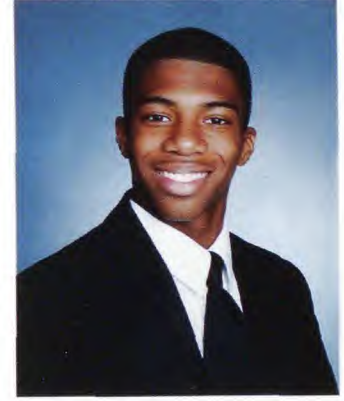
Roxanne G. Brucal



Madeline Brushkin



Shontel Burke-Clarke



James M. Burroughs



Lunique Fleura
Cadeau



Fritz-Gerald S. Cadet



Jefferson Cadet



Ketler E. Cajuste



Zoe Alice Camina



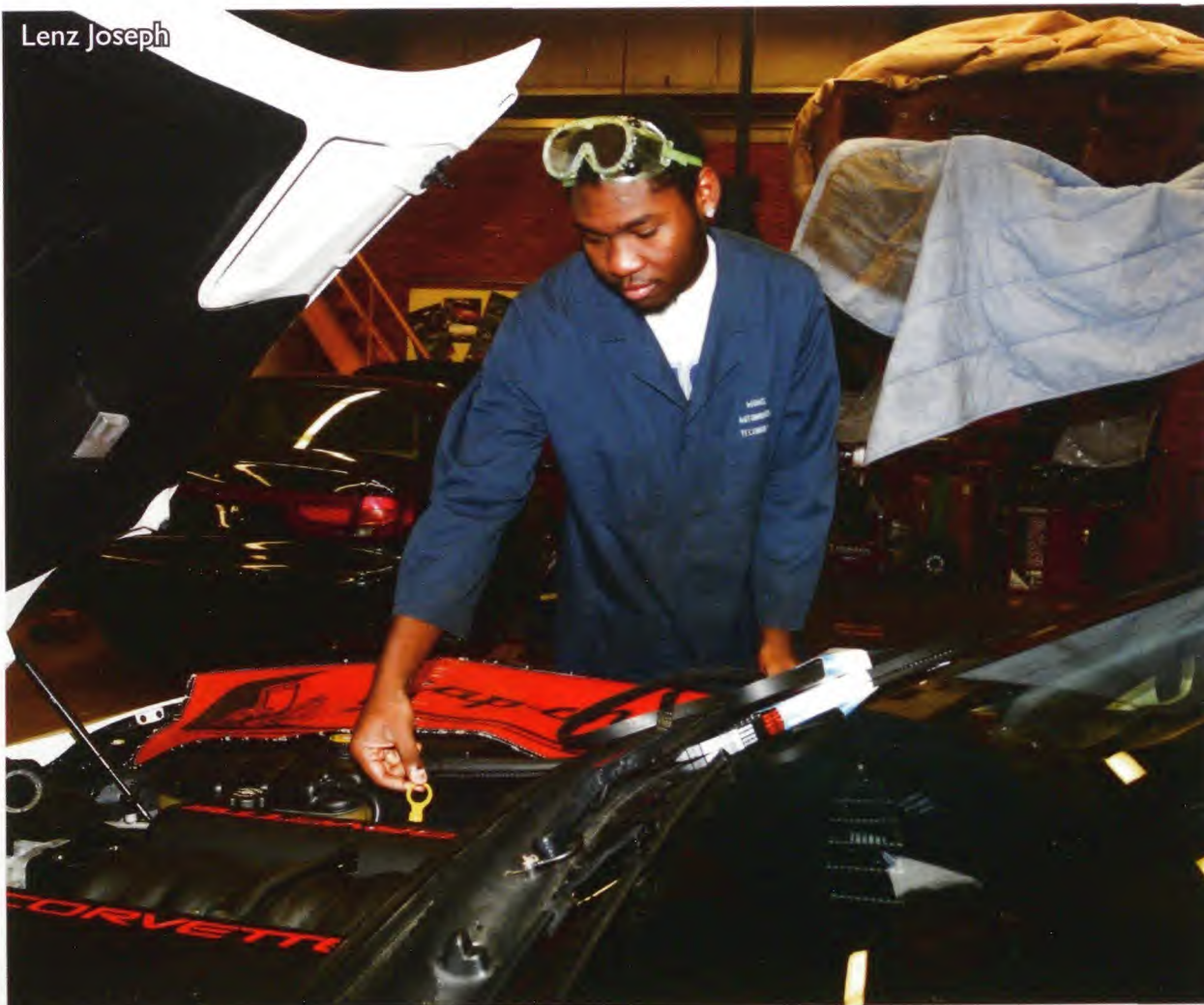
Frank R. Campbell



Javier A. Campiglia



Michael Joseph
Carchia



Lenz Joseph



Galo R. Carrillo



Emily Slattery
Carlson



Bianca Portia
Carreras



Mitch Fagan Carrette



Anthony Casalino



Marianne Casas



Carlos G. Castaneda



Carlos B. Castro



Daniel E. Castro



Alexis Cavallaro



Carl S. Celiny



Alex Cesario

What was your favorite part of
West Orange High School?

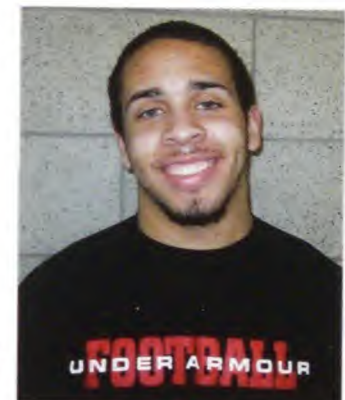
“ Meeting different
types of people ”

-Daniela Diaz



“ Football season ”

-Steven Singleton



Halima Williams Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"Miss Congeniality"

by: Samantha Formica

Halima Williams is often described by others as a genuine all around person. Her warm spirits are both shown in the halls as well as on the sidelines. Halima is class president, a member of both Future Educators of America & Future Business Leaders of America, as well as the Varsity Cheerleading captain. But her work does not end there.

Halima also works as a P.A.L. cheerleading coach and holds a part time job at Skate 22, not to mention she was the 2008 Homecoming Queen. How does she fit all of these activities into her schedule? She responded, "I'm not really sure how I balance all of my activities with my schoolwork to be honest, but somehow it all works out." She has an amazing ability to maintain a myraid of activites.



Halima's dedication and hardwork will lead her to be successful in the future.



Kareen Cham



Rebecca Champagne



Ralph Charles



Johana Charleston



Sarah Deena
Chauhan



Vanessa Cheron



Travis James China



Sujin C. Cho



Cynthia Ann
Christiano



Hsien-Wen Chu



Bendou Valerie Cijuste



Andrea Nicole Cito



Danielle Marie Conte



Joseph B. Cosentino



Anthony Cossio



Julianna da Silva



Maria A. Damte



Alexandria Allyssa
Daniels



Tabari G. Dargan



Adarra S. Davis



Alise A. Davis

*"Most of the shadows of this life are caused
by out standing in our own sunshine."*

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



Rita Grunberg



Briana Marie Davis



Jan Rafael P. De Guia



Dominic R.
De Pasquale



Danielle Christine
DeVita



Khaheim Decembre



Daniela Diaz



Kristina Marie
Diminich



Tiana Kathrina
Dorner



Alyssa A. Douglas



Shaquan A. Douglas



Nahum Ducasse



Elijah R. Duplessis

*"If you can imagine it, you can
achieve it; if you can dream it,
you can become it."*

-William Arthur Ward



Shalin R.
Duraiselvam



Jean-Marc P. Edma



Samantha Marie Elias



Akrum Emara



Kossy R. Esteve



Zinga Eugene



Eden G. Eustache



Kimora Thandeka
Evans-Rollins

Romanée Lopez



Neil Savalia Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"A Neil Good Story"

by: Katerina Athanasiou

A guitarist, pilot, and astrophysicist – Neil Savalia does it all extraordinarily well. Aside from being talented in every way imaginable, Neil exudes a calm, humble energy that motivates and encourages all.

As editor-in-chief of *The Mountaineer*, he ensures that all decisions are a collaborative effort. This book is a testament of Neil's ability to guide others successfully. No, it is not solely his efforts that created the pages of '09's

yearbook, but it is the way in which he meshes the ideas of others while using his own discretion that stands out.

Beyond this influence and leadership capabilities, Neil has a powerful mind. From impromptu poems to his hilarious comments, the wheels of his mind are

forever restless. He very well may be addicted to all forms of caffeine: tea, chai – you name it, he relies on it. His sleep-deprived lifestyle exists a sort that cannot be mimicked or created.

This characterizes Neil – the embodiment of someone who becomes at possess solely prowess, but inquisitiveness that together desire to learn. This spirit of growth that Neil has instilled in those around him. Importantly, Neil is an extraordinary friend.

He is among the most considerate, honest, and thoughtful souls within this school. He approaches all without judgment, which only makes his heart bigger than most people. Saying goodbye to people of this sort is never easy, but we all know we will see Neil as a largely successful being in the future.

of
be
lattes,
Within his
of brilliance

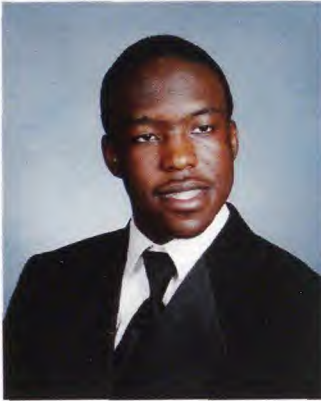
genius
folks like
people who
who we want to
just 18. He does not
academic mental
more of an
and curiosity
forms his
Its with
perpetual
inspires
Most
an



Sandou Victoria
Excellent



Jaclyn Anne Feminella



Rolihlahla Ferdinand



Maximo Thomas
Figueroa



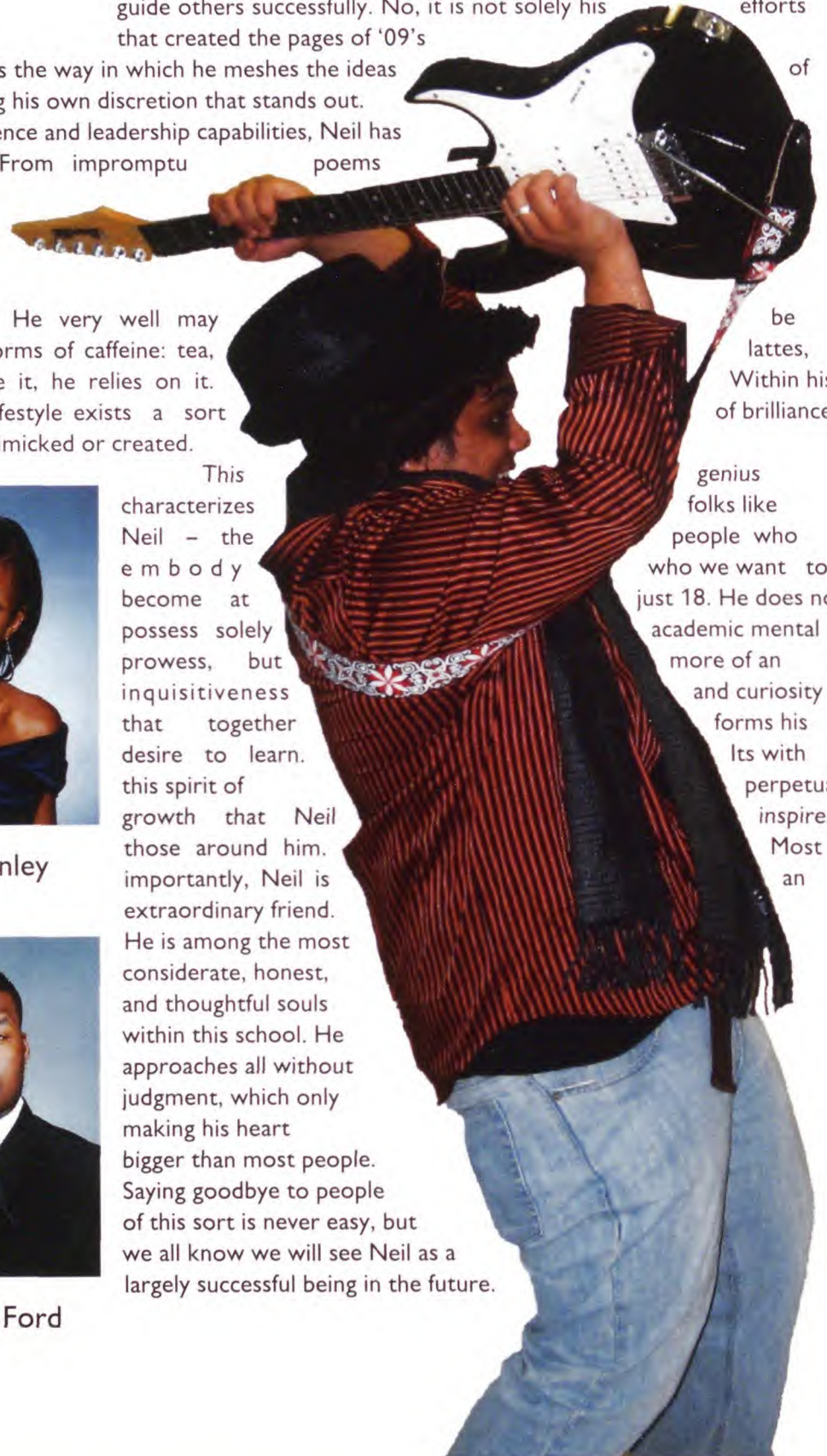
Quiana Finley



Jessica J.
Flores-Guallpa



Khaleel Z. Ford





Samantha Taylor
Formica



Christine Elizabeth
Forshaw



Jonathan A. Francois



Kimberly Y. Francois



Reginald A. Francois



Symphony Angelique
Frederique



Ashley M. Fredette



Andrew Joseph
Freeman



Daniel Joseph Fritz



Ivorine Fung



Briana Gabriella
Gaines



Christopher James
Gamba



Beverly Guadalupe
Garcia



Kevin Andrew
Garino



Antoinette M. Gayle



Halli Sylvia Gerin



Woodley Gesse



Tamikah J. Gibson



Dana Rose Gilbert



Matthew Robert
Giordano



Gabrielle A. Giovine



Yuly A. Gomez



David Gonzalez



Michelle Jennifer
Gonzalez



Shane Mershon



Natali Gonzalez



Christina Carmel
Gordon



Thomas Le Master
Gould



Paul James
Grabowski



De'Anna Erin Green



Claudius E. Grego



Rita Lynn Grunberg



Mallory Hope
Guarino

IF YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO
TRADE LIVES WITH ANYONE,
WHO WOULD YOU CHOOSE?



"Kanye
West"

■ Stevenson Vilus



"Adriana
Lima"

■ Julianna da Silva



"Lil'
Wayne"

■ Duane Keizer



Evelyn Gutierrez



Stephany D.
Gutierrez



Joanne Gyeabour



Charlotte Rose
Hamilton



Aaron Michael
Handsman



Nour Jamal Hanini



Megan M. Hanley



Shamoy Shadeen
Harriott



Devona N. Harris



Shannon Nicole
Harris



Sirena K. Harris



Sean Noel Haughton



Alysia Heckstall



Quincy Andrew
Heckstall



Steven R. Henderson



Kendra Juanita Henry



Edwin A.
Hércules Pineda



Eric G. Hernandez



Anel Hierro



Carlton J. Hintzen



Haydee Huaromo



Melinda Claudia
Huerta



Caterin Carla Huguet



James Huryk



Amy Thuy Huynh



Gregory F. Hyppolite



Nwabueze Eugene
Igwe



Osenemedia R.J.
Ilogienboh

Emily Carlson Stands Out “The Kitchen is Her Laboratory”

by: Neil Savalia

Throughout our lives, we occasionally come across exceptional something that all people hope to one day have. Emily Carlson radiates with the qualities we all ask for in a friend. She is recognized widely for her integrity, modesty, and compassion, which establish her as a companion to all at West Orange High, while her determination lands her on a zealous pursuit of knowledge and a deeper understanding of life.

Aside from being an outstanding role model, well-rounded friend, and scholar (ranked #2 in our class!), Emily's individuality, rising from eclectically assembled interests, is one that allows her uniqueness to truly resonate to all she touches. One may attempt to name any outrageous, whacky, or unheard of song or movie, and Emily, a huge film and music enthusiast, has beyond doubt heard of or seen it. With her embrace of culture and constant allusions to influential music, Emily enjoys consignment shopping, while even taking pleasure in creating her own distinctive clothing.

Something that catches most off guard with Emily is that she is perhaps West Orange High School's finest baker. Whether it is her perfected oatmeal cookie or her orange zested vanilla cupcakes, seniors anticipate the school those savory fruits of her labor. When asked about her interest Emily replied, "Baking enables me to incorporate seemingly disposable chemistry and mathematics into reality." Baking is indeed a hobby for Emily; however, as is the case with all another act that allows her daring, it is merely genuine self-expression to stand out.



in the Class of 2009:

across people who simply are sculpted from that day have. Emily Carlson radiates with the qualities we all ask for in a friend. She is recognized widely for her integrity, modesty, and compassion, which establish her as a companion to all at West Orange High, while her determination lands her on a zealous pursuit of knowledge and a deeper understanding of life.

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Shaheen Indawala



Elizabeth R. Infante



Amanda Teresa
Irizarry



Asia S. Irving



Yakira Janel Jackson



Shelby Jordan
Jakovics



Elijah Duplessis



Chakeema James



Mateusz P.
Jarmulowicz



Sharonda K. Jenkins



Jared J. Johnson



Sean O. Johnstone



Danielle Taneshia
Jones



Megan Jones



Patrick Jones



Danielle Alexandria
Jordan



De-Mario P. Joseph



Lenz Joseph



Ebonee A. July



Benjamin Steven
Kaplan



Meron H. Kassa-Jote



Lamar A. Kehinde



Duane R. Keizer

Audrey Mann



Maya Y. Khandker



Joseph C. Kienzle



Nolan B. King



Shane J. Kistner



Arthur J. Koehnlein



Panagiota Kolaitis



Nikita S.
Koottiyaniyil



Jenna Noel Kovacs



Man-Chit Kwok

Anthony Casalino Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"QB Throws Himself into Record Books"

by: David Stolz

"The past four years playing for West Football has been the best experience of my life," said Anthony Casalino, West Orange's star quarterback.

Casalino led West Orange to a 16-14 record and two state playoff appearances during his three years as starting varsity quarterback.

Although short position at 5'8, Casalino came up big for the Mountaineers. He passed for 6,077 career passing yards, time in Essex which placed second all County football history. He also threw for a staggering total of 59 touchdowns.

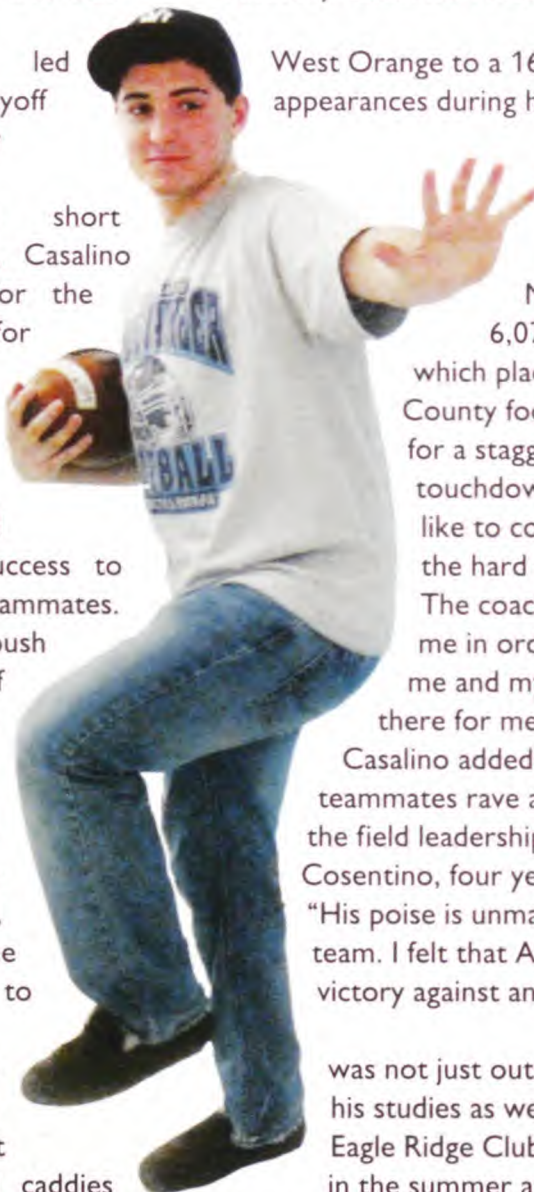
"I would like to contribute most of my success to the hard work of my coaches and teammates. The coaches would push me in order to get the best out of me and my teammates there for me though the good and bad," Casalino added.

Casalino's teammates rave about his on the field leadership.

Joey Cosentino, four year teammate of Casalino, said, "His poise is unmatched by anyone else on the team. I felt that Anthony could take our team to victory against any opponent."

Casalino was not just outstanding on the field but in his studies as well. He works part time at Eagle Ridge Club House as a receptionist and caddies in the summer at Essex Fells Country Club.

Casalino broke all major passing records at West Orange High School and is sure to go down as the best quarterback in the school's history and as an outstanding student in the Class of 2009.



Manthan P. Kothari



Benny Kwok



David Alexius Lab

Susanne Santana



Amanda Marie Lall



Julian Matthew
Landsberg



Troy Harris
Landsberg



Azia R. Lark



Dominique R. Lark



Jenna Lynn Laszlo



Miklos John Laszlo



Lawrence Joseph
Laurente



Mark P. Lauterbach



Michael R. Lazar



Raymar K. Lecky



Kenneth Tyrell Lee



Kimberly Lemaine



E'lane Lorraine
Lemon



José Pedro Lenoble



Joshua Philip Levitin



Leslie I. Liao Hing



James Vincent Ligot



Sharon Aviva S.
Litwinoff



Li Wei Liu



Gabriela Ines
Llaguna



Samantha M.
Loguidice



Gary S. Loma



Paul Lombardo



Jeffrey N. Lopez



Romaneé J. Lopez





Jim K. Louis



Mardocheé G. Louis



Anthony Adrian
Lyons



Patricia Lynn Mace

*Don't live down to expectations.
Go out there and do
something remarkable."*

-Wendy Wasserstein



Corey Madden



Michael P. Madden



Dennis J. Maffei



Karina Amelia
Maharaj



Pasquale Paul
Mangieri



Ronice T. Marc



Marc Antony
Marcelin



Christine Joyce
Marcelino



Sasha M. Mars



Stephanie A. Marte



Jaime E. Martinez



Scheelai Mascary



Brendan James
Masker

Eric Washkewicz Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

“All-American, All Student, All the Time”

by: Aslie Asberom

Often seen jogging around West Orange in the early hours of the morning, senior Eric Washkewicz is incredibly devoted to his goals. Third in our class, cross country and wrestling captain, his commitment is evident. Throughout high school, Washkewicz aspired to attend the Naval Academy. This fall, his dream, hard work, and perseverance will finally pay off. While he can typically be found running, Eric also enjoys hiking, and mountain climbing at the Gunks in New Paltz, New York. But this was not always the case. He said,

half
wrestling
Now,
five am and
football field
run.

he get the will to run while
is often inspired by past
West Orange wrestlers
continued motivation of
Debarbieri, and Suriano,
Beret and mother's love

“Eric is the
never ceases to
He hopes to
the US Naval

“Five years ago, I couldn't run half a mile, now I can run

a marathon.” He credits cross-country and
seasons for “developing him into an adult.”

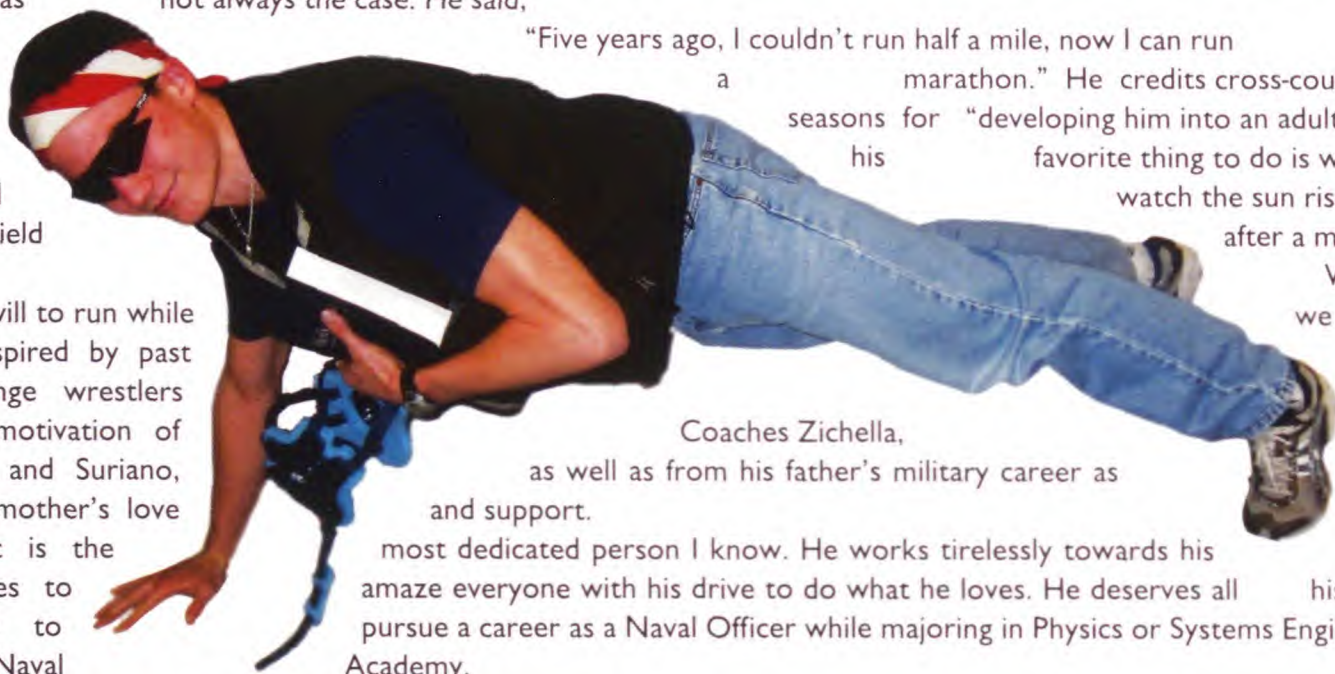
his favorite thing to do is work out at
watch the sun rise from the
after a morning

Where does
we sleep? Eric
efforts of
and
Delia,
a Green

Coaches Zichella,

as well as from his father's military career as
and support.

most dedicated person I know. He works tirelessly towards his goals, and
amaze everyone with his drive to do what he loves. He deserves all his success.”
pursue a career as a Naval Officer while majoring in Physics or Systems Engineering at
Academy.



Alexandra Hedako
Mason



Danielle Jalee Mc Call



Jesse Mc Donald



Katherine Mc Donald



Kelly Rebecca
Mc Green



Latrece R. Mc Kenzie



Nigel Paul Mc Kenzie



Joshua J. Mc Neil



Sheryl Felecia Means



Brian M. Meise



Adri Joseph Mekawy



Guybs Mélé



Andres Rocha



Bea Mendoza



Gilberto Alejandro
Mendoza



Laura A. Menture



Aristide Meronvil



Shane Elliot Mershon

Adrianne Paerels



Francely Michel



Junia Keisha Milfort



Neil E. Milord



Gregory A. Milton



Orlando M. Minchala



Elijah R. Minton

**What class would you add to
the school's curriculum?**



Samantha Close

“
Cosmetology
”



Saif Mohamed



Estefany Molina

“
Recess
”



Matthew Giordano



Rommel C. Montilus



Erik I. Moore



James Burroughs

“
AP Lunch
”



Shykela T. Moore



Delisia Miylla
Morales



Mario R. Moreno



Darren Morgan



Peter M. Moses



Thealisa C. Moss



Jeffrey E. Muench



Ryan D. Mulligan



Matt Louis A. Navata



Damian L. Newbey

*We may have different
religions, different languages,
different colored skin, but we
all belong to one human race."*

- Kofi Annan



Renee Tiye Newell



Zeke G. Newton



Ulysses Nieves



Jonathan Noelvil



Ngozi C. Nwafor



Nnena Nwafor



Kaitlin Rose
O'Connor



Mikhail A. Odllakoff



Joshua Olachea

Meredith Wright Stands Out in the Class of 2009: "The Best of West"

by: Krystal Steinik

There is only one valedictorian in the Class of 2009 and that person is Meredith Wright. The first word that comes to many people's minds when they think of her is 'perfect'. However, she doesn't let these high expectations get her, saying, "I've always just tried to do my best for myself." Meredith will continue to do her best at college, with plans to major in Biology and maybe go on to medical school. As for career plans, Meredith says she might like to be a hand surgeon because "there's not a lot

of blood ability in a schedule is vice of the Science Society. She is also the Varsity Girls Swim the drum major of the which she says is one of ments in high school. in the band, "It's really also involved in activities unaffili-High School as well, swimming for Team and doing volunteer work in Stones School which is a school in with disabilities. Beneath her busy exterior, normal teenage girl. She spends her to music, reading, and wasting time using Facebook and that one of her favorite things to do is laugh with her friends. Also, it seems that even valedictorians have subjects that are hard for them. Meredith says that, "math has always been the subject I have to work adds that AP Calculus, which she is difficult. Something else Meredith will her friends when she goes to college of great people and while I know I'll I've made here." Meredith also has come to realize that no skill or ability talents go to waste, because there to be able to do the things you consider routine. So even if presented with a difficult challenge, always give your all, since you are lucky enough to be able to."

and it seems really interesting." One of the most amazing things about Meredith is her to maintain stellar grades heavy AP while participating in a multitude of extracurricular activities, including Model Congress, Jazz I ensemble, and membership in multiple honors, societies, where she president National Honors one of the captains of Team as well as being school's Marching Band, her greatest achieve- She says of her position exciting." Meredith is ated with West Orange the Cougar Aquatic Swim the summer for Stepping Livingston, NJ for children though, Meredith is just a free time listening

hardest in," and taking this year, is really struggle with is missing next year. She says, "I've met a lot meet people in college, I'll miss the friends the following advice for the Class of 2009: "I've should ever be taken for granted. Never let your are many people who are not fortunate enough



Robert L. Oliveira



Kevin W. Osborne



Atilia Nehemie Osias



Adrianne Paerels



Edwin Fernando Paguay



Fredy Jose Palaguachi



Katherine Jeanneth
Palomino



Jonathan Paredes



Uxua Pariona



Raven Nicole Parker



Nirali D. Patel



Michelle Gonzalez



Vanessa Patrocinio



Vanessa Paul



Taneka Kadi-Ann
Pearson



Jinnelle Rae Paayas
Pecson



Peter C. Perdicaris



Valeria Perez



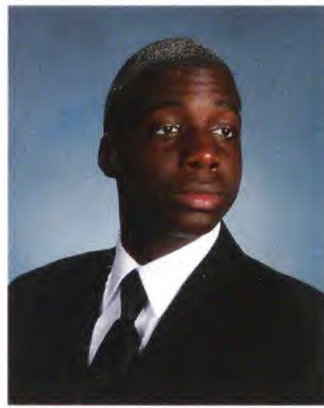
Arielle Jessica-Grace
Peterson



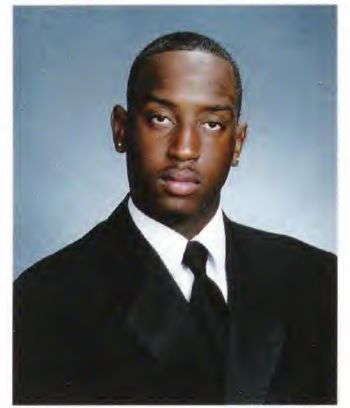
Jeffrey Philemon



Juilan Blair Philip



Kenny Wilson
Philistin



Lesly Pierre



Mark Fedly Pierre

Nour Hanini



Vanessa Pierre-Paul



Marvin K. Piggot



Krish K. Pillai



Briana Helen Pisauro



Gina M. Piserchio



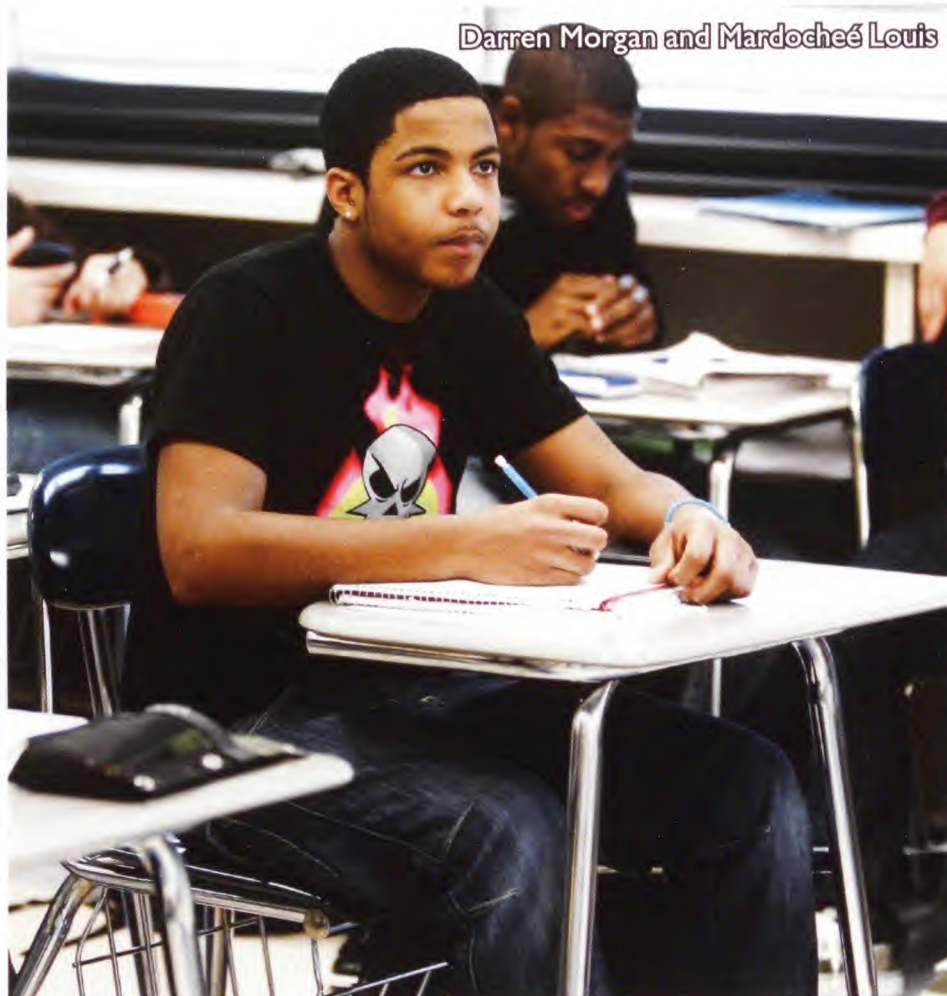
Faizah Iman-Zah
Kiyyah Pitts



Lesly Polynice



Patrice Polynice



Elise Powers



Tanisha D. Puryear



Josie Quinn



Elias Ramirez



Luz A. Ramirez



Rubi Ramirez



Zakariya Amir
Ramjan



Said Ivan Ramos



Tal Ratki



Zainab Raza



Cartier Reed



Azri A. Rehman



Claire Anne
Rementilla



Gregory C. Repayo



Maya E. Reuven



Jennifer Lee
Richardson



Alyssa Ringel

Matt Navata Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"Laps to London"

by: Katerina Athanasiou

He glides through the water in a seemingly effortless style; his body moves with the rhythm of the water. Matt Navata is undoubtedly a naturally talented swimmer. Even in elementary school, Matt was consistently among the best swimmers in the state. Don't be fooled. Matt doesn't get away with raw aptitude, he puts in at least sixteen hours of water time (he swims about 8,000 yards eight times a week) and four hours of dry-land exercise weekly. It takes an incredible amount of discipline to wake up at five in the morning to practice before school only to return to the pool again in the afternoon. "I just need to be focused. Hopefully, in the long run it'll be worth it," he said.

Since age ten, Matt has been among the top ten swimmers in the country for his events, the 200 meter butterfly and 400 meter individual medley. While most claim butterfly to be dreadfully grueling, the stroke's difficulty makes it Matt's favorite. At YMCA Nationals last year, Matt took first in both of his specialties. Among his best swimming experiences was the USA Swimming National Select Camp in Colorado – a selective program that invites the top two people, ages 15-17, in every event to the higher altitude, where it is harder to breathe.

Matt's long-term goal, qualifying for the 2012 Philipino Olympic Team, is always at the back of his mind. The Navatas are a swimming family; all four brothers, Marvin, Marc, Mike, and Matt were competitive swimmers. Nowadays, Matt's older brothers coach him with Montclair YMCA's Dolphins. While tension-filled dinners sometime follow a rough practice, there are some positive aspects to the brotherhood.

After all, it was his older siblings that gave him the idea to swim in the Olympics.

Most classmates are unaware of Matt's swimming accomplishments which is a true testament to his incredible modesty. He shared, "I don't want to be known as just a swimmer. I'd rather people get to know me first." After setting a county record, winning two events during the Essex County Championship Meet, winning two events at the Northern Hills Conference Meet, and breaking seven of the eight individual school records this winter, Matt did not boast. As his teammate, I know that's just not his style. Matt takes immense interest in motivating his fellow teammates. While his accomplishments speak for themselves, his humility never ceased to impress.





Samantha Ringel



Shona Enjoli
Ritchwood



Victoria L. Rivas



Erik L. Rivera



Sean Robertson



Tyler S. L. Robinson



Andrés W. Rocha



Deja C. Rocha



JoAnna Karen
Rodriguez



Jose Luis Rodriguez

*"Real education should consist of drawing
the goodness and the best out of our own students.
What better books can there be than the book of humanity?"*
-Cesar Chavez



Ruthmary L.
Rodriguez



Yoqueyri Rodriguez



Ajournae Ravonne
Rogers



Yobani Romero



Samantha J. Rucko



Krista Ann Ruggero





Peter A. Ruiz



Johan David Saavedra



Michael J. Salerno



Samantha Jean
Salomon



Krystel Nicole
Sanford



James E. Sanford Peer



Miguel A. Santana



Susanne Santana



Antoinette Gayle Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"The All Star Student"

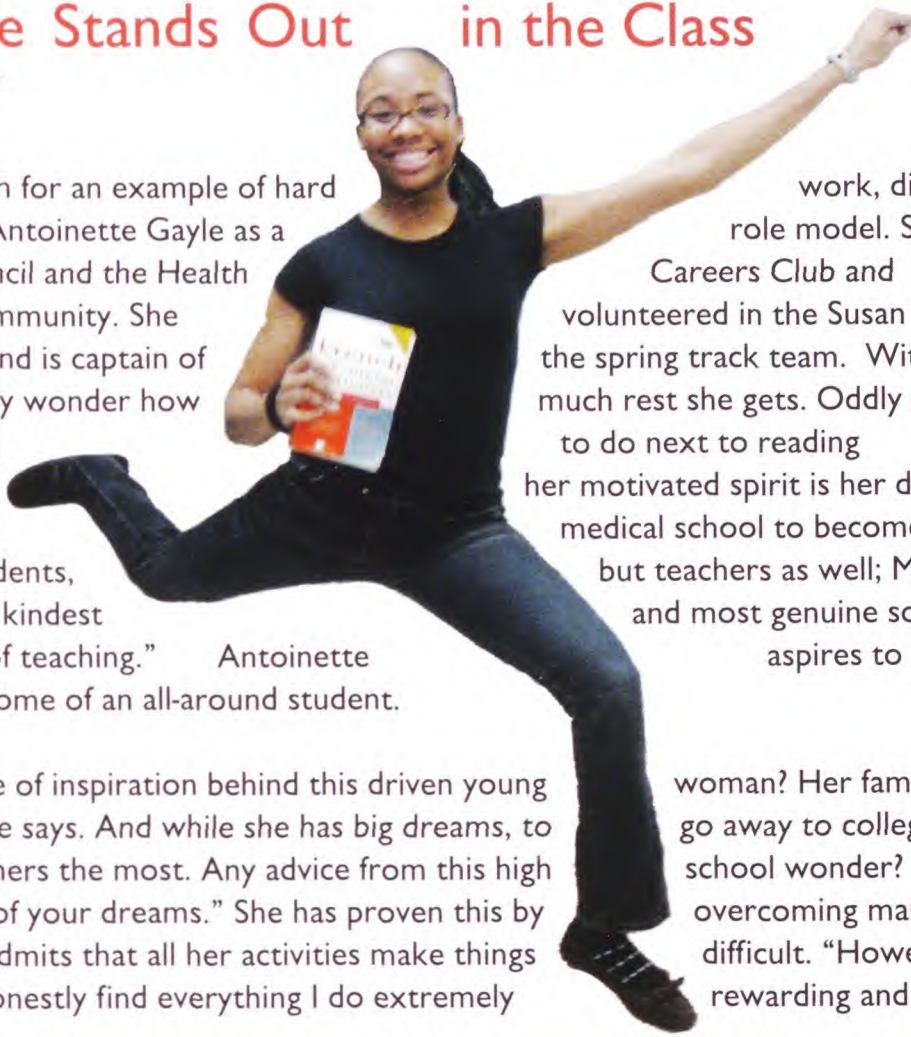
by: Michael Smithers

When seniors search for an example of hard dedication, most look to Antoinette Gayle as a president of the Student Council and the Health volunteers throughout our community. She Komen Race for the Cure, and is captain of hectic schedule, one can only wonder how Antoinette's favorite thing and dancing. Coupled with college and eventually does Antoinette inspire students, "Antoinette is one of the kindest across in all of my years of teaching." Antoinette professor; she is the epitome of an all-around student.

What is the source of inspiration behind this driven young me ten million percent," she says. And while she has big dreams, to miss her friends and teachers the most. Any advice from this high you see when you lose sight of your dreams." She has proven this by her high school career and admits that all her activities make things honestly find everything I do extremely

work, diligence and role model. She is Careers Club and volunteered in the Susan G. the spring track team. With such a much rest she gets. Oddly enough, sleep is to do next to reading her motivated spirit is her desire to attend medical school to become a doctor. Not only but teachers as well; Mrs. Martino said, and most genuine souls I have ever come aspires to be a college

woman? Her family. "They support go away to college, she says she will school wonder? "Obstacles are what overcoming many adversities within difficult. "However," she says, "I rewarding and totally worth it."



Gregory David Saul



Neil K. Savalia



David C. Sharpe



William James Shears



Ivanna Y. Silba



John Silvestri



Isis Simmons



Raveen Singh

Milagro Arango



Steven W. Singleton



Bethlehem Sisay



Michael L.
Smithers, Jr.



Luigi Eduardo Solis



Chantelle J. Sookram



Dorel P. St. Elie



Carly Alexa Stark



Robert Stefanelli



Alyssa Marie Stein



Suzanne Arielle
Steinhart



Krystal Dawn Steinik



Tashiana Lexus
Steward-Exum



**“To have
respect for
all people.”**

Amir Planes



Jared Seth Stewart



David J. Stolz



**“How to
text without
looking.”**

Susanne Santana

Joanna Rodriguez



Walter J. Sueldo



Gerrick Svitzer



Megan Samantha Tan



Jessica Tanis



Marion Xavier Tanis



Cathia C. Tavares



Christina Marie
Tedesco



Janelle Nicole
Tennant



Amanuel Tewelde



Timothy Thomas



Pasquale Mangieri and Delisia Morales



Louis Jamar
Thompson



Russell W.
Thompson



Stephanie Tiago



Grace Marie Tirella



Vanessa Tobar



Matthew D. Tobia



Joseth Jesus Torres



Melissa Ann Trenk



Cynthia Josephine
Trujillo



Chimezie Arthur
Ubozoh



Destiny C. Umegbolu



Marlon A. Valladares



Tiger Van Dervort



Craig F. Vanderhoof



Charwin Levy
Vanryck Degroot



Moises Jonathan
Vazquez



Franklin Geovanny
Vega



Reginald Philip Viesel

Chantelle Sookram



Loree Marissa Varella



Danilo Vega



Kristina Catherine
Victoratos



Jennifer Elizabeth
Vilcachagua



Maria N. Villar-Rossi



Stevenson J. Vilus



Craig Waldron



Eric Washkewicz

Anel Hierro Stands Out in the Class of 2009:

"Painting her future with bright colors."

by: Michelle Gonzalez



Dephina Angela
Watson



Sarah Michelle
Weinfield



Rachel Simona
Weinstein

As children, miniature art projects and coloring are universal activities. As the years elapse from the carefree days in Kindergarten and first grade, it certainly is a joy to look back at the doodles and attempts at were works of art. In reality, they were far from it. That is of course, except for Anel Hierro.

When Anel was seven of her teacher when painting a picture Day. As other and houses

Although it from such a The niche she discovered passion for art.

Walt you can do it," certainly applies symbiotically anything she can transformed into living her to take art classes all to attend art school for spending the rest of your life love," Anel said. For her, this ideally mean spending everyday sitting at a desk and drawing or painting. Already, on a day to day basis, Anel scrambles to complete her homework just to have time to squeeze in some leisure-

Nonetheless, she is sweet the box. She is both creative and ments. Anel Hierro has a gift and a of 2009, both she and her artwork

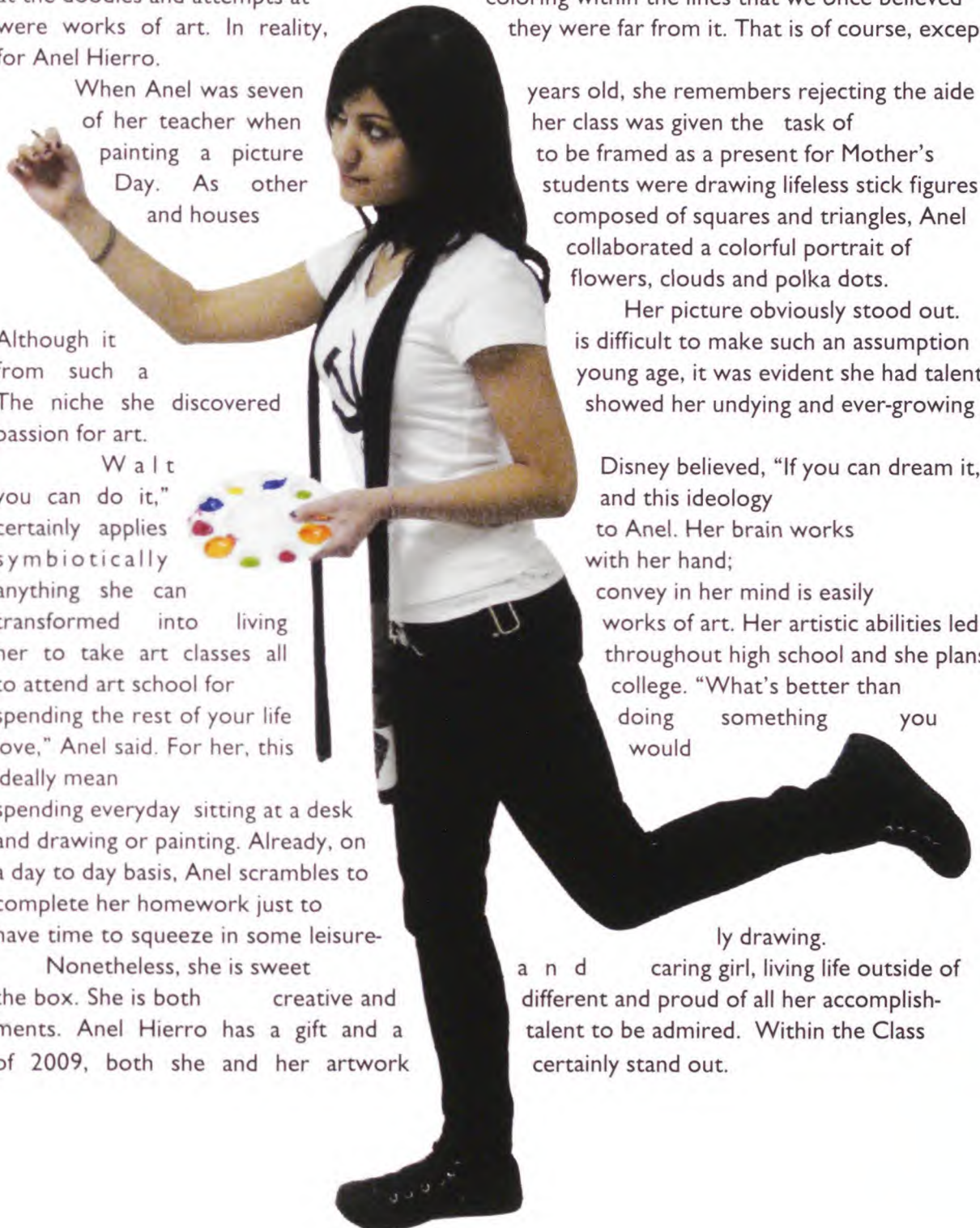
coloring within the lines that we once believed they were far from it. That is of course, except

years old, she remembers rejecting the aide her class was given the task of to be framed as a present for Mother's students were drawing lifeless stick figures composed of squares and triangles, Anel collaborated a colorful portrait of flowers, clouds and polka dots.

Her picture obviously stood out. is difficult to make such an assumption young age, it was evident she had talent. showed her undying and ever-growing

Disney believed, "If you can dream it, and this ideology to Anel. Her brain works with her hand; convey in her mind is easily works of art. Her artistic abilities led throughout high school and she plans college. "What's better than doing something you would

ly drawing. a n d caring girl, living life outside of different and proud of all her accomplish- talent to be admired. Within the Class certainly stand out.





Samantha A.
Weinstein



Sean R. Weng



Kimberly Anne
Weston



Gregory J. White



Halima Naadira
Williams



James E. Williams



Kayla Williamson



Rashidah K. Willis



Anthony C. Wong



Michael Vincent
Wong



Meredith Gray
Wright



Maria Karen
Yeppez



Samantha Nicole
Zarro



Lucille Rose Zipf



Nora Suad Zuhdi



Melanie Rose Zuniga

Patricia Mace

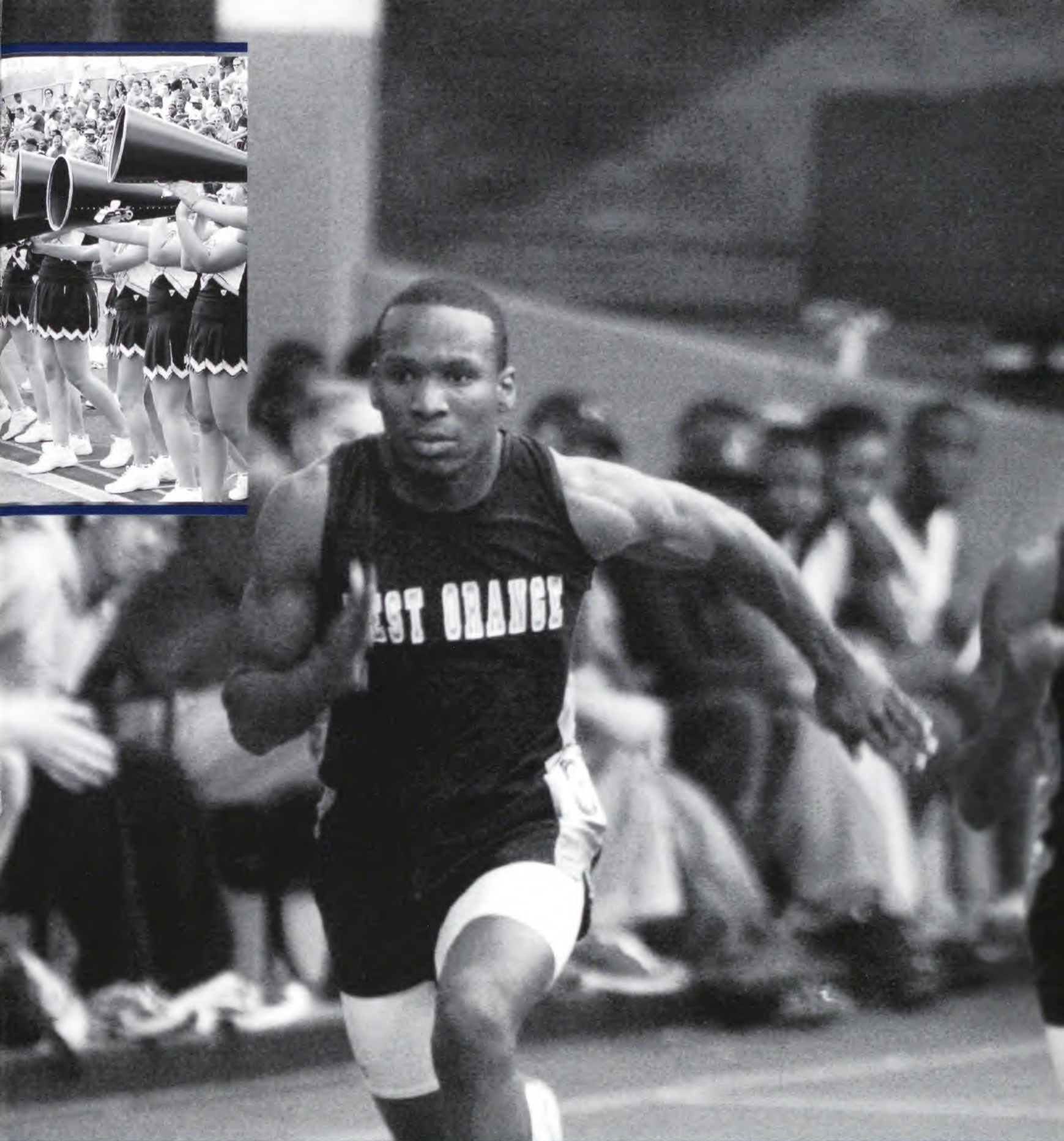




Sports are best defined as the heartbeat of West Spirit. The cleats, pads, sneakers, rackets, and jerseys gave us the most memorable times, remarkable experiences, and everlasting relationships. Bonds created through hard work, sweat, intense training, and achieving one's dreams were never lost. Who can deny the strength of fighting through those long, hard, grueling days spent battling through adversity; what was it all for? Coach Vince Lombardi once said, "The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand." His words resonate with the 2009 West Orange High School Mountaineers: those who left everything they had out on the field, with those who ventured to show people who they really were. Whether home was the field or the court, the track or the mats, the Class of 2009 will live on eternally with the same prevailing Mountaineer fight and spirit.



WEST ATHLETICS



2009



***“What counts in sports
victory, but the
of the struggle.”***

FALL SPORTS



***is not the
magnificence
- Joe Paterno***



Kayon Austin and Jose Rodriguez go in for the tackle saving West Orange 'spossession for the ball.



Elijah Minton reaches out to recover a tipped pass for an interception.



Travis China acknowledges Anthony Casalino's perfect pass for the touchdown.

Raymond Ausby gets in his defensive stance and is ready to sack the opposing quarterback.



FOOTBALL

Resilience Restores West Reputation

by Kristina Victoratos

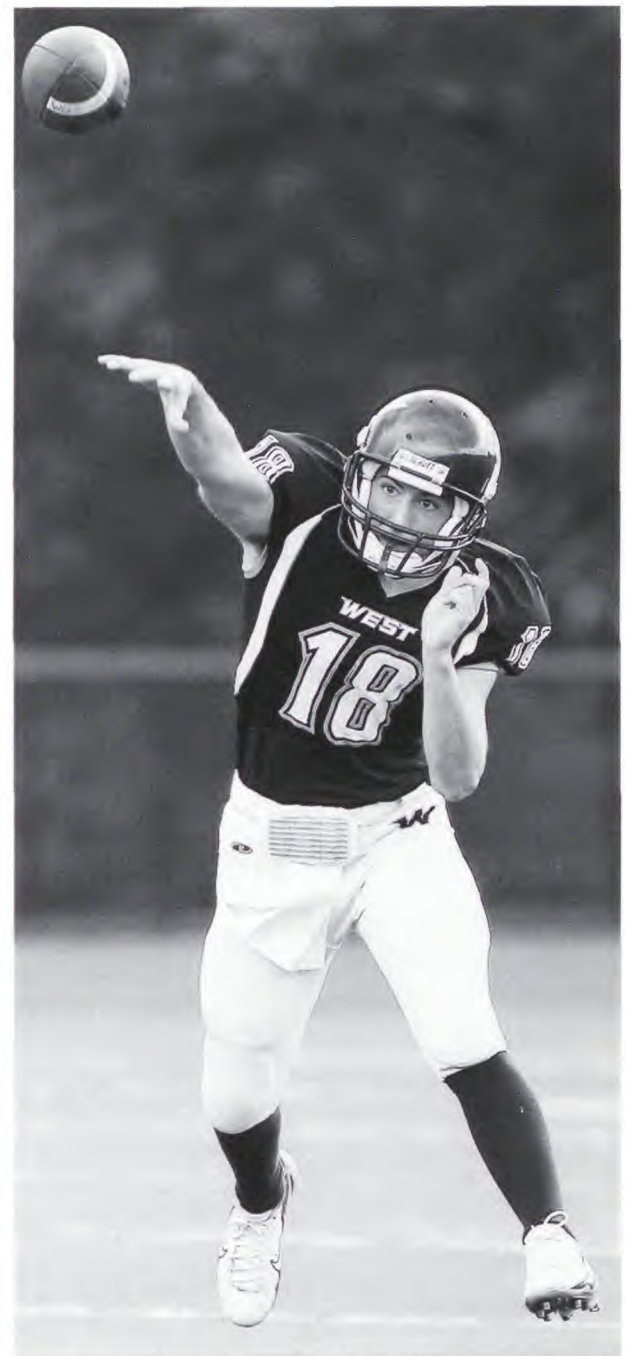
West Football started off their season with an impressive 5-0 winning record, which was certainly an astonishing accomplishment. In recent years, West Football has not been at its best, but made a great comeback this year and put themselves back on the charts. Despite some serious injuries, this year's team was resilient and worked hard to fill the void that two of their important senior players, Travis China and Amir Planes left. West Football went on to qualify for states as the fourth seeded team and played for the conference championship finishing second. Coach Jacobs was proud to consider all of their losses as "quality losses."

Losing only to a state champion team, a state finalist team, a conference champion team, and a playoff team by a combined total of 15 points was truly nothing for the boys to sulk about. Strength and Honor the staple mantra for the West Football team upheld its meaning with the success story team of this year. Travis China exclaimed, "It was a season of growth. We grew as a family and as a team. After previous years, no one expected anything great from us, but we proved everyone wrong. We worked together, to achieve more- not for others, but for ourselves."

Schedule

Bayonne	47-6
Passaic	37-23
Passaic Valley	37-23
Montville	21-13
Millburn	49-0
West Side	21-12
Passaic County Tech	9-10
West Milford	28-2
Wayne Valley	23-27
Caldwell	20-23
Hackensack	20-26

Score



Quarterback Anthony Casalino looks to connect to his receiver for the first down.



The West Football Team raises their helmets to show their strength and honor.



Captain Patrick Jones

Why did you choose
your soccer number?
Is there significance
to it?

"It was originally Chris
Christian's number two years
ago on the Varsity Team and
our coach, Doug Nevins,
saw me as another
Chris Christian."

Andres Rocha runs to block the ball from being passed on to an opponent.



Deyvid Arango gets in a strong position
to guard his control of the ball.



Schedule

Score

Lakeland	3-1
West Side	9-0
Millburn	0-2
Passaic Valley	0-1
Wayne Valley	3-0
PCT	0-2
Belleville	8-0
Montville	2-1
Columbia	1-3
West Milford	2-0
Memorial	1-0
West Side	10-1
Millburn	0-2
Passaic Valley	2-0
Wayne Valley	0-1
Montville	3-0
West Milford	4-0
Morris Knolls	5-0
Clifton	1-2



The West Orange High School 2008 Varsity Boy's Soccer Team.

DeMario Joseph prepares to step to the
ball to pass to an awaiting teammate.

BOYS SOCCER

Seniors Take the Lead

by: Briana Pisauo

From soccer camp at Villanova University to the double session summer practices, there was no doubt that the boys soccer team put in much time and dedication. Fortunately, the time and effort invested yielded results, as was seen through the team's county and state titles in past years. The team continued to uphold to the revered reputation.

With many freshman and underclassmen moving up to the varsity letter, it was up to seasoned senior players to direct, assist, and guide their new teammates. The team's synergy was evident through their impressive 13-7 season. Each player brought his own experience and energy; together, this created a unique bond which made the season more enjoyable and successful.

Senior captain Andres Rocha shared, "From my four years as a varsity player, this year's team was my favorite team to play with. Nobody tried to shine individually; instead, everyone played together. We had good team dynamics."

When asked to describe the 2008 team, Coach Doug Nevins replied, "The team really came together and improved as the year went along. The seniors were great leaders and the underclassmen added to the fantastic chemistry." With the loss of ten seniors in 2009, the boys soccer team knew there would be rebuilding in its future. However the strong leadership of the seniors was instilled in the underclassmen and the team remained hopeful for its upcoming seasons.



Matthew Tobia picks his spot before striking the ball.



Troy Landsberg, senior goalie, attempts to make a save after a hard shot to the lower 90.

GIRLS SOCCER

Team Chemistry Fuels Best Season Yet

by: Kristina Victoratos

"More than a team," the slogan of the fall 2008 Girl's Soccer Team was truly the mantra and lifestyle of the young ladies this past season. What made this year's team extraordinary were the strong bonds formed between each of the girls beginning long before high school years. With ten graduating seniors, this team grew up side by side. "The bond we share started back in our elementary school years, so the team already had a lot of history together," said senior Kayla Attamante. "Because we knew so much about each other, a natural chemistry was prevalent. Knowing the strengths and abilities of each individual made us able to work to our full potential. Although our season has come to an end, this year's team bond is unbreakable."

The team had many firsts: beating the school record with 14 wins with an average of 2.5 goals per game, and advancing further than any other West Orange Girls Soccer Team by making it to the state sectional championship. The team's ties, stellar record, and success prove that West Orange Girls Soccer is not only a team for the history books, but a union of forwards, goalies, centers, and mid-fielders along with coaches working together as a cohesive unit.



Michelle Gonzalez displays her footwork to slip by her defender.



Elizabeth Infante and Kristina Victoratos take a cool-down lap after an intense summer scrimmage.

Schedule

Score

Lakeland	0-2
Mt. St. Dominic	0-0
Millburn	0-3
St. Elizabeth	4-0
Passaic Valley	4-0
Wayne Valley	2-1
Passaic County Tech	4-2
Montville	4-1
Linden	4-0
West Milford	5-0
Mt. St. Dominic	3-1
Millburn	0-2
Passaic Valley	2-0
Wayne Valley	3-4
Passaic County Tech.	3-0
Montville	2-0
West Milford	2-1

The senior girls show their dedication to one another.



Mallory Guarino is overwhelmingly excited about the tie breaking goal.



Lucy Zipf looks to chase down a loose ball to regain possession.



Captain Samantha Ringel looks to steal the ball from her opponent and prevent a goal.



Kayla Attamante looks to serve the ball into the box for a scoring opportunity.



Captain Sarah Weinfield

What was your most influential goal during the season?

I would have to say my goal during the Clifton game because there were eight minutes left in the second half and it really lifted our team and lead to a victory.



Captain Kimberly Weston juggles the ball, avoiding the opposing team and leading West Orange to victory.



Captain Vanessa Tobar

What was the funniest moment of the season?

During practice a duck landed on the field and was interfering with our scrimmage, so Alexa kicked the ball toward the duck and ended up hitting it.

Megan Hanley prepares to serve an ace.

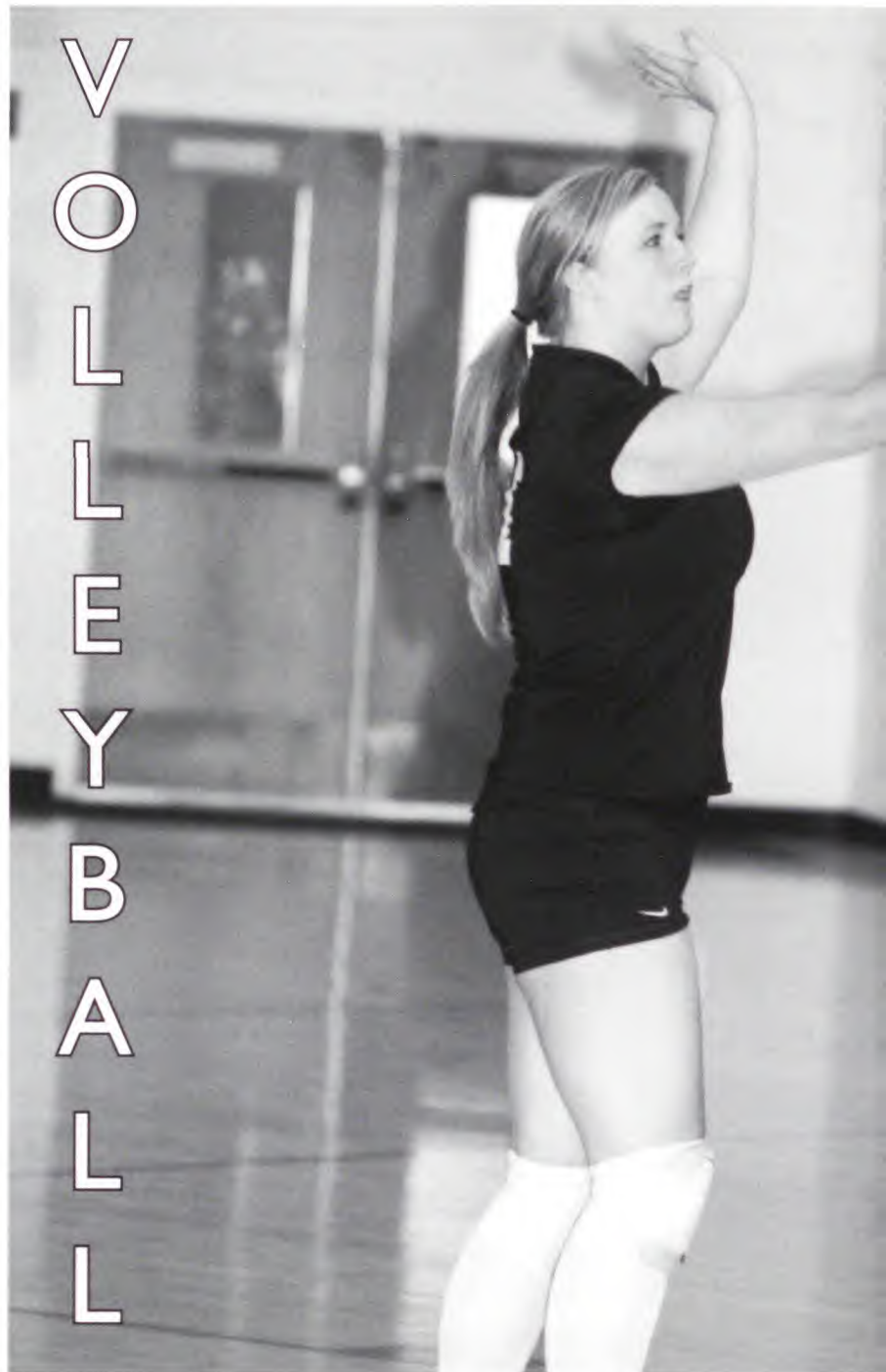
Naima Barnes sets the ball to a teammate who spikes it at the opposing team



Alli Boettinger serves the ball scoring the game point.



V O L L E Y B A L L



St. Elizabeth	25-16,25-17	W
West Side	25-5,25-6	W
Madison	13-25,25-22	L
Millburn	25-10,25-23	W
PCT	15-25,16-25	L
Wayne Valley	25-27,25-23	W
Caldwell	3-25,3-25	L
Passaic Valley	25-23,25-17	W
North 13th Street	25-16,25-16	W
Mt. St. Dominic	25-17,25-18	W
DePaul	25-9,16-25	L
Newark East Side	20-25,21-25	L
Montville	25-20,25-16	W
Union	25-13,25-19	W
Bloomfield	13-25, 15-25	L
Orange	25-10,25-19	W
Bloomfield	10-25, 21-25	L
Passaic Valley	7-25,19-25	L

Gabrielle Bravoco gets low to prepare to dig out a tough serve.





Captains Alli Boettinger, Naima Barnes, and Katlyn Brennan lead the team to victory.

NEW COACH YIELDS PROMISING RESULTS

by: Michelle Antunes

The Girl's Volleyball Team bumped their way to the history with a 12-12 record – the best the program has ever seen. Captains Alli Boettinger, Katlyn Brennan, and Naima Barnes assisted their team throughout this incredible journey. Kristen O'Connell, the new head coach this year, guided the girls to victory after victory. During the season, they beat Wayne Valley, Passaic Valley, and Montville for the first time in the history of the volleyball program at West Orange High School. All of the girls demonstrated sportsmanship, hard work, and dedication that allowed them to be the first team to make it into state tournament. On the state level, this talented



team tied for third place in their conference. The Girls Volleyball Team members also pushed themselves through rigorous training to become the first team to advance furthest

in the Essex County Tournament in West Orange volleyball history. In order to prepare for these extremely important tournaments, the team put in extra time and effort almost every day of the week. In order to be in

prime physical shape for the games, girls did touches, sprints, wall sits, and many other conditioning drills in order to prepare for the tournaments ahead. With gusto, heart, and hope, the girls shattered notions of the past to create a new reputation for West Volleyball.



Seniors smile on the court where school history is made.



Head Coach Kristen O'Connell discusses strategies to defeat the opponents.

Serving Up Aces

By: Michael Lazar

The season starts without coaches or shade, but in the blazing summer heat. Every year, the Girls Tennis Team begins to perfect their serves, backhands, and forehands even before school is in session. Renowned tennis star Serena Williams once said, "Luck has nothing to do



with it, because I have spent many, many hours, countless hours, on the court working for my one moment in time, not knowing when it would come." The 2008-2009 Girls Tennis Team lived Williams' words. Led by captain Elise Powers, the team endured long practices. Individually, the girls harnessed their playing skills for solo games, and together, they learned to coordinate moves for doubles matches. Although the team won some and lost some, every member worked diligently to improve as players and create a whole greater than the sum of its parts.



Cynthia Christiano positions herself to deliver a match point.



Briana Gaines concentrates as she prepares to return a serve.

Mavis Britwum sets herself before placing her shot down the line.



Who do you think was the most influential person in improving your game?



Captain
Elise Powers

My varsity coach, Mr. Jay Gitter has been the most influential person. He's worked with me on the court and always supported me at my matches.



Elise Powers warms up before an important match.



Girls Tennis



The 2008 Varsity Tennis Team shows their dedication and love for the sport.

"I have always considered tennis as a combat in an arena between two gladiators who have their racquets and their courage as their weapons."

- Yannick Noah

Cross Country runners
prepare themselves
by stretching.



Amanuel Tewelde stays warm before
running a grueling course.



Benjamin Kaplan blocks out the pain to focus on the finish line.



The girls of West Orange Cross Country place third
in the Essex County Championship.

CROSS COUNTRY

Work Out of the Mind & Body

by: Katerina Athanasiou

Head Coach Joe Suriano, for whom our school stadium is named, motivates his team with his words of wisdom. Benjamin Kaplan, senior captain shared, "He is really enthusiastic about running and always stays positive." Along with Suriano's guidance, the team benefits from assistant Coach Frank McSweeney who is also a sports psychologist.

"The only thing Coach McSweeney loves more than the sport of cross country are the kids that participate," Coach Suriano added. Being a coach at James Caldwell High School for over twenty five years, McSweeney had a wealth of experience to share with the team; this year, he introduced techniques that would enhance the runners' performances by working their minds.

Megan Tan shared, "Cross Country is the best thing that ever happened to me. It really motivates me to do well. It taught me the value of hard work and practice. Our coaches are so inspirational - they really push us to do our best all the time."

The boys team, lead by captains Benjamin Kaplan, James Burroughs, and Eric Washkewicz, had an impressive 12-2 record this year. Their only two losses were to Milburn, the Skyline Division Champions, and Del Barton, the Suburban Division Champions. This is just a continuation of the team's twenty four year streak of winning seasons. Kaplan walked away with two distinctions: 2nd Team All Conference, and 2nd Team All County.

With captain Megan Tan on board, the girls' team had a 12-4 record and ultimately placed third in the Essex County Championships. The team managed to qualify for the Group 4 State Final after defeating Hudson county champions Kearney and Sussex's second best team, Vernon. With a slew of upperclassmen, much experience, and effort, the girls performed admirably and left the season with four county medals and a state sectional medal. Tan earned an Honorable Mention for Essex County.

The leadership, experience, and practice of both Cross Country Teams paid off this season with many accolades, but each runner took away intangible rewards that come with hard work.

James Burroughs

What goes through your head when you're running long distances?

How much longer do I have to go until this is all over.



Megan Tan

What was your most dangerous encounter while running Cross Country?

During the State Sectional Meet this season, it was raining the night before and the trails were very muddy and slippery.



Eric Washkewicz

What motivates you to run six miles every day?

If my dad can run five miles every day, then I can give it one more than him.



The West Orange Cross Country team looks to finish the competition with first, second, and third place.

Schedule

- Roxbury Invitational
- Passaic Invitational
- Northern Hills Conf.
- Essex County Championship
- Gardiner Holiday Relays
- 13th Drew Invitational
- 11th Pietriwicz Polar Bear
- Northern Hills Conf. Championship
- Back Invitational
- NJSIAA Relays



The 2008 Varsity Girls Cheerleading squad show off their unique and spectacular ending stunt at a competition at Fairlawn High School where they took first place.



Captain Halima Williams

How was your last year of cheerleading and what are you going to miss the most?

It was the most amazing time of my life. I think that I will miss the girls on the squad who were like a family to me and the bonds that were made.



The girls flawlessly hit their dance moves for a perfect ending to their routine.



The flyers gracefully pose in one of their many pyramids supported by their squad.

Gina Piserchio attains perfect balance while sticking her liberty during halftime.



Spreading School Spirit

by: Katerina Athanasiou

Basket tosses, scorpions, and tick-tocks are just a few of the stunts West Orange Cheerleaders worked to perfect during their daily two and a half hour practices. As most seniors attempted to squeeze beach days and soak up the last of the summer's rays, the cheerleaders packed their bags for Cheer Camp at Monmouth University. For a weekend, the girls lived together in dorms, learned new routines, and bonded.

Finally, the season began. At football and soccer games, the cheerleaders dutifully rooted for their peers, motivated West Orange teams, and created a buzz amongst spectators.

Along with typical responsibilities came novel traditions. This year, instead of letting their coach choreograph a routine, the cheerleaders collaborated to design their halftime show. The girls also decorated football players's lockers, made posters to decorate the fences of Suriano Stadium on game days, and painted banners for football players to crash through before games.

When the cheerleaders were not propelling West athletics to victory, the group achieved their own accolades. Competition preparation was strenuous, tiring, and time-consuming, but the results spoke for themselves. At the Fairlawn High School Competition, the girls received first place for cheer and fourth for cheer dance. From the sidelines to halftime shows to competition, this year's squad was innovative, dedicated, and imperative to the spirit of West Orange High.



Captain Gaby Giovine gets the crowd going with her competition chant.

CHEERLEADING



The 08-09 senior cheerleaders lead their squad to a successful season.

MARCHING BAND

The color guard shines as the marching band holds out the ending note to their award winning routine.



Maximo Figueroa stands tall as he concentrates on nailing every note on his tuba.



Halli Gerin focuses on keeping the rhythm set on her xylophone.



Drum major Meredith Wright takes charge as she leads the marching band in their opening performance.



The powerful drumline gets the crowd going with their strong beats.



Musical MEDLEY

Unifies

By: Michael Smithers

Pulsating drum beats, musical melodies, and vivacious dancers came together in the 2008-2009 Marching Band's inspiring shows. At the football games, the Marching Band aided in rallying numerous fans in bleachers by playing pep tunes in sync with West cheerleaders. During half time, marchers charged the field and created an atmosphere filled with pride, spirit, and passion by playing fiery, upbeat pieces that composed this year's show, "Metropolis". The effort invested during practice was clearly seen by all; the intricate coordination of pitches, sounds, and chords was evident. Whenever the Band's playing would subside, a gallant uproar from the fans ensued.

Members of Marching Band seem to benefit from the program, too. Senior Brian Meise said, "It [Marching Band] taught me time management and the meaning of 'Pride, Dedication and Excellence,' the band motto."

Along with halftime shows, the dedicated group represented West Orange in a multitude of competitions. Drum Major Meredith Wright led the Marching Band to compete in USSBA Northern States Championships where they received an exemplary score of 95.43. When asked to describe Marching Band, Wright simply said, "Family" with a smile. The bond the members shared synthesized through summertime Band Camp, practices lasting as late as nine at night, and day-long competitions is evident through their harmonious performances, and incredible ability to uplift, motivate, and entertain.



Brian Meise

Why did you choose to participate in the marching band?

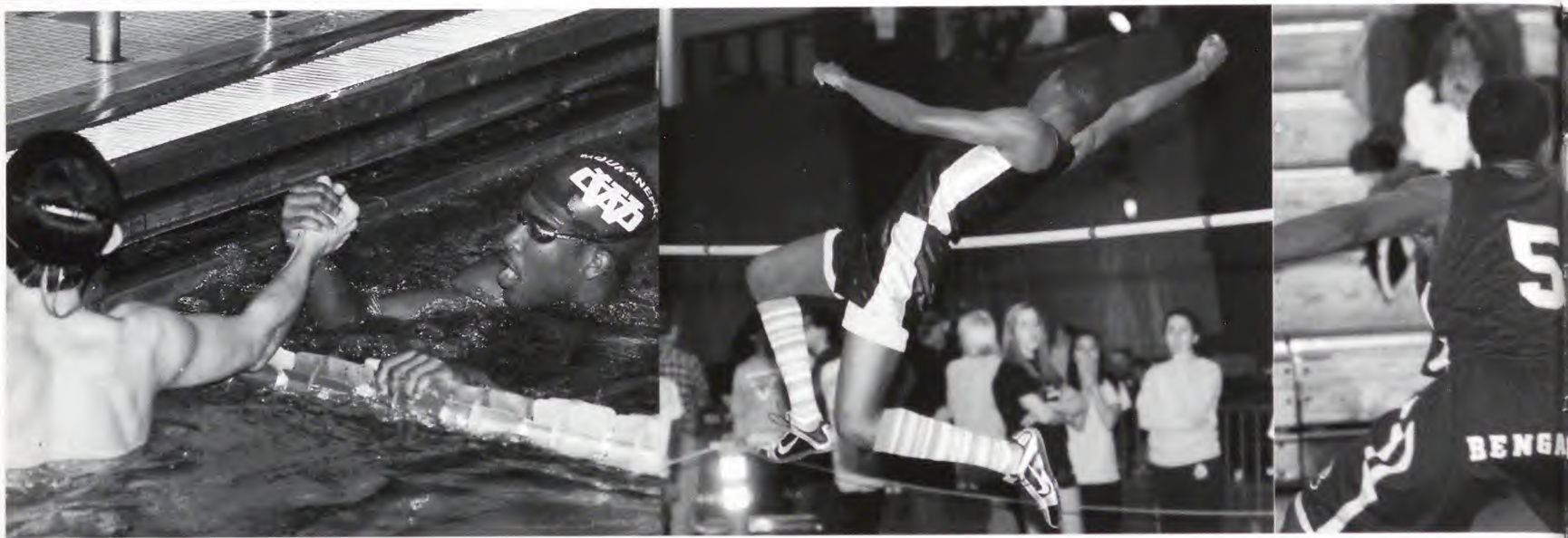
When I was in middle school, I went to my cousin's marching band competition, which convinced me to join the squad here at WOHS.



Loree Varella

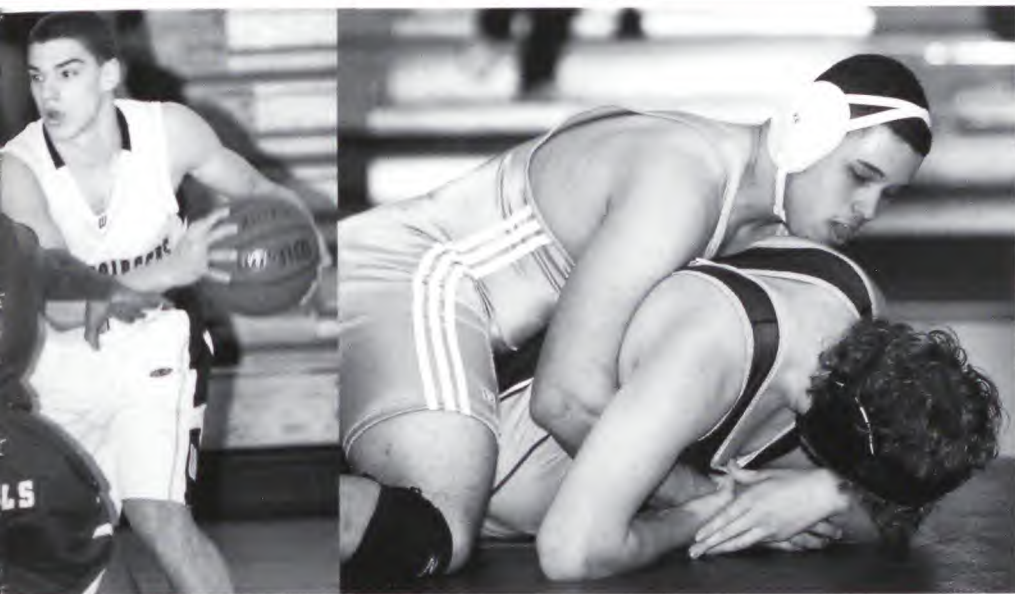
What do you feel/think before stepping onto the field during a competition?

Before stepping out onto the field I feel a rush of energy, and I put it all into the performance on the field.



***“Ability is what you’re
Motivation determines
Attitude determines how***

WINTER SPORTS



***capable of doing.
what you do.
well you do it.”
-Lou Holtz***



BOYS BASKETBALL

Team Effort Marks An Historical Season

by: David Stolz

The West Orange Boy's Basketball Team exceeded expectations in their 2008-2009 season by going 20-8 and placing second in the Northern Hills Conference. They reached the second round of the state tournament before losing to the subsequent champion, Paterson East Side. West Orange was led by senior captains Russ Thompson, Steve Henderson, and Travis China. Russ Thompson proved to be a three point threat all season by shooting over 40 percent from the three point line. Thompson also was the team's top facilitator, dishing out three assists per game. Thompson was four year starter and accumulated 986 points over his highly touted career. 2009 was the third year that Russ Thompson was named to First Team All Conference. Steve Henderson excelled at creating his own shots yet he was never afraid to pass down the scoring ranks to other players. Steve Henderson averaged eleven points a game. Also, Henderson was named a Second Team All-Conference. "Steve is one of the most skilled three point shooters I have ever seen play. Whenever we needed a big three point shot, Steve or Russ was there," said Travis China. Travis was a tough player for West Orange who consistently provided hustle as well as a strong defense. Ching team's leading scorer. "Travis was often assigned the opposition is the hardest working player I have ever played with. I've never seen a player take as much pride in the intangibles as Travis. He is extremely team oriented and he did whatever it took to win," said Russ Thompson. Along with the three seniors, players such as juniors Rodney Clervil, Ramadan Daniels, Gerald Silvera, and sophomore Duane Morgan attributed to the team's success. "In the beginning of the season the team relied on the three seniors but as the season progressed the underclassmen stepped up game after game," said Thompson. The 2008 and 2009 boys' basketball team will stand out in West Orange's history because they were one of the most winning teams in West Orange history.



Schedule

Score

West Milford	46-47
Montville	58-57
Millburn	48-47
Bloomfield	43-39
Passaic Valley	29-46
Wayne Valley	33-37
Lakeland	74-18
Passaic County Tech.	50-66
West Side	60-51
Newark Tech.	53-41
Ferris	99-32
NJSIAA Championships	49-60



Steven Henderson swiftly dribbles the ball up the court for a lay-up.

Russ Thompson dodges an attempted block to shoot the game winning shot against Bloomfield.



Travis China avoids a charging foul before scoring two points.



Junior Gerald Silvera carefully controls the ball as he dribbles down the court.



The tight knit team huddles together before a game .

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Defying the Odds and Forever Being Remembered

by: Russell Thompson

Obtaining a four digit scoring total as a high school varsity basketball player allows one to exist in a realm that less than 2% of all high school basketball players have the privilege of entering. On January 6, 2009, the West Orange Lady Mountaineers hosted the Montville Mustangs and in the first quarter of action senior captain Gwen Abreu became only the seventh player in West Orange High School history to reach the 1,000 point mark.

Having achieved this goal so early in her senior season, the possibility of breaking the all-time scoring record at the was reachable, however not at the expense of the team. Abreu is a four-year varsity starter for the Lady Mountaineers and has received 1st team all conference honors since her sophomore year. As a senior, she averaged 16 points per game, 7 rebounds per game, 3 steals per game and an assist to go with it. Abreu also finished her career with 1,323 points just 41 points short of being West Orange High School's all time leading scorer.

Abreu led the West Orange Girls basketball team to a 19 – 6 finish in the 2008 – 2009 season, just one win shy of the prestigious “20 win” season. It was the best season that veteran coach Kim Wilson had seen in her years at West Orange. The Lady Mountaineers won their holiday tournament hosted at Nutley High School, were ranked in the top ten in arguably the best basketball county in the state throughout the season, and advanced to the North 1, Group IV sectional semi-finals in the state tournament.” I was so pleased with how our year turned out. To finish the season with 19 means a lot to me especially in my senior season,” Abreu said. I owe so much to my teammates who gave their heart to the program this year, which is why we were so successful.”



Nnena Nwafor warms up before an intense game against Mount Saint Dominic's.



The 2008-2009 seniors display their pride.

Gwen Abreu fades away to score the game winning shot.



Evelyn Gutierrez quickly and skillfully advances her way up the court.



Nichole Brown towers over the opposing team and makes a successful layup.



Ngozi Nwafor blocks out the opposing team and concentrates on the basket.

Schedule

Score

Mount Saint Dominic	39-31
West Side	72-27
Bayonne	50-43
Nutley Tournament	57-40
West Milford	44-30
Montville	73-26
Millburn	57-24
Passaic Valley	53-45
Wayne Valley	46-43
Lakeland	55-39
Passaic County Tech.	53-45
East Orange	60-56
Nutley	46-16
NJSIAA First Round	59-27
NJSIAA Second Round	40-28
NJSIAA Third Round	40-30



Yakira Jackson

What runs through your mind before you shoot a foul shot?

I go over this one technique in my mind that I have been using and practicing since 6th grade and it seems to keep me calm and collected.



Beating her defender, Junior Anna Fucci eyes the basket and shoots a three pointer.



Vanessa Tobar

What was your most memorable game this season?

My most memorable moment would have to be watching Gwen score her 1,000th point. It was great to watch my best friend set a school record.

WINTER TRACK & FIELD

Seniors Maintain Tradition of Excellence

by: Sean Johnstone

In ancient Greece, the Olympics began with races; still today, Track and Field is the most popular sport on Earth. The athletes that participated in indoor track for the 2008-2009 season were the crème of the crop and worked to make West Orange known as a renowned team in New Jersey. Among the seniors qualifying for Eastern States, Stevenson Vilus high jumped six feet two inches, shot putter Rhema Boyo threw 48 feet one inch, and James Burroughs high hurdled in 7.87 seconds and tripled jumped 43 feet and 10.5 inches. Vilus also placed 4th in the Meet of Champions with a jump of six feet and two inches. To match the outstanding seniors was a strong supporting cast; the entire team offered support and motivation to back them up. The Boy's Winter Track Team went on to place second in both the Essex County Individual and State Sectional Championships. Furthermore, they took first place in the Northern Hills Conference Championship; the team's second time in four years. To top off all of this, the boys 4x800 relay team broke into record books by clocking the second fastest time in West Orange High School history with 8:20.30.

The Girls Track Team developed alongside their male counterparts. They started by also taking second at Essex County Individual Championship and placing fifth out of twelve teams at the Northern Hills Conference Championship. Behind the leadership of team captains Elizabeth Ajamu, E'iana Lemon and Shontel Burke-Clarke, the girl's team exceeded their expectations through stand-out performances throughout the team during the season. These performances included two senior captains qualifying for State Sectionals: E'iana Lemon for a shot put throw of 34 feet and 4.5 inches and Shontel Burke-Clarke with a 400 meter dash time of 1:05.68. Among the seniors who competed in State Sectionals, juniors Catrice Austin and Demi Bourne also qualified to represent West Orange. With a fired up team, Winter Track and Field's success and optimism set the pace for the upcoming spring season.

How do you prepare yourself for meets?

I listen to all Kanye West albums from the bus ride to the meet and then warm up.

- Stevenson Vilus



What meet would you say was the most memorable moment of the season?

The Essex County individual championship because I placed top six at the meet and worked hard to do my best as a hurdler runner.

- Elizabeth Ajamu



What was the funniest incident that occurred during a meet?

After I realized I had won the conference championship, I ran into the middle of the track, celebrating and almost ran over eight girls distance runners.

- Rhema Boyo



Amir Planes and Floyd Morgan concentrate on their start to ensure a strong finish.



Schedule

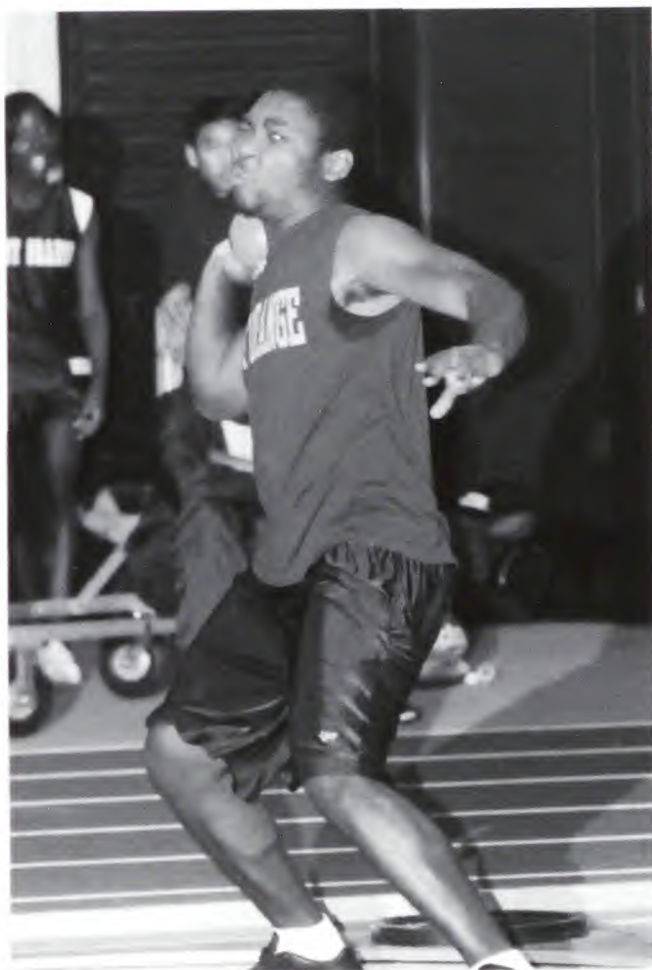
Holiday Relays
Drew Invitational
Polar Bear Invitational
NHC Championships
Essex County Championships
Ed Grant Invitational
NJ Met. Invitational
Essex County Relays
Eastern Championships
Big Apple
Nationals



Outrunning her opponents, Megan Tan paces herself for the win.



James Burroughs skillfully clears the hurdle at another challenging meet.



Lenz Joseph focuses on his task resulting in a record breaking shot-put throw.



The boys relay team concentrates on the race ahead and prepares themselves to take first place.

How did being part of the hockey team affect your high school years?

It helped me become a better leader and a better player physically and mentally.



Paul Grabowski



Marion Tanis

How do you prepare yourself mentally before each game?

Music and a hype locker room always seem to help a lot.

HOCKEY

Young Team Battles it Out on the Ice

by: Marion Tanis

One of the oldest high school hockey organizations came back from the ashes for the 2009 season. With a three to one ratio of seniors to underclassman on last year's hockey team, West Orange High School was skeptical to whether there would be a team this year. Although small, this year's team redefined the learning curve for first year skaters. Almost half of the members of the team never played interscholastic hockey, but their hard work and determination proved that it was possible for first year players to compete at the varsity level. Coaches Brack Healy, Anthony Gray and Chris Saling demonstrated the technique and instruction that nobody expected. Although they were found at the last minute,

each coach brought charisma and understanding to the relatively young team. The coaching strategy was laid back and made the entire team feel closer and more connected. The usual practice was composed of conditioning and a relaxed scrimmaging to help individual players learn the game while keeping it fun for the entire skill spectrum.

The new coaching staff, majority of freshmen, and the first year skaters on the roster could not have met at a better time. The relationships that developed yielded great success as the 2009 season came to an end. Our future hockey teams were destined to prevail because strong relationships translated into even stronger playing.



Schedule

Score

Nutley	01-11
Millburn	02-04
South Brunswick	10-09
St. Joseph's	00-05
Morris Hills	04-10
Montclair	00-07
Livingston	02-05
Edison	11-01
East Side	08-04
Hunterdon Central	03-11
Old Bridge	05-06
JP Stevens	02-01
Millburn	01-02
Cup Playoffs	00-04

"A good hockey player plays where the puck is. A great hockey player plays where the puck is going to be."
-Wayne Gretzky



The 2008-2009 Varsity hockey team dominates the ice at the South Mountain Arena.



Paul Grabowski keeps control of the puck in order to advance up the ice.



Arthur J. Koehnlein softens his grip as he prepares to receive a hard pass.



Junior Walter Moriarty keeps his eye on the incoming puck and prepares to make a goal.



2009 goalkeeper, Freshman Teddy Steinhart, maneuvers himself to take away the shooting angle.



Assistant Coach Chris Saling prepares his team to hold the lead in the final quarter.

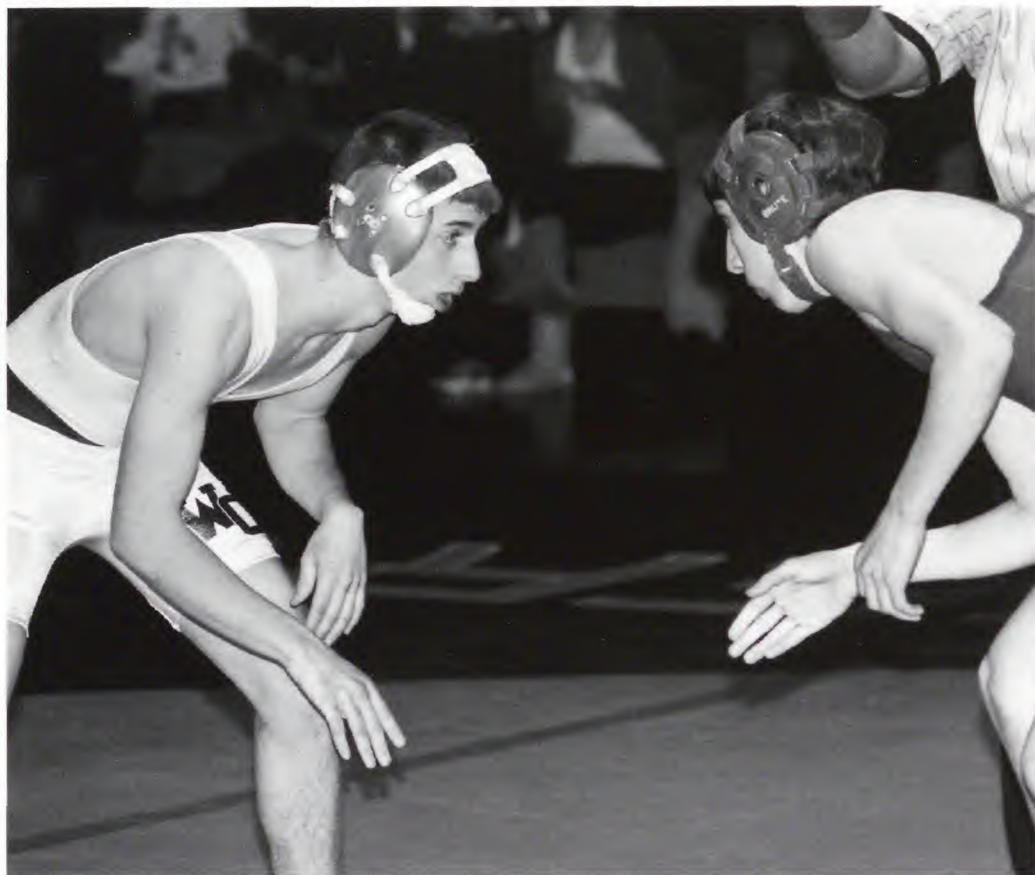


Dennis Maffei

During this wrestling season, did you get any bad or strange injuries?

"During a really intense match, my opponent bit me and I freaked out. My head got hit hard in the confusion and I ended up getting a concussion."

Mark Lauterbach gets set to take down his competition on the Caldwell team.



Troy Landsberg works a single wrist to pin his opponent.



Schedule

Score

Dover Tournament	74-03
Lakeland	38-26
Middletown South Tournament	19-37
Nutley	39-31
Newark Academy Tournament	44-21
Millburn	34-22
West Essex	36-24
Passaic Valley	69-09
Union City	63-06
Wayne Valley	19-44
Rutherford	52-26
Bloomfield	29-26
Montville	10-62
Becton Regional	30-21
Caldwell	32-21
NJSIAA Sectional Semifinal	1st
NJSIAA Sectional Tournament	1st
Verona	65-09
NJSIAA District 13 Tournament	1st
NJSIAA Region 4 Tournament	2nd

WEST ORANGE WRESTLING



The West Orange High School 2008-2009 Seniors.

Moe Vazquez controls his opponent as he perfects his execution.



WRESTLING

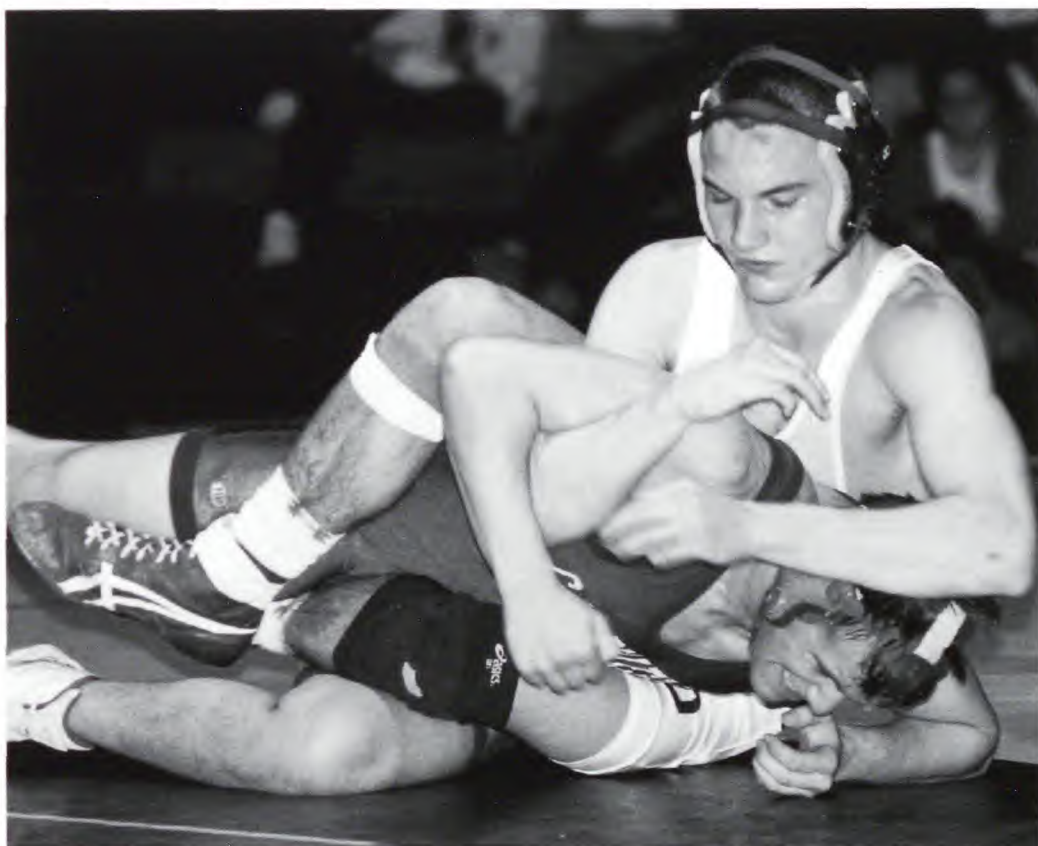
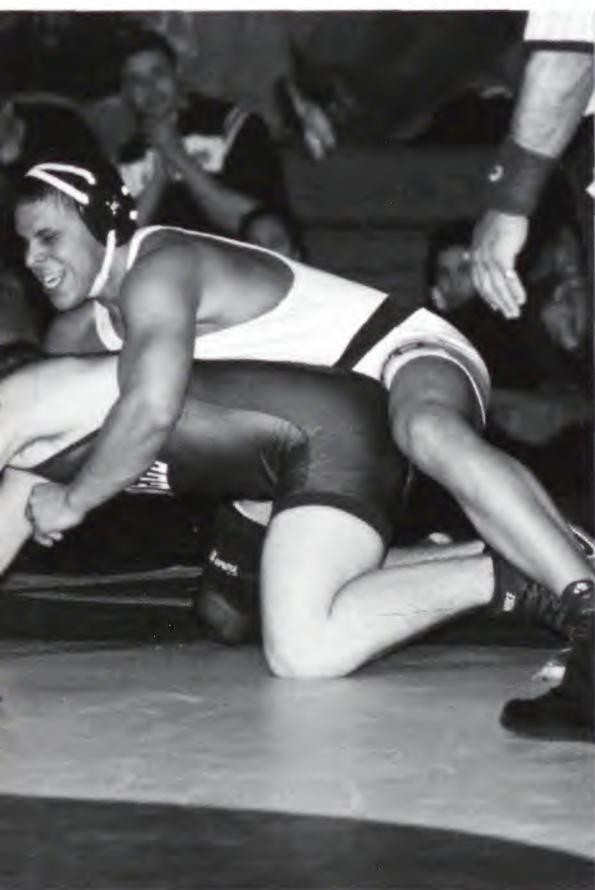
A Strong Tradition Sees One of Its Best Seasons in 2008 - 2009

by: Katerina Athanasiou

Once wrestlers reached their weight classes and met mid-season success, they became unified by a wave of success. The team chemistry evolved as wrestlers trained hard, and provided one another with both physical and moral support. Together, they defeated Bloomfield High School for the first time in ten years, leading the boys to the sectional finals for the first time in the wrestling team's forty-six year history. *The Star Ledger* named the team 2nd in Essex County and 2nd in Region 4.

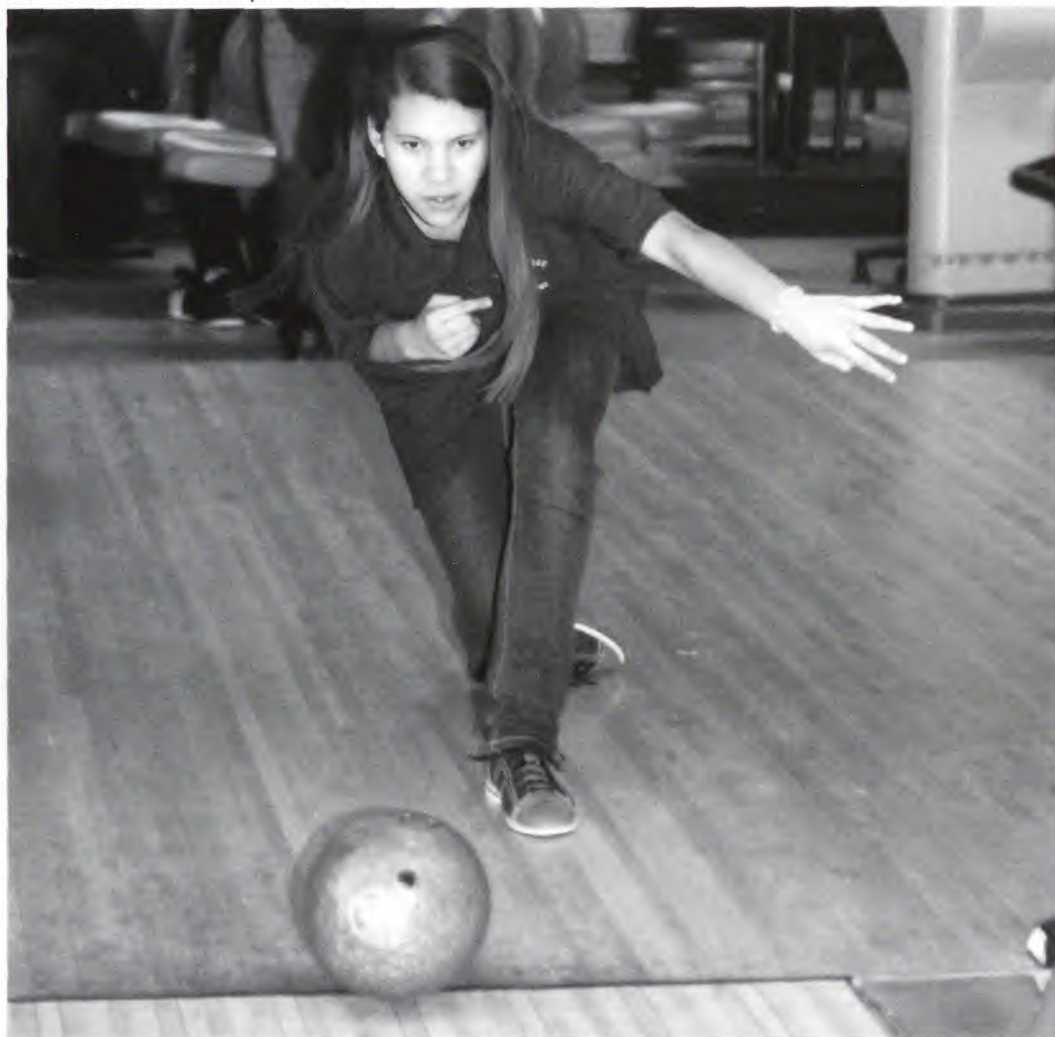
Senior captains Eric Washkewicz, Troy Landsberg, and junior Hakim Williams provided leadership and guidance for underclassmen. Washkewicz's pride was evident; when asked about their accomplishment he said, "We got to the sectional finals, we not only demolished Bloomfield's 19-1 record but we killed them in the pit, their own turf! That was one of the most exciting and defining moments of my high school career."

Fellow senior Moe Vazquez became only the second West Orange wrestler to ever reach 100 career wins. Additionally, Coach Zichella achieved his 100th match win as a coach. Certain camaraderie prevailed as the team continued to spend up to seven days a week practicing. The team's record was 16-4, which Zichella described as a "complete success." How did they achieve such great success? Team traditions and hard work seemed to be key. Among their unique team traditions was having the team come out to ACDC's *Thunderstruck* at matches and allowed each wrestler to choose their own "fight song," which would play whenever he was wrestling. They team started and ended each match, and ended every practice breaking their huddle saying "family" - a word which best describes the collection of young men that composed the 2008-2009 West Orange High School Wrestling Team.



Eric Washkewicz cranks the power half for back points.

Sophomore Brittany Nieves locks all of her concentration on the execution of the pins ahead.



Captain Tabari Dargan

If you had to guess,
what is your strike to
gutterball ratio?

I would have to say for
my high school bowling
career my strike to
gutterball ratio would be
800/1.



Freshman Sean Ganning releases the bowling ball
resulting in a turkey.



The 2008-2009 West Orange High School Bowling Team.

BOWLING

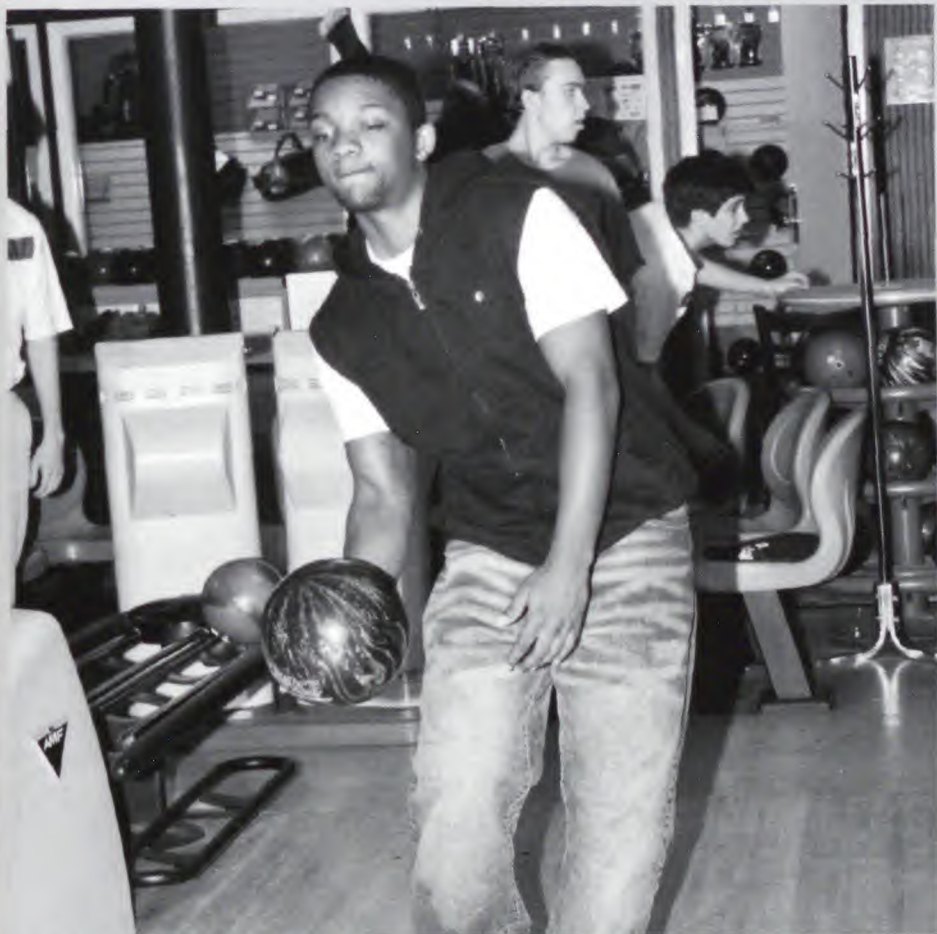
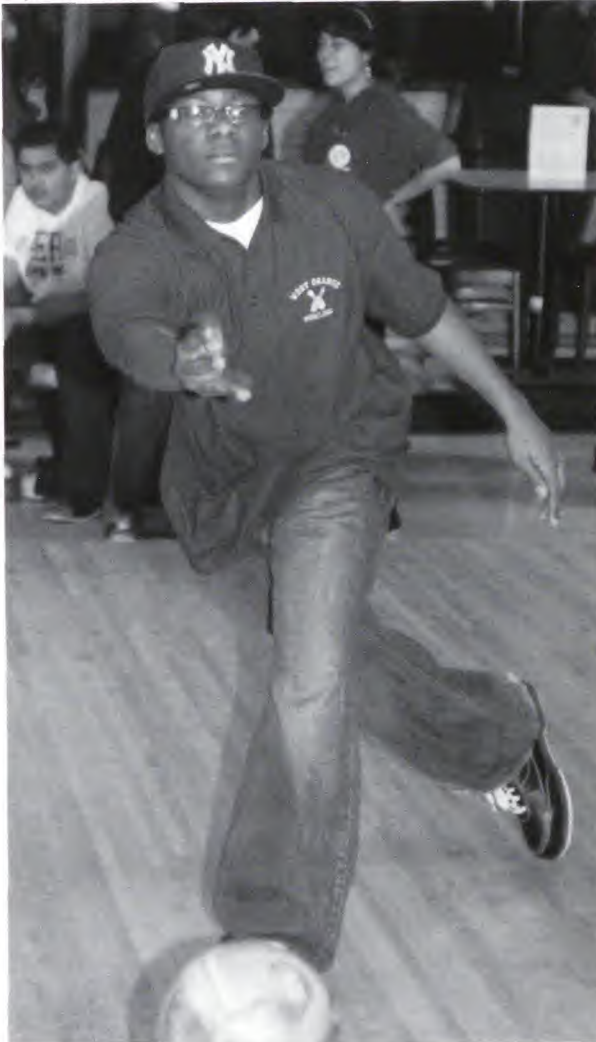
Unmatched Skill Yields Undefeated Season

by: Krystal Steinik

How many sports can you think of where a turkey is a good thing? In bowling, a turkey happens when the bowler, known as the kegler, manages to get a strike three frames in a row. For those unfamiliar with bowling, a frame is one of the ten rounds in the game and a strike is when all ten pins are knocked down with the first ball of the two thrown in each frame. All of this bowling jargon can make one's head spin, so there is no need to get into the complex scoring system. Even if the terminology is a little complicated, the West Orange High School Bowling Team does not show confusion when they are at the lanes.

The ten person team was led by captain Tabari Dargan. Dargan, who joined the bowling team as a sophomore, has been bowling since he was around nine years old and his best score was 254, just 46 points shy of a perfect 300. The team was undefeated this season and that was due, in part, to coach Kevin Alvine. With a coaching style that balanced optimistic encouragement with an emphasis on winning, it is no wonder that the bowling team consistently did well. The team followed the coach's example, offering support to each other even if someone was not able to clean up a frame. For aspiring bowlers, Dargan offered the following advice: "Keep your head up. The good always outweighs the bad."

Junior David Edmond demonstrates the stance of a professional kegler for a strike.



Tabari Dargan prepares his stance and concentrates on the pins for a game winning spare.

<i>Schedule</i>	<i>Score</i>
West Side	12-09
Delbarton	13-08
Orange	19-02
Millburn	16-05
Madison	12-09
West Side	16-05
Essex Championships	5th
Orange	21-00
Madison	11-10
NHC Tournament	8th

Dana Gilbert glides through the water as she takes a lead in a heated race.



Melissa Trenk focuses on her form as she takes a breath.



Captain Marvin Piggot uses his backstroke start to begin the race with a tremendous lead on his opponents.



Captain Alyssa Ringel cuts the water while mastering the backstroke and finishing first.



Schedule

Score

Passaic County Tech	W
Wayne Valley	L
Delbarton	L
NHC Championships	L
Montville	W
Millburn	L
St. Elizabeth	L
Mt.St.Dom's	L
Villa Walsh	L
Pequannock	W

SWIMMING



Captain Sean Johnstone blows through the water and beats all the competition as he perfects the butterfly.

Enjoying Life In the Fast Lane

by: Alyssa Ringel

As a swimmer, you know the most important thing isn't always about beating your opponent, but beating your best time. It's about pushing yourself as well as your teammates to kick a little harder, pull a little faster, and feeling that the effort was worth it. Only a swimmer can understand how much of a difference one second makes. It could mean out-touching the opponent in school record. Numerous this year, including the 200 Senior Alyssa Ringel, Junior Rebecca Butler, and Freshman broke the 100 breaststroke also did exceptionally well in the 200 individual medley, 100 freestyle, 500 freestyle, breaststroke. Every sport a family. Swimming was no Marvin Piggot, Alyssa Ringel, Wright, the boys and girls to do their best and make new memories. Whether it was answering silly trivia on the bus rides to and from practice, cheering each other on at meets or pushing our coach in the pool after a win, this season was unforgettable.



Katerina Athanasiou

Are there any special treatments you do to protect your hair from the chlorine?

I don't, but some of my teammates put shampoo on their hair before putting on their caps. They think it helps, but it's in their heads!



Matt Navata

How did swimming become your passion?

My family has always been a family of swimmers. We've always been obsessed with "running over" people in practice and that's where I got my drive to always swim faster.





***“Gold medals aren’t really
They’re made of sweat,
and a hard-to-find alloy***

SPRING SPORTS



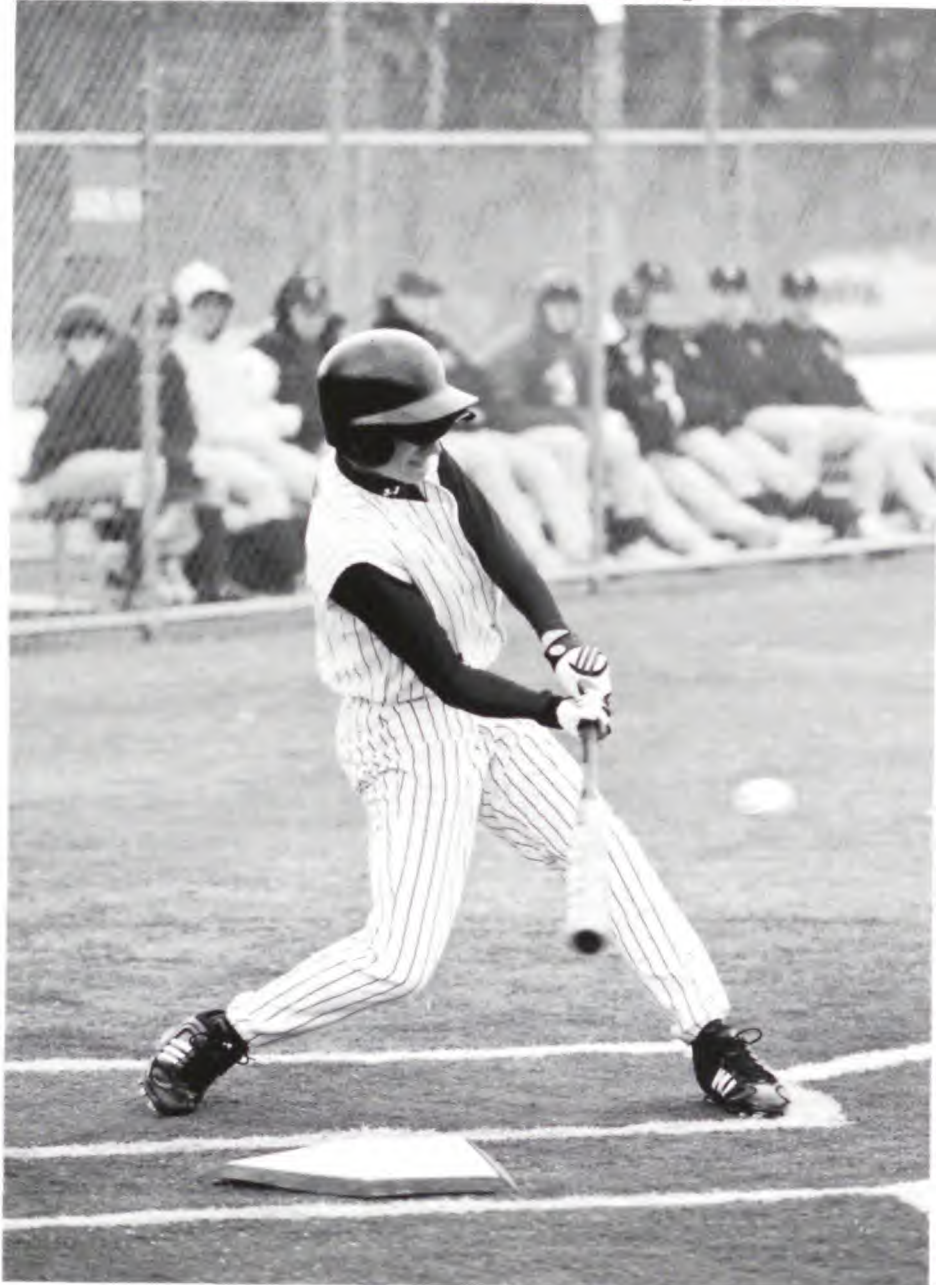
***made of gold.
determination,
called guts.”
- Dan Gable***



Pas Mangieri prepares to receive a curve ball from Gary Loma on a 3-2 count.



Greg Saul connects for a RBI base hit giving West Orange the lead.



Gary Loma

Bases loaded, full count, two outs, bottom of the ninth, up by one run - what pitch do you throw?

I would throw high heat, which is a fastball because the batter is nervous and anxious for it - plus, I throw 95 mph.

Junior Alex Gouin shows his perfect form before releasing his two-seam fastball.



BASEBALL

Team Rallies Together Behind Strong Senior Leadership

by: Neil Savalia

The 2009 Boys Baseball Team endured intense conditioning and constant practice throughout the season which helped bring them to the top. Their intense work ethic, hard training, and preparation catalyzed a confidence that indisputably generated an outstanding season. Coach Stephen Zichella established high standards for the team: three to four hour practices six days a week, a sacrificed spring break, endless conditioning, and continual off-season training, all in the name of perfecting ability and heightening team chemistry on the baseball diamond. Though faced by any daunting task or another team known for its excellence, the Mountaineers stuck together,

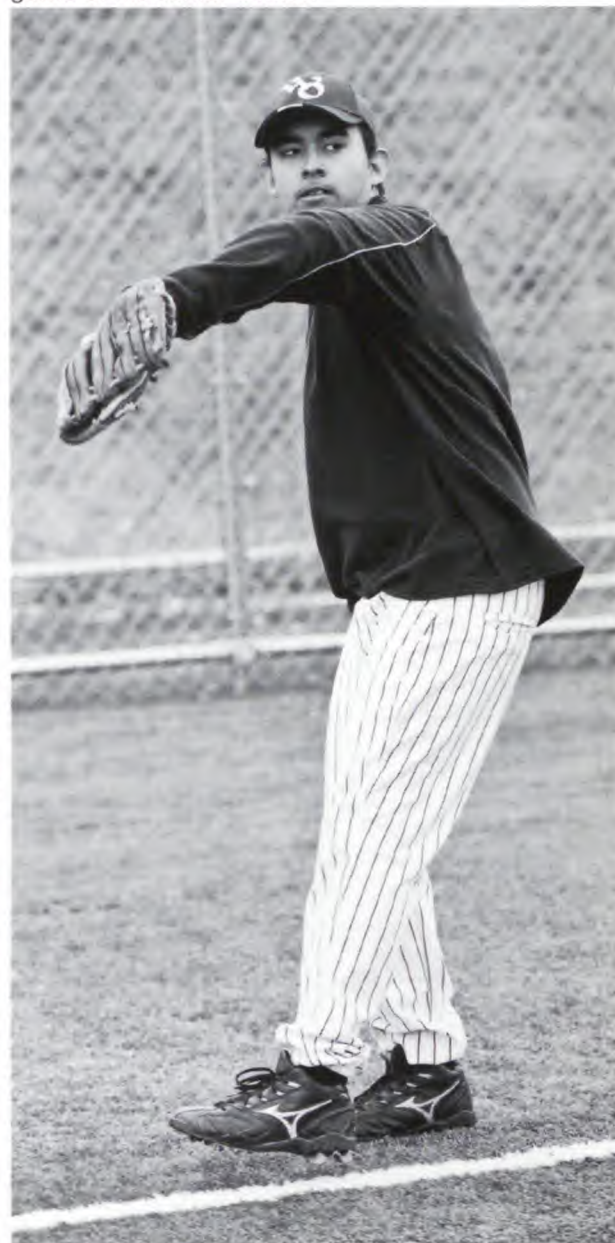
staying true to to each other "Senior Pasquale varsity catcher, is the county," Coach boasted. "We a killer season, these boys", he commented, "Gary varsity team his pitcher. Everyone curve ball' got him



their commitment and to the team. Mangieri, our star one of the best in Zichella proudly are going to have I am so proud of added. Mangieri Loma joined the sophomore year as knows his 'wicked there." Additionally,

senior outfielders Greg Saul and Elias Ramirez worked in tandem with the other seniors to emotionally lead the whole team. The seniors on the baseball team grew strong together everyday, constantly formulating examples for the rest of the team to follow. With the help of a strong start, the boys plowed through the season with poise that only the team's omnipresent synergy, teamwork, and limitless resolve could provide.

Elias Ramirez warms up before the first home game of his senior career.



The team comes together for a pep talk from Coach Zichella on the mound before taking the field.

Gina Piserchio throws to first base after fielding a tough ground ball.

Grace Tirella whips a ground ball over to first.



Sophomore Lauren Cohen keeps her eye on the catcher intent on getting the out at the plate.



S O F T B A L L



The Varsity Softball Team receives a pep talk at the bottom of the inning from Coach Galioto and enjoys their comfortable 10-6 lead.





SOFTBALL

Rebirth of a Team

by: Michelle Antunes

The 2009 Softball Team improved a great deal from last season. Captains Gina Piserchio, Gaby Bravoco, and Grace Tirella helped the team tremendously along the way while their coach, Jamie Galioto prepared the varsity team for an outstanding season. The team entered several tournaments, winning both the West Orange and Millburn Softball Tournaments. During the season, the team had a five game winning streak. They even defeated Bloomfield, a big rival from the past. With extended practices and harder drills, the team expected to have its best season yet, and their determination took them further into a successful season. This year's team was full of athletic girls

whose enthusiastic spirits allowed them to leave the field with many wins. With their dedication and clear set positions for the game, it was no surprise that the team emerged victorious. The girls learned how to fine tune their skills and excel in their individual positions on the field. Whether the team ran the bases, defended the outfield, or fought through adversity, they were always prepared. Captain Gina Piserchio said, "The team really



played like a family, we understood each others strengths and weaknesses." The team's perseverance and intense work ethic made the true West Orange competitors in each of them stand out.



Gaby Bravoco gets ready after giving Amanda Raba the pitching sign for a fast ball.



Sophomore Kimberly Reitmeyer aims to accurately throw the ball and complete the inning ending play.

Is there any significance or reason behind picking your number?

I picked the number 5 because it is my favorite number.



Steven Singleton



Julian Landsberg

Is there anything you do before a game to prepare and calm yourself?

I imagine that I'm in a relaxing setting and try to tune out everything stressful.



LACROSSE

For Honor and Glory

by: Krystal Steinik

Not many people know this, but lacrosse originated amongst the Native Americans. The Native Americans used this sport as a ritual for resolving conflicts, healing the sick, and preparing for war. There are legends of games consisting of hundreds of players competing on fields many miles in length and width for days at a time. Those who played the game took on the role of warriors with the desire of bringing honor to themselves as well as their tribes. Coincidentally, this was the same goal of the West Orange High School Lacrosse Team. The Lacrosse Team struggled in the past, most notably in the 2008 season when the team did not win a single game.



However, under the leadership of coaches Cohen, Russo, and Perez and captains Marvin Piggot, Ralph Charles, Steven Singleton, and Ryan Mulligan, the team made a great comeback. According to Piggot, "People have low expectations of the team after last year's less than successful season. He said, "Last year was a joke. This year, we're more serious." Although the 2009 season had some sour notes, such as starting players leaving the team, Piggot was hopeful that the team would rise above all of that. The lacrosse team strived all season to come out on top, and through their efforts, brought glory to the school's athletic program.



Marvin Piggot receives possession of the ball and races past his opponent up the field.



The team gets pumped before a game and comes together in a ritual chant.

Dominic DePasquale powerfully advances up the field after perfectly cradling a pass from Dorel St. Elie.



Tarrique Brooks-Bey swiftly places himself in front of the incoming ball preventing a goal.



Perfecting his cradle, Ryan Mulligan successfully passes the ball.



Hussein Aly Ahmed and Charwin Vanryck-Degroot sprint to position themselves to steal the ball at an optimal scoring distance.



Katlyn Brennan

How did you become interested in this sport?

The upperclassmen recruited me and I instantly fell in love with the sport and team.



James Ligot

What was your most memorable meet?

The Kearny Relays are always memorable. My sophomore year it went from sunny, to windy, to flurrying on a March day and I still threw pretty well.



Paul Lombardo

What is your favorite event and why?

The 110m hurdle because it is an event in which you must be a strong, dedicated, and most of all a fearless competitor.



Michael Madden exerts a bolt of energy while running to the pole vaulting pit.

E'lana Lemon gives momentum and prepares to release the javelin.



Keeping a steady pace throughout his race, Shontel BurkeClarke stays motivated until the final stride.

SPRING TRACK

Practice and Dedication Fuel Winning

by: Michael Smithers

The determination and dedication of the Boys and Girls Track Team of 2009 can be seen through the intensity the athletes brought to their many practices. At anytime during the season, the Track and Field Team could be seen practicing on the fields, striding around the track or gliding across the their individual exemplary, melded into knit unit that each and together, like my



circle. Although efforts were the track team one closely jumped over every hurdle "They are family it's like

a home away from home," says senior James Burroughs. James, as well as the other seniors, showed the results of four years of dedication by approaching their events with finesse and dexterity.

The track team is no stranger to using the skills they strengthened in practice to their best advantage. The 4x800 meter relay team broke a 33 year-old record by seven seconds this year; there were also many other records shattered throughout the season. The 4x1600 meter record and the distance medley record were also broken for the first time in over ten years of school history. Within our four years of high school, the track and field team became better, faster, and stronger.



Stevenson Vilus passes his opponent taking the victory for West Orange.



James Burroughs puts his weight into launching over the hurdle.

Schedule

- Millburn Relays
- Morris Hills Relays
- Essex County Relays
- NHC Championships
- Essex County Championships
- Eastern Relays
- State Sectionals
- Group 4 Championships
- Meet of Championships



C.J. Waldron

What was your best score during the season?

My best score was 42 against Montville, which is an undefeated team.



Junior Dennis Hoatsen completes his drive down the field getting the ball within close proximity of the hole.



Max Figueroa prepares to chip his second shot onto the green to set up his eagle.

C.J. Waldron shows off his perfect follow through after a hole in one.



GOLF

Young Team Inspired by Senior Leadership

by: Alyssa Ringel

Whether it was perfecting their drives or getting a hole in one, the 2009 West Orange High School Golf Team always showed their best efforts. With Crestmont Country Club allowing them to practice and host matches, Coach Nick Galante helped his team excel in the sport of golf and learn the game. It was obvious how much time they put in at practice in order to achieve their goals and overcome extremely tough teams in various counties. Led by Captain CJ Waldron, as well as fellow seniors Max Figueroa and Anthony Casalino, the golf team improved their game tremendously throughout the season. Casalino said, "I joined the golf team because my whole family played and it's the only game where you are fully responsible for your score and not dependent on anyone but yourself." Although golf is played individually, the seniors kept up the support and confidence in their teammates. The commitment and determination shown throughout the season proved the Golf Team's talent and satisfaction with the sport.



Anthony Casalino keeps his eye on the ball as he drives for a whole in one.

The West Orange High School 2008-2009 Varsity Golf Team.



Laying it on the Line

by: Michael Lazar

After losing five seniors last season, The West Orange High School Boy's Tennis Team had a season of rebuilding in their midst. Head coach Jay Gitter and assistant coach Erica De Palo committed to instructing and mentoring the players by holding practice where certain drills were practiced to perfection. the only two seniors underclassmen how to and reach success. The models to all the other been on the team since seniors stood out as The season was filled and persistence to environment. Huryk and of the underclassmen as junior Brian Liu, and and Chris Davis had a 2nd, and 3rd singles on had a lot of effort to hours practicing, the players as individuals each stood out when working toward his own personal success. The seniors played tennis for the past four years and learned lessons that made them strong individuals. They passed these lessons onto their young teammates as a source of courage, motivation, and dedication.



Jim Huryk and Krish Pillai, on the team, showed the work hard, strength train, two senior boys are role players on the team. Having they were freshmen, the leaders and dedicated players. with hard work, dedication, create a successful working Pillai stood out in the eyes didactic guides. Strong players, sophomores David Handsman terrific season playing 1st, Varsity. Although the team put forth and spent rigorous



Sophomore David Handsman plays an unexpected drop shot, tricking his opponent.

Retreating to the baseline, Krish Pillai retaliates with a strong forehand.



With perfect footwork and form, sophomore William Talbot prepares to return a shot.



Who do you think was the most influential person in improving your game?



Jim Huryk

Mr. Alcindor, because he would practice with me after practice was over.



With a look of extreme confidence, Jim Huryk closes out the match with a driving backhand.



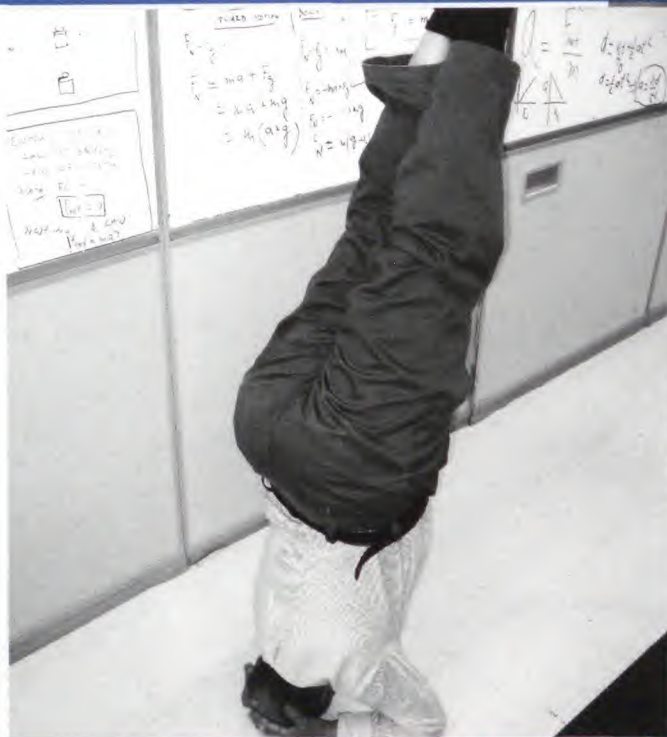
Boys Tennis



Sophomore Brian Byon focuses with great determination and strikes the ball into his opponent's court.

"Always have the situation under control, even when losing. Never betray an inward sense of defeat."

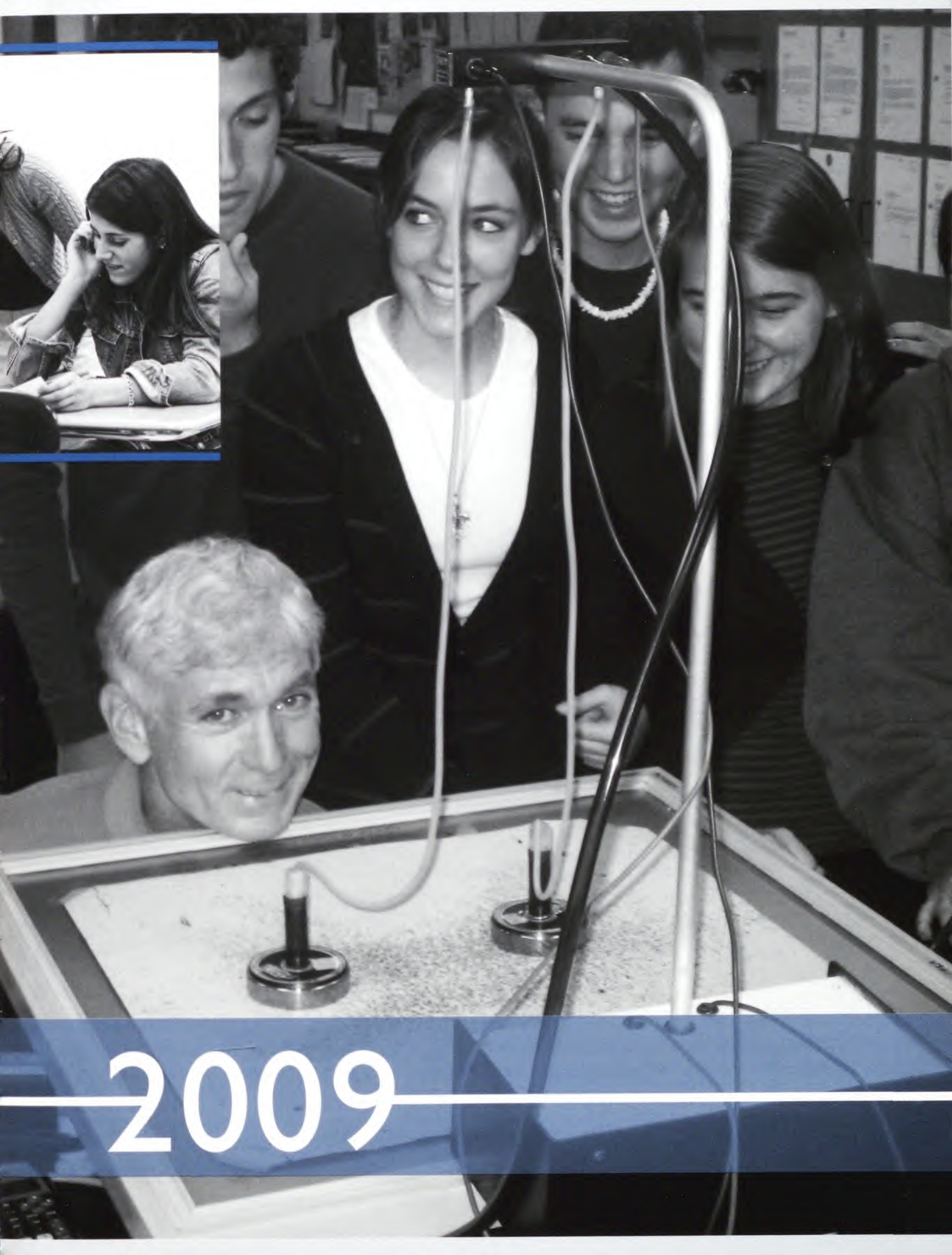
- Arthur Ashe



The Class of 2009 was filled with extraordinary students, but these students did not excel alone. Our teachers—the people who educated, helped, and befriended us within our high school years were instrumental in our lives. During our four years here, they offered their time to mentor us, allowing us to ultimately succeed in every facet of our lives. These caring, dedicated individuals offered us countless, irreplaceable memories. When reminiscing about our high school days, our influential teachers will stand out. Henry Brooks Adam once said, “A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.” As the Class of 2009 departed from West Orange, its students left with not only a remarkable textbook education, but with pragmatic life lessons and reinforced confidence because of our teachers, the exceptional individuals who dedicated themselves to us inside and outside of the classroom.



WEST FACULTY



—2009—

Jerry P. Tarnoff

Superintendent of Schools

1965 - 2009

After forty-four years of working in the West Orange School District, Superintendent Jerry Tarnoff is retiring in June. Over the course of his career, Tarnoff served the district in a variety of ways, including as Teacher, Coach, Administrative Assistant, Assistant Principal, Principal and, of course, Superintendent of West Orange Schools. The assortment of positions he held throughout the district allowed Tarnoff to interact with a multitude of people in many different ways. A few West Orange High School staff members shared some words that give just the slightest impression of all Tarnoff dedicated to the town of West Orange.

"Jerry was unique as a Superintendent; he did not micro-manage his staff. He trusted that we were trained professionals who were competent and dedicated to educating students to become the best that they could be. Diversity here at West Orange High School was celebrated and the uniqueness of our students and staff created a microcosm of the global environment where all must learn to share and live together in peace. This philosophy flourished under his leadership."

~Kathleen Grotto

Teacher of History West Orange High School



"Jerry Tarnoff is West Orange and West Orange is Jerry Tarnoff. It is not just the duration, but the quality of service for the last forty-four years that is unprecedented. His leadership, dedication, and devotion are unparalleled and will never be duplicated. His door was always open whether you were a student, teacher, parent, administrator or just an interested town resident. Throughout his tenure, he never vacillated from one single maxim: It was, is, and will always be about the kids, the kids, the kids."

~Joseph Suriano

Teacher of English West Orange High School

"During my forty years in public education, I have met and worked for many superintendents and can honestly and enthusiastically state that Jerry Tarnoff is without doubt, the best I have encountered. His dedication to the West Orange community, schools and its constituents is extraordinary. Mr. Tarnoff "lives" West Orange. He has always worked closely with the town's leadership and fraternal organizations in making West Orange an exceptional place to reside. Under his auspices, during his forty-four year career, this consummate professional's unwavering commitment has transformed West Orange schools. He is a wonderfully kind, compassionate and caring humanitarian. His management style is such that he consistently considers the individual first while diligently getting the job done. People enjoy working with and for him. Mr. Tarnoff is truly an outstanding gentleman and educator who will leave a magnificent legacy. He will always be fondly remembered, greatly appreciated and genuinely treasured."

~ Arthur J. Alloggiamento

Principal West Orange High School

Board of Education



Dr. Donna
Rando Ed.D.
Assistant
Superintendent



Mark Kenney
School Business
Administrator



Steven Kehayes
Director of
Technology and
Administrative
Services



Anne Marie
Caste
Director of
Student Support
Services



Karen Tarnoff
District Test
Coordinator



Carmine
Iacullo III
Webmaster
Computer
Technician



Michelle
Casalino
President
Board of
Education



Kathryn M.
Tague
Vice President
Board of
Education



Megan Brill
Member
Board of
Education



Laura Lab
Member
Board of
Education



Paul Petigrow
Member
Board of
Education

"All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth." - Aristotle

Administration and Professional Staff



Louis Della Pia
Assistant Principal



Kimberly Juirdano Ed.D
Assistant Principal



Hayden Moore
Assistant Principal



Eric Price
Assistant Principal



David Doty
Athletic Director



Annette Dade
Dean of Students



Patrick Galante
Dean of Students



Karen Perry
Supervisor of
Alternative
Programs



Stephan Zichella
In-School
Suspension
Coordinator



Christine Borkowski
CSN, RN



Nancy Feldman
CSN, RN



Arthur Alloggiamento
Principal
West Orange High School

WEST ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL

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Website: www.westorange.k12.nj.us

ARTHUR J. ALLOGGIAMENTO, PRINCIPAL

KIMBERLY JURDANO, Ed. D., ASST. PRINCIPAL
HAYDEN MOORE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ERIC PRICE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

LOUIS DELLAPIA, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ANNETTE DADE, STUDENT MANAGEMENT
PATRICK GALANTE, STUDENT MANAGEMENT

Dear Members of the Graduating Class of 2009

As you reflect upon your high school years, there will unquestionably be a number of experiences that will stand out in your mind. Perhaps it will be the teacher who encouraged, believed in and motivated you to do your very best. Perhaps it will be the guidance counselor who assisted in your decision regarding college or career. Perhaps it will be the football or soccer game, track meet or some other competitive event that was so exciting that it left an indelible imprint. Perhaps another outstanding memory will be the election of 2008, a most historic event, where the first African-American was elected as President of United States.

Whatever stands out for you, it is our hope that your experiences at West Orange High School were positive, meaningful and encouraging. We hope that we provided you with an environment that was safe and welcoming, where our faculty demonstrated great care and concern, where you were academically challenged to think and problem solve, where you were respected and individual differences were honored, and where we properly prepared you for your life's work.

As a graduate of WOHS, you have met the rigors of our school and succeeded. Now you will begin a new facet of your life's path. I extend my very best wishes to you for continued success. May you follow your heart and realize your dreams. May life be kind by extending to you good health, much happiness, exceptional fortune and unyielding success.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Alloggiamento

"The leaders who work most effectively, it seems to me, never say 'I.' And that's not because they have trained themselves not to say 'I.' They don't think 'I.' They think 'we'; they think 'team.' They understand their job to be to make the team function. They accept responsibility and don't sidestep it, but 'we' gets the credit. This is what creates trust, what enables you to get the task done."

-Peter Drucker



Amedeo Chirichiello
Student Assistance
Counselor



Carla Helb
Student Assistance
Counselor



John Morella
School Resource
Officer



Michelle Nagle
School Resource
Officer

Guidance

“Give people enough guidance to make the decisions you want them to make. Don’t tell them what to do, but encourage them to do what is best.”

- Jimmy Johnson



Thomas Shea
Supervisor



Aldo Casale



Lesley Chung



Margaret Fahey



Madelin
Fernandez-Perez



Kathleen Flynn



Kathryn Furey



The West Orange High School guidance department takes on the responsibility of encouraging students to explore various futures. Their positive energy and genuine desire to help all students is refreshing and makes all West Orange High School’s counselors accessible daily. Mr. Casale, one of the guidance counselors, explores career paths with Michael Smithers.

Mrs. Fernandez-Perez reviews the importance of standardized tests with Heran Abiye.



Tiffany Goodson



Rebecca Martin



Christine Nesbitt



Louis Pallante

Language Arts

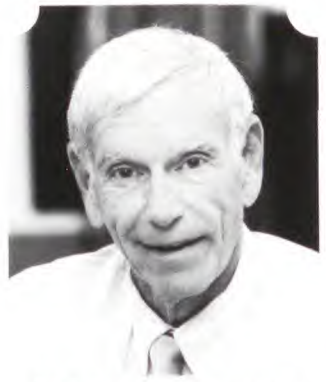
"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."
- Albert Einstein

Mr. Victor Alcindor was voted among the most influential teachers in West Orange High School by the Class of 2009. Here he shares a driving force for his passion to enlighten students.

Passion: The Key to Education

by: Victor Alcindor

Despite how cliché it may sound, the best teachers are enthusiastic and stimulating. It is evident within seconds to see that these teachers actually enjoy teaching. The late Dr. Don Evans, a college professor and friend, provided me with great direction during my first year at Trenton State College. Don, via his course allowed me to read my first novel written by an African American writer. Most importantly, he sparked within me a desire to seek great literature, examine the beauty of culture, and the greatness of James Baldwin. Don, like any great educator, stimulated an intellectual curiosity and motivated me to self-directed learning. The same passion he conveyed in his lectures is what I try to infuse in my students today.



Michael Romeo
Supervisor



Victor Alcindor



Joanne Andrasko



Kathryn Baran



Craig Champagne



Erica De Palo



Michelle Ehrlich



William Ehrlich



Lynn Haims



Megan Kiczek



Kathryn Kim



Michelle Martino



Mary Ann
Mc Gonigle



Charlene
Muldrow



Bryan Ribardo



Jennifer Ryden



Joseph Suriano



Tynia Thomassie



Sandra Van Dyke



Rita Wojchik

Mathematics

"If people do not believe that mathematics is simple, it is only because they do not realize how complicated life is."

- John Louis von Neumann



Terry Caliste
Supervisor



Leslie Bagen



Jennifer Blanding



Dara Brevard



Katelyn Busby



Barbara
Ciccaglione



Kerri Coyne



Karen Davis



Michael
De Barbieri



Thomas Gargiulo



Linda Goetz



Frank Iannucci, Jr.



Elizabeth Kelleher



Young Kim



Chelsea Lauer



Mark Maniscalco



George Speer



Lynne Steinberg



Jessica Tybursky



Carolyn
Verderamo



Susan Whitty

Humor: Lightning Up the Classroom

by: Michael De Barbieri

West Orange seniors selected Michael De Barbieri as a teacher that impacted their high school years. Sometimes Math can be viewed as monotonous, but Mr. De Barbieri shares an instance in which a student's words entertained a class.

Over the years, I have found that students tend to say some pretty funny things. One year, I began the class with explaining what's coming up in the next few weeks. I explained that we had a full week of school followed by a four day week with having Good Friday off. One student asked, "What day is Good Friday?" I respond, "April 6th." She proceeds to say, "No, I meant what day of the week?" Needless to say, it took a while to get the class started on the lesson.



Science

"Science is the systematic classification of experience."

- Herbert Spencer

Dr. Michael Lawrence, a West Orange veteran, was chosen as one of the most influential science teachers to seniors.

Here he shares rewards he receives from teaching.

The Man Behind the Name

by: Michael Lawrence

In 1972, I walked into a classroom for the first time as a teacher (of calculus, at the University of Florida). The after effects of that first class were immediate and powerful: this is what I want to do. The past 36 years of teaching have served to strengthen and embed that first impression as an essential part of my being, of who I am.

Here is what I wish: That in some small way I've influenced my students to think scientifically. That is, to make decisions, to believe what they believe, not because they were told to, but because they have evidence to support that decision/belief. This way of thinking is the enduring value of science.

Here is what I know: That when I'm teaching, teaching physics, I'm elevated spiritually: I go to a different, better place. The interactions involved (teaching, learning, listening, stories with students, getting to know them, and them getting to know me) have made me proud, humble, and passionate about my responsibility to be the best teacher I can be. This is a magnificent, important occupation that stands as a testament to the notion that what you get out of something is directly related to what you put into it. And yet, I can't possibly give back to my students what they have given me, both individually (you know who you are) and collectively. But I'll continue to try, knowing full well that having been a small part of so many interesting young lives has given me, every day, a deep sense of fulfillment, of sheer pleasure, that I simply couldn't find in any other walk of life.



Deborah Krause
Supervisor



Elena Ameres



Ronald Brandt



Tagen Carbone



Robert Chanda



Zachary Cohane



Jana Dooner



Daniel Duca



Peter Ficuciello



Debra Franek



Keith Frey



Mark
Kirchenbauer



Sonia Lauren



Michael Lawrence



Krishnagopal
Mandal



Robert Middleton



Brad Mitchell



Frank Newman



Patricia Poore



Michele Schultz



Stephanie Sisak



Hope Stewart



Paul Tavarone

Social Studies

"Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation."

- Robert F. Kennedy



Eric Price
Supervisor



Ara Berberian



William Bradley



From Princeton to Presidents

by: Elizabeth Manning

Notorious for her wicked sense of humor and comical style, Ms. Elizabeth Manning makes history come to life. This year, seniors chose her as a teacher of exemplary quality, and ultimately their favorite within the History Department. Although Manning always wanted to become a teacher, she explored other options before ending up in the classroom. To the right, she explains her path to where she is today in a few words.

Ever since I can remember, I wanted to be a teacher. However, in seventh grade I mentioned it to some classmates, and their reaction was so negative that I began to consider other careers. After college I worked as a paralegal with a plan to become a lawyer. After three years, I realized that the job was not what I wanted. Then, I tried teaching in West Orange, and was ultimately hired as a teacher here. I can't imagine doing anything else, or being anywhere else. Each year I get a new crop of students with all different backgrounds, and each year, I have the best time with those students. History carries limited meaning without a diverse source of perspectives. To me, it's not the teaching of history that makes my job, it's the unique personalities and talents of each student that make everyday worthwhile. I absolutely love what I do.



Julie Brady



Douglas Drabik



Christopher
Evans



Lauren Feehan



Michael
Figueiredo



Kathleen Grotto



Marc Lawrence



Elizabeth Manning



Timothy
Miskimon



Michele Morais



Rachel Ostanski



Melanie Raab



Alan Reeder



Tracey Reynolds



David Sehr



Robbin Sweeney

World Language and ESL



Edwin Acevedo
Supervisor
World Language



Ana Marti
Supervisor ESL



Vincenza Amabile



Erika Arenger



Brenda Avila



Parnel Beaubrun



Maria Blanco



Honorino Carrera



Jean
Claude Cenatus



Olympia de Pinto



Raquel Feliciano



Rosa Guzman



Max Jean-Baptiste



Yajing Li



Isabel Macowski



Kristine Massari

"Language is the blood of the soul into which thoughts run and out of which they grow."
- Oliver Wendell Holmes



Maria
Montgomery



Linda Ozarow



Dana Peart



Carlos Pérez

Temporary Job Becomes Lifelong Passion

When surveyed, seniors chose Carlos Pérez as their favorite world language teacher. Mr. Pérez shared an experience that fueled his teaching career and made him the teacher he is today.



by: Carlos Pérez

During the winter break of 1999, I went back to WOHS to visit my former teachers. I was a senior at Rutgers University planning to continue my studies in Psychology. During a talk with one of the Spanish teachers, who was going to have knee surgery in February, I was asked to help her out by teaching her classes for a month until her recovery. I decided to take the challenge of teaching. To my surprise, this absolutely changed my life. I did not know I was going to have so much fun, and was thrilled when I was offered a full-time teaching position starting September 2000.

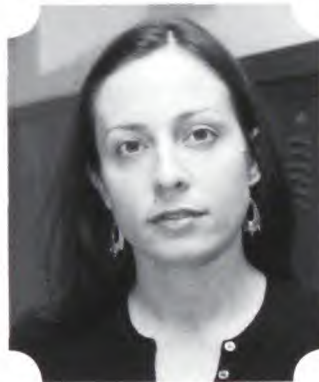
Teaching my language and culture has been a rewarding and self-fulfilling experience. Everyday that I walk into my classroom I walk into my second home. This is why I am able to always give my best as a teacher and as a friend. I always look at the positive, using humor to create a welcoming, warm and relaxed atmosphere. This is what brings out the best in my students and builds their confidence in the language.



Eileen Quirk



Juan Roncero



Begoña Viqueira



Ann Zaaier

Physical Education



Joyce Cutler
Supervisor



Kevin Alvine



Bridget Amirr



Keith Appello



Ozzie Diaz



Marcella Fusco



James Galioto



John Jacob



Jill Kostenbader
Athletic Secretary



Robert
Kuczmarski
Site Manager

"The resistance that you fight physically in the gym and the resistance that you fight in life can only build a strong character."

- Arnold Schwarzenegger



When surveyed, the Class of 2009 declared John Jacob to be the most outstanding Physical Education teacher. To the right, he explains the benefits he gets from being an educator.



Diane Mitchell



Claire Moss



Eugene Palatianos
Athletic Trainer



Meredith Schwartz



Margaret Theobald



Danielle Tracy



William Urbanski



Steven
Vander Ploeg

Hard Work Triumphs Over All

by: John Jacob

Growing up I never felt that I was amongst the smartest, most athletic or most talented kids. However, I did always feel that I had a greater threshold for the inherent discomfort that accompanies success as well as the ability to work and fight harder for the goals that I wanted to achieve more than the average person. I believed and still believe that determination and relentless desire will compensate for any shortcomings with regards to ability and talent. With that in mind, I was convinced in my late teens and early twenties that if I got into some facet of the business world I would have the potential to make a great deal of money because I was certain that I could outwork anyone in my respective field.

Throughout my college career I worked exorbitant hours and was blessed with opportunities that provided me with financial independence that was rare for someone my age. Coaching was one of those jobs that at the time; however it was the only one that did not feel like work to me. It was the only one that gave me a sense of satisfaction. When I left my other places of employment I left with a good deal of cash in hand, but that is all that I left with. I did not leave with the ability to have an impact on anything but myself and I just simply did not find this acceptable. As various leaders influenced my thoughts and priorities, my passion became clearer. Without a doubt, I have the life of football to thank for that. It made me realize that the greatest gift an individual can be given is to discover his/her greatest passions and then find a way to get compensated for them. Those experiences along with many other epiphanies led me to the field of education. I have conceded to the fact that working harder and longer will not equate to a cash bonus at the end of the year, but if it can help any young person through any adversity, make them see things in possibly a more open-minded manner than they did prior and of course win more football games, it will far exceed any tangible reward that I could be offered. If I were to retire tomorrow, my only hope would be that any student, parent, colleague or superior that I ever came in contact with would have believed that I genuinely and sincerely cared about those with whom I have worked as well as those I have led.



Anthony Vitale



Cathryn Welter

Fine Arts and LMC



Fran Neceskas
Library Media
Supervisor



Louis Quagliato
Supervisor
Fine Arts



April Clark



Catherine Evanik
Library Media
Specialist



William Farley



Martin Kale
Media
Coordinator



Lewis Kelly



Jennifer Kitchen

The arts can awaken the soul and provide a venue for collaboration among students. While inspiration is necessary, so is instruction. For this, we have teachers like Diane Tol, who was elected as the Class of 2009's favorite teacher of fine arts. Typically, creativity is expelled through paint, oil pastels, and charcoal, but occasionally, words convey the originality of students. Ms. Tol shares a particularly memorable moment:

Getting Tol'd

by: Diane Tol

One day, business as usual in the art classroom, I was walking around the room and helping several students. There was a particular student who had misunderstood what to do and had taken an ineffective approach to solving the problem. I intervened and put the student on a better track and another student yelled out, "You just got Tol'd." The whole class thought it made sense to make a sign to hang up. I never forgot the kid who said that!





Nicole Krulik



Nicholas Marmo
AVA Technician



Lisa Martin



Erin McClure



Elena Peres



Jaime Podhurst



Rosemary Rich
Library Media
Specialist



Cynthia Rowberg



Diane Tol



Gavri T. Yares



Heather Young

It takes tremendous time and effort to prepare for a concert. The dedication of the musicians is a clear reflection of their conductor. Mr. Yares is a well respected musician and the music of the orchestra solidifies this not only at the concerts but during daily rehearsals as well.



Technical & Vocational

"Vocational education programs have made a real difference in the lives of countless young people nationwide; they build self-confidence and leadership skills by allowing students to utilize their unique gifts and talents."

- Conrad Burns



David Bensen
Supervisor



Christopher
Banta



Cynthia Critelli



Ryan Del Guercio



Nancy Donnelly



Cheryl Ann
Dunlap



Natasha
Gialanella



Anne Hanson



Peter Harrington



Loretta Holmok



Russell Iuculano



Marvin Kron



Susan Marshall



Victor Paglio



Sally Paland



Anthony Prasa



Deborah Sharkey



Kimberly Szalkai



Sharon Vitiello



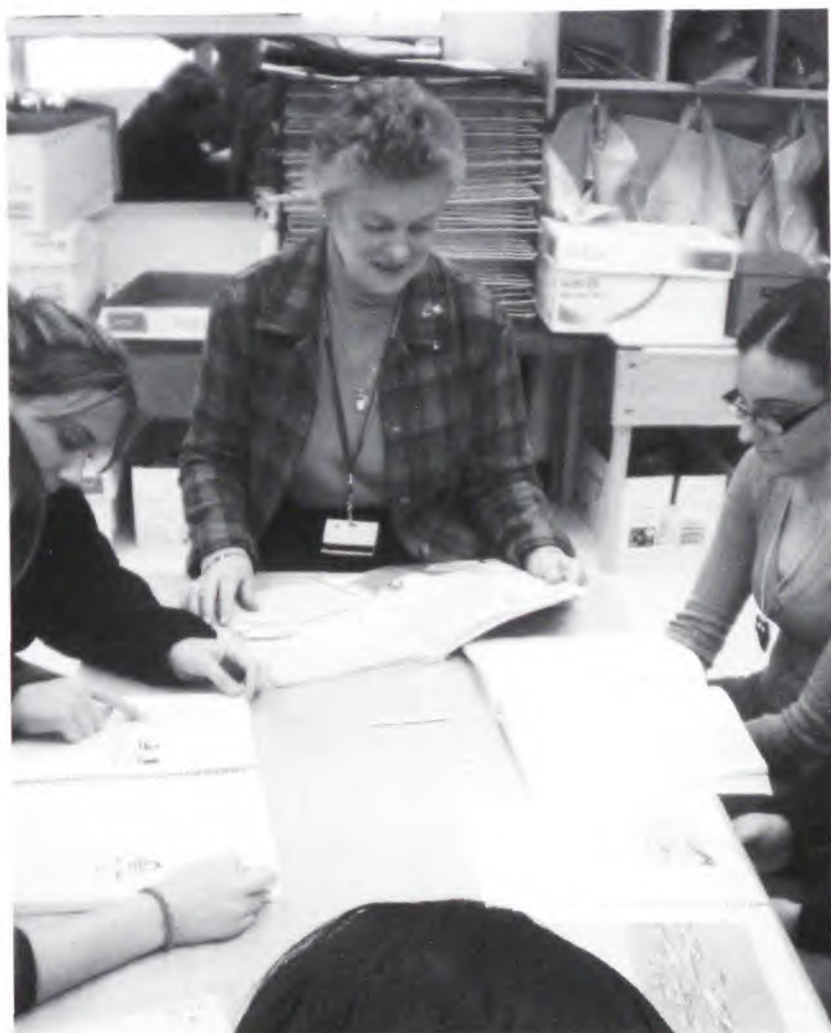
David Vodofsky



Dora
Wong-Macias



John Worobetz



Ms. Loretta Holmok, a long time teacher chosen as best technical and vocational teacher, shares one of her most memorable moments at West Orange High school.

Fulfillment From Student Growth

by: Ms. Loretta Holmok

The most memorable moments are watching inexperienced sophomores transform into seniors who are enthusiastic, organized, confident, professional teaching role models in the classroom. Read Across America Day spent at Pleasantdale School is a special highlight for reading a Dr. Seuss book, [the students] wearing red bow ties and high hats. The baby simulation weekend begins with high levels of excitement and ends with very realistic understanding of what parenting truly encompasses. At the end of each year, I am proud of each class' progress and accomplishments.



Elizabeth
Maddalena
Supervisor



Lee Cohen
School
Psychologist



Jodi
Goldstein
Transition
Coordinator



Nicole
Handler
School
Psychologist



Zoila
Hernandez
Occupational
Therapist



Melissa
Martins
Learning
Consultant



Peter
Pantalena
Speech
Therapist



Dawn
Ribeiro
School
Psychologist



Connie
Salimbeno
LDTC



Ana Shaw
Social
Worker



Patricia
Aldworth



Silverio
Bastiao



Lori
Bollotta



Gail
Bowsher



Kimberly
Buckley



Mark
Cacciocarne



Eileen
Cardone



Michele
Clancy



Brian
Cohen



Shannon
Core



Jeanette
De Palma



Janis
De Rosa



Kelly
Dower



Anthony
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Michael
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Marcia
Grivalsky



Mayda
Kale



Michael J.
Lawrence



Simona
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Chuck
Manzo



Kevan
Murphy



Madonna
Nwako



Christine
O'Neill



Gina
Paradiso



Purvi
Patel



Anthony
Perconti



Krista
Romanyshyn



Matthew
Salzman



Kimberly
Theobald

“No man can be a good teacher unless he has feelings of warm affection toward his pupils and a genuine desire to impart to them what he believes to be of value.”

- Bertrand Russell



Thomas
Bamber



Fred
Barnwell



Anton
Carrera



Joseph
Chango



Marisol
Da Silva



Judith
Damiano



Christina
De Marco



Alonzo
De Ramus



Diane
Dixon-Aboulnejad



Nancy
Festa



Ruysdael
Georges



Maria
Gonzalez



Amanda
Greenlees



James
Holik



Dennis
Mc Garrity



Ofelia
Rodriguez



Raquel
Sardiña



Helaine
Scharfstein



Christine
Shahadi



Steven
Simon



Karen
Venchkoski



Rebecca
Weinstein

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Security Staff



Conforti Office Staff



Pleasant Valley Way Office Staff



Library Media Center and Health Office Staff



Guidance Office Staff



Custodial Staff



Cafeteria Staff



When we think of our hometown, all of the restaurants, studios, doctors, buildings, and shops sprinkled across West Orange come to mind. Each of these businesses contributed to the Class of 2009's development. These places provided jobs, community service opportunities, popular hang out spots, and most importantly, a chance to broaden our horizons. Each nook and cranny of this town was a small part of our dynamic high school memory. The following pages not only commend the incredible businesses and patrons that provided us with unwavering support, but also portray photographic tributes from family and friends.



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 Yacob Zewoldi
 Stephen Zichella



Congratulates
"The West Orange High School Graduating Class of 2009."

*Special Acknowledgment to :
Heran Abiye, Maria A. Damte, Amanuel Tewelde,
Meron Kassa, Aslie Asberom & Betelehem Sisay*

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AND BEST WISHES
TO THE CLASS OF 2009!
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Mr. Della Pia, Assistant Principal
Dr. Juirdano, Assistant Principal
Mr. Moore, Assistant Principal
Mr. Price, Assistant Principal



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TO OUR G-SON, TRAVIS
THE GREATEST GRANDSON EVER!
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LOVE,
G-MA, G-PA, AND LaRONE

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Congratulations Class of 2009!



**"TRAVIS CHINA"
"T20"**

Travis, we can't begin to describe how proud we are of you as a person, a scholar, and an athlete. You have a very keen personality and a lot of self-esteem. Continue to be the person that you are today and you will continue to light up a room with your presence and personality and more particularly, go very far in life.

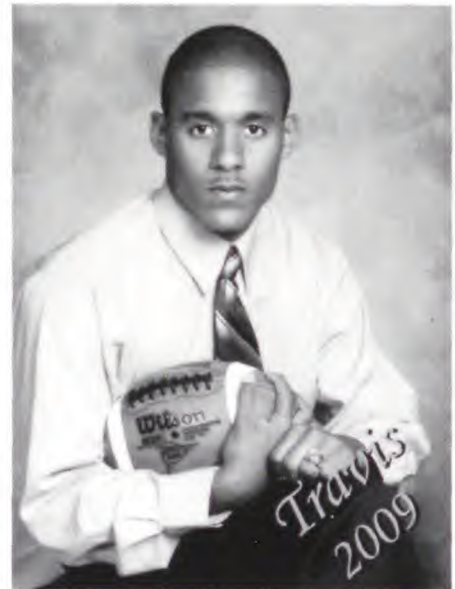
You are a joy, and we love you dearly. Your love for your family and sports is phenomenal. From a baby you have always had a football in your possession and you still enjoy playing and watching football and we enjoy watching you.

CONGRATULATIONS on your Perfect Attendance through the West Orange school district since kindergarten; and

CONGRATULATIONS on your Graduation. May college and your future endeavors bring you as much success as you had in high school. God Bless!

WE LOVE US SOME YOU!!!!

**WITH ALL OUR LOVE,
MOM, DAD and
TIFFANY (05)**





Mike,

To see you happy,
laughing and joking
smiling and content
striving towards goals of your own
accomplishing what you set out to do
having fun with your family and friends
capable of loving and being loved
is what we always wished for you.



Today we thought about your handsome face
and felt your excitement for life and what lies ahead.
As your parents, we burst with pride and hope that all
your dreams come true.

What an extraordinary young man you have become
and as you continue to grow and experience life,
always remember how much we love you!

Mom & Dad





To Brendon, Jessica, & Jimmy-
Don't forget about the good times we had, whether it was
lunch, going to the movies, snow tubing, hanging in the
hot tub or whatever... you guys made it rock 1,000 times
more than usual!

Be sure to keep in touch guys...
Best friends forever- David



Congratulations
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&
The Board of Trustees

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smile

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To The Class
of 2009
&
Good Luck
in your
Future
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MARK LAUTERBACH

You clearly march to the beat of a different drummer!!

You have made the dinner table discussions interesting...

(It'll be real quiet when you're off at school...)

You have taken us thru four years of wrestling matches and drumline;

B.B. Kings' in NYC and *the Apocalypse* on TV36....

Your writing has inspired us;

We can't wait for your first novel to come out...

A story that may tell us more of what you are about!!

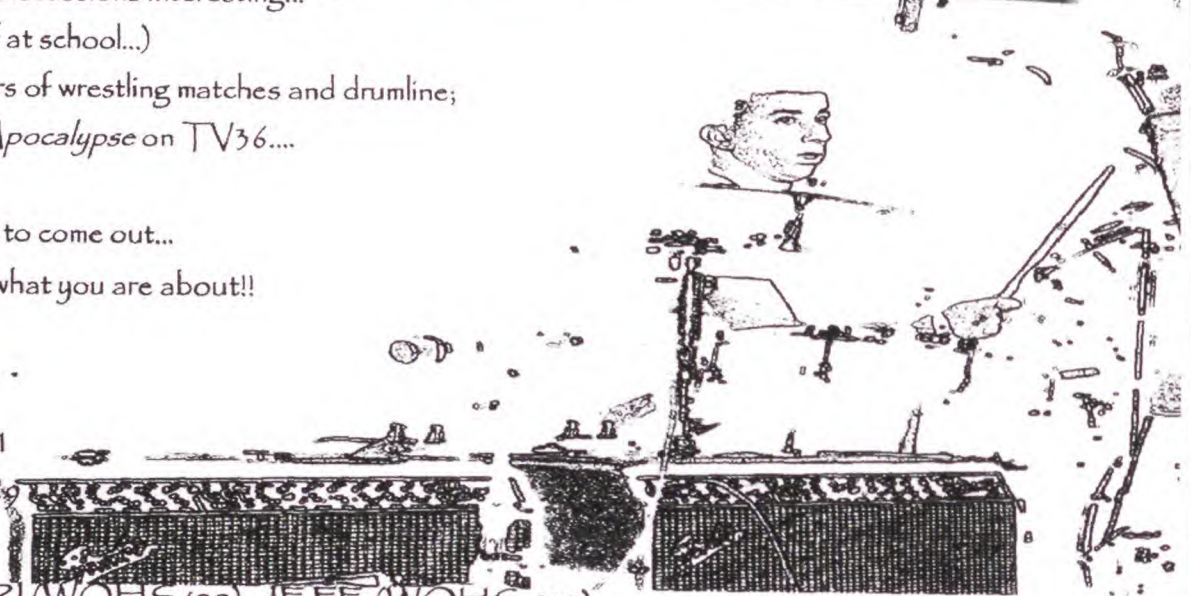
LOVE,

MOM (GAIL) Mountain '71

DAD (LYLE) Mountain '69

KRIS (WOHS '96) LORI (WOHS '00) JEFF (WOHS '07)

NANNY & POP-POP (School of Hard Knocks- '35)



*Alyssa
and
Samantha*



And you'll take every moment, and live it out loud
You know this is the time, this is the time
To be more than a name, or a face in the crowd
You know this is the time, this is the time of your lives
David Cook

We are so proud of all you've accomplished so far.

You are both beautiful, thoughtful, strong,
compassionate, intelligent young women. We can't
wait to see the next chapter unfold.

Love You!! Mom, Dad and Josh



Sisterly Love



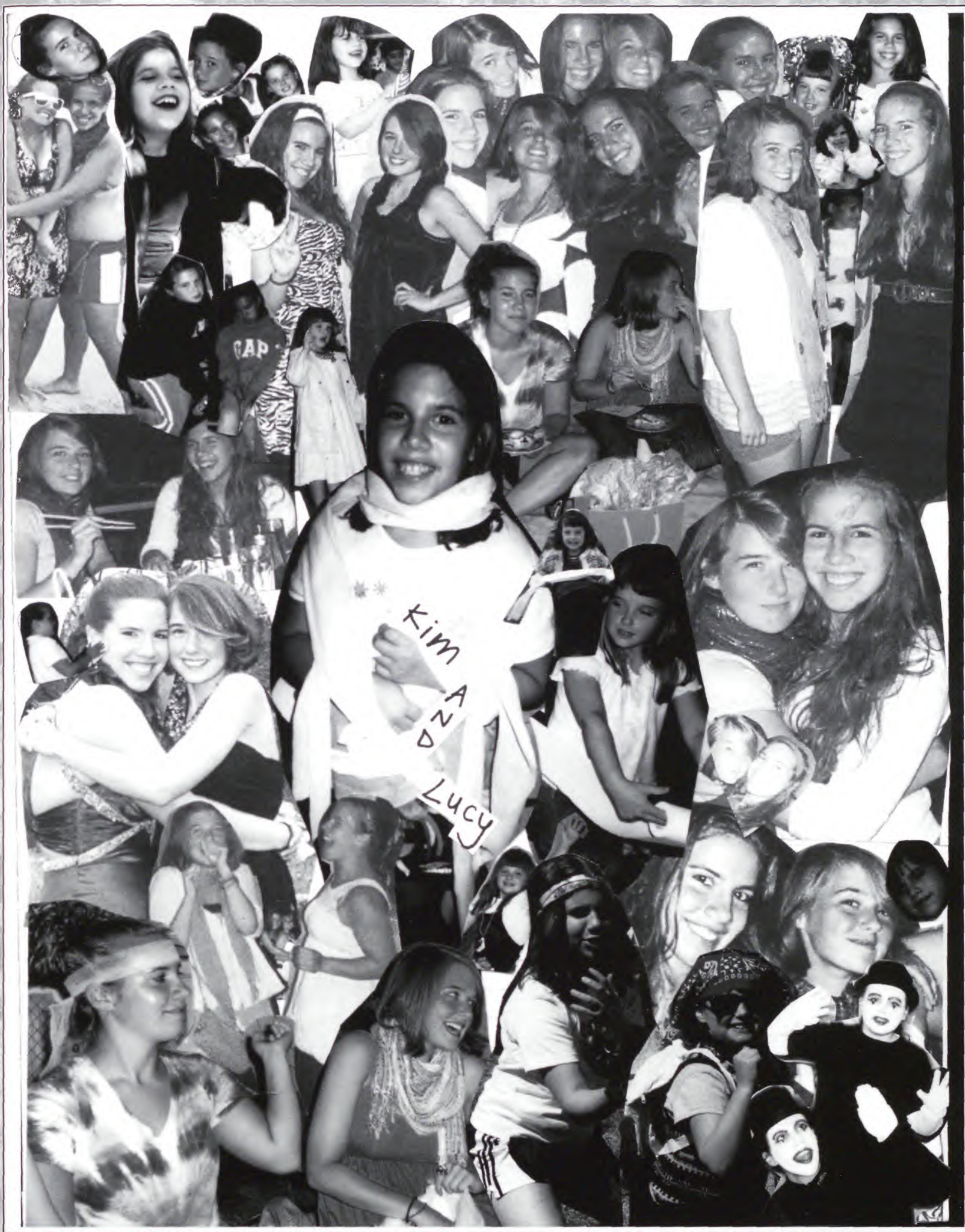
Congratulations
&
Best Wishes to the
Class of 2009



*Cat,
You have brought me so much joy and happiness
since the day you were born.
My heart is filled with pride as we celebrate your graduation.
Always follow your dreams and be happy.
I love you very much forever.
Mom*



**Dear Steven,
We are so proud of you and your accomplishments!
We love you to the sky and back.
Mom, Dad, Emily & Moxie ♥**





Congratulations!
We are extremely proud of you
and love you more than you
could ever imagine! We wish
you the best of everything in
your life always. May you
always be happy in whatever
you choose to do. You are such
a joy in our life and we are very
thankful that you are our sweet,
wonderful daughter and sister.



Love you always,
Mom, Dad, Amy, and Vinny



To My Most Loving Little Sister,

Love,

Congratulations!

Your Very Favorite Big Sister!

I Can Only Hope That Boston Is

S. S. S. 4 L. O. M. G I < 3 Y. L. K

Ready For All You Have To Offer.

P.S. Keep Up The Great Posing!





Good Luck

Travis

China

Travis,

Your cousin loved and looked up to you when you were both little, and he still does. As a matter of fact, so do we!

We are very proud of you!

Congratulations!

Love,

Aunt Nisi,

Uncle Jerry

& David



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Congratulations

to our intelligent, artistic, musical, curious, sweet

Keren

We are so proud of you!!

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams.

Live the life you have imagined."

-Henry David Thoreau

We love you!

Mom and Abba



Alyssa



Reach for the sky. Follow your dream. Never give up.

Congratulations! You are our shining star!

May all your dreams come true..

♥ Love always & forever, ♥

Mom, Dad, and John ('04)



-Kristina-

I can't believe our baby girl is going to college. You are like a breath of fresh air. You have brought so much sunshine into our lives. Let college be a wonderful experience. We have faith in all you do. Continue to live your life to the fullest and make each day count. The best way to predict your future is to create it. And remember, wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.

We love you!

Mom, Dad, Dimitri, Peter
& Charles Branford



ELIZABETH

Great Job!

CONGRATULATIONS!

*We wish you much success and God's guidance
in all your endeavors.*

*We love you
and are very proud of you too.*

Your Loving Family,
DAD, MOM, JOSH, AND SAM

Congratulations Meredith!



So very proud of
you and all that
you have
accomplished!

May all your
dreams
come true!

All our love,
Mom, Dad & Bill



Samantha,

Dad and I are so very proud of you and are blessed to have you as our daughter. We could never count the ways you have touched our lives. We have countless memories of you growing up and now as you enter your next stage of life. You have shown us that you are truly a unique "young lady". You have learned as well as taught us to leave no stone unturned, to love unconditionally and the true meaning of dedication. Samantha your compassion for others is a trait from within you that glows as you smile. You must fill in the canvas with life's colors. Be sure to frame your life with happiness, laughter, family and good friends! You have been an outstanding role model for your brother. Dad and I will always be your biggest fans and look forward to sharing in your dreams.

Love always,
Mom, Dad and Michael



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Step forward.

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* Alyssa * Josie * Stephanie * Julie * Mallory * Danielle * Rachel *
 * Daniela * Sami * Michelle * Liz * Charlotte * Carly *
 * Andrea * Kristina * Kayla * Dani * Melissa *

Although this chapter of our life is closing, we will be shortly moving on to bigger and better things. We've been through so much together. Fights, laughter, tears, happiness, parties, nights where there was absolutely nothing to do, and the insane unnecessary drama (that we could've done without) truly made our high school years the memorable times that they were. Time flies, and I know we're all going on our own paths to the future, but no matter what, WOTOWN is always our home, and we'll always have each other to call from miles and miles away to complain about our issues, and the freshman fifteen and our guy troubles just as we do when we're home. As cliché as it sounds, we all are special and different, and it's made one sick group of friends for all of us.

It's been real, it's been great. I love you all. Lets have an amazing summer!



make jokes-laugh-love-live life; no stress, proceed-progress

★ Weezy ★

When the road looks rough ahead
 And you're miles and miles from your nice warm bed
 You just remember what your old pal said
 -You've got a friend in me-
 If you've got troubles, I've got 'em too
 There isn't anything I wouldn't do for you
 We stick together and can see it through
 And as the years go by, our friendship will never die,
 You're gonna see it's our destiny, you've got a friend in me!

here's to us...

CLASS OF 2009!



*To Our Shining Star Michael,
We all could not ask for
a better son & brother. Your
accomplishments continue to amaze
us. We have enjoyed
watching you become a wonderful,
kind, and compassionate man.
Your commitment to achieve will
make your journey through life
rewarding and exciting.
Thank you for all you do and
congratulations on
taking that next step forward.
"Follow your dreams, fill up your heart
and when you get the choice to sit it
out or dance,
we hope you dance..."
With all our love and admiration,
Mom, Dad, Nikki, and Dani*

*Your angels from afar are surrounding you as you soar.
We always knew you would.
How we wish we could be there as you challenge the
world with respect, dignity, and honor.
The light of our lives will shine on you forever.*

Grandpa, Lee Lee, and Uncle Steve





G&G
We've had so much fun watching you
both cheer for the past 8 years.
We will miss your smiles,
energy, & your goofiness.
Never forget how proud we are of you &
how much we love you.

From,
The Giovines & The Piserchios



CONGRATULATIONS
To Our
GRACIE



WE LOVE YOU !!!
DADDY, MOMMY, AND
RACHEL



Julianna da Silva
"Bombonzinhos"



My Dearest "Bombonzinhos",

It's hard to believe that we are here already... It has been such a wonderful ride, that I didn't realize that my stop had come and now you will continue on your own on this magical ride. Make sure that you enjoy every step of the way and never ever stop believing in yourself. You are such an amazing human being. We, as your family, can only wish you happiness.

*Love,
 Mommy, Daddy, Mare, Steven, Lucky and Jill*

*...remember "Life
 is not measured by the
 breaths you take, but
 by the moments that
 take your breath away..."*



If nothing else, you'll always have Paris





CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2009 !

WE WISH YOU SUCCESS,
GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
IN THE YEARS AHEAD



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Congratulations Andrea!
You are a beautiful young woman inside and out.
We are so proud of all you have accomplished.
Keep an open heart and follow your dreams.

All our love,
Mom, Dad, and Danielle



Dear Rider,

All the hard work and sacrifices endured are nothing compared to all your accomplishments. We are so proud of you and the young man you have become. Always remember the sky is the limit.

Your family will support you unconditionally in all that you do. Good Luck and Congratulations!

Love Always,
Mama, Abuela, Pablo, & Chris



Mallory-

...Nobody puts Baby in
the corner...

We are so proud of
you...all our love...

Dad, Mom ('71),
Brett ('01)
and Sidney



Briana,
We are so very
proud of you!
Love you so much!!
MOM + DAD xoxo



GO CLASS
of 2009!

Paul - class of 1979
Dee - class of 1979
Briana - class of 2009



***You're beautiful Gina from outside in.
Chase your dreams but always know the
road that'll lead you home again.
Go on, take on this whole world.
But to us you know you'll always be our
little girl. We are so proud of you.
We love your spirit & determination.
We love you !!
Dad, Mom, Louie, Anthony & Joseph.***



*Taneka,
Congratulations on your achievements.
Be strong. Be proud. Be ambitious.
Go forth from hence
and aspire to be the best you can be.
LOVE,
Mom*



***Congratulations Greg!
We are so very proud of you.
We love you lots!
Mom & Dad Poppy & GG***



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TO THE CLASS OF 2009

POSSIBILITY THINKERS CREED

When faced with a mountain
I WILL NOT QUIT!
I will keep on striving until
I Climb over, find a pass
through, tunnel underneath –
or simply stay and turn the
mountain into a gold mine,
with God's help!

-Robert Shuller

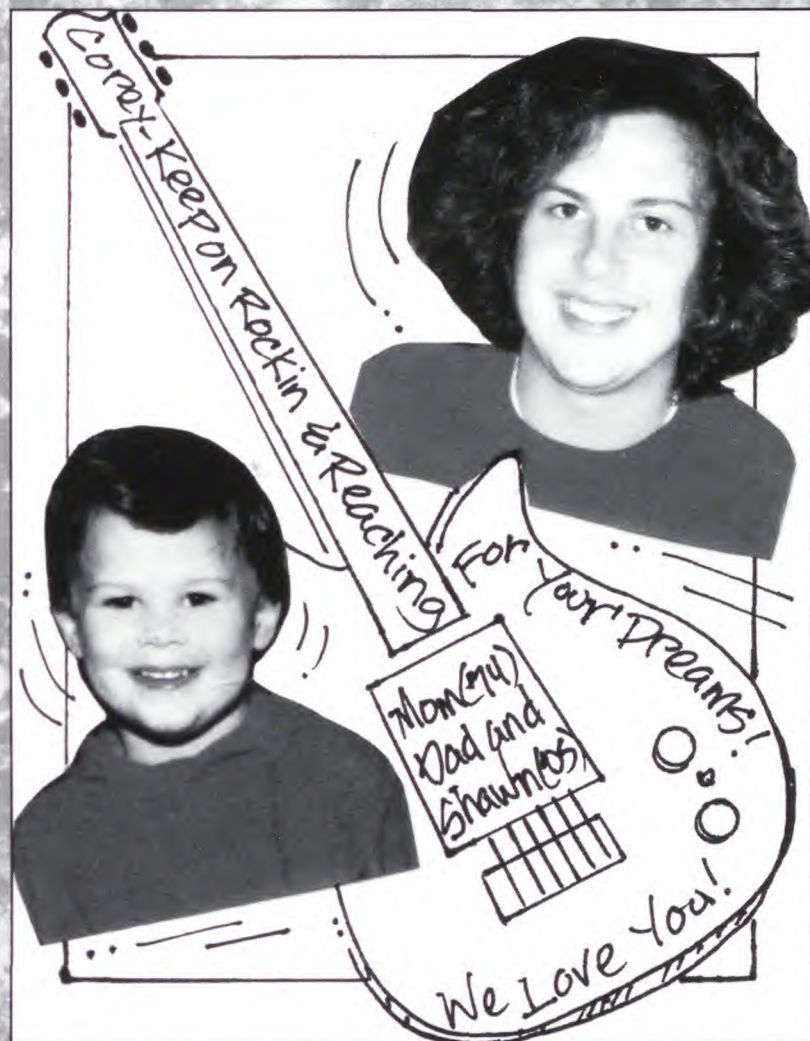
Best Wishes
The Grabowski Family

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GOOD LUCK TO THE CLASS OF 2009
CONGRATULATIONS HANNAH,
WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!
LOVE, MOM, JESSE, AND ABBE



Jessica,
We are so proud of
you.
Love, Mom, Dad,
and Vanessa





To Our Beautiful Daughter

Kristina Marie

Now your journey through schooling will take you to unknown places and accomplishments that will carry over into your adult life. Just remember to take it slow and enjoy the ride, responsibilities will surround you and leave little time to savor the "sweet moments" in the world of grown-ups! So to you we say, fly sweet daughter fly, and always remember how proud we are of you and most importantly, how much we love and adore you!

Always keep on smiling.

Love you forever,

Mom & Dad

**"Proud to be
The Best"**

**- Aunt Susan and
Uncle Kenny**

** Nolan is Kindhearted and Courteous*

*I am so proud of
you. I pray God's
continued
protection and
blessings as you
transition from
boy to Man.
Love Auntie
Audrey*

Congrats!

*I hope we go to school
near each other, then*

we can

Really Party!

*Love,
Kashif*

*Nolan, Thanks for
being such a great
role model for us.
Love Amina and
Golie*

** Nolan is Intelligent and a Great Negotiator*

**Always listen to what's
happening around you.**

**Learn and use what
you've Listened to. Take
that information and
leverage it and swing for
the fences!**

Love,

**Aunt Renee &
Uncle James**

** Nolan is Well Loved **

Nolan Bernard King

We are EXTREMELY PROUD of Your

TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

and Wish You Future

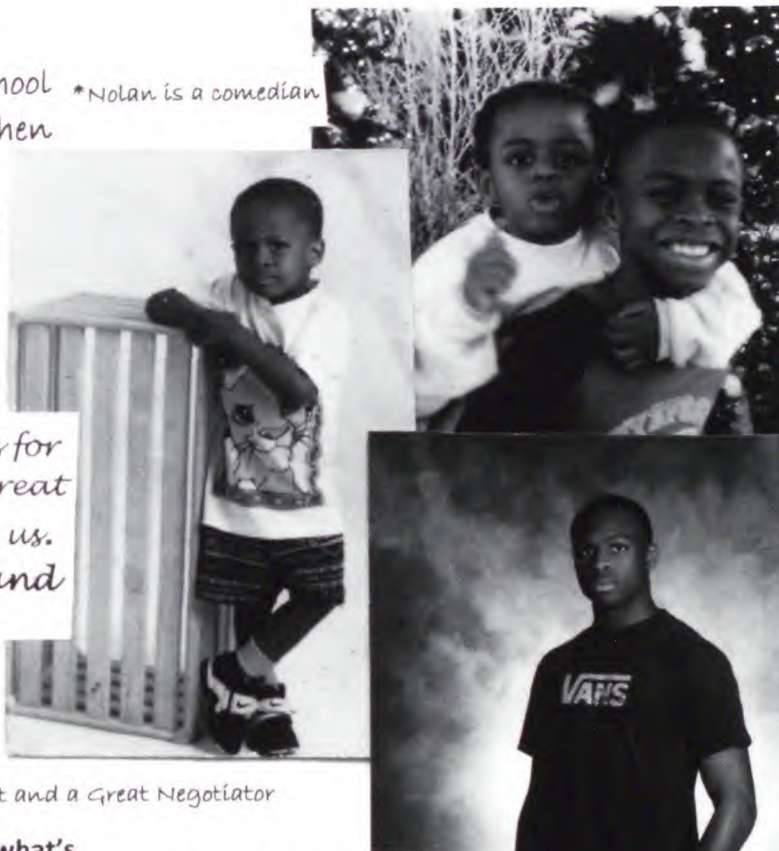
JOY, HAPPINESS & SUCCESS

Throughout Your College Years and Beyond.

All of Our Love Always,

Mom, Dad and

your brother - Zalen



** Nolan is a comedian*

** Nolan is Smart and is a Great Student*

*We always knew
you could do it,
Congratulations*

*Love,
Uncle Johnnie
and Aunt Anita*

** Nolan is Fun Loving*

*You are destined for
Greatness! As you pursue
your dreams, maintain a
relationship with God and
lean on him for guidance and
strength. He will guide your
path and open up
opportunities far beyond
your dreams and
understanding. As you are
blessed, remember to help
others. We love you and are
very proud of you.*

**Aunt Loretta and
Uncle Golie.**

** Nolan is a Good Friend * A Great Brother * A Fun Cousin*

**Question:
What is Nolan?**

Answer:

Nolan is-

**Noble
Outstanding
Leader
And
Nephew**

**Love,
Uncle Seth**

Nolan is Courageous and a Hard Worker

**Nolan, I am so proud of
you & I know Grandpa
would be also. Always
maintain your dignity
and self respect and
put God first in your
life.**

**Much Love,
Grandma**



ANTHONY



We are so proud of
the young man you
have become.
Thank you for all the
wonderful memories!
We will miss you
next year!
Love,
Dad, Mom,
Dana & Joey





*Melissa ,
 Congratulations!!
 We are so proud of you
 and all of your
 accomplishments.
 Continue to strive to
 reach your goals.
 "Do not follow where the
 path may lead.
 Go, instead, where there is no
 path and leave a trail."
 - Ralph Waldo Emerson
 We love you and
 will miss you next year.*

*Love,
 Mom, Dad, Robert and Andrew
 (and Montana!)*



Paulina

Παναγιωτα

P assionate, Persuasive

A ttractive, Awesome

U npredictable, Unique

L oving, Leader

I ntelligent, Intriguing

N oteworthy, Nostalgic

A mazing, Authoritative

We are so proud of you!
WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH!
 We wish you much success in college
 and in your future.

CJ,

CONGRATULATIONS!

GOOD LUCK NEXT YEAR AT PENN STATE.

WE WILL MISS YOUR GREAT SENSE OF
HUMOR WHILE YOU ARE AT SCHOOL.

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!

LOVE,

DAD, MOM, PAIGE & JAKE



Congratulations Yakira!

You may not always be able to control all the events
that happen to you, but you can decide not to be
reduced by them. Try to be a rainbow in someone's
cloud. Do not complain. Make every effort to change
things you do not like. If you cannot make a change,
change the way you have been thinking.

You might find a new solution.

Maya Angelou

Letter to My Daughter

We Love You Always, Peace!

Mom & Dad

Grandma & Grandpa Jackson

Aunt's Toni, Sonya, Sheila, Gwen & AJ

Uncles, Damon, Andre, George & Tommy



Samantha Taylor



Congratulations Samantha! We could not be more proud of you. You
have become a wonderful woman and we are certain you will always
find true happiness and success. We love you. ~ Mom and Nicholas



CONGRATULATIONS

Dave

Kathy

Mardochee

Nolan



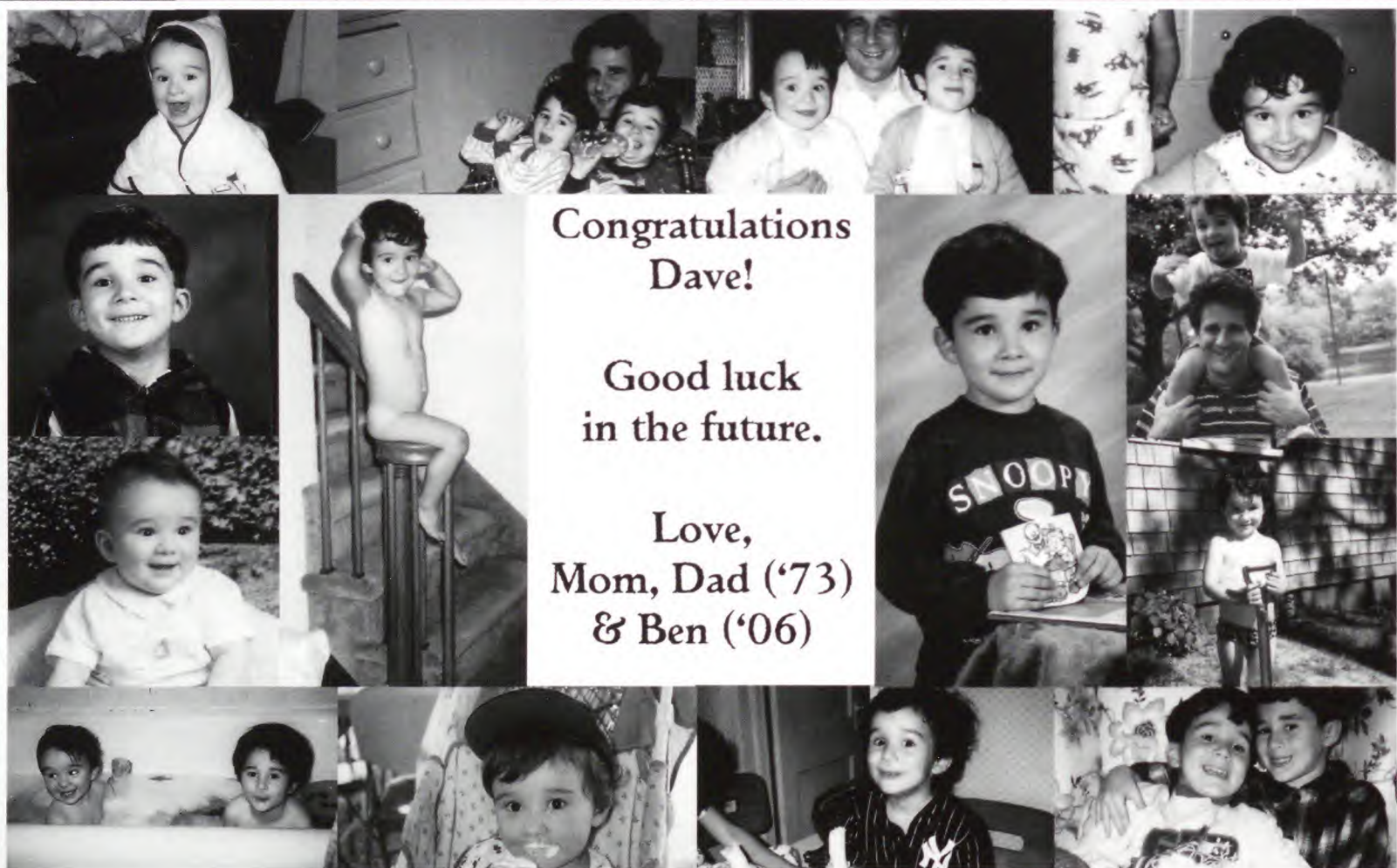
The One and Only

& the rest of the class of 2009!

40 Main Street
West Orange, NJ 07052

**Love,
Team Supreme**

(973) 736-1732





**Isis,
We are so proud of you!
You are an intelligent and
beautiful young lady with
a generous spirit.
We cannot wait to see you
continue to shine.**



**With all of our love,
Daddy, Mommy, Nina,
Grandma Maureen,
Granddaddy, Auntie Coreen,
Grandma Deborah, Grandpa
Butchie, Grandpa Al,
Ventura, Kaya,
Cole and Ruby**

**Congratulations to the Class
of 2009!**



Dear Kristina,
CONGRATULATIONS!

*We wish you lots of luck and success in
your future endeavors.*

*We are so proud of you and all that
you've accomplished throughout the
years. May all your dreams come true!*

We love you!

*Nonni, Nono, Aunt-Terry, Lucy,
Maureen, Uncle-Marty, Dennis, Johnny,
Cousins-Brett, Nicolette, Amanda,
Alyssa, Rachael, and Zachary*

**Russ,
God has truly blessed us
with you in our lives.**

**We are so very proud of all you do
and the young man you are.**

Keep up the "Good Works"!

**We love you bigger!
Mom, Dad and Kelsey**

To The Mountaineer Staff of 2009,

There are few classes that compare to the class we had this year. I am so proud of the product you produced but even more proud of your individual accomplishments and commitment to each other as a group. I will miss you as you leave the walls of West Orange High School; however, I celebrate you and smile wide as you spread your wings and prepare to do wonderful things in the future. Each one of you has a special place in my life as we grew as a family this year. We worked hard and laughed harder making this year even more difficult to complete. Each time you look at the 2009 *Mountaineer* know that it is a perfect blend of the memories of your senior year of high school where you highlighted the wonderful people that made the Class of 2009 truly STAND OUT! CONGRATULATIONS!

With Regards and Wonderful Wishes,

Mrs. Martino

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Congratulations Maya



On your academic achievements we are very proud of you!!!

Love, Mommy, Daddy, Marjhani, Shajara, Khurram, Apu & Nana Bhai
We will always be here for you...



Michelle,

Congratulations on your graduation. We know how hard you work on everything you do and that you will be a great contributor to our society. We are very proud of you and we wish you all the success in the world.

May God bless you, protect you and guide you in college and in your future endeavors. Don't let any bumps in the road disappoint you or discourage you. Always follow your dreams. Please remember you have our unconditional love and support and we will always be there for you.

Dad, Mom, Patrick and Christie



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE MARK & JULIE'S EMPLOYEES OF THE CLASS OF 2009 & ALL THEIR FRIENDS!



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Victoria ,

I am so proud of everything you've accomplished; when you work toward what you want nothing can hold you back. You're a brilliant girl with a future brighter than the brightest star in the sky. You've taught me so much in the past two years and I want to wish you the best of luck in anything you want to achieve, even though you never need luck. I hope you have the time of your life the next four years, and I hope to share it with you. Don't let anything distract you because it'll be over in the blink of an eye. I am so proud of you.

**Love,
Anthony**



To our "Koukla", Katerina,

Congratulations on your achievements as you reach this important milestone. You are our pride and joy. May you continue to build upon the solid foundation of today and remember, "If you can imagine it, you can achieve it; if you can dream it, you can become it."

-William Arthur Ward

Best wishes for success and happiness as you embark on a new chapter of your life.

"Kai Sta Anotera" Dad, Mom, Marios, and Yiayia

laughs...



memories...



happiness...



ELLA

**You're...
my friend,
my companion,
through good
times and bad,
my friend, my buddy,
through happy and sad,
beside me you stand,
beside me you walk,
you're there to listen,
you're there to talk,
with happiness,
with smiles,
with pain and tears,
I know you'll be there,
throughout the years!**



Daniela & Stephanie



MAMI



Cheer...



Parties...



Summer...



Drama...



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"Crazy days and screwed up nights
tons of crushes and stupid fights
secrets we'll take to the grave
pictures we'll forever save
through thick and thin, always true
best friends forever, me and you."



MetLife congratulates the new graduates.



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*Jen,
Congratulations
and good luck!
Love, Mom and Dad*



NOW TO
FOREVER
11/11/2004



**Congrats, Greg.
You continue to make us proud! Good luck at RU!
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Matt**

TO THE CLASS OF 2009



The Class of 2009 is an eclectic group of people hailing from every part of the world with varied interests and a multitude of personalities. Together, we had many firsts and lasts, from opening Mt. Pleasant Elementary School to closing Edison Middle School. The mesh of perspectives and experiences created a unique mix of friendships and acquaintances that make our years at WOHS unforgettable. Through the pages of this book, we hope to show the highlights of our time here. Congratulations, 2009! Live by the words of our fellow New Jerseyan, "Each one of you has something no one else has, or has ever had: your fingerprints, your brain, your heart. Be an individual. Be unique. Stand Out. Make noise. Make someone notice. That's the power of individuals." - Jon Bon Jovi

Dear Mrs. Martino,

After this year, we think you would agree that the yearbook class of 2009 is unquestionably unique. Though we are outstanding individually, collectively, our mix becomes that much richer. The special bonds you share with each of us transcend the typical student and teacher relationship. They are friendships that will live on far past graduation, reminding us everyday of the footprint you have created. The yearbook is finally here, and we hope we produced a book that makes you proud. You always said, "Not for nothing, but I waited to



be pregnant for this book, it better be spectacular." As it is your last year doing yearbook, we greatly appreciate the effort you've put forth and the sacrifices you've made. We thank you for putting your personal life on hold, putting us first, and finishing the year with us!

We know the anxiety that encompasses the arrival of your precious Skootle and Skeetle, but we have absolutely no doubt that you are going to be an amazing mother of three. Whenever we pass those minivans out on the road, we will be sure to crack a smile. As we move on through our various walks of life, the everlasting relationship we formed through yearbook will continually remind us of our closely knit pack.

Everyone is blessed to have you as a teacher, a role model, and a friend. The profound impact you have made on our lives leaves us with irreplaceable memories, endless inside jokes, and a unique friend. Through the laughs, tears, arguments, and stress, we all stuck together and are truly proud to have been on the yearbook staff with you as an advisor. Thank you for all the investments you've made in us, from your hard work and dedication to our book, to working to make us all better people and leaving a little piece of you

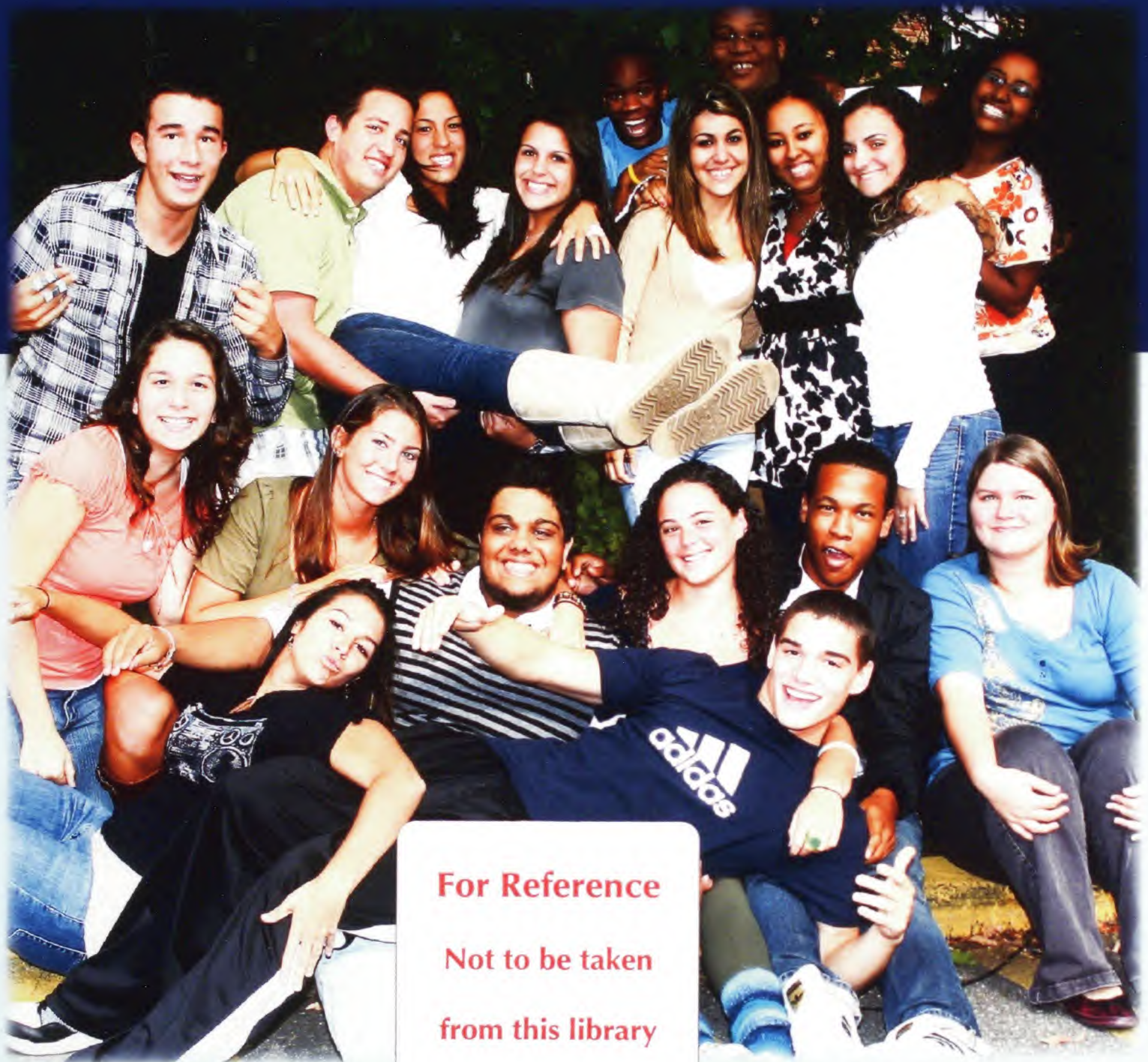


within each of us. We wish you the best of luck with you, your family, and everything you do in life.

Love,
The 2009
Mountaineer Staff
& David



Autographs



For Reference
Not to be taken
from this library



Neil Savalia
Editor-in-Chief



Katerina Athanasiou
Layout Editor



Kristina Victoratos
Layout Editor

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Yearbook Advisor



Alyssa Ringel
Student Life Editor



Briana Pisauro
Associate Student Life Editor



Marion Tanis
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Associate Senior Editor



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