

HOMECOMING 2010

Homecoming Royalty Rejoice During Halftime Events

BY BROOKE GRIFFIS

This year's homecoming parade was led by the queen nominees on a brand new Ford truck. The king and duchess nominees followed closely behind smiling and waving to the crowd in their separate vehicles.

Queen nominees were Allie Aguilar, Morgan Repa and Charly Owen.

"I was happy that I got nominated. I never thought I would," said Aguilar.

For the king nominees, there were Andrew Aleman, Juan Torres and Nick Schwertner.

Julia Darning, Amber Salazar and Ashley Dutcher were the nominees for duchess.

"The competition was really close," said Darning. "I wasn't sure who was going to end up coming out on top."

The votes were in by Friday and announced at halftime. Charly Owen was named queen. She was also awarded band sweetheart alongside the band beau, Nick Schwertner.

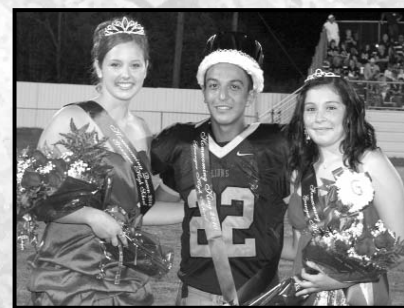
"I was very honored. And I felt very appreciative of my fellow students," said Owen.

Homecoming king was awarded to Andrew Aleman.

"When I got king, I was surprised and grateful," said Aleman.

A freshman, Amber Salazar, took duchess this year.

In other royalty, Ande Scott received the FFA award and football sweetheart, Travis Tidwell and Clayton Moore shared volleyball beau. The cheer beau was awarded to Esteban Payan.



Homecoming Festivities Energize Granger School

BY CHARLY OWEN

The week of homecoming 2010 began Tuesday, September 7, and lasted all that week.

"I thought there were a lot of good ideas that went around to show our school spirit," said freshman Amy Labaj.

Each of the high school classes had its own dress-up day that went along with the theme they each came up with.

"I was a little disappointed with our theme. But overall it was fun," said sophomore Alyssa Blomquist.

The remaining students showed their school spirit with dress-up day guidelines provided by the student council.

"We wanted to try something a little bit different this year to make sure we had a fun homecoming," said Student Council Vice President Jake Miller.

On Thursday, the seniors had the privilege of participating in the annual senior drive-through before starting their day at school.

"I thought the drive-through was awesome because it made me realize that I'm finally a senior," said Tanner Martin.

Later that evening, Granger residents lined up on Main Street to see the parade.



The homecoming court, the football players and the cheerleaders led the parade. Following was the band, each of the class floats, the Pop Warner football players and cheerleaders and some of the local fire trucks and police cars.

"The parade was eventful. And I think the town enjoyed it," said senior Nick Schwertner.

When the parade made its way back to the school, everyone gathered in front of the old gym for a pep rally given by the high school cheerleaders.

The GHS bonfire was then lit and burned.

"The bonfire was really exciting. I think it got everyone ready for the game," said Ciera Strmiska.

Lions Dominate Yellow Jackets

BY LORENA LIZARDO

On Friday, September 10, the Granger Lion football team faced the Meridian Yellow Jackets. This was the Lion's homecoming game.

"Winning this game was bigger than big. It is a great accomplishment for our players and coaches who have worked hard to get it," said Head Coach Wisdom.

Alex Cruz made the first touchdown of the game. During the first quarter, he ran 59 yards after breaking free from the line of scrimmage.

"I did not want to get over-excited. And I wanted it to seem like I had done it before," said Cruz.

In the middle of the first quarter on defense, Cruz and Colton Mazoch had a dangerous head-on collision while trying to tackle the quarterback.

"Alex and I had the same idea. We were both ready to hit somebody with all of our Lion power," said Mazoch.

Cruz had to sit out for the rest of the game while freshman David Torres stepped in his spot. He played well at that position without much practice.

"When that happened, the Lions worked harder. And Torres did a great job in taking his spot," said Cody Strmiska.

Nels Scott made the next

touchdown and gave the Lions the lead, 13-6.

"I was excited that we were able to come back with the lead. The linemen and backs had great blocks which gave me an open hole to run through," said Scott.

The Lions had a total of 398 rushing yards. The Lion defense held the Yellow Jackets to one rushing yard out of 14 running attempts in the first half of the game.

"Our defense was dominating. And we would not let anyone pass us," said defensive strong tackle Strmiska.

Andrew Aleman scored the third touchdown of the game with a 34-yard catch.

"I was happy to help my team score more points," said Aleman.

Scott scored another touch-



down and led the team in rushing with a total of 71 yards. Quarterback Juan Torres made the final touchdown of the game.

"I decided to run the ball because Coach Wisdom taught me to just run it in if no one was open in the play," said Torres.

The final score was 36-7. It was a strong and much-needed victory for the Lions' morale.

S P O R T S

Lady Lions Beat the Gators

BY ALYSSA WADE

The Lady Lions achieved their second district win in a three-set sweep against the Gateway Gators on September 14. This was the first time Gateway has been in the same district as Granger.

"Our team was prepared for anything. We were ready for a challenge," said senior Ande Scott.

The Lady Lions started off the game strongly. The determined team dominated the first set 25-6.

"Our team played consistently throughout the entire game," said senior Samantha Peebles.

During the second set, the Lady Lions won 25-10.

"The team has been playing with a lot of confidence and intensity," said Head Volleyball Coach Carlin Hohman.

The Lady Lions were victorious once again in the third game 25-13.

"Our team is young this year," said Scott. "We are full of potential energy. We just have to figure

out how to turn it into kinetic energy."

Sophomore Ciera Strmiska led serving with a total of 17 points. Kills (points earned without interference by the opposing team) were led by seniors Morgan Repa and Peebles and sophomore Alyssa Wade.

"Everybody had a lot of great plays throughout the game," said Strmiska.

Scott, the team's libero, led the team in back row passes. Her passes allowed senior Maribel Lizarido to assist another player to earn seven points.

"I feel like we won this game because we worked as a team, had fun and played with confidence," said junior Brooke Cole.

As the rest of district approaches, the Lady Lions hope to be district champions again. Although the team has lost a few seniors, they have high hopes for the rest of the season.

"As long as we work together as a team, I feel we will do very well the rest of district," said Peebles.

Granger Lion Football Team Prepares for District

BY ALYSSA WADE

The Granger Lion football team played Johnson City and Moody to get ready for district.

"The team went out and worked hard against other teams that were bigger than them," said Head Football Coach Stephen Wisdom.

On August 27 the Johnson City Eagles came to Granger to take on the Lions in their first game.

Although the Lions worked hard throughout the game, the Eagles came out on top. The final score was 28-14.

"Our offense wasn't doing so well," said sophomore Preston Jimenez. "We couldn't seem to score when we had the chance."

The following week, on September 3, the Lions played the Moody Bearcats in Granger. Both teams were evenly matched.

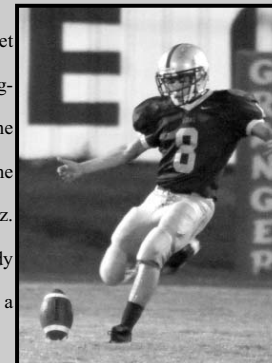
"We played extremely well," said senior Esteban Payan. "We made a few mistakes that we can and will fix."

The Lions did well offensively with 15 first downs and 307 yards.

"Besides the few mistakes that we've had, our defense is working very well," said Jimenez.

With their defense working hard, the Lions were able to stop the Bearcats from scoring for most of the game.

In the last quarter, the game was close with a score of 14-13. But in the final minute, the Bearcats were able to go ahead and win the game 19-14.



"We learned from our non-district games what we need to do to get us ready for district," said Payan.

This year the team is young. But with the leadership from seniors Juan Torres, Esteban Payan and Andrew Aleman, it is working to come out on top in district.

"The seniors this year have been playing their hardest and are very good leaders," said freshman Bryce Jimenez.

The players plan to continue to work hard for their goal of becoming district champions.

Pep Rallies Excite Granger Students

BY ALYSSA WADE

This year's pep rallies will be different than those of the past. With new cheerleaders, Leo, band members and football players, the pep rallies will be fresh and exciting.

The cheer team this year consists of Charly Owen, Kelly Johnson, Julia Darning, Selina Innes, Brooke Cole, Ciera Strmiska and Alyssa Wade. The school's mascot, Leo the Lion, is Kirsten Messex.

"This year's team meshed together very well," said Johnson.

All the cheerleaders agree that they want to give the crowd something new. They want this year's pep rallies to be original and fun.

"We really want to focus on getting everyone in the crowd involved," said Darning.

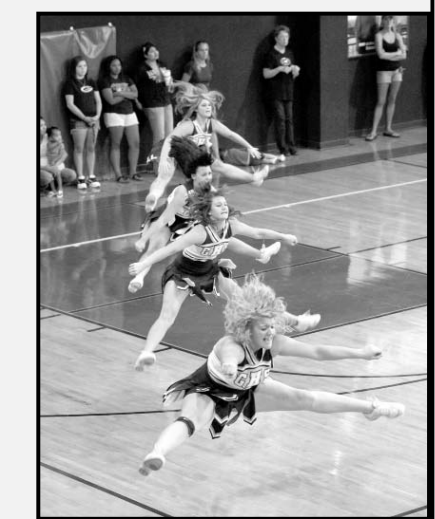
Not only are there new cheerleaders, but there is a whole new band, including the band director, Anna-Marie Eckert.

"Band this year is awesome," said freshman Kaitlynn Beavers. "We have a lot of new people and a great band director who makes things fun."

This year's band consists of many young members. But they plan to continually get better on a daily basis.

"All of our band's hard work is going to pay off in the end," said Drum Major Nick Schwertner.

Together, the cheerleaders and band are making the school's pep rallies entertaining. They hope to boost the spirit of the school and encourage the football team to play well this season.



Lady Lions Start District with a Win

BY LORENA LIZARDO

On September 11, the Lady Lions played their first district game against the Bartlett Lady Lassies.

"It's exciting to start district. We always see the first district game as actually starting the season," said Head Coach Hohman.

The Lady Lions played a total of three sets with scores of 25-8, 25-20 and 25-20.

"Our first district game was a success. We played as a team and communicated on a higher level compared to the previous game," said Samantha Peebles.

The two middle blockers, Morgan Repa and Alyssa Wade, led in kills followed by Peebles and Madison Outlaw.

"Coming back from an injury was difficult. But I overcame that. And during that game, I did the best I can do," said Repa.

The Lassies did not have many kills. Julia Darning, Repa, and Wade made sure the Lassies' kills

did not get in the way.

"We all worked hard as a team. And we plan on keeping that throughout district," said Darning.

Repa, Outlaw, Ciera Strmiska and Maribel Lizarido had powerful serves throughout the game.

"I did my best to focus on placing my serves. My goal is to have 100% in every game," said Strmiska.

Lizarido and Strmiska, the Lady Lions' two setters, performed well in the game by effectively setting up kill shots.

"I felt really confident about myself. And I truly believed in my teammates," said Lizarido.

Ande Scott had been working hard in practice on her digs. So she was prepared for game time.

"I always have great digs when the crowd is excited and intense," said Scott.

The Lady Lions are looking forward to playing their next district game against the Thrall Tigerettes.



Pre-K Students Meet Leo the Lion

BY ALYSSA WADE

Leo the Lion introduced himself to the pre-K students for the first time on September 1. He got the children ready for this year's first pep rally.

This year's mascot, Kirsten Messex, and two varsity cheerleaders visited the pre-K class. They did this to ease the possible fear of the young children.

"I thought that letting the little ones get used to me was a great idea," said Messex.

Leo walked in the classroom with his head off, revealing that Leo was just another cheerleader. All of the children had a smile on their face and couldn't sit still.

"It was really good seeing the little children take a liking to Leo so quickly," said varsity cheerleader Selina Innes.

Pre-K teacher Mrs. Krueger gave Payton Filla, one of her students, a "Little Leo" costume. She wanted the students to relate to their mascot.

"I had fun being Little Leo," said Payton. "But I couldn't find my tail."

The students danced with Leo and the cheerleaders. They wanted to prepare them for the pep rally that was only hours away.

"It's great how they wanted to be so involved in the pep rally," said Innes.

At the pep rally, the students danced with Leo again. According to one pre-K student, they were very enthusiastic and thrilled to have their first pep rally experience.

"It was a lot of fun at the pep rally," said Filla.

The pre-K students say that they cannot wait to attend the next pep rally to see Leo again.



EDITORIAL: Granger Band Tunes up Pride

BY DANIEL GRAVES

What is the band really good for anyway? And in what way does the band affect the school and local community?

If you don't think hard to answer these questions, the purpose and affect of the band on the community will be lost.

The band serves the purpose of encouraging school spirit. And it deserves more respect and appreciation for what it does.

I am currently not in the band. To be honest, I was turned off from it last year when there seemed to be no reason for me to be there. It lacked energy and passion.

But a new band director and a spirited drum major have attracted more people to join this year. And it's making quite the turnaround. I appreciate and respect what I am seeing out of this organization.

The band plays songs at pep rallies and at football games. This stirs emotion within the hearts of fans, students, and most importantly, the players on the field.

The band plays at kickoffs and after scoring points.

In doing this, it performs an important function. The football team is dependent on the band to pick it up emotionally when things aren't going well on the field.

In the homecoming game against Meridian when the team scored a touch-

down, I watched as the band played and small children leapt to their feet filled with joy.

The children stood up on the stands and danced to the rhythmic music. And several adults and teenagers applauded to the beat as the "Fight Song" was played. That's what school spirit looks like.

This positively affected the football team. And of course, it did win that Meridian game by a large margin.

Supporting the band leads to an increase in school spirit and wins on Friday nights.

And even when the team doesn't win, the band is still important to the crowd.

In the Thrall game, the team was not playing its best. And there was a lull in the energy level until the team scored its first touchdown.

As the "Fight Song" was played right on cue, I looked at the crowd as it was dealing with the bad weather. And I saw a sudden rush of excitement as smiles came upon many faces and lots of cheers were made.

The band has worked extremely hard this year under the direction of the new band director, Anna-Marie Eckert, and the drum major, Nick Schwertner.

According to band member Charly Owen, Ms. Eckert has ushered in a new, positive style of teaching that provides life

and vigor to the band.

Owen says that she always encourages them to do better. She always tells them they can perform well. And this helps them to improve.

It is unfortunate to hear students making uninformed and negative comments about the band.

The band is actually improving greatly as time goes on.

Membership rose from 10 last year to 17 this year. And the skill level of the band is improving week-to-week.

Every Monday night from 6-9 PM, the band practices its marching show. And each instrument group meets at weekly sectionals in which the director focuses on a specific group of instruments.

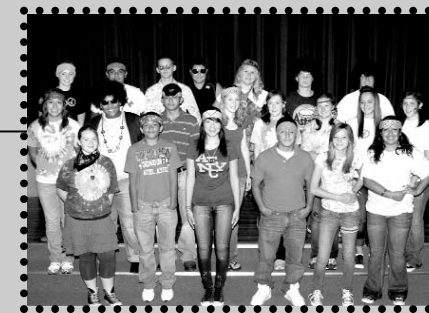
And if any Granger student claims to not have heard the band practicing hard on the football field during sixth period, it is probably because that student suffers from hearing loss.

Band member J.D. Vargas says each band student spends anywhere from 13-16 hours per week performing band duties.

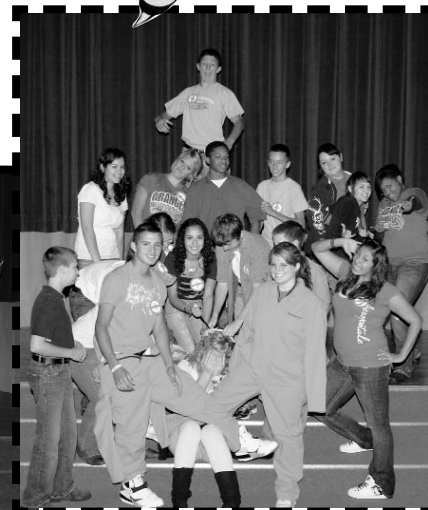
Drum Major Schwertner is certain that the dedication level of the members is at an all-time high. He says that they are working 12 times harder than last



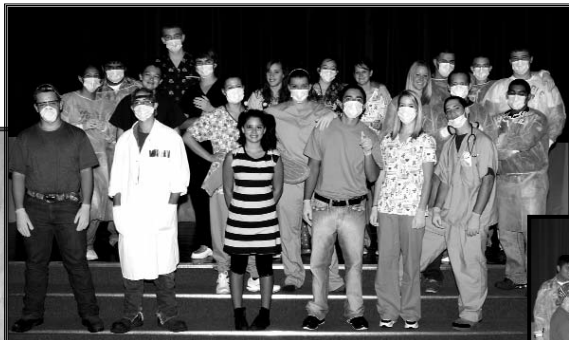
Freshmen



SOPHOMORES



JUNIORS



SENIORS



Amy Wolf's Story Changes Lives

BY ALYSSA WADE

Amy Wolf's tragic story was heard at Granger School September 1-3 thanks to Mrs. Ellen Wolf, Life Steps and FCCLA.

Amy Wolf was a student at Granger School. Her life was ended by a drunk driver on September 3, 2002, when she was 19 years old.

Amy Wolf's mother, Ellen Wolf, joined with two supporting organizations to share Amy's Story.

"Mrs. Wolf and Bebe Johnson, the Program Director of Life Steps, approached me and asked if FCCLA would like to help out," said Linda Huebner, Granger FCCLA advisor.

FCCLA members helped make ribbons in memory of Amy to hand out to students. They were yellow with a puzzle piece on them because Amy enjoyed puzzles.

"Amy Wolf was very involved throughout our community. And I felt she should be remembered," said Wayne Sweeting.

The Life Steps program worked with the school all three days. On September 1, they gave a prevention presentation for the elementary during their P.E. classes.

"Since it is very difficult to give a prevention presentation to elementary students, we focused on making good choices and how they will affect their lives," said Johnson.

On September 2 during all lunches, the Life Steps program set up an informational table. They handed out ribbons and drug prevention freebies.

"Although it was a stressful week for Mrs. Wolf, we really wanted to help her touch people's lives with Amy's story," said Johnson.

On the afternoon of September 2, the juniors and seniors were called to the student center. There, Ellen Wolf told them Amy's story.

"It was very moving to hear Amy's story. And it really made me think about how sacred life is," said junior Selina Innes.

On September 3 the Granger volleyball players honored Amy by wearing a yellow ribbon. On the ribbon, Amy's name and her volleyball number, #4, were painted.

"When wearing the ribbon, it made me realize that what happened

to Amy could happen to me. So I hope this teaches people to think twice before doing something stupid," said senior volleyball player Ande Scott.

At the football game, Life Steps set up a booth at the front gate. They told football fans Amy's story and handed out alcohol prevention



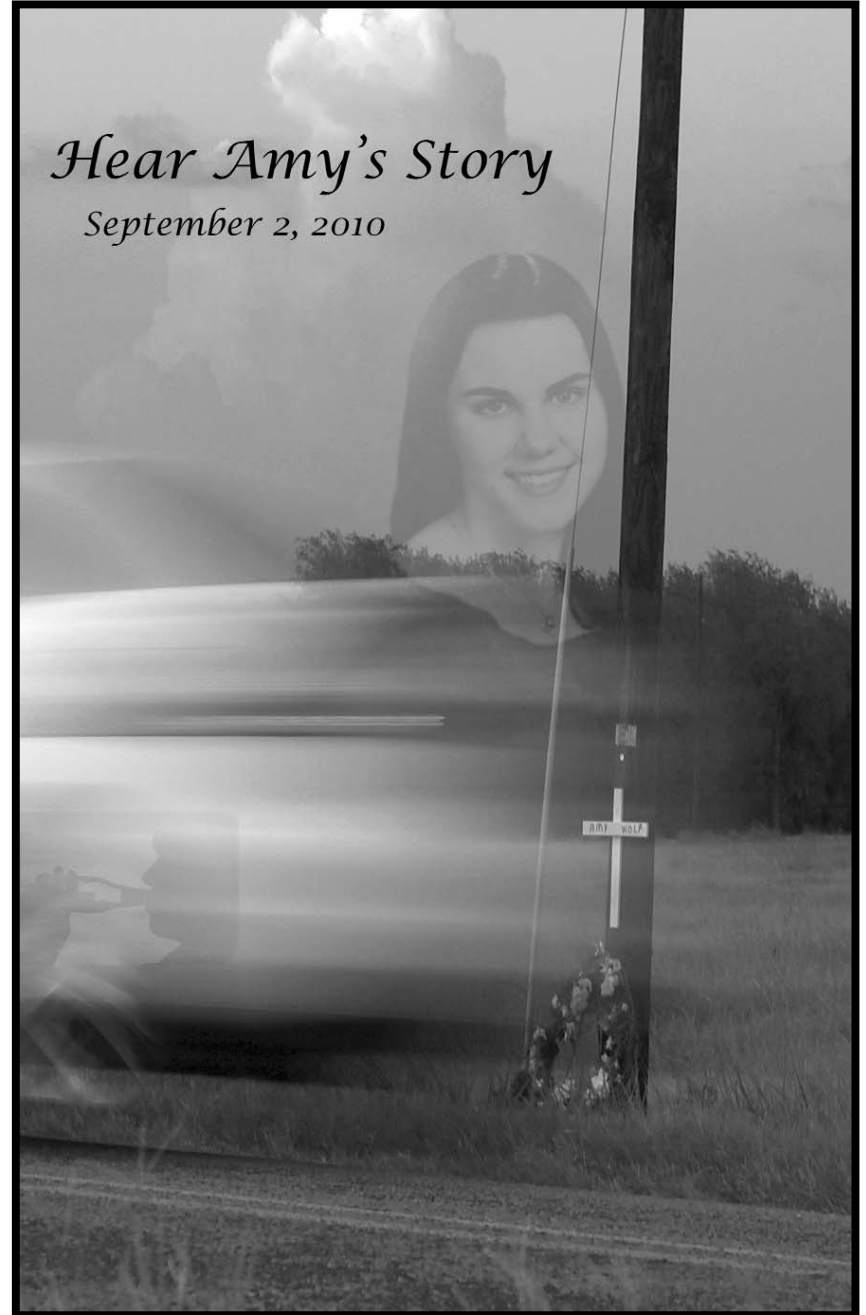
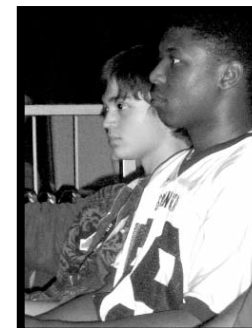
information.

"It was really neat how not only Granger fans, but people from the other team stopped by and listened to her story," said Huebner.

FCCLA plans on continuing this project, Just Think, throughout the year. FCCLA members Kelly Johnson and Alyssa Blomquist plan to take this project to competition in the spring.

"We really wanted to focus on how bad choices, like drunk driving, could have a long-lasting effect on a family and community," said Kelly Johnson.

According to the Wolf family and everyone who was involved, this program was a success. They hope that at least one life was saved thanks to Amy's story.



Hear Amy's Story
September 2, 2010

SPORTS

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

Dunn Goes for a Run

BY ALYSSA WADE

This month's cross country athlete of the month is Kirk Dunn. His hard work and good attitude earned him this title.

"Kirk brings a very good attitude to our team this year," said Cross Country Coach Ernest Valdez.

Dunn is a sophomore this year, the youngest runner on the varsity team. Despite how young he is, he is making an impact on the team.

"Running calms my soul and brings me to my happy place," said Dunn.

Dunn has been running cross country since his eighth grade year. His coach and teammates say that he works hard every day.

"At practices, Kirk is a hard worker and a good motivation for all of us," said Lorena Lizardo, one of Dunn's teammates.

Dunn and the rest of the cross country team have been practicing since two-a-day workouts started on August 2. Every morning they arrive at the school at six o'clock for practice.

"Kirk has improved very much already this year and will surely continue," said Valdez.

At Dunn's first meet in Academy, he ran three miles in

24:04. At Crawford, he improved his time by two minutes, finishing in 22:02.

"We have a good group this year. And I think we are going to do well," said Dunn.

This cross country season has just started. And Dunn's coach and teammates plan to see many more accomplishments from him throughout the year.

Lady Lions Start District with a Win

BY LORENA LIZARDO

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The two middle blockers, Morgan Repa and Alyssa Wade, led in kills, followed by Peeples and Madison Outlaw.

"Coming back from an injury was difficult. But I overcame that. And during that game, I did the best I can do," said Repa.

The Lassies did not have many kills. Julia Dering, Repa, and Wade made sure the Lassies' kills did not get in the way.

"We all worked hard as a team. And we plan on keeping that throughout district," said Dering.

Repa, Outlaw, Ciera Strmiska and Maribel Lizardo had powerful serves throughout the game.

"I did my best to focus on placing my serves. My goal is to have 100% in every game," said Strmiska.

Lizardo and Strmiska, the Lady Lions' two setters, performed well in the game by effectively setting up kill shots.

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Seniors Lead the Volleyball Team to Victory

BY BROOKE GRIFFIS

This month's star volleyball athletes are Samantha Peeples and Maribel Lizardo. Since the beginning of two-a-day workouts, they have kept their team going and working hard this year.

"The season started a little rough. But we're working hard," said Lizardo.

Peeples and Lizardo helped the team by supporting it through its losses and helping to get a victory in district play.

"I'm really proud of these girls. They are leaders and role models.

They have been dedicated to this all of their volleyball career here at Granger," said Head Volleyball Coach Carlin Hohman.

Peeples and Lizardo are positive, enjoy playing the game and have inspired younger girls.

"They are leaders. When one of them gets down, we all do. When someone makes a mistake, they always pick us up and tell us that it's okay," said freshman Madison Outlaw.

The team played its first home game against Moody. This was one of Peeples's best hitting games.

"Being a leader is important and so is giving it your all," said Peeples.

Peeples came off the court that game with six kills. But she could not do this on her own. Working together, Lizardo helped Peeples with sets and passes.

Peeples and Lizardo have led the team to push its hardest. Since this is their last year, they wish to leave behind advice to the underclassmen: "Try your best and never give up."

As the season goes on, Lizardo and Peeples will continue to give their all to their team and their game.

Aleman Leads Team with Big Heart

BY LORENA LIZARDO

This issue's football athlete of the month is a senior and running-back for the Lion football team.

"Andrew has stepped up to be the leader of our team this year. He has already built up impressive statistics on offense, defense and special teams," said Head Coach Wisdom.

Aleman is averaging 20 yards on punt return. Playing Johnson City, Moody and Meridian he had a total of 188 rushing yards, 46 receiving yards and a touchdown.

"Knowing that I already started my last season of football is sad. But all I have to do is give it all I have and have fun," said Aleman.

"Andrew has a lot of heart. That is what makes him a good leader. We work together to get the ball in the end zone," said quarterback Juan Torres.

When the Lions played Johnson City, Aleman's favorite part of the game was when lineman Colton Mazoch hit the other team hard on kickoff return.

"I want my team to do its best. And I got excited. By doing that I got Aleman excited," said Mazoch. "He is also a good athlete and pushes us to do our best."

Aleman's personal goal is to run the stress level, a running workout, without getting tired during practice and have no false starts.

"Andrew is one of our main leaders. We call him "Popajiwivi," which means in our vocabulary that he is strong, fast, a great leader and can accomplish anything," said teammate Alex Cruz.

Aleman and the team's goal is to win district.

"I know we can do it. To win we have to work hard in practice and push everyone to work as hard as I would," said Aleman.

Aleman plans on leading the team with his heart and doing the best he can to make his team successful.

SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

Repa Shines

BY BROOKE GRIFFIS

Born in 1993 to Daryl and Shelly Repa, Morgan Repa is now a cheerful senior. Fun and outgoing, Repa's personality keeps everyone around her entertained.

"She is very spunky. And she always brightens the mood," said best friend Maribel Lizardo.

Repa's positive attitude is also shown on the volleyball court. She is hardworking and dedicated to her team.

When Repa is not playing due to an injury, she is on the bench cheering on the team for emotional support.

"Morgan is a great person when the tension is tight. She always finds a way to ease the mood. She is reliable and can be

counted on for anything," said Repa's favorite coach, Natalie Enderlin.

When she is not busy in sports, Repa is enjoying her senior year. Her favorite teacher is Mr. Bassett because of his good humor.

"I enjoy having her in my class. She is always so positive and upbeat. And she loves to laugh," said Mr. Bassett.

When she graduates, she wants to attend Temple College to get her basics and then transfer to Texas A&M University.

Repa loves to care for her pets. She wishes to become a veterinarian to continue to care for many animals.



Moore Welds Greatness

BY ALEX REED

Elliott Moore was born in 1993 to Duke Moore and Pam Tippit.

"I also have two older sisters," said Moore. "One just graduated from college."

Moore's two main activities in school are welding and participating on the UIL accounting team.

"He's very bright," said accounting coach Mrs. Butler. "He learns quickly and I knew he would score well in competition."

His favorite class was Mr. Cooper's pre-calculus class his junior year. The two spent much of the year joking with each other in class.

"Mr. Cooper is funny. And I enjoyed hiding his yardstick," said Moore.

Mr. Perez is Moore's favorite teacher because he has taught Moore a lot about mechanics.

"He taught me a valuable skill: welding," said Moore. "I didn't know anything about it before taking his class."

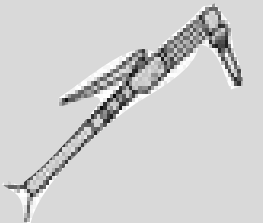
Of all the experience high school has had to offer, Moore picked cutting a pipe as his favorite memory. "Elliott is capable of doing anything in life with

welding or shop work," said Mr. Perez. "All in all, he's a great welder and a good person."

Outside of school, Moore likes to spend time with his friends and play video games.

"Elliott should be a professional video game player," said friend Trevor Schwitzer. "He plays them all the time."

After high school, Moore plans on attending Texas State Technical College and majoring in welding. There, he will put the skills he learned from Mr. Perez to work.



Aleman Brings the Jokes

BY CHARLY OWEN

Where you hear the laughter, you will find senior Andrew Aleman.

Aleman was born in 1993 to parents Martin and Sandy Aleman.

With one younger brother, Matthew Aleman, and one older brother, Joey Ortiz, Aleman has been the middle child.

At Granger, Aleman has participated in many activities. Those include football, baseball, basketball, powerlifting, track and UIL Accounting.

"He is a good leader because he pushes himself to do better and encourages everyone on his team to do the same," said Colton Mazoch.

Aleman's favorite sports are football and baseball.

"I grew up playing both sports. And I really enjoy them," said Aleman.

His favorite teacher, Coach Wisdom, happens to go hand-in-hand with his favorite sports.

"He's a really good coach and has a love not only for his team, but also for his family. I would like to someday have that same kind of love for my own family," said Aleman.

Aleman's favorite class this year is calculus with Mr. Cooper.

"It's extremely fun. And I learn something new every day," said Aleman.

Aleman has received several awards of which he is proud. Those include A-B Honor Roll, 1st-Team District Running Back and 1st-Team District Centerfielder.

"Andrew is a character and the life of

the party. But he knows when it's time to get serious," said Coach Wisdom.

Outside of school, Aleman enjoys hunting, fishing, and spending time with his friends, Alex "Ox" Cruz and Clayton Moore.

"He's a good friend and is fun to spend time with because he's always making jokes," said Moore.

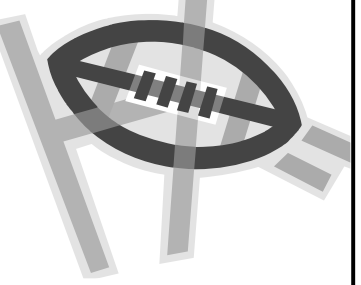
Aleman's future plans include going to college. But he is unsure which college to attend.

"I plan on becoming a physical therapist or a coach," said Aleman.

Aleman shared his own outlook on life and a saying that goes with it: "There is nothing to fear but fear itself."

"That's something that Coach Pickerill told me. And it has stayed with me ever

since," said Aleman. He also hopes to someday have a good job so he can support his family.



Schwitzer Speaks Out

BY KIRSTEN MESSEX

Trevor Schwitzer is like a Valentine chocolate. He's a mystery on the outside. But once his shell breaks open, Schwitzer's lovable filling spills out.

Born to Monica and Brad Schwitzer, Trevor has lived in Granger his entire life. And yet he still remains a mysterious figure. However, this isn't because Schwitzer doesn't have anything to offer.

"He's very insightful when you wouldn't expect it. And he's a good friend," said Daniel Graves. "He's given me great advice before."

Schwitzer may be quiet. But he is always willing to lend a helping hand to the people he cares about. He most likely inherited this trait from his father, who Schwitzer says is his biggest influence in life.



"He's really selfless. And he will do things for people and want nothing in return," said Schwitzer about his father. "He cares more about me than himself. That's how I want to be."

In the classroom, Schwitzer may not be the loudest student. But somehow his quirky comments are still heard above the din of the room.

This is because everyone has learned to listen when Schwitzer speaks. It may be rare. But it's always worth it.

"Trevor's very witty. And he brings delight to the classroom," said Nick Schwertner.

Schwitzer hasn't been very involved in school activities over the years, only competing in band and UIL. But he has spent his extra time doing something he loves: playing video games.

"I like being competitive and good at things," said Schwitzer. "I just so happen to be good at video games. So it all works out."

While playing video games, Schwitzer has become a worldlier person. He has a good friend from Canada with

whom he regularly plays online.

He has also learned, at an earlier age than most, what it means to have real inner peace.

"I think it's most important for people to do things that make them happy in life. Anything that keeps them from that is a hindrance," said Schwitzer. "If it's religion, people, expectations, reputation, you should give it up if it keeps you from being happy."

After graduating, Schwitzer doesn't plan on playing video games full-time. Instead he wants to figure out what to do in college, help his parents, and in the distant future, raise a child.

He would also like to become a physics or astronomy teacher.

At the end of the day, Schwitzer, just like that Valentine chocolate, still seems like a mystery. But work a little harder to get the wrapping paper off. The reward won't disappoint.

Paws For Poetry

Billboard Signs and Message Lines

BY KIRSTEN MESSEX

Wow I'm really not ok when people say that I am
But hey the world turns

The other day I saw a flower blossom die
Lately everything burns

When I lose my keys I just sit in my car and wait
I wonder how old people feel

My cat had stripes but they all fell off
I didn't shake on the deal.

There are pieces of my smile I've been trying to glue
I need a new magazine

The pancakes on the stoves are blacker than that dress you wore
I misplaced all my codeine.

The lawnmower ate my grass today but I know it'll be back soon
Birds are so brittle

When I leave my house I don't know if I'll find my way back
I only worry a little

Heat

BY ALEX REED

My dry mouth
Saliva—like paste
a glue of sticky peanut butter
In the back of my throat
Forcing liquid down my gullet
Does nothing to dislodge the lump
Heavy, humid air clogs my nose
Smelling sweetly of warm jelly
A deep breath is bread,
Doughy and undercooked
Impossible to get down
In the oppressive
The engulfing
Heat.



Granger School Dresses with Spirit

BY BROOKE GRIFFIS

This year for homecoming, Granger School was invaded by hippies, exterminators, doctors and some sleepy people in pajamas.

Freshmen and sophomores shared Tuesday as their dress-up day. "Blast the Yellow Jackets to the Past" was the freshmen theme as they dressed up in tie-dye and hippie clothing.

"This got everyone excited. I could tell it was something we really wanted to do," said freshman Aspynn Kaderka.

The sophomores followed the theme "Exterminate the Yellow Jackets." The rest of the school limped around for fake injury day on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, the school turned into a hospital as the juniors came in their doctors' scrubs for their theme, "Sedate the Yellow Jackets." It was also dress-up-as-a-little kid day for the rest of the students.

"Spirit week got me ready and very excited for the game," said Ashley Dutcher.

"Put the Yellow Jackets to Sleep" was the theme for the seniors. After their senior drive-through and chanting through the halls, they arrived to class ready for bed again in their pajamas. Everyone who was not a senior dressed as a fashion disaster.

New Ag Building Built on Campus

BY J.D. VARGAS

A new agriculture building was built behind the new gym this summer.

"The new shop makes it easier to work on projects, and above all, makes it safer," said agriculture teacher Eloy Perez.

Many classes are now available to be taken in the agriculture shop such as welding, wildlife management agriculture introduction, agriculture business and animal services.

"I enjoy the new shop. It is very organized and a great place to learn," said dual credit welding student Colton Mazoch.

The school board members voted to build this new building,

stating that, the old building was unsafe due to the lack of space.

Many people were involved in the process of assembling the building including Todd Grandjean, Mike Juranek, Eloy Perez, Mike Holly, Kirk Dunn and Kyle Janke.

"I'm glad to be a part of the team that assembled the building," said student builder Kirk Dunn.

According to Mr. Perez, the new shop is now a safer and more spacious place in which to be educated.

"I would like to thank the board and administration for getting the new agriculture shop," said Mr. Perez.

Comic

BY TYLER CANTWELL



FICTION CORNER

Alarming

Embarrassment
BY BROOKE GRIFFIS

The aisles of Target were small and empty as we ran past them in a slightly frantic search. My friend, Zoey, ran ahead of Stacey and I.

She turned her head from side to side as she scanned the aisles. Her long black hair flowed behind her, like an ebony flag flying in the wind.

After a moment Zoey skidded to a stop by the electronics. At the end of the aisle was a tall, lean teenage guy with sandy hair looking up at a video game that played on a small television.

We stopped at the big counter overlooking the electronics department and began talking loudly and picking up the cameras that were displayed.

I knew that Zoey silently hoped that the guy, Joseph, would notice us. Zoey and Joseph used to be close friends, and they had ignored the fact that everyone thought that they should be together.

In my opinion, I think they both knew they should be together, too, but neither of them knew how to make the first step. It could be that Joseph has a possessive girlfriend he can't bring himself to break up with.

However, Zoey and Joseph lost touch when Joseph moved, and Zoey got a new phone that acci-

dentally deleted all of her contacts. Tonight we saw him standing in the gaming aisle, clueless to our presence.

A loud bell sounded from the camera's counter, sending a shock through my body that made me jump. I noticed that a blur of black passed behind me and stopped a few aisles away, by the movies.

It was Zoey. Her expression told me she was the one who accidentally pulled on the camera too much, making the cord sound the screeching alarm to tell any worker that the expensive hunk of plastic could be getting stolen.

Or, in our case, some rowdy teenagers could have accidentally yanked the camera too much trying to take a picture.

I looked around, but there was no one in sight except Joseph, who was now looking at us as if we were leeches on his flawless, tanned skin. He saw me staring and his eyebrows rose.

His serious expression only lasted a moment, however, before I saw his lips raise as he could no longer resist the urge to laugh out loud. My own expression softened as I laughed along with him.

A giggle still etched on his face, his hazel eyes turned to the girl who was walking back slowly, a guilty, but amused expression written on her face.

H O R O S C O P E

Kirsten Cuts up the Future

BY KIRSTEN MESSEX

As a new school year begins, many of you may be wondering how to make this one stand out. A perfect way to add some flash to your life would be with a new hairstyle.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) — It's your birthday. And it's time to party! However, for some reason, you've been a little fussy this month, just like a perm. But remember, as long as you don't let anyone rain on your parade (or cry at your party), everything will turn out just fine. Lucky days: 2nd and 23rd.

Libra (September 23-October 22) — Much like Jackie Kennedy, your hair this month should be piled up into a bouffant. This romantic pouf is perfect for you because you can't seem to stop thinking about that certain someone. Give it time. Pretty soon you'll be buying each other milkshakes with two straws. Lucky days: 6th and the 14th.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) — Sadly, this month your life is like a receding hair line. Lately you've been a little stressed out, mostly because you expect so much from yourself. It's good to be wise. And the wise thing to do would be to relax while you still have some hair left. Lucky days: 5th and 17th.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) — Have you seen your transcript lately? Last year you seemed to be in a bit of a daze. So this year it's time to pick it up and get a crew cut. Now is the time to change. Lucky days: 3rd and 10th.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) — You've always been a bit of a high roller. Now is the time to let that shine with a magnificent beehive hairdo. Your ambitions could really take you far this month if you let them. Lucky days: 8th and 11th.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18) — You always seem to be up-to-date with all the latest trends and fashions, which makes you a great person to sport a bump it this month. But this month you might be wearing thin. It's okay to take a day to focus on yourself and not on the latest handbag.

Lucky days: 25th and 29th.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) — This month your life is like a French braid because you seem to be torn between two big decisions. You know which path to follow. So don't worry about this fork in the road so much. Lucky days: 1st and 22nd.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — This month you should really let your inner-child shine with a cute pair of pigtails. This playful little hairdo might help you remember your carefree playground days. Lucky days: 4th and 18th.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — For some reason you've been a little uptight and withdrawn, like a bun. It's understandable that you may be going through a hard time right now. But don't push away the people who care about you. Lucky days: 13th and 17th.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — You like to have a good time. And with a faux-hawk you can make sure everyone knows it. You really are the life of the party. And this month that's just fine. Lucky days: 19th and 30th.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Unfortunately you have decided to be contradictory this month. And therefore your hairstyle is the mullet. Your behavior is giving the people close to you emotional whiplash. You really need to do some soul-searching and find out what it is that's causing all this mayhem. Lucky days: 24th and 28th.

Leo (July 23-August 22) — You're a star and you know it. That's why your hair, just like Elvis Presley's, is a pompadour. This month you may be feeling underappreciated at home or at work. But just look in the mirror and remember that you are important. Lucky days: 7th and 25th.



ZEN OX PHOTOGRAPHY

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October Calendar

October 2—Volleyball game vs. Buckholts 1 PM, away
October 4-8—Elementary skate time

October 5—Volleyball game vs. Bartlett, away
October 7—Junior high school football game vs. Bartlett, away
October 8—Varsity football game vs. Bartlett, home
Volleyball game vs. Gateway, home

October 9—High school and junior high cross country in Salado
October 11—Junior high volleyball game vs. Buckholts, home
October 12—National Honor Society meeting 3:42-4:15 PM
October 13—PSAT for juniors and select sophomores, 8 AM, student center

October 14—Junior high school football game vs. Snook, home
October 15—Varsity football game vs. Snook, away
October 16—Volleyball game vs. Thrall, away
UIL marching contest

High school and junior high cross country in Salado

October 18—Junior high volleyball game vs. Bartlett, home
Project Celebration 7 PM in the library

October 19—Volleyball game vs. Milano, home
Seniors meet with Herff Jones, 9:15-9:44 AM, student center

TAKS ELA retest at 8 AM in the student center
October 20—PLAN test for sophomores, 8 AM, student center
TAKS Math retest at 8 AM in the ISS room

October 21—Junior high school football game vs. Holland, away
TAKS Science retest at 8 AM, student center

October 22—Varsity football game vs. Holland, home
Volleyball game vs. Holland, home
TAKS Social Studies retest at 8 AM, student center

October 25—Junior high volleyball game vs. Gateway, home
October 26—Volleyball game vs. Buckholts, home

October 27—Skills USA district leadership 6:30 AM-4:30 PM
Seniors meet with Herff Jones 12 AM- 1 PM
EXPLORE at 8 AM, student center, Eighth grader

October 28—Junior high school football game vs. Burton, away
Field trip to pumpkin patch kindergarten--third grade

October 29—Varsity football game vs. Burton, home
October 31—Happy Halloween

Paw Prints Staff

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ALEX REED: Layout, Club & UIL Guide, & Poetry Corner

TYLER CANTWELL: Photographer, Horoscope & Comic

KIRSTEN MESSEX: Librarian & Horoscope

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ALYSSA WADE: Sports & Elementary

BROOKE GRIFFIS: Sports

J.D. VARGAS: Assistant Photographer & News

Sponsor: Michelle Bassett

Granger ISD web site: www.grangerisd.net

SEEN ANY GOOD PICTURES LATELY?

Mr. Bassett is posting his Granger School pictures to Flickr, and you are welcome to download those you like. Homecoming pictures will be posted soon.

Go to the Granger School website and click on the button marked Photos in the Quicklinks or type in the following website: www.flickr.com/photos/grangerschool/