

Taylor Ritter-1



Kacie Eugea-3



Emily Britten-K



Phineas Eugea-5



Taylor Ritter-1



**K**indergartener Isabella Fields slides down the “quick-escape pole” with friends during recess. “I have fun playing all of the games we come up with,” Fields said.



**F**ourth-grader Connor Fields shows off his muscles to the camera. “My friends and I always have fun hanging out together,” Fields said.



**S**econd-grader Collins Koetting “takes flight” on the swings, one of the many past-times on the playground. “Playing on the swings is lots of fun,” Koetting said.



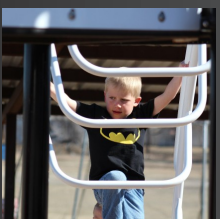
**F**irst-grader Clay Oliveira gets ready for a Valentine’s party with his friends. “I had lots of fun eating all of the candy that we got,” Oliveira said.



**K**indergartener Leland Tipton seeks “justice” in the rocks during recess. “My favorite game to play is Batman,” Tipton said.



**S**econd-grader Bryson Shuck runs for a touchdown with some of his friends. “Football is one of my favorite games to play during recess,” Shuck said.



**K**indergartener Nate Hinson runs up the playground equipment. “I like to play tag with my friends,” Hinson said.



**T**hird-grader Molly Babecock looks up during an inside recess with her class. “Recess is my favorite period,” Babecock said.



**K**indergartener Raylen Gibson listens to first-grade teacher Melissa Ritter. “I don’t really like getting in trouble,” Gibson said.



**T**he fourth- and fifth-grade girls perform a stunt at the downtown pep rally. “It was fun getting to be lifted up,” fourth-grader Ali Friemel said.



**T**hird-grader Gage Whatley goes to the front of the playground to line up after recess. “I wish recess was always a little longer,” Whatley said.

Jocelyn Rocha-1



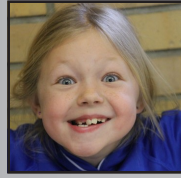
Owen Britten-4



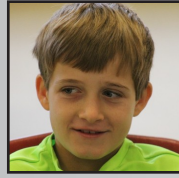
Ryan Ragain-3



Alex Thornton-2



Cael Ruthardt-5



Clay Oliveira-1



Ryan Weinheimer-3



1



2



3

**S**teppin' & Swingin' into fun ...

1. Second-grader Carrigan Kling hangs off of the steps that lead onto the playground bridge. Students often express their own ways of mounting the equipment. "I always have fun playing on the playground," Kling said.

**F**ood, friends, and fun...

2. Kindergarteners Braelyn Ritter, Maci Keesee, and Brock Britten play at the lunch table. "My friends are the best!" Ritter said.

**H**ometown High-Fives ...

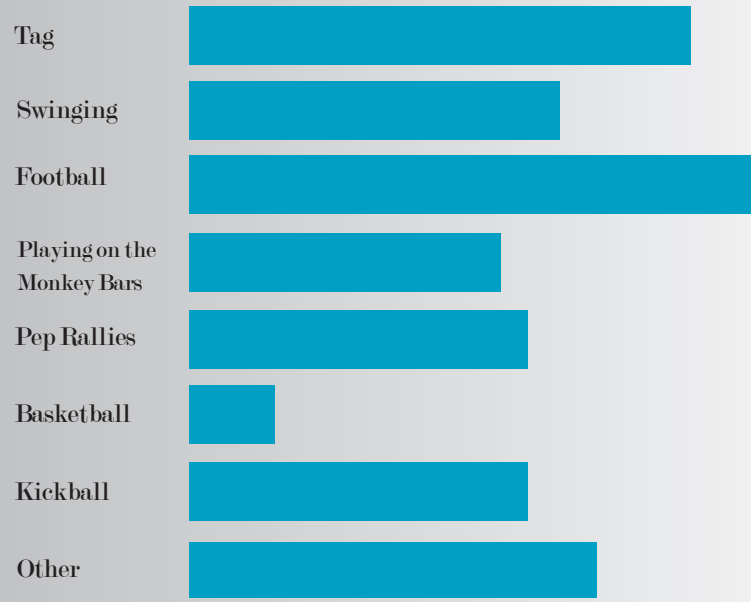
3. The Kindergarten and first-grade boys get ready to slap everyone's hands like the high school football players at the annual downtown pep rally, which includes the entire school and the community in the homecoming event. "I can't wait to get to play like the older guys," Blake Ritter said.

Photos by Christy Painter

# Lovin' Life

## What was your favorite activity on the playground?

During a crazy day in the cafeteria, the yearbook staff asked all of the elementary what their favorite playground activities were, and these results came to life..



**F**irst-grader Sophia Caro hangs onto the monkey bars. "I like playing on the monkey bars with my friends," Caro said.



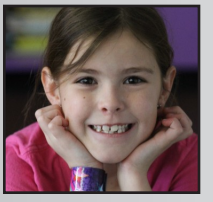
**T**he second- and third-grade girls chant together at a pep rally. "I like cheering with my friends," third-grader Leah Ruthardt said.



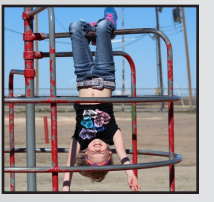
**K**indergartener Jake Babcock plays with his friends during lunch. "I like sitting around my friends," Babcock said.



**F**irst-grader Jocelyn Rocha sits on top of the monkey bars during recess. "It's really high on top of the monkey bars," Rocha said.



**T**hird-grader Alexis Ritter plays with her friends during an inside recess. "It's fun getting to play inside on cold days," Ritter said.



**F**irst-grader McKenzie McCarty hangs from a "usual" recess spot. "The monkey bars are one of my favorite places to play," McCarty said.

# Ready to Race

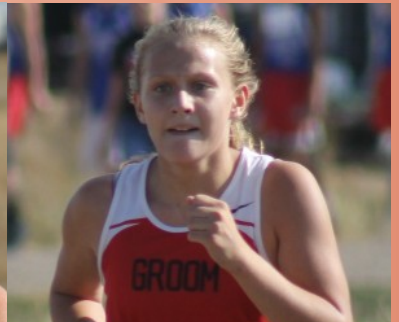
Through all conditions ...  
these 3 girls conquer this season of cross country



Sydney Ritter



Ginna Miller



Chandra Rice

This cross country season was fun, according to a couple of runners; but, mainly it was just cold. Some runners even admit they only joined the team because their parents required it.

"Cross country was mainly just a step toward being ready for basketball for me," eighth-grader Sydney Ritter said. "Plus, my parents made me run."

The coach created practices to keep the parents who wanted their children running happy.

"We ran a lot," Coach Tony Dodson said of his practices, which included daily workouts after school and even summer mornings and evenings before school started.

While runners did endure some

bitterly cold temperatures, though, they did mention enjoying encouraging each other and meeting other competitors.

"If I had to pick a favorite cross country meet for this season, I would have to say the Canyon meet," seventh-grader Ginna Miller said. "It was a fun course for me, but it also made you work a little harder."

Miller also reported a few benefits of cross country.

"We all had a lot of fun, getting to hang with our friends and meeting people while we were there, and occasionally buying a disgusting muffin."

The Canyon meet also was the largest one the team attended.

"There were tons of people there," Miller said. "But, as a team we did pretty well."

The proof was in the faster times.

"It was cold, but we didn't let that stop us from reaching for a better time than we had the meet before that," Miller said. "At Canyon Chandra and I had pretty good running times and, for the most part, stayed up with the bigger schools."

Chandra agreed. "It was fun and cold," seventh-grader Chandra Rice.

-Halle Barkley



### Three-Fold-Threat

Runners seventh-grader Chandra Rice, eighth-grader Sydney Ritter and seventh-grader Ginna Miller get ready to run at the district meet in Groom. These competitors raced to the finish and placed.

"When I placed in cross country I felt like I had finally met my goals for the season," Ritter said.

Photos by Christy Painter

# Those 'Lost' Moments ...



## Bloomers & Barrel Rolls

Cheerleaders Kaylie Ritter, Ginna Miller, Halle Barkley and Sydney Ritter take this cheer to the next level. The girls performed this stunt at home during the Valley game. "All I can hear is Sydney screaming. 'Keep your feet together.'" Kaylie said.

Photo by Christy Painter



Photo by Bradie Dodson

Sydney Ritter

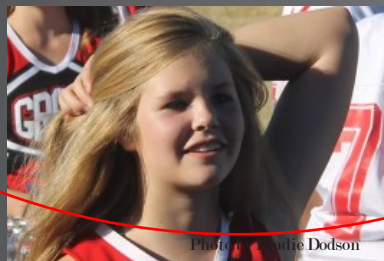


Photo by Bradie Dodson

Halle Barkley

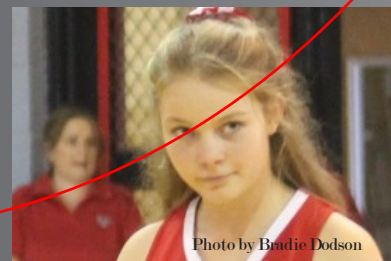


Photo by Bradie Dodson

K'leigh Thornton



Mallie Williams

# Cheerleaders remember... all the items ... they forgot for games ...

## Not Again!

It's time to cheer, and once again, Sydney Ritter yelled, "Guys I forgot my pom-poms!"

Nearly every game, at least one cheerleader forgot something - whether it was words to cheers, poms, or the trademark white tennis shoes.

"I felt like I was letting down all the other cheerleaders for forgetting my cheer shoes," seventh-grader Ginna Miller said.

More than once, the junior high cheerleaders forgot the words to cheers or started the wrong cheer.

"When I didn't know the words, but I knew the motions, we would stand there and do the motions and giggle until someone knew the words," eighth-grader K'leigh Thornton said.



Photo by Christy Painter

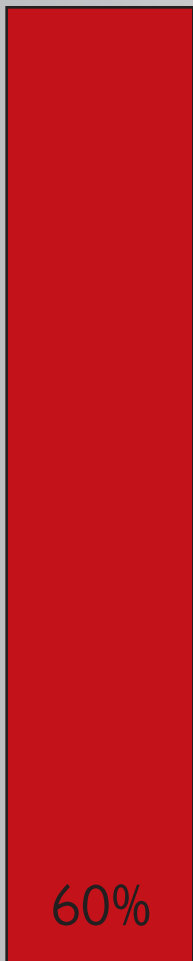
Photo by Bradie Dodson

Photo by Hop Britten



Photo by Bradie Dodson

## Words



## Shoes



## Pom Poms

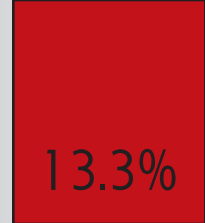
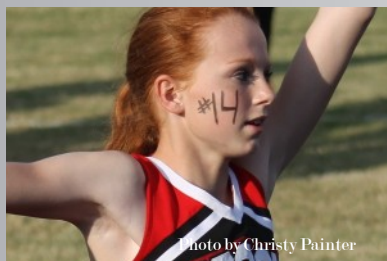


Photo by Bradie Dodson



Kaylie Ritter

Photo by Bradie Dodson



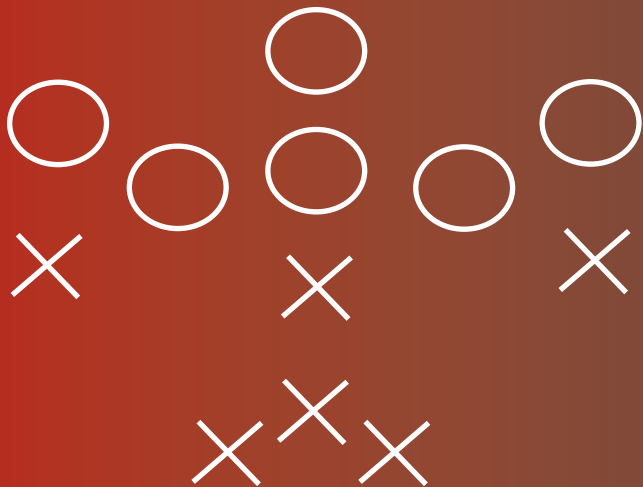
Ginna Miller

Photo by Christy Painter



Madison Friemel

Photo by Bradie Dodson



# TIGERS

## All-In. All Season ...

"All-In!" These two words motivated the 2014 Tigers. The motto took hold at the season's beginning - the first day of two-a-days. This phrase left an impact on 15 teammates and their coaches. The Tigers took this inspiration of these words and made this season unforgettable, ending only after an appearance in the state championship game at AT&T Stadium, the home of the Dallas Cowboys.

Tigers have made it to the state game only three times in school history, and the last time was 15 years ago. While the 2014 Tigers lost the final game, like their predecessors had, the players and coaches considered the season to be "a big win."

Due to the unexpected departure of the former head coach during summer, head coach Larry Roskens and defensive coordinator Tony Dodson stepped up to lead the team.

"This has been an extremely positive experience," Dodson said. "It was great to get back to football. I have been away from it for four years. I can't imagine doing anything else. It's a great opportunity to be a part of young people's lives and to help them be successful."

Larry Roskens, who had been the assistant football coach for the past three years, decided to incorporate his views into his coaching techniques, which lead to success.

"I wanted everyone associated with the team to be willing to conduct themselves in a positive manner. In both attitudes and actions, I wanted us to live out our faith," Roskens said. "I needed to be reminded daily that everything I did was to bring God glory and not myself. I was to do my best to be the leader of the team and not worry about results. I needed to be 'All-In,' regardless of anything that came up against me."

Senior Hayden Ritter eludes a defender and heads for the end-zone during the final game of the season, which was held in AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, on Dec. 13.



Senior cornerback Brayton Hendricks, No. 2, a member of the MVP starting six, focuses on the ball and looks to make a tackle.

### Brother to brother...

Sophomore quarterback Carson Ritter, No. 1, receives a snap from Hayden Ritter.



### Time to tackle...

Junior cornerback Nate Roskens, No. 13, chases a receiver for a tackle.



### Sophomore support...

Sophomore center Mason Miller, No. 4, runs out to bring support to the line.



### Extra special... points...

Junior kicker Alan Bush, No. 30, kicks and scores two extra points.



### Breaking the Pirates' boat...

Senior running-back Trenton Fields, No. 7, breaks through the defense.



Miami  
57-8 (W)

McLean  
52-6 (W)

Fort Elliot  
47-0 (W)

Petersburg  
51-6 (W)

Lefors  
52-6 (W)



**Hard-earned ... But, We Made It...**  
 The Tigers made it to the state game and played on the same field as the Dallas Cowboys. Senior wingback Nick Bohr attempts to run through Throckmorton Greyhound linemen. All season long, opposing teams learned that they needed more than one defender to stop No. 16. Junior tight-end Nate Roskens, No. 13, attempts to hold off an additional attacking hound.  
 Photo by Christy Painter



Photo by Christy Painter

**District Champions**  
 The Tigers celebrate their victory after beating the McLean Tigers at the district championship.



Photo by Christy Painter

**Bi-District Champs**  
 After a win against the Lefors Pirates, the Tigers advance and move deeper into the playoffs.



Photo by Christy Painter

**Regional Champions**  
 The Tigers defeat the Southland Eagles, and prepare for the ~~regional~~ regional championship.



Photo by Bradie Dodson

**Quarterfinals Champs**  
 Quarterfinal champions, The Groom Tigers advance to the semi-finals.



Photo by Christy Painter

**Semi-Final Champs**  
 After a nailbiting game against the Groom Tigers and the Loraine Bulldogs the Tigers advance to the State Finals.



Photo by Christy Painter

**State Runner-up**  
 After loosing against the Throckmorton Greyhounds, the Tigers keep their heads up and claim their second-place medals.

**Break time...**

The Tigers defense catches their breath during a time-out in Follett.



Photo by Christy Painter

Follett  
 33-22 (W)

**Marching to victory...**

Sophomore guard Cody Kling, No. 44, gets set to protect the quarterback.

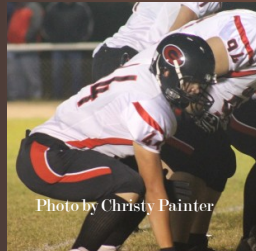


Photo by Christy Painter

Valley  
 32-52 (L)

**For the tackle...**

Senior safety Hayden Ritter, No. 22, and cornerback, Nate Roskens team up on an Owl.



Photo by S. Ritter

Silverton  
 58-6 (W)

**Wingback pride...**

Sophomore wingback Garet Rocha, No. 88, prepares to run for a touchdown.



Photo by Bradie Dodson

Hedley  
 58-0 (W)

**Celebration time...**

Junior tight-end, Nate Roskens, No. 13, celebrates a touchdown.



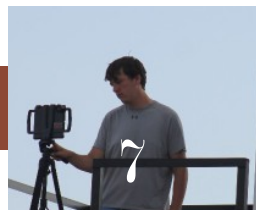
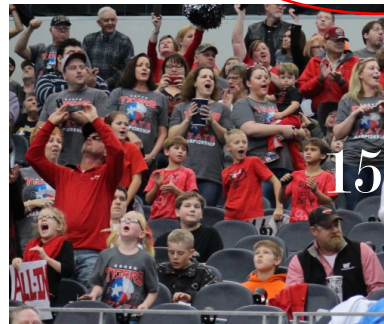
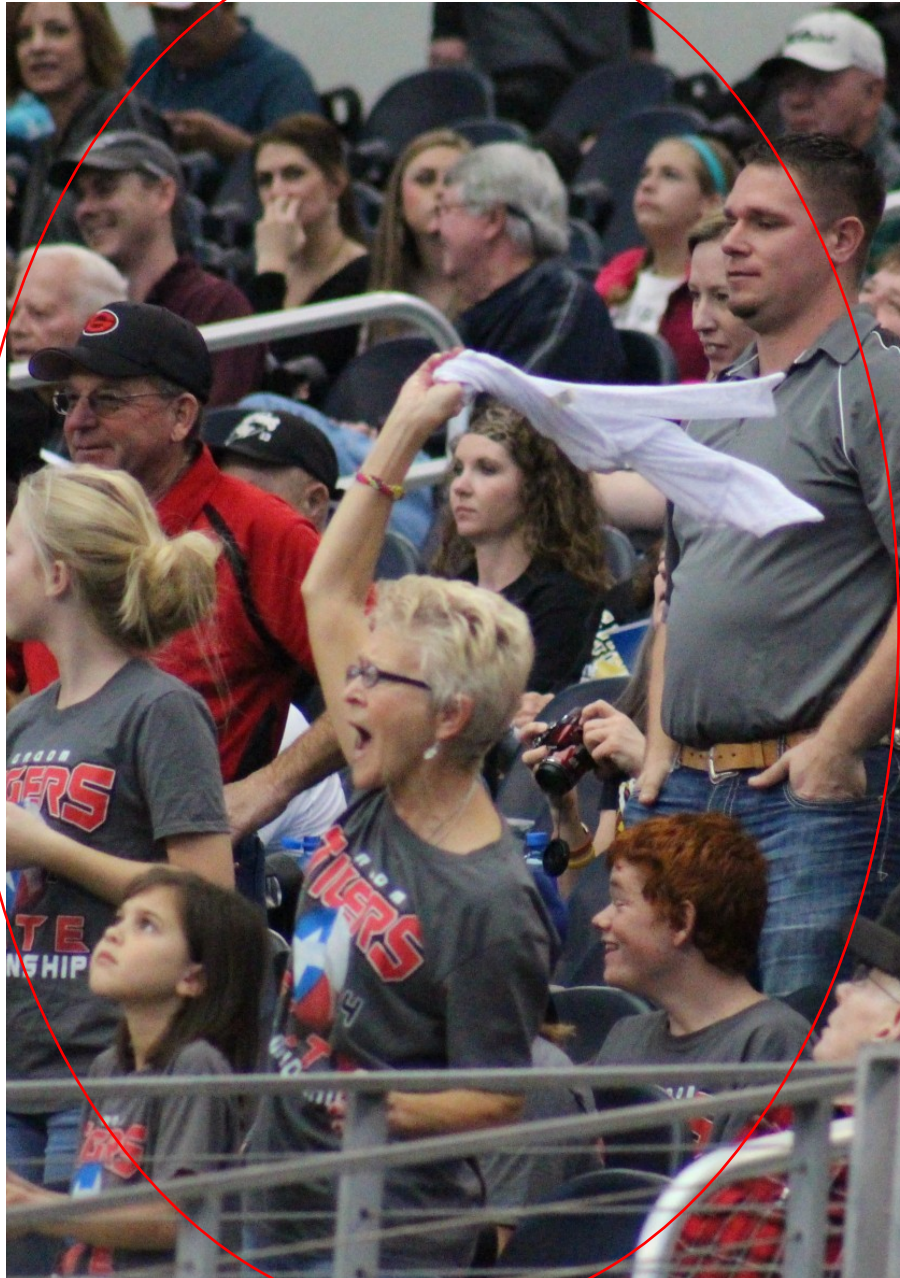
Photo by Christy Painter

McLean  
 56-0 (W)



**15 Moments from 2014-2015**

Memorable times begin and end when Groom School and the Groom community unite. **The Tiger** yearbook and **The Times of The Tiger** online newspaper staffs worked to document these moments. **1.** Fans cheer on The Tigers in AT&T Stadium. **2.** Eighth-grade cameraman Cayden Lambert, volunteer color commentator Tony Rocha, eighth-grade producer Sydney Ritter, and volunteer play-by-play broadcaster Tim Case work together to keep fans at home up-to-date on the state game, as well as the others that led to it. **3.** Fans adopt the "All In" motto, and cheer on the Tigers. **4.** Junior high journalists Cayden Lambert, Halle Barkley, K'Leigh Thornton, Madison Friemel and Sydney Ritter take a break from class to check out the weather. **5.** Jacob Clifton prepares to broadcast a junior high football game. **6.** Garet Rocha, Shaunna Corley and Bradie Dodson work together to produce a podcast for the newspaper. **7.** Alan Bush prepares to film a junior high game to broadcast on TheCube.com and the online newspaper. **8.** High school journalists Nathan Ruthardt, Charity Perry, Carson Ritter, Jacob Clifton, Caroline Britten, Christy Painter, Mrs. Lisa Roskens and Shaunna Corley insist on grabbing a snow-day picture together. **9.** Yearbook ad sales co-manager Nick Bohr and the state online newspaper editor of the year, Jacob Clifton, add a double selfie to the camera. **10.** Journalists Halle Barkley and Sydney Ritter take notes from a guest speaker on the growing human trafficking problem in the Panhandle. **11.** Christy Painter, Adrian Hendricks, Mrs. Lisa Roskens and Caroline Britten set up equipment high above the Pampa press boxes to cover the play-off game with Follett. **12.** Mrs. Pam Hutsell reflects on past happenings in her kindergarten classroom as she clears it out over the summer. **13.** Tigers young and old mixed in the stands at AT&T Stadium to wait for the big game. **14.** Halle Barkley, K'Leigh Thornton, Madison Friemel and Jim and Lisa Bush get caught on the JumboTron, which was a hit at the game. **15.** Now, coming full-circle, these pictures show how the citizens and students of Groom look up together for ongoing mutual success.





Multiple state trips, 3 schools in 1 ... all make wrapping up a book difficult, but it still must be

# Colophon Time ...

The 79th edition of **The Tiger** was published by the yearbook staff of Groom High School. **The Tiger** was printed by Balfour Publishing in Dallas, Texas. This 100-page, full-color book, including candid photos, flew to Balfour digitally via Studio Works for a press run of 85. Dennis Ball served as **The Tiger's** sales representative, and Donovan Leary claimed the account executive responsibilities. Blunks/Lifetouch took mug shots and group photos.

The copy for **The Tiger** was written and edited by Groom staff members, with some of the text first appearing on the staff's ILPC top-rated "Distinguished Merit" **The Times of The Tiger** online student newspaper (GroomTigerTimes.com). Candid photos were taken by Groom staff members. Although, the community, including Donna Burton and Hop Britten, also helped. In addition, Seth Ritter, of Seth Ritter Photography, saved the day many times with his excellent sports' moments that he willingly shared any time a staff member requested. The staff used a Canon Rebel T3i 1100 or Canon Rebel T5i 700 digital camera to shoot most of this book's photographs.

Even though, they proved not to be the tool of choice, the new student

Dell Latitude 3440 laptops served as the place most pages started. The spreads then received finishing touches on the desktops in the two school computer labs.

The theme, "Starting from Square One, Life on The Mid-Point and Coming Full Circle" originated with Editor Shaunna Corley and Photo Editor Christy Painter during the 2014 ILPC Summer Workshop after Corley decided she wanted the 2015 Tiger to be "three yearbooks in one, creating a special place for each school within Groom School." Senior Hayden Ritter designed the cover. Junior Alan Bush, Sophomores Garet Rocha and Carson Ritter, as well as eighth-grader Sydney Ritter, brought that design to life. Corley created theme elements, and Charity Perry wrote division-page copy. Nick Bohr and Trenton Fields took charge of ad sales, and Bradie Dodson served as business manager. The journalism class contributors also included: Halle Barkley, Matthew Bowen, Madison Friemel, Wesley Froese, Cody Kling, Cayden Lambert, K'Leigh Thornton, Jacob Clifton, Justin Cornell, Andrew Ingle, Renee Payne, Cari Weinheimer, Caroline Britten, Charity Perry, Carson Ritter, Nathan Ruthardt and Brice White.

Book elements included these specifications: cover - glossy hardcover Lithocote; pages - 80# enamel with Smyth binding; fonts - Bern-headlines, Cassius-secondary heads, Lifetime - body and captions; font sizes - body - 8-point, caption - 7-point, photo credits - 6-point, headline - as large as spread allows; colors included Balfour red- X9247, black and white.

**The Tiger** staff holds memberships with the Interscholastic League Press Conference, the Journalism Educators Association and the Texas Journalism Educators Association. The 2014 Tiger yearbook achieved an award of Achievement from ILPC and received an Honorable Mention designation from Balfour Publishing's Yearbook Yearbook.

Finally, **The Tiger** yearbook would like to thank the administration of Mr. Jay Lamb and Mr. Matt Johnson along with key staff supporters Tammy Case, Frances Payton and Mary Treadwell for the ongoing help and encouragement. In addition the staff remains grateful to the faithful trust from these school board members: Ron Kuehler, Greg Hendricks, Jeannie Ruthardt, Cecil Gwyn, Brady Miller, Tony Rocha and Curtis H. Downs III.

