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THE LION 2015



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Kim Montgomery

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MCKINNEY
HIGH SCHOOL
TEXAS

VOLUME

75



006 STUDENT LIFE

098 PEOPLE

194 SPORTS

230 TEAMS/GROUPS

246 SENIOR ADS

267 INDEX





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JUST FOR KICKS

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FLASH A SMILE

Before kickoff, junior Halli Jolly takes a selfie with the other members of StuCo as the last group to beat the drum. There were never enough selfies at football games. One more selfie never hurt. "It was really fun being on the sideline before the football game," Halli said. "My selfie looked good, and I posted it on my Instagram." (photo by Steven Kent)



TAKE DOWN

Against four-star recruit Ronald Jones, senior Colton Jack attempts to tackle the running back. The Lions ended their season 2-8 even though they expected more. "I was trying to get him down so we could have a chance to win," Colton said. "We held the best running back in the nation to less than half of his average yards per game." (photo by Colin Mitchell)



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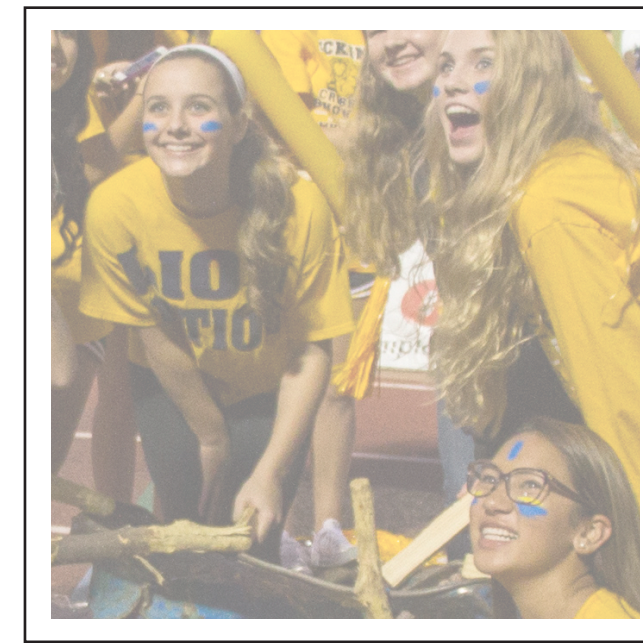
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MORE BRASS

At summer practice Aug. 8, senior Kevin Sells learns the music and marching routine for the Sweet Dreams halftime show. Kevin had a solo at the end of part one of the show. "This year was really special to me," Kevin said. "Mr. Ringel put together a small brass group to play for the student section, which made the games more interesting." (photo by Giovanni Sabala)



More freshmen. More classes. More rivalry. We heard that more times than we could count. More than half the students had never even attended McKinney High School. The upperclassmen had numerous traditions and routines to teach these new additions who came to us courtesy of the redrawn attendance zones.

MORE

It feels like home. You can find a group to fit in with because there's

ORE DIVERSITY.

-Yoki Ongwela, 11

OPEN MIC

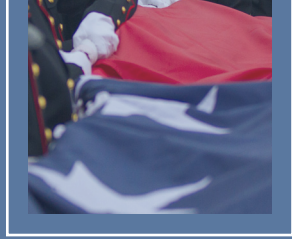
While representing McKinney, senior Marquette Payton Carbonetto responds to the anchors of "Good Morning Texas" as they ask her about living in the "#1 Best Place to Live in America" according to Money Magazine. The WFAA morning show broadcast live from Ron Poe stadium with spirit groups from all three high schools as a backdrop. "I think I owned it," Payton said. "One of the producer ladies came up to me and asked if I knew I was being interviewed. After I told her no, she told me she thought I did amazing." (photo by Colin Mitchell)



ON THE BLOCK

At the sand volleyball courts at Towne Lake, senior Byron Robinson spikes the ball over the net while senior Luke Lauterbach jumps up to block. More events were added to the carnival than previous years including the sand volleyball tournament. "I played in the front row in the tournament," Byron said. "It was exciting because I was able to block the ball whenever the other team was trying to score." (photo by David Funes)





STARS AND STRIPES

At the 9/11 ceremony before the football game against Newman Smith, members of JROTC fold the American flag. This program taught the students more leadership skills. "JROTC gives us a sense of camaraderie," junior Zach Vernier said. "It was an honor to hold the flag during the 9/11 ceremony." (photo by Colin Mitchell)

We were the only school in the district to add Marine Corps JROTC to the curriculum, which made us more attractive to all those transfers. The Hall of Honor was installed to recognize alumni who had served in the military.

Course offerings in language expanded with the return of Chinese. More AP classes were offered to underclassmen to pad those all-important GPAs.

Spirit and competition peaked when we went back to playing North, our original Crosstown Showdown rivals. In football we could've used more points on the scoreboard there at the end. However, redemption came when we swept them in volleyball twice and beat them in double overtime basketball. Looks like North bit off a little more than they could chew.

That's more like it.



All of us make a community that is more

THAN A SCHOOL

"It's cliché, but you could say we're pretty much a **FAMILY.**"

-Madison LaLonde, 10



PLAY DEAD

In theatre's first production of the season, "Is He Dead," senior Luke Moraglia portrays Chicago. "When I auditioned, I really wasn't sure if I got the part or not until my director had me perform the same scene with nine different girls, which led me to assume I got the role," Luke said. "I was excited when I found out that I officially got the part, because he's one of the main characters, and the play itself is overall amazing." (photo by David Funes)

RAT AROUND

In Anatomy and Physiology, senior Austin Ludwig dissects a rat. The first step was to cut the skin down the middle of their stomachs and pin back the flaps connected to their shoulders. From there, the students could examine the organs and sketch down what they looked like. "Dissecting the rat was pretty sweet," Austin said. "There were lots of guts." (photo by Colin Mitchell)

MORE THAN A STUDENT

And there's more. Healthy options in the cafeteria meant the exit of Chick-fil-A and a modified Pizza Hut recipe. #NoThanks. Although we had more students, we cut back from five lunches to three to avoid split class periods. The lunch lines were so long. That's where we drew the line on the whole less-is-more thing.



PLASTER UP

With her face covered in plaster, freshman Hannah Burlingame takes a selfie with freshman Katherine Turner and art teacher Mrs. Amanda Hughes, who was also named Teacher of the Year. Although the mold wasn't required for the clay vessel project, Hannah added it to hers. "It was weird because everyone is laughing and making fun of you while you're making the mold," Hannah said. "So it's hard to keep a straight face." (photo by Giovanni Sabala)

TOOT YOUR OWN HORN

As a member of honors band, freshmen Chloe Martinez and Regan Phillips practice for concert season with sophomore Caroline Bakke. "My sister plays the flute," Chloe said. "She didn't want me playing the same instrument as her, so she suggested the trumpet." (photo by Caroline Ringel)



SPARKS FLY

To test how temperature affects different sized particles, senior Justin Ahamed and sophomores Bradley Myers and Roxana Farokhnia set an iron precipitate on fire in AP Chemistry. Since this was the first year that sophomores could take AP Chemistry, Bradley had to work harder to keep up with the upperclassmen. "It's tough because there's a lot of new material that we had to learn," Bradley said. "Going into this class without any understanding wouldn't be an easy task. Once you get the hang of it, it's fun though." (photo by David Funes)

LEAD THE WAY

Lined up with the team, senior Payton Carbonetto leads her victory line. Payton was the first lieutenant and also led the team during football and competition season. "I got nervous before the games because you're standing right there in front of everyone," Payton said. "I'd be shaking more and more every time I saw everyone up in the stands." (photo by Colin Mitchell)



MORE THAN BEFORE

The school grew by more than 400, which was more than we bargained for. It was already crowded enough here, and we knew that it would just grow more after Money Magazine named McKinney as the #1 Best Place to Live. This was our fourth time to make it in the top five since 2010, but our first time to come in #1.

UP TOP

After throwing a touchdown pass, sophomore Olivia Metzger celebrates with junior Tanya Correa. As the quarterback of her team, Olivia made one rushing touchdown, and three touchdown passes. "I fell so many times," Olivia said. "It was rough out there because we didn't have pads or anything since it's just flag football." (photo by Giovanni Sabala)

SING OUT

At the Club 24:12's Battle of the Bands, senior Jonathan Knox sings "Silent Night." Jonathan and his duet partner, Therese Camaligan arranged the song together. "We had been planning on doing a duet together for some time," Jonathan said. "We picked one of the songs that was left and it ended up being really fun." (photo by Giovanni Sabala)



SHARE THE PAINT

Art Club member, senior Kyra Sorensen, paints faces at the homecoming carnival. Kyra painted tigers more than any other face. "The kids' reactions were the best part," Kyra said. "They were always so excited about it even if the painting wasn't perfect." (photo by Kendra Murphy)

SHOW OF HANDS

At the homecoming pep rally, senior Hayley Hoag links pinkies with seniors Sarah Harper and Michael Danko. The cheerleaders had a more elaborate routine at this pep rally which included the JV members. "It was exciting," Haley said. "It's fun when all of the cheerleaders, Marquettes, football players and everyone else on the floor comes together at the end." (photo by Giovanni Sabala)

MORE THAN AN ATHLETE

We no longer played in 6A where we really belonged but played schools half our size. There was more competition for spots on the team, too. Of course, that didn't guarantee wins for every sport, but some did benefit. We were more likely to beat our former cross town rival, North, instead of the one we'd rather not name. Besides, a whole lot more of us could cheer for the team.



HOLD TIGHT

As he attempts to keep his opponent down on the mat, junior Connor Reckley uses a grip hold tactic. "With a new coach and eight freshmen, we weren't that great at the beginning of the season," Connor said. "Coach taught us that if we each do our best it'll influence our overall team's score and that's what matters." (photo by Elizabeth Bruce)

BUNT AND RUN

In the scrimmage against Little Elm, senior Jordan Shick bunts the ball and sprints to first base. The team's performance made them feel like they were ready to face their first opponents. "We're definitely starting to swing the bats better and we're starting to be more confident as both players and a team," Jordan said. "This game helped us so we could carry more momentum into tournament games." (photo by David Funes)



As a right back, junior Jada Holmes attempts to shut her opponents down and defend the ball enough to pass it toward the center of the field. Since more freshmen made varsity, the team had to adjust their chemistry to carry out a successful season. "There were so many new faces, so it was hard to play the way some of us liked to envision," Jada said. "However, we've bonded a ton since the beginning of the season and as a result have ended up district champs." (photo by David Funes)



MORE TO COME

The addition of four lanes to 75 Central Expressway meant detours and strange traffic patterns. Luckily, gas prices reached a low of \$1.79, meaning we didn't have to pay so much for the constant stop-and-go traffic. To add to our frustration, they started work on 75 through Allen. How much more of 75 are they going to tear up?

MAKE IT WORK

Seconds after a win against Denison at the homecoming game, senior Raijon Geter celebrates with his teammates. The Lions intercepted a pass to gain possession, sending it into overtime. The final score was 35-28. "It really felt like we were going somewhere," Raijon said. "As a team on the field we didn't do so well, but we still found a way to win." (photo by Colin Mitchell)

TAKE THAT, NORTH

During the second half against North, seniors Giovanni Sabala, Preston Smith and Cody Tolbert scream after the Lions first touchdown of the game. North eventually went on to represent McKinney by making it into the state semifinals. "I remember everyone went insane," Giovanni said. "Even the Boyd and North students were going crazy, because everyone thought we were going to get slaughtered out there. It was nice seeing us score." (photo by Isaac Monroy)

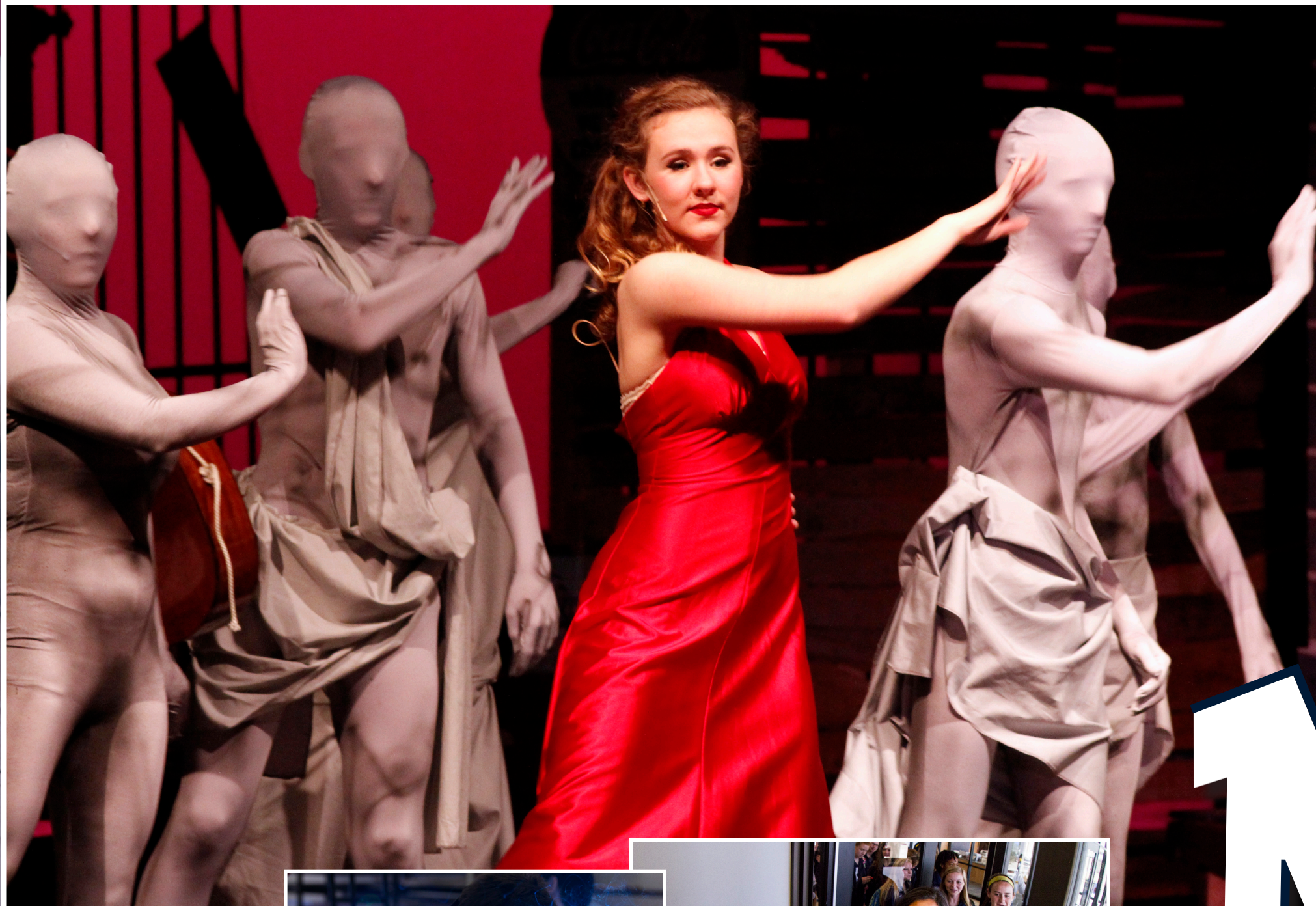


TEAM EFFORT

Paint brush in hand, senior Claire Miles helps Jessica McConahey finish her parking spot. Jessica's spot won first place. "In order to get everything done we painted four hours a day for more than two weeks," Claire said. "We both had an equal share of designing and painting. Teamwork makes the dream work." (photo by Grayson Hicken)

ORGAN DONOR

Because of the similarity between rat organs and human organs, Anatomy and Physiology students Haley Kinney and Tara Davis dissect a rat. The dissection took the students three days to complete. "I thought the dissection was very informative," Haley said. "At the same time it was really gross." (photo by Kendra Murphy)



ON A PEDESTAL

While singing, "Let Yourself Go" in the spring musical "All Shook Up," sophomore Huntley McSwain dances with statues freshman Preston Blair, sophomores Aaron Whitten, Bradley Myers, Jack Moraglia and junior Megan Lafferty. Since this song included the statues, it took more practice than the other performances. "The statues had to memorize everything to a point since they were blind," Huntley said. "Rehearsing with all of them was hard but also really funny."

With even more growth expected next year, one more house was added at semester to the administration, the House of Courage. The UIL academic team had more to brag about when they won sweepstakes at three practice meets in a row. The Marquettes won their national championship, orchestra won UIL sweepstakes, and we sent more projects than ever before to VASE. We were more than just any school. We were McKinney High School. Need we say more?

I have a lot of friends and the teachers are so generous. It feels

MORE
like **HOME.**
-Meredith Bakke, 10

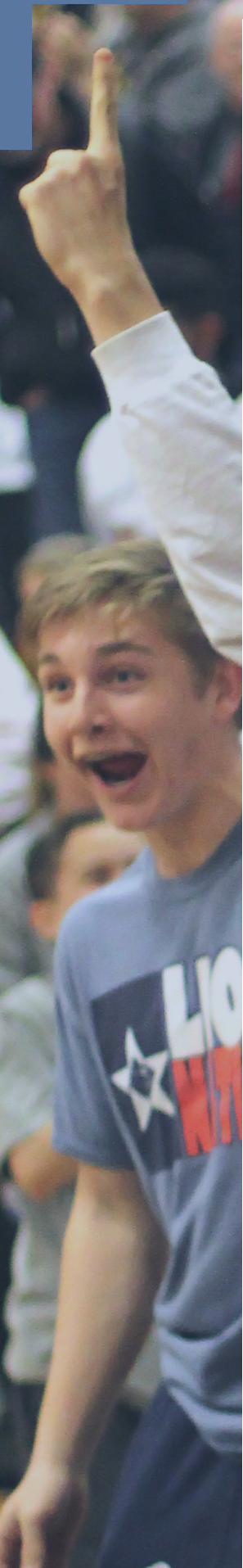
TOUCH FOR GOOD LUCK

Before they load the bus to play against Wakeland in the first round of playoffs, juniors Kathy Navarette, Cecilia Gurrero and senior Maddie Dodd line up to touch the lion. Leo was reinstalled in front of the school with its history written on the art installation glass and metal, a gift from the class of 2014. "Touching the lion symbolizes the team playing for the school and gives us a sense of good luck," Cecilia said. "It pushes us to do better and gives us more hope that we'll be successful."

TOUCH FOR GOOD LUCK

In Metal Fabrication, junior Andrew Harper makes a small barbecue pit to auction off. The money raised from the auction went toward the FFA program. "The pieces come small, cut and ready to put together," Andrew said. "We just had to make sure that all of the parts lined up, and then we welded it together."





HOLD TIGHT

After the unexpected win against Frisco Liberty in the third round of playoffs, senior Byron Robinson rushes to the court to hug and congratulate varsity basketball player senior Marcus Cross on the win. The Lions beat the #5 team in the state 55-53 in overtime. "It was more than just a game," Byron said. "Everybody kind of doubted McKinney High and thought we were the underdogs. At that moment, when we beat Frisco Liberty, we proved them all wrong." (photo by Tyler Keeler)

