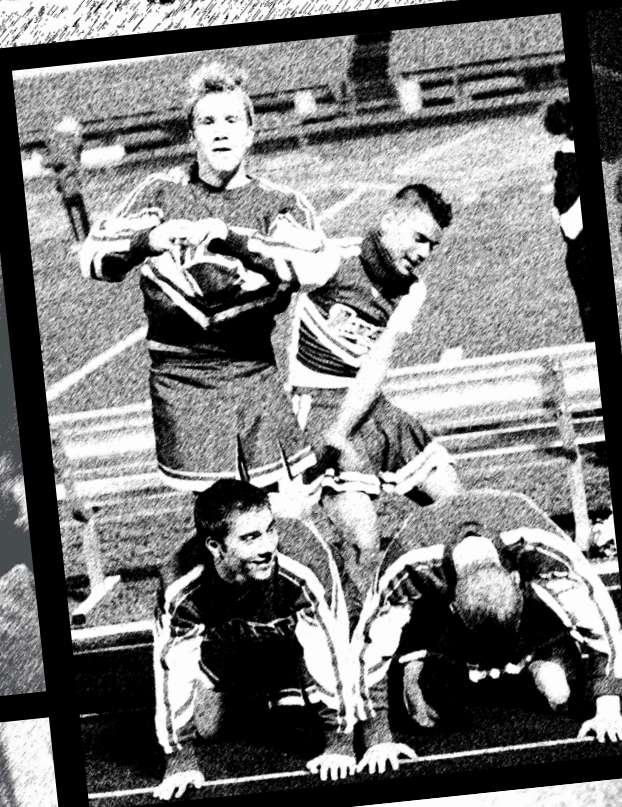


bellevue west high school 2010 thunderbird volume 33

drawn.





# drawn.

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winter

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play a song Mr. Saxophone.  
Freshman Jose Garcia entertains the Thunderbird fans on Senior Night Oct. 23. M. Bendorf

# drawn.

## Bellevue West High School

1501 Thurston Ave.  
Bellevue, NE 68123  
402-293-4040 (office)  
402-293-4149 (fax)  
[www.bellevuepublicschools.org](http://www.bellevuepublicschools.org)  
[bw.yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:bw.yearbook@gmail.com)  
1,608 students  
110 faculty



### Swing Batta' Batta' Swing!

Senior Lauren Hinkle takes a cut during an at bat against cross-town rivals Bellevue East. A. Frey

### Concentration.

Sophomore Hunter Mammoser visits teacher Carli Rhylander's GPS to finish some Spanish work. A. Frey





"In the end we are all separate: our stories, no matter how similar, come to a fork and diverge. We are drawn to each other because of our similarities, but it is our differences we must learn to respect." -Robert A. Israeloff



## gps at work

Students in an English GPS work hard to finish their assignments at the end of the day. A. Frey

# drawn.

by Kayla Welsh

Life draws us to prepare. At West, it seemed we were always preparing for something, whether it was to receive an education or to aspire to make something of our lives. We prepared for a great job, to make money, to get out of Nebraska, to live how we've always wanted. And without education, none of this would have been possible.

Teachers and other staff members worked hard to instill in us a sense of pride for the accomplishments we made during the 2009-2010 school year. They drew us in with interactive classes and their desire to mold school into a place it wasn't when they were younger. We wanted the pride we found to reflect upon our parents and other family members and we aimed to gain recognition from colleges and programs across the country.

While most were interested in acquiring knowledge, some were more apt to attend high school for the needed time away from home. We enjoyed those moments away from family, a time to find our identities and practice being on our own. Friendships pulled us in and those relationships we formed further encouraged us to learn.

Whether we were required to go to school by the law, by our parents or for our own personal motives, we discovered we were lucky to be able to take part in the opportunities Bellevue West gave us. Students were handed the chance to live out their dreams and although it may have been hard work, it was well worth it. We were drawn together through common ambitions and a desire to be ready for the things life would throw at us.

Throughout all adversities we attained important lessons and gathered knowledge essential to succeeding in the years to come. We planned, we practiced. We were drawn.



## Raise it up.

T-Bird football players raise their helmets at the highly-anticipated West vs. East football game Aug. 28. M. Bendorf

## Workin' on a project

Sophomore Anthony Lopez films while his partner interviews a teacher for video journalism class. A. Frey



## big awards.

Industrial Technology teacher Joe Nadjwick received the Crystal Apple from the Omaha Newspapers. A. Frey

## snack time.

Junior Stephanie Riveros fills her plate with nacho chips and cheese at a Latino Leaders meeting. A. Frey





The falling leaves are whispering winter's on its way

—John Denver



BELLEVUE WEST  
THUNDERBIRDS

# autumn

by Kayla Welsh

Goodbye, summer

The leaves in Bellevue left the school grounds mid-November this year. A. Frey.

The leaves changed their color; a sense of transition arrived with the chilly breeze. As the temperatures dropped, the halls of Bellevue West came alive. Sweaters were drawn from their hiding and students donned them with cozy anticipation. Although the year was new, the turning of the season felt familiar. Like tree branches in the wind we were restless—anxious for what was to come. Many emotions overcame us when change was at hand.

We were drawn together. Friends gathered around bonfires and planned seasonal activities, a harvest of recurring celebration. We looked to the promise of new life as we watched nature and warm-weather traditions crumble into cessation. Leaving our summer state of mind behind, we emerged into a picture of vibrant colors and even brighter expectations.

This fall the Thunderbirds witnessed many memorable events. We attended football games and theatre productions, haunted attractions and Thanksgiving break gatherings. We formed new relationships and got closer to those with which we already shared a bond. We learned things about ourselves we never thought we would. All of these aspects influenced our attitudes and outlook on what was left of the year ahead of us. We expanded our views and realized our true potential. Drawn from our shells, we evolved.



Run hard

Senior Michael Bethel runs the final straight at the Papio South Invite. A. Frey

Tori, can you tape me?

Trainer Tori Esparza tapes up a football player before a playoff game. A. Frey



Will play for Gatorade

The first football game every year is the Soda-Pop Scrimmage. Admittance to the game didn't consist of a Student I.D. or money, but a sports drink, water bottle or a soda pop. M. Bendorf

Dressed up

Senior Rebekah Sandoval is escorted down the court by junior Zach Stargell during the homecoming pep rally. A. Frey





from winter brings the spring again

-Circa Survive

HOME OF THE  
THUNDERBIRDS

MAIN OFFICE



title

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# winter.

by Kayla Welsh

Snow fell silently outside, covering cars and the last bit of green grass. Winter came early to T-Bird country and with unexpected intensity. Freezing winds blew across the parking lot as students raced to seek warmth from West's doors. We slipped off our gloves and slipped into first hour classes as the redness in our cheeks began to settle down. The season's arrival brought out Thunderbird individuality; a chilly display of what it meant to be us.

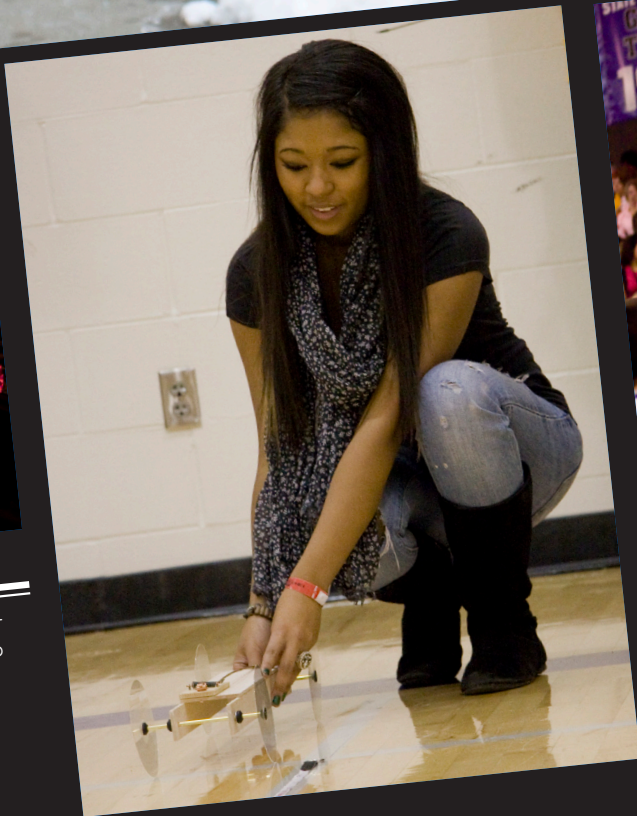
Like each snowflake outside our windows we were determined by our surroundings, creating our own uniqueness. We were drawn to being inimitable. Originality may have seemed hard to come by, but it wasn't difficult to spot in the halls of Bellevue West. From clothing style to personalities, students set themselves apart from the rest and created a standard of incomparable SOMETHING.

Flurries swept us off to snow day activities, warmer places and shopping outings. Another holiday brought families closer and provided time for a break. While many students bundled up for sledding, others joined friends for ice-skating in Omaha's Old Market or planned indoor affairs. These times enjoyed together blah blah blah.



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067  
theme page



"Go here's to what the future brings"

K. Welsh

not just silhouettes

Students involved in Bellevue West's theater department perform in the Fall One Act play, True Identity. A. Frey

# people.

By Kayla Welsh

We were individuals united by transition, drawn to being one with the peers who shared our grade level. While identifying with other classes, we joined to become a single entity.

Each grade had its own outlook on the school year. For the freshman, this included enduring a unit on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, learning the role of being on a team and sticking it out as the smallest of us all. They discovered how school spirit draws them into the crowd.

Sophomores began to mature and found they could get through one of the most difficult years of their high school careers. The PLAN test helped students realize the hard work they would face and how they would overcome it. And the acquisition of their driver's licenses seemingly drew the future to them sooner than expected.

Juniors were said to have had it easy. Although that was debatable, one thing was for sure: this year was full of transformation. They got their first taste of life as an upperclassmen; the chance to run for dance royalty and join the seniors in many other privileges. A wider variety of class choices was also available to them, broadening their interests.

All good things must come to an end, and for the class of 2010 this became most apparent while composing their senior papers. They prepared for graduation, selected colleges, and explored many career opportunities. Learning to appreciate last moments with friends, they looked forward to the next phase of their lives.

Age separated us; change brought us together. The need to grow set everything in motion, pushing us forward with confidence. Our styles and interests varied but collectively we progressed.



Relaxin'

Many students enjoyed hanging out in the commons after lunch. It was also a favorite spot before and after school and during passing periods. K. Welsh

Passed Out

Senior Andrew Rath naps during ??????? WHY



walk this way

Students wander off after lunch to find friends and gather belongings from their lockers before class. K. Welsh

N. Ybay



# juniors.

Derek Adams  
Jamal Addison  
Dennise Aguirre  
Alexis Akin-Otiko  
Joseph Anania  
Keith Anderson  
Bryan Apple

Brittany Arquello  
Christopher Armistead  
Claire Armit  
Terri Armstrong  
Kristine Arnauskas  
Cody Arns  
Elizabeth Arriaga

Sean Aspinall  
Luis Avilez  
Joseph Babic  
Antonio Badillo  
Brittany Bailey  
Kevin Bailey

Christine Baker  
Chelby Balerio  
Anthony Balmer  
Michaela Banister  
Tamara Banks  
Brandi Barlow

Britany Barlow  
Jessica Barner  
Dustin Barrett  
Jordan Becker  
Daniel Beeman  
Harold Bello

Madison Bendorf  
Jared Beyersdorf  
Bethany Biggs  
Nikolus Biles  
Michael Bishop

7	6	5	4	3	2	1
14	13	12	11	10	9	8
20	19	18	17	16	15	
26	25	24	23	22	21	
32	31	30	29	28	27	
	37	36	35	34	33	

5	4	3	2	1	
11	10	9	8	7	6
17	16	15	14	13	12
23	22	21	20	19	18

Brittanie Bittick  
Ashley Blanton  
Nathan Block  
Jerry Bockman  
Gregory Boegeman

Ashline Boock  
Thomas Boro  
Bradley Borytsky  
Jessica Bos  
Sarah Bradbury  
Kelly Bradley

Austin Braun  
Adam Britten  
Brendan Brown  
Mason Brown  
Kylie Burkhead  
Jared Buza

Isaiah Campbell  
Mallory Canley  
Vanessa Carrizales  
Michael Carson  
Matthew Carter  
Alek Caskey

## Marketing I taught basics for DECA.

“I’m always down for new things,” said junior, Tamara Banks. Which is why she decided to take Marketing I.

“I didn’t really know much about it when I first joined it, I just heard it was a lot of fun,” she said.

“The only time you can take Marketing I is your junior year,” said Dave Shillinglaw, one of the two teachers of Marketing at Bellevue West.

Marketing I was offered junior year because was a class students worked their way up to.

“At Bellevue West, it’s a co-curricular with DECA and Marketing,” said Gogi Supenski, a marketing teacher.

Marketing I students learned about basic skills: business vocabulary, sale promotions—everything students needed to join Marketing II.

All year marketing students worked toward several goals, one of which being a 15-page paper over whatever they chose.

“Well, you do a lot of research. All the details about the company, like what do they sell, what kind of packaging do they use, who is their target market,” Supenski said.

Just thinking about this could stress a student, but it all pays off. Shillinglaw said that between 40-55 people go to state each year. Students participate in a ten-minute role-playing interview at the state conference. If they place in the top three, students advanced to nationals.

by Mackenzie Hoffer

