

Taylor Ritter-1



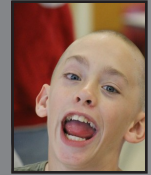
Kacie Eugea-3



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.



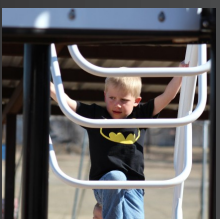
**F**irst-grader Clay Oliveira gets ready for a Valentine’s party with his friends. “I had lots of fun eating all of the candy that we got,” Oliveira said.



**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 Babeck looks up during an inside recess with her class. “Recess is my favorite period,” Babeck 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

Photos by Christy Painter

**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 Keese, and Brock Britten play at the lunch table. "My friends are the best!" Ritter said.

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

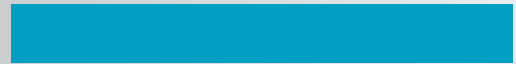
3. The Kindergarten and first-grade boys get ready to slap everyone's hands like the high school football players at the annual downtown pep rally, which includes the entire school and the community in the homecoming event. "I can't wait to get to play like the older guys," Blake Ritter said.

# 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..

Tag



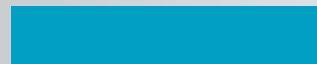
Swinging



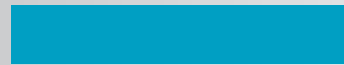
Football



Playing on the Monkey Bars



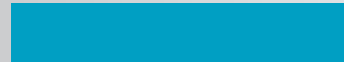
Pep Rallies



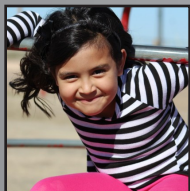
Basketball



Kickball



Other



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



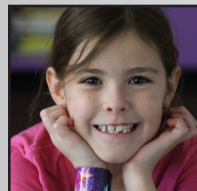
**T**he second- and third-grade girls chant together at a pep rally. "I like cheering with my friends," third-grader Leah Ruthardt said.



**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.



**Brrrrr...**  
 Junior high yearbook students take a break in the cold, snowy weather. "It was fun to get out of out hot, stuffy class and get into the freezing cold," said eighth-grader Madison Friemel.



Photos by Alan Bush

**So Cool...**  
 Eighth-graders Matthew Bowen and Cayden Lambert do their typical messing around between basketball games. "I like to walk to the concession stand to get some food with my friends," Lambert said.



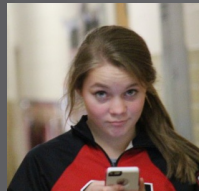
**Just Wait...**  
 Seventh-grader Cade Linquist plans his between-game schemes. Most of the junior high hangs out at the concession stand and outside the gym during half-time.



**Waiting, waiting**  
 Eighth-grader Cutter Babcock stands in the hall before class. "I like talking while we are at school without the teachers getting mad at us for it."



**Watch Out!**  
 Junior high football players try to back up after taking an early start at a pep rally. "I was thinking that someone was going to get killed as we all skidded to a stop," eighth-grader Matthew Bowen said.



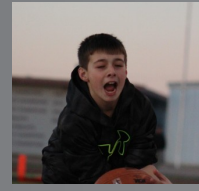
**Text Much?**  
 Eighth-grader K'Leigh Thornton slowly looks up from her phone. "I like to get away from watching the game and text all my friends that don't get to be there."



**Good Friends**  
 Seventh-graders Kaylie Ritter and Laurel Fields watch a high school basketball game together. "I have a good time just hanging out with my friends and watching the game," Fields said.



**Showing Off**  
 Seventh-grader Colby Britten gets ready for the stock show. "I like seeing all of my friends from other schools and showing the animals," Britten said.



**Pre-game Playin'**  
 Sixth-grader Braedon Williams throws a ball during pre-game of a high school basketball game. "It's fun messing around and throwing the football."



**School Spirit!**  
 Eighth-grader Sydney Ritter waits for a pep rally. "Anticipation was high because I was ready to cheer."





Photo by Hop Britten

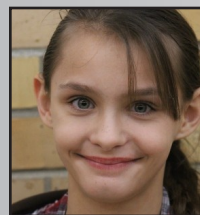
Mallie Williams



Jessie McClenan



Kirsten Rice



# Making Memories

Friends, fun, food ... 'indispensable items' for junior high life ... in addition ... to laughing, football, not being left out ...

After school the Junior High football team and Cheerleaders almost unanimously want two indispensable items, friends and food.

"My favorite part of walking to the grocery store was all of our crazy conversations that popped up," eighth-grader K'Leigh Thornton said.

Others described their pre-game experiences differently.

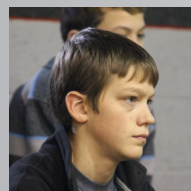
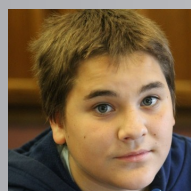
Seventh-grader Colby Britten: "I liked the fun, laughing experiences I had with my friends."

Seventh-grader cheerleader Kaylie Ritter: "My favorite experience was when we would sit in the hall and wait until game time."

Some people just don't want to be left out.

"I had fun being invited into Halle's house," eighth-grader Corbin Ruthardt said.

- Madison Friemel



**B**reaking News  
Seventh-grader Chandra Rice hangs out in the hallway with friends. Every morning the hall is the place to be for junior high kids. "I just like to hang out and catch up on the latest gossip," Rice said.

**H**anging Out  
Eighth-grader Corbin Ruthardt attended most basketball games to watch his big brother Cade Ruthardt. "It's OK supporting my brother, but I really like hanging out with my friends," Ruthardt said.

**H**urry!  
Eighth-grader Adrian Hendricks races up the stands to find his next item for the scavenger hunt held by the junior high cheerleaders. "My favorite part was beating everyone else and winning a Gatorade and beef jerky," he said.

**W**aiting for a Break  
Eighth-grader Jaymon Row gets ready to leave class and go hang out with friends. "It's not my favorite activity to wait for the end of class, but it's all worth it in the end."

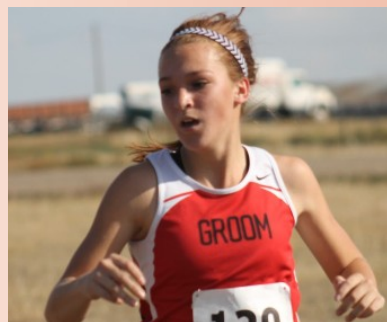
**B**rotherly Love  
Seventh-grader Derek Weinheimer has full attention on his sister, senior Cari Weinheimer, as she plays for the varsity basketball team. He replied a simple, but profound, "Yes," when asked if he was already a lot taller since school had started.

**S**hot Shy  
Seventh-grader Gianna Miller eyes the camera while attending the high school basketball game. "Watching the basketball games is fun, but when the camera comes out, I run and hide," Miller 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



# Breaking Through

The Challenge, The Struggle, The Outcome ...

"My favorite part of football is that I have friends ...  
by my side, and we work together as brothers." -Cade Linqvist

2014 was a learning year for the Cubs, according to new head coach Larry Roskens. Some of the boys said they felt they had to start back at square one, even though they should have been living life on the midpoint.

"No one knew what we were doing this year, especially once we started our new offense and defense," eighth-grader Adrian Hendricks said.

The season began with more than 15 players. By the third game, that number became 12.

"We started out huge, more

than we needed," sixth-grader Brandon Williams said. "But as the season advanced, we lost many players"

The team agreed that the scoreboard wasn't pretty, but they worked to keep the huddle positive and said they gave effort in every practice.

"Everyone worked hard in school and after-school practices," seventh-grader Matthew Meaker said. "Even if we weren't going to win, we would still play our hardest."

-Matthew Bowen



**M**oving toward the Mid-Point ...

One the left, eighth-grade spreadback Corbin Ruthardt runs in for a Cubs touchdown. One the right, seventh-grade tailback Colby Britten runs the ball for a first down.

Fort Elliott	(L)	18-35
Lefors	(W)	39-13
Valley	(L)	13-27
Fort Elliott	(L)	12-28
Silverton	(W)	39-18
McLean	(L)	34-14

"Football was amazing, and I can't wait to play for high school," Matthew Bowen said.

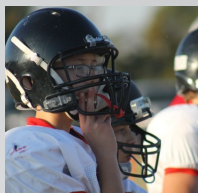
Matthew Bowen-8



Cutter Babcock-8



Tanis Terbush-6



Gunner Lamb-6



Tre' Byers-6



Bradeon Williams-6



Shawn Meaker-6







**T**eam takes field ...

The Groom Cubs break past the "run-through" sign at their first game.

"I liked our first game because we learned what we needed to do to get ready for the season," Eighth-grader Matthew Bowen said.

Corbin Ruthardt-8



Adrian Hendricks-8



One of the biggest challenges of the year, according to Adrian Hendricks, was starting "our new offense and defense."

Colby Linquist-6



Colby Britten-7



Cade Linquist-7



Matthew Meaker-7



Whit Ward-7







800-meter relay



Laurel Fields-7  
110m hurdles  
White Deer Meet



Cutter Babcock-8  
1600m and 2400m  
Lefors Meet



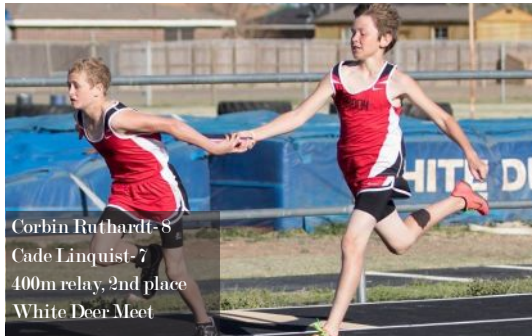
Madison Friemel-8  
Long Jump  
Lefors Meet



Adrian Hendricks-8  
Discus  
Lefors Meet



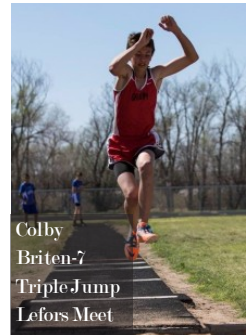
Gianna Miller-7  
Chandra Rice-7  
400m relay  
1st at Groom Meet  
1st at Lefors Meet  
3rd at White Deer Meet



Corbin Ruthardt-8  
Cade Linquist-7  
400m relay, 2nd place  
White Deer Meet



KI Leigh  
Thornton-8  
200m dash  
Lefors Meet



Colby Briten-7  
Triple Jump  
Lefors Meet



Derek Weinheimer-7  
100m dash  
Lefors Meet



Kaylie Ritter-7  
2400m run  
Lefors Meet



Halle Barkley-8  
High Jump  
Lefors Meet



Whit Ward-7  
4-by-200-meter relay  
White Deer Meet

Photos by: Hayden Ritter





# New Heights

Sydney Ritter jumps for gold at the District meet in Lefors. The jump pictured was her personal best of 3'38". "But, unfortunately scratches do not go down in the record books," Coach Larry Roskens said. Though she scratched, she still won the event with her second best jump.

“Receiving medals produces one of my favorite **Feelings**. It is like a token of work and dedication. When the coaches are **standing** and handing them out I can’t help but keep a huge smile **on** my face because I worked really hard to earn them. I practiced extra. I traveled to find help, and basically ran harder and got better so I could reach the top of the winners’ list, but really it isn’t the peak of the competition. At least, not yet. I am at a clearing, right in between junior high and high school. In this clearing I am realizing that I have a huge incline, or a **mountain**, to climb into high school. Competition changes. Girls get bigger, **and** races become more important. The biggest step in the climb for me will be that the season won’t stop at district. I can already hear my mom **saying** “I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength” as encouragement to win and continue on. My season won’t stop because there aren’t any more meets, it would only stop because of me. And that is an amazing feeling. I am in control. I can change and determine my track season and eventually say,

**‘I Did It.’**

-Sydney Ritter