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## Breaking New <br> <br> Ground

 <br> <br> Ground}



Sports
Building It $\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{p}}$
65
Academics
Breaking the Standards
Clubs and Organizations
Paving the Way to Success
Closing
Sealing the Cracks

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5
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The phrase "OPENING UP" is one of those multi-purpose, gotta-haveit, can't-live-without-it kind of phrases. It can be used to describe what a flower does when the sun reappears after a harsh winter or what the




With "O hot bam, this is my jam. Keep me partying til the a.m. Y'all don't understand. Mak me throw my hands in the ayer, ay-ayer, ayer Shayleen Mazurak follow the lyrics by Flo Rida and throw their hands in the air
"Orange and Black Day is always my favorite Spirit Week Day because everybody dresse up and so many people go all out," said Lacey Burrows as Sydney Wells and she show of


Part of a student's life is being involved in extracurricular activities. The play is one such Adam Kahle hone in on their acting skills during the play, The Bachelor King.


Much like a tree can't exist without its "ROOTS," a school can't exist without the people that make up its 1 faculty and its student body. Without these individuals "PUTTING DOWN ROOTS," a school building would be simply that, a building. The classrooms, the gym, the hallways, everything that swarms with life during a normal day would be much like a fallen tree of a once-thriving entity that's been separated from its $\rightarrow$ "RODTS" and, thus, its life force.

137 years ago Dorchester High School began "PUTIING DOWN ROOTS" and has been adding to this collection ever since. It has been establishing a new set every fall, a set that grows and matures for thirteen years before separating from the main body. Today, these "ROOTS" can be seen walking the corridors of DHS. They make up the teams shooting baskets in the gym, the crowds that occupy the lunchroom at 12:30 every weekday afternoon, and the art$\rightarrow$ ists whose works adorn the walls of the building. Yes, these are the "ROOTS" of Dorchester High School, the "RODTS" that provide for a solid foundation for an equally solid school system.

 Harder work, Being a junior had fun even in their hardest classes, was harder than it looked. One "American History is hard, but we of the hardest jobs was planning usually have fun in it," said Chynna prom. "I always thought it looked Parks.
fun and easy, but planning prom Many also liked being considered was pretty stressful. It was fun to upperclassmen. "It was great being see it all done though," said Kar- older in school because we saw the men Lawver. Another stress was younger ones go through everything harder classes. "Chemistry was dif- we did. It was nice to be able to help ficult for me. I had to work really them out with their struggles," said hard at it," said Brittany Wade. Joey Kaspar.

The class was a close group that Juniors also started planning for theirfuture. Where to go to college enjoyed being together. "I like beand what to study was a major part ing in my class. Even during classes of discussions. "I've started think- we can find ways to have fun," said ing a lot more about what I want Alex Walton. Being a junior was hard to do," said Taida Pajazetovic. work, but it always paid off. Even

There were many classes that with the stress of planning prom and they enjoyed. "My favorite class is hard classes like American history English, because it's the only class and chemistry, the juniors managed Enjoying the last day before Christmas break, Shelby Pariset and Shayleen Mazurak get their breakfa


Q<34 Juniors


What's the best thing about being a junior?
"Planning
prom." "Being an
~Chynna Parks
upperclassmen."
Spencer Kotas


Christina's, Karmen Lawver enjoys the Spanish
 Vinsonhaler find out that working together is


From the gym to the field, athletes were always working hard and doing their
 any season, competing at state. With four wrestlers going to state, one from each grade, and one trackster, there was lots of excitement. "It was ©O") to see
 Spanyers. "It's always fun when we're able to have people go." Karmen Lawver knew when to peak; at state she placed first in shot
 themselves and therefore the sports program they were in.

In other sports, records were improved and many new skills were LESARNED. "Our basketball RECORD improved a lot, and our team got better," said Spencer Kotas. The teams wanted to get the most out of their season
 titude and teamwork.

Even though the teamsw(0) of fun. "It was always fun in volleyball practice when we would RLA Queen of the Court," said Malinda Havlat. A lot of the players liked Queen of the Court, a volleyballlike game with only three

 titudes, their goals, and their wins.


Working over his opponent, Russel Barak,
sophomore turns to his sophomore, turns to his quick advice on what to do next.

## Small Team. Big Heart



Boys Basketball
Through the tough practices devastating losses, and glorifying wins, the boy basketball team stuck together and kept fighting. Although they weren't very large, this particular group proved that bigger wasn't always better. "Because we were small. we had to work harder, but it gave freshmen like me a chance to play in the varsity game when they needed us," said Aaron Kalkwarf.

In fact, some players felt the atmosphere of a smaller team helped them improve their game. "With a smaller team I knew I had to step up and help fill in the gaps. That really motivated me to work hard and get better," said junior Spencer Kotas For others, it gave them opportunities for new experiences. "Being small made things harder, but l'll


for the hoop.
never forget how it felt to play in the varsity game for the first time," said freshman Michael Kliment.

While the players were stepping up, a new coach was stepping in. "I was a little nervous at first, but definitely exited to get started. As I got to know the guys, I knew they'd be a team I wouldn't forget," said Head Coach Scott Leisy. Although Coach Leisy had his nerves, the players seemed to have positive feelings toward their new coach. "It was rough having to learn new plays and such, but it was worth it in the end," said junior Alex Walton.

The team finished with a 12 8 season. Brandon Bruha also received special recognition. He was named Second Team All State in the Omaha World Herald and the Lincoln Journal Star. He also had the opportunity to play in the Crossroads Conference All Star game The season was tough, but it was really cool to be recognized by so many people after working so hard all season with the team," said Brandon Bruha.


Boys Basketball. BR: Head Coach Scott Leisy, Michael Lee, Brandon Bruha, Alex Wal
ton, Kyle Palky, Tyler Fazel, \& Asst. Coach David Kampmann. MR: Spencer Kotas, ton, Kyle Palky, Tyler Fazel, \& Asst. Coach David Kampmann. MR: Spencer Kotas, FR: Student Managers: Eric Bird, Rick Palky, \& Brian Sehnert.


Dodging the other team, junior Brando Zown the floor
$n$
Floating study halls，ninth hour，and finals at the end of the semes－
 c because I had to study twice as hard because we still had other tests
－ and homework，＂said Ashton Kotas．周家鴿N the students more time to work on their homework so they wouldn＇t have to take it home． $\mathbb{N} \sqrt[N]{N}$ and work on the assignments a student didn＇t get done on time． Even though some students didn＇t want to go，it was mandatory if ateacher sent them there．＂I had to go to ninth hour a lot because I didn＇t have my
4． Even though these new additions made the students work harder， it also made the school a better place to learn．An emphasis on read－ ing for the first 20 minutes in study hall made most students read more．＂I had a lot more students qualify for the reading pizza party than ever before，＂said Mrs．Severance，English teacher．
 could have at least one class they enjoyed．＂I like coming to school because I have art，and I can relax and be cre－ ative and not have any homework，＂said Joey Kaspar．
With all of the changes and the focus on improv－
 SxANDAROS set before．



At the Spanish sponsored teacher appreciation breakfast，Malinda Havlat pours some orange juice．The Spanish students helped with the breakfast by bringing and making the food that the teachers ate．

As part of an English 9 assignment，Michae Wade shows his collage of what he likes and ex plains to his class the significance of his choice．


Trying to communicate with the people in their group without talking，Josef Homolka and Coy Bundy play the culture card game．


lat focuses during weights class. Amy made the 125 bench club at the end of the year.


Learning how chromosomes split
during mitosis, Ashley Looper and Lacey Vinsonhaler complete a lab in Lacey Vins
biology.

3, 2, 1,..EXAM! Students rushed into a student's overall grade. Many students their classrooms to quickly skim material they should remember. Teachers spent hours upon hours grading, critiquing, and advising stressed, frustrated teenagers. Chaos and manic reached a high level, that could have only have resulted from one thing: FINALS.

It came a little shocking to some people that for the first time semester finals were mandatory in all classes. "I'm definitely not in favor of cramming a whole semester's worth of knowledge into one test," said freshman, Amanda Gosselin, when asked her opinion on the exams. While a numerous amount of students felt similarly on the subject, others disagreed. "Finals are pretty useful because they can prepare you for what college grading might be like," said junior, Adam Kahle.

So, why all the stress over a test? The semester finals were worth $10 \%$ of
worried that a bad semester final could possibly put them under the passing score for a whole semester. White a final could have made them fail, it also could've given them a last chance to raise their grade before the end of the semester. "I think semester finals should be a bigger part of our overall grade because the information is stuff we've already learned, and it could help you pass," said junior, Jerrold Homolka.

Whether students agreed or not, 10\% of their grade could've been in jeopardy, so many tried as hard as possible to make sure they knew what was needed. On top of other homework or extracurricular activities, students added extra time for reviewing previous lessons. From semester to semester, students awaited the approaching finals with trepidation, but also with the slight comfort of knowing that finals meant the end was near!


## The Final Countdown



With some spare time on her hands, Brook McCann cuddles up closely to one of the 2-month-old rabbits during physical sci-


Adding support, llya Strikivsky helps put to gether a new concession stand and restroom area by the football field in in dustrial technology.

Along with the rest of their classmates, Richy Barak and Jared Jensen work intensely on a car being put together for an electronic vehicle class.


## "Geometry "Istudiedaton

 was a hard class for $M$ e, so the finals were bad."~Kyle Dalky
for My chemistry final. It was My hardest test."

Britany
Wade
"I disliked the world geography final; they were essay questions."

## ~ Brandon

 Schwisow"Anatomy was tough, way too big words."



## Little Band

Mighty Sound


Adding a new sound to the band, junior Alex set at the 2009 Pops Concert.

Performing at the subdistricts pep rally, Amber Holly, Karmen Lawver and Megan Carroll show their musical talent by playing the school song.


Sharp notes, passion for music, and complete focus. That's what it took for the '08-' 09 band to reach ultimate harmony.

Although it wasn't the largest band, this group worked together to fill the gaps. "Since I was the only second saxophone it was cool to know that I played a big role in the band," said freshman Alec Lisec. With smaller numbers, more opportunities opened up for students to step in and show off their skills. "I was super nervous for my solo but I love the song 'My Heart Will Go On,' and it sounded really great," said senior Ashton Kotas.

These musicians not only became closer as a whole, but shared new experiences together. One of these was adding a drum set to change up the sound "I loved inspiring little kids to be- cian Award.
come drummers and making the band sound great," said junior Alex Walton.

The majority of the band seemed to have a positive reaction to this addition. "Adding the drum set gave our music so much more texture. It was awesome," said sophomore Megan Carroll.

The band also had another addition, a Doane student that specialized in all things clarinet. "Mr. Sherrow taught us things we had never known even though we'd been playing since fifth grade, said sophomore Jessica Hansen.

The band played at the 2008 Nebraska State Fair and received a two at the district music contest. Receiving individual band awards were Amy Havlat with the John Phillip Sousa award and Ashton


Band. Back Row: Meredith Behrens, Karmen Lawver, Alex Walton, Joey Kaspar, and Wendy Boller. Third Row: Erica Spanyers, Adam Kahle, Alec Lisec, Louden Redinger, Malinda Havlat, and Ashton Kotas. Second Row: Ranell Sand, Valerie Cochnar, Amy Havlat, Shelby Veprovsky, and Megan Carroll. Front Row: Ms. Kathy Jezl (director), Jessica Hansen, Amber Holly, Lydia Kahle, and Katrina Dettmann.


## I really liked playing

at the State Far.
It was hot outside,
put it was worth titl
~ Karmen Lawver


II wasn't in band last year so it felt great to be reunnted with my clarmet." $\sim$ Valerie Cochnar

Beng a sentor band menber was cood becaluse

## val pasc down wisdom to

yaurger members.
~Shelby Veproveky


## SENWI OSINT

 The CRACKS

Reading the inscription on the new bell monument. Tim Havlat attends the presentation before the Alumni Banquet. The monument will also hold the new time capsule


Gathering at the flag pole for See You at the Pole, students take a moment of silence to pray for their school, the students, teachers, government, and the nation. See You at the Pole was led by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Celebrating the achievements of Karmen Lawver and Charity springer, superintendent Mr. Redinger claps with the student body. The school had a surprise pep rally that the girls knew nothing about.

-

After the rush of getting everything ready for
 $\mathbb{N O}$ True crancksa With new teachers, a new $v$ ners, Karmen Lawver who placed first in her two work out the kinks. The floating study halls and fifth at the state journalism competition. "The having to take a planner everywhere was some- surprise pep rally was really cool. We had no idea thing that took some getting used to. what was going on and we were really shocked Along with the new school, there were some when we figured it out," said Karmen Lawver. other new additions. The bell monument and a Not everything was a welcome change. Getwalkway in the front of the school were added. "I ting out of school three weeks later than usual really like the new walkway outside of the school. was not very fun for most students, but because It's fun to go out there and sit during lunch," said of the late start, it was something that had to Lacey Vinsonhaler. The bell monument became be done. From September 10, 2008 to June
 the year instead of the gym or lunchroom.

Celebrating accomplishments was really imortant. A pep rally was held for two state winCRACNS:

Ashtrom liotas THE ONS WHO SDITS

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The body font used was AWPC Optima and the caption font was AWPC Mixage. Other fonts included: AWPC Pesky, AWPC Wanton, AWPC Austere, AWPC Snooze, AWPC Schoolboy, AWPC Feltpoint, AWPC Hardbrush, AWPC Gunner, AWPC Big Fiction, AWPC Blaze, AWPC Cheers Type, AWPC Design, AWPC Braddon, AWPC Fatback, AWPC Import, AWPC Chelsea, AWPC Yellow Jacket, and AWPC Daria.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Greg Adams, the greatest Walsworth Representative ever. Thanks also go to B.J. Fictum for supplying some of the sports' photos, and Anderson Studios for our group and sports team photos.

The staff has one big last thaı... you to say to the awesome Mrs. Sandy Severance, for all of her effort, time, and dedication she puts forth to make this yearbook a success. We wouldn't be able to do it without her.

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## About the book

The body font used was AWPC Optima and the caption
"Breaking New Ground" is volume 17 of DHS's yearbook collection. The 2008-2009 Longhorn was written and composed by the high school journalism class. The theme was developed by Jessica Hansen with the assistance of the rest of the class.

The cover design, created by Jessica Hansen, Ashley Looper, and Ashton Kotas, was a 4-color cover.
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A note to the judge

I put in the back endsheet from InDesign. First as a full spread, and then as individual scans of the original endsheets as they appeared in the book.

The first version is a full spread, but there is an error with the scissors. Because we lost our original, the students redid the page. I noticed too late that the scissors were over the copy. I have also scanned the back endsheets so you can see that that is not how it appeared in the real copy.

