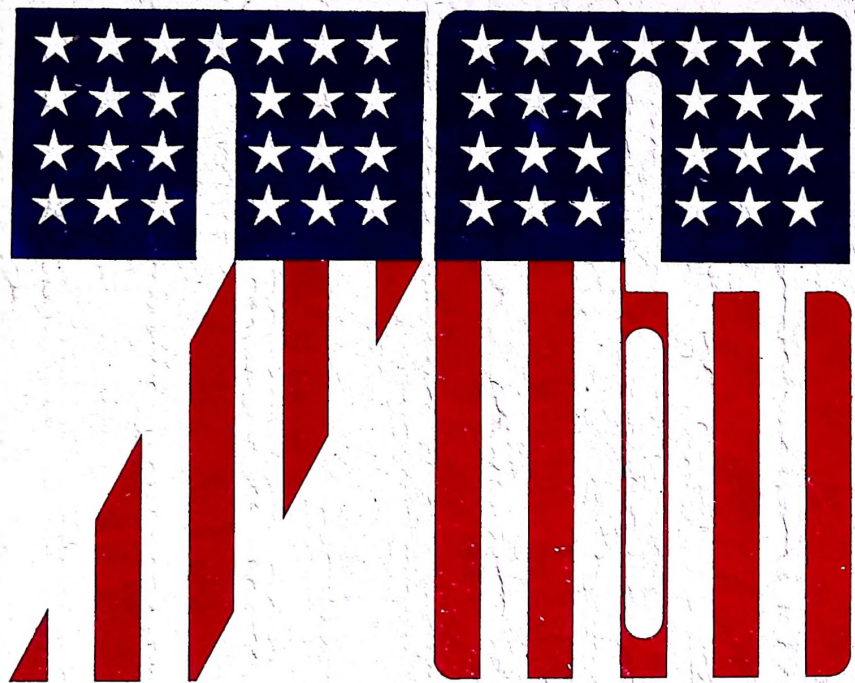


SPIRIT OF



PIRATES



TALCOTT HIGH SCHOOL
PIRATE
1976

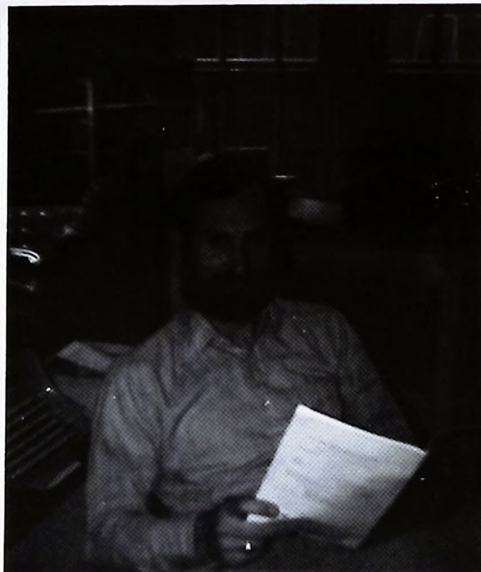


VOLUME XXXIII

Dedication



Mrs. Patricia Henthorn



Mr. Ron Williams

It is with gratitude that we, the Senior Class of 1976 dedicate the 1976 edition of THE PIRATE to our sponsors, Mrs. Patricia Henthorn and Mr. Ron Williams.
Thank you for your leadership and guidance.



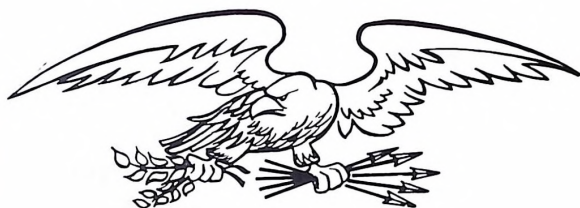
Faculty



Mr. Charles R. Rhodes
Principal



Mrs. Sara Sowers
Secretary





Michael Allen
Science



Sara Ashcraft
Elementary



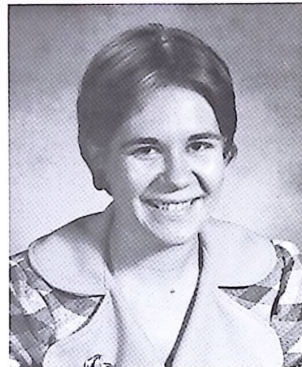
Frances Boone
Elementary



Betty Brown
Elementary



Danny Ellison
Drivers Education



Christy Garcia
Math Lab



Patricia Henthorn
Physical Education



Mona Hutchison
Social Studies



Carolyn Jones
Business Education



Jane Jones
English



Stephen Jones
Elementary



Pamela Kesler
Reading Lab



Richard Lawrence
Science



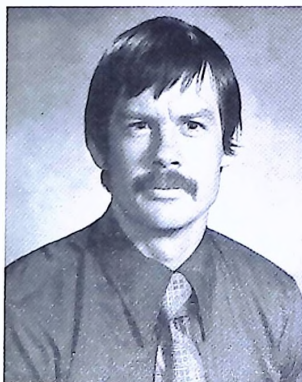
Mary Lilly
English



Dallas Mann
Physical Education



Patricia Miller
French and Math



Sam Newton
Social Studies



John O'Neal
Shop



Regina Perkins
Elementary



Martha Sharp
Vocational



Vaden Tabor, Jr.
Elementary



Steve Tickle
Special Education



Linda Zirkle
Kindergarten

Aides



Neva Boone



Christine Buckland



Margret Byrd



Phyllis Crawford



Nola Lilly

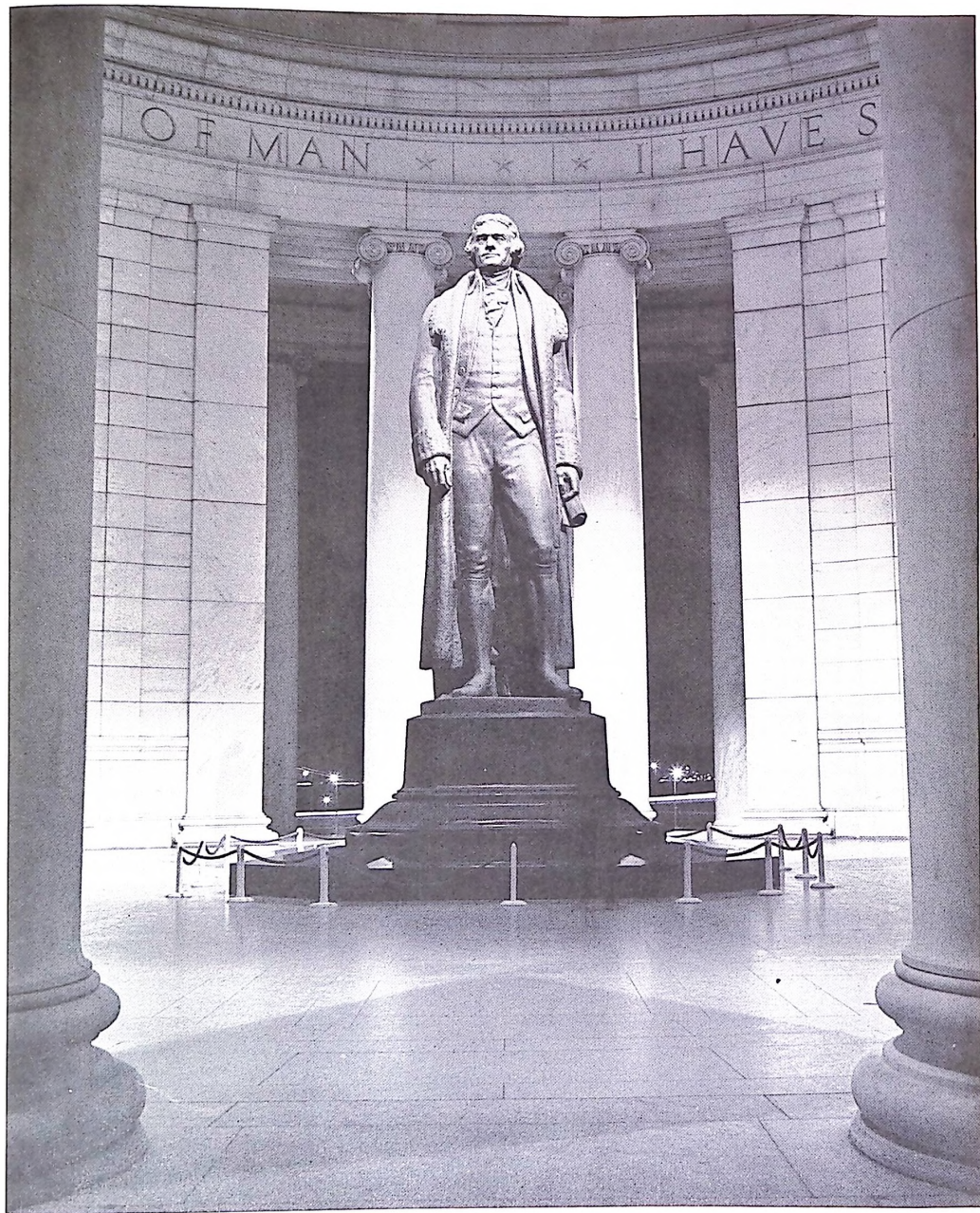


Hazel Meador



Mildred Richmond

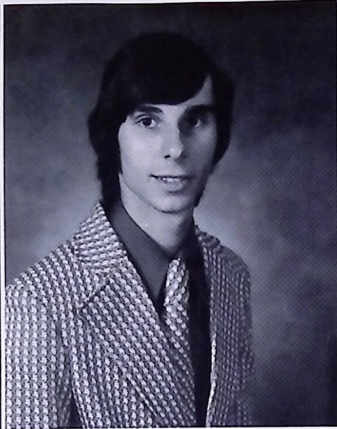




Graduates



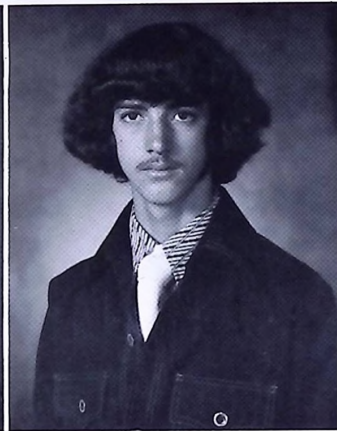
Pamela Jean Ballengee
"Pam"



Kent Douglas Bennett
"Kent"



Audrey Denise Biggers
"Necie"



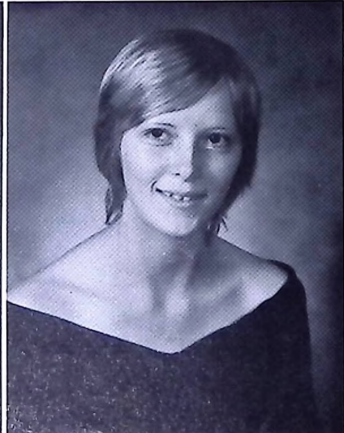
Jefferson Kenneth Buckland
"Stinkweed"



Tammy Lee Gore
"Punch"



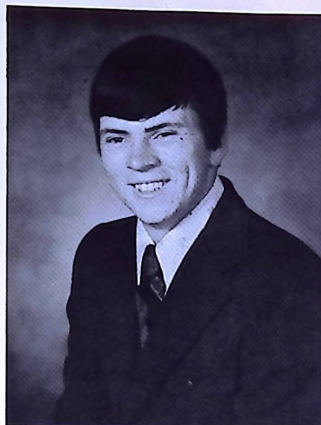
Garnet Louise Hamerick
"Katie"



Pamela Sue Hodge
"Pam"

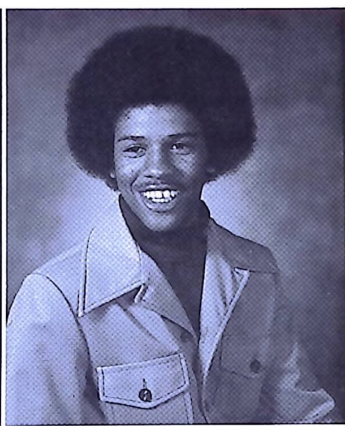
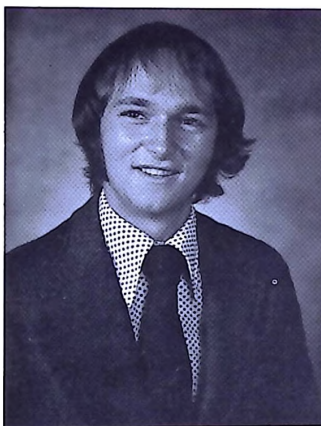
Timothy Earl Lilly
"Funny Boy"

Patricia Sue Lowe
"Patty"



Joseph Robert Mann
"Bobby"

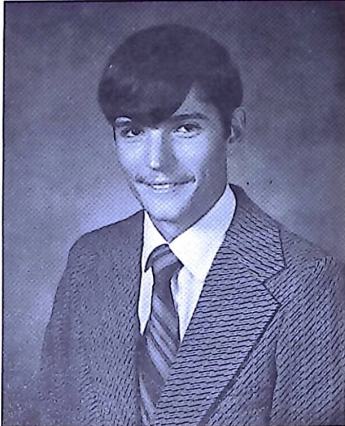
Jerry Stephen Mann
"Sass"



Kathy Sue Mann
"Porky"

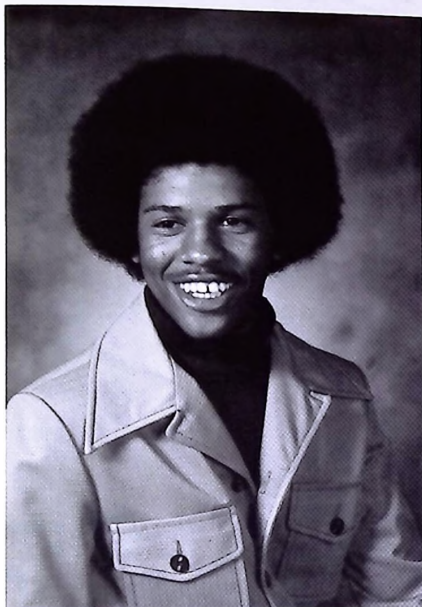


Deborah Lynn Morgan
"Punkin"



Eric Persinger
"Eric"

Senior Favorites



Mr. Pirate

Jerry Mann



Miss Pirate

Debbie Morgan

Eric P., Pam B.

QUIETEST



Jeff S., Pam H.

BIGGEST FLIRTS





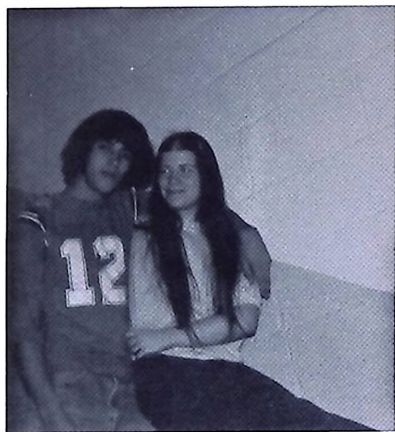
Debbie M., Jerry M.

MOST ATHLETIC
MOST SCHOOL SPIRIT



Patty L., Tim L.

MOST
UNCOORDINATED



Pam W., Jeff B.

PRETTIEST HAIR



Kathy M., Jerry M.

BEST ALL AROUND
BEST PERSONALITY



Patty L., Mike W.

WHY TEACHERS
GO MAD



Audrey B., Jerry M.

BEST DRESSED
BEST DANCERS



Kathy M., Kent B., Pam B.

MOST LIKELY
TO SUCCEED



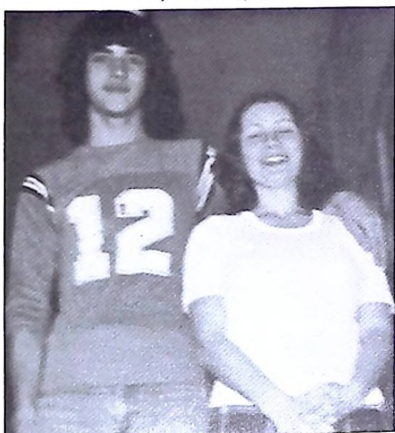
Kathy M., Randy P.

MOST
COURTEOUS



Pam H., Jeff B.

PRETTIEST EYES



Pam B., Jeff B.

BEST LOOKING



Tammy G., Jerry M.

MOST TALENTED



Last Will And Testament

I, Pam Ballengee, do will my ability to get along with Mrs. J. Jones to Marilyn.

I, Kent Bennett, do hereby will everything I have to anyone who is man or woman enough to take it.

I, Audrey Biggers, do will my sunny nature to Mr. Williams and my afro to Marilyn.

I, Jeff Buckland, do will my ability to pitch baseball to Junior Wykle, who really needs it.

I, Tammy Gore, do will all my love to Mike Sharp and all my pop bottles to Kent Bennett.

I, Garnet Hamrick, do will my ability to drive a straight shift to anyone who is stupid enough to take it.

I, Pam Hodge, do will all my love to Marshall Honaker.

I, Tim Lilly, do will my shoes to anyone who thinks they can fill them.

I, Patty Lowe, do will all my good times to anyone who can handle them.

I, Bob Mann, do will my hair and those "cheep" tennis shoes to Coach "Fuzzy" Mann.

I, Jerry Mann, do will my "half way" ability to drive to Jeff Stewart.

I, Kathy Mann, do will my position on the girls basketball team to anyone who is strong enough to manage it.

I, Debbie Morgan, do will my ability to get by with that "one more time" without getting caught to anyone who thinks they can do it, and my ability to play basketball to Kathy Boone and my uniform to Mary Hale.

I, Eric Persinger, do will my common sense to Mr. O'Neal.

I, Randy Persinger, do will my ability to play ball without making excuses to Larry Meadows, as he needs it badly.

I, Jeff Stewart, do will my ability to drive to anyone fool enough to take it.

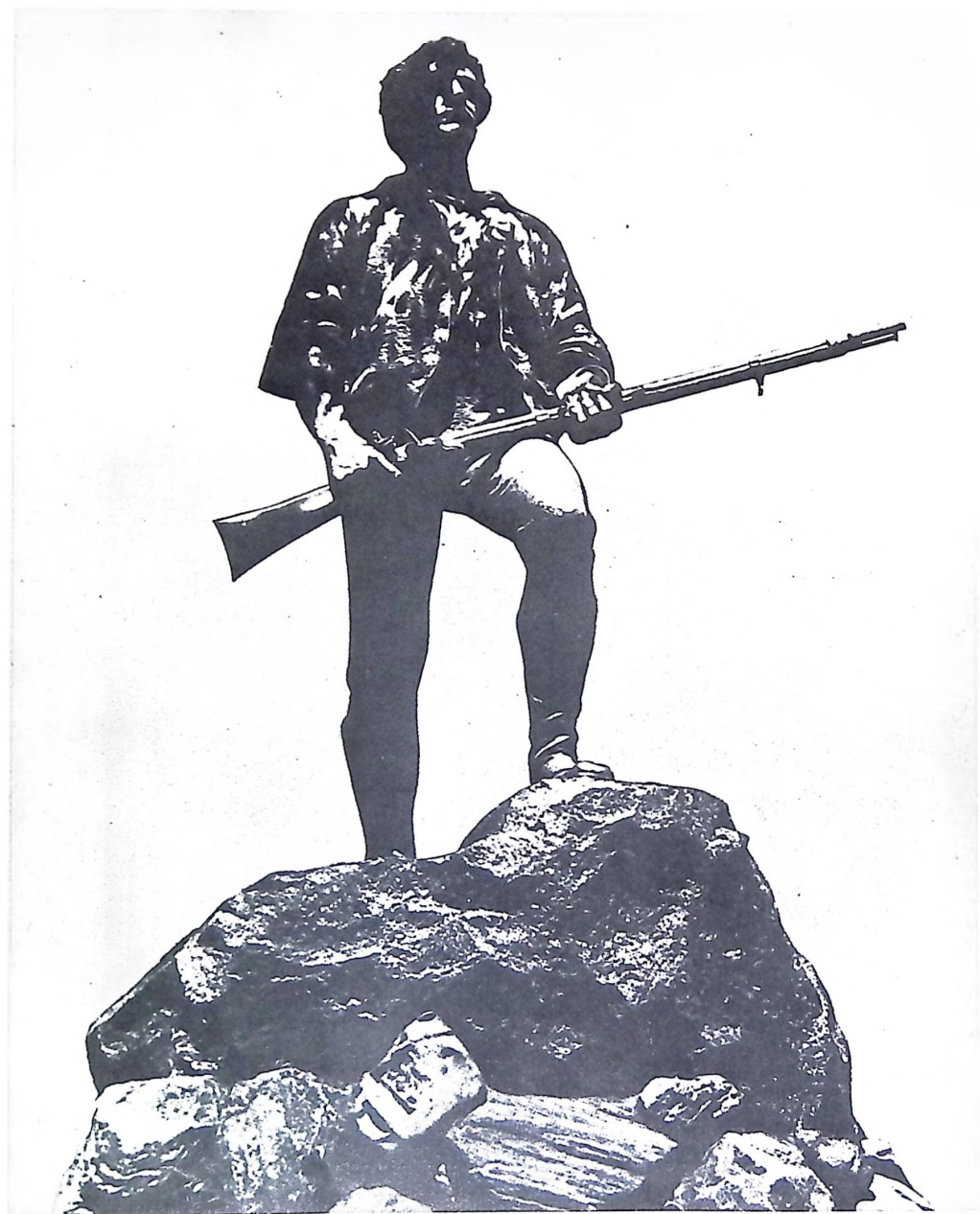
I, Mike West, do will my throne to Fuzzy.

I, Marilyn Wills, do will my neck brace to Patty and my driving ability to Audrey.

I, Mike Wynes, do will my converses to any future basketball player who can fill them.

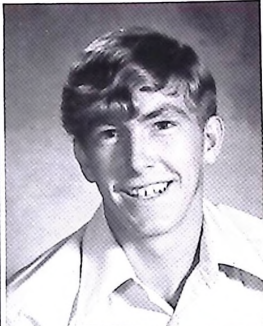
I, Pam Wynes, do will my bathroom to Richard Clayton and all my love to Billy.



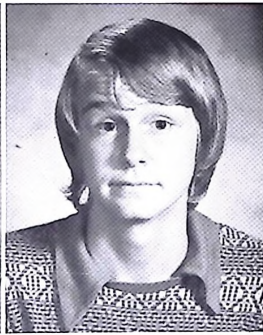


Undergrads

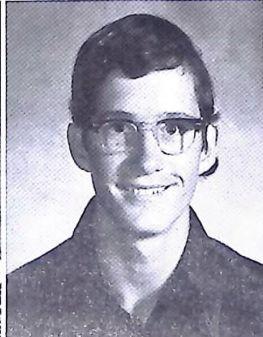
Juniors



Rita
 Allen
 Bonnie
 Bennett
 Mike
 Bennett



Greg
 Bower
 Brenda
 Canterbury
 Mike
 Canterbury

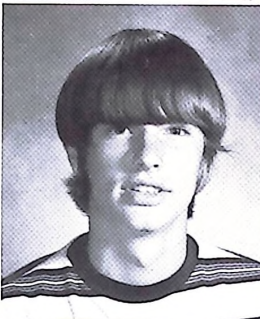


Betty
 Cantley
 Debbie
 Cochran
 Jimmy
 Faris

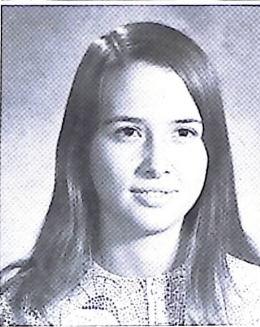
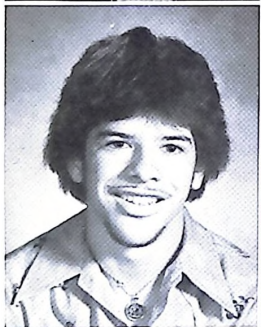
Kenny
Friend
Brenda
Gill
Linda
Gill



Dinah
Gore
Timmy
Halloran
Karen
Honaker

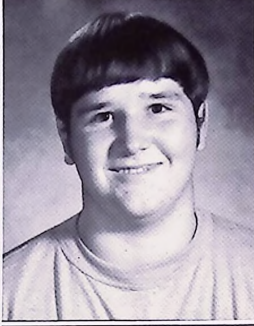
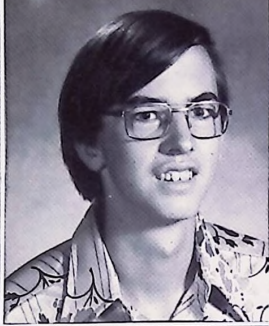


Mike
Jackson
Karen
Jones
Lloyd
Jones

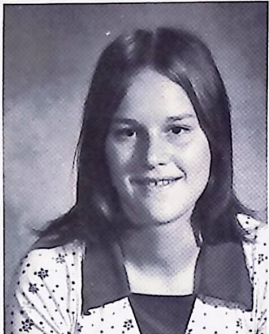


Daniel
Michael
Larry
Meadows
Susan
Richmond

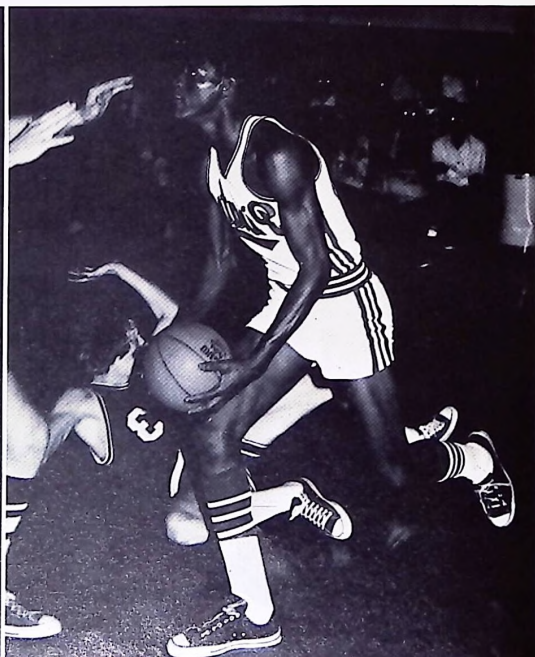
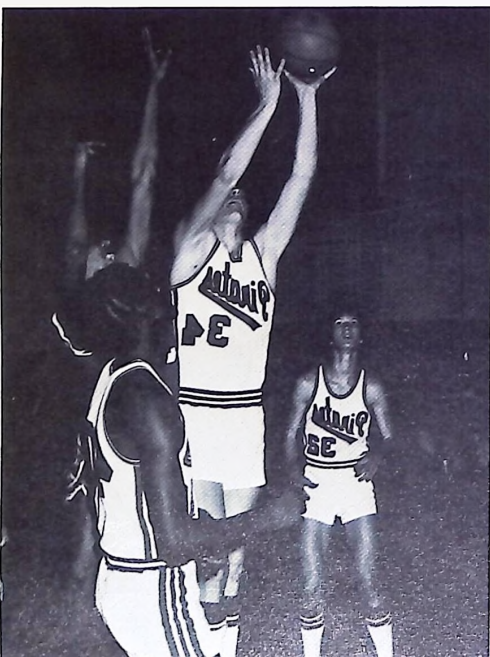




Robin
Shanklin
Mike
Tabor
Bobby
Talbott



Jeff
Utterback
Gail
Williams
Harry
Yates



Sophomores



Marlene Allen



David Arnold



Rita Bennett



Kathy Boone



Mary Buckland



Dana Cales



Debbie Eary



Becky Faris



Daniel Farley



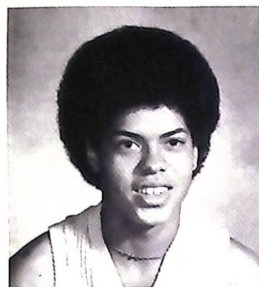
Renita Friend



Francine Gore



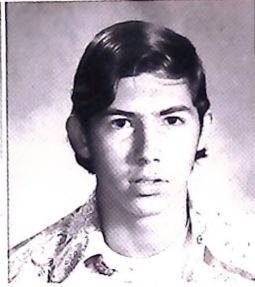
Karen Gore



Tony Gore



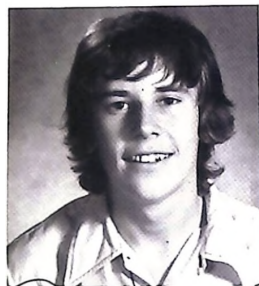
Mary Hale



Steve Hedrick



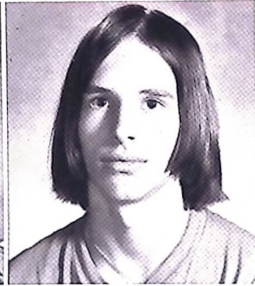
Debbie Herald



James Hodge



Mary Honaker



Gary Huffman



Peggy Jones



Alana Mann



Mike Mann



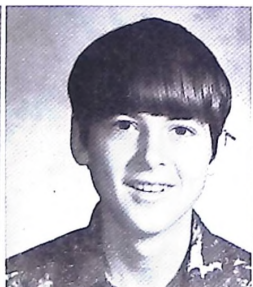
Cathy Mann



Connie Mills



Greg Morgan



Tim Morgan



Robin Pettrey



Eilene Persinger



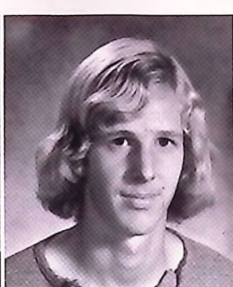
Paul Reed



Brenda Richmond



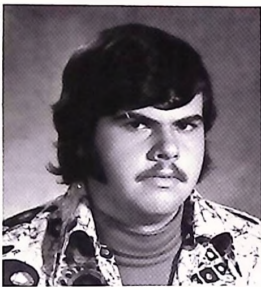
Gerald Richmond



Edward Schmauss



Carol Smith



Mike Smith



Tammy Staton



David Talbott



Connie Underwood



Susan Wyant



Junior Wykle



Fresh



Patricia Buckland



Eddie Biggers

Tim Ballengee
Rex Belcher

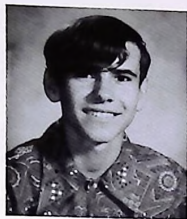
Carla Bennett
David Bennett
Greg Bennett

Kathy Bower
Randall Canterbury
Rosie Cook
Denise Fox

Jackie Fox
Dwain Friend
Renee Garten
Diane Gore

Marshall Honaker
Bonnie Mann
Connie Mann
Becky Martin

men



Frank Trent



Frank Meador

Mary Meadows
Robin Persinger



Tammy Patterson
Ronnie Petrey
Billy Richmond



Donald Richmond
Larry Richmond
Ann Rudisill
Nolan Rudisill

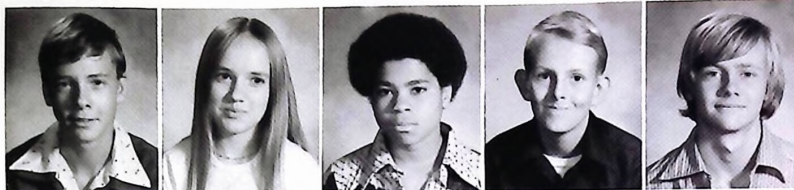


Sara Rudisill
Verol Rudisill
Jennifer Schmauss
Sherri Walker



Stephanie Wynes





Benny Allen
Teresa Adkins
Kevin Biggers
Wade Blevens
Jeff Bower



David Buckland
Ruby Carr
James Cole
Steve Comer
Denise Crockett



Lorenda Crockett
Anita Davis
Rodney Fix
Robin Fox
Christy Gore



Phyllis Gore
Timmy Gore
Paul Green
Kimberly Hawley
Geoff Jones



Merri Jackson
Greg Jones
Frank Lane
Robert Lane
Kevin Lilly



Andre Mann
Beecher Meadows
Diane Meadows
Lorraine Meadows
Ray Miller

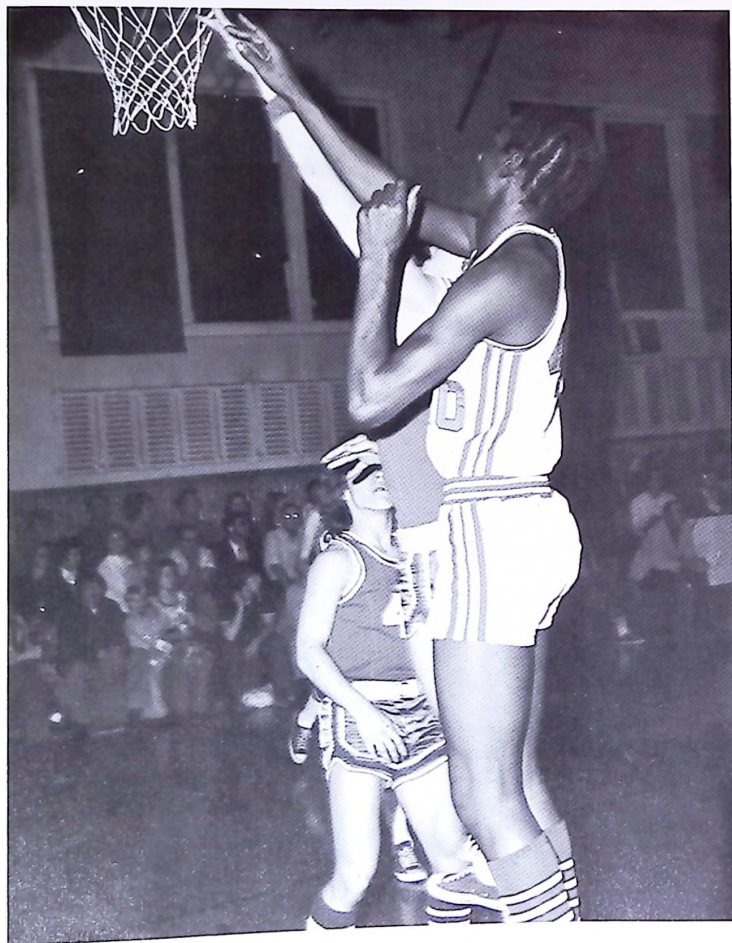


Sue Mills
Leslie Persinger
Rickey Plumley
Tim Presley
Cynthia Richmond

Jane Rookstool
Karen Smith
Teresa Smith
Darlene Staten
Scott Swoveland



Lynn Tabor
Barbara Wyant
Alice Weikle





Roger Allen
Tena Arnold
Frances Bailey
Timmy Belcher



Lyndon Bennett
Ruth Buckland
Marie Byrd
Jeff Cales



Timmy Cales
Kathy Cantley
Matthew Cook
Billy Eary



Rick Fox
Stephanie Garten
Beckie Gore
Cheryl Gore



Randall Graham
Greg Grimmert
Richard Hawley
Teresa Huffman



Brent Jones
John Kesler
Greg Lane
Mark Lilly



Patty Mills
Bobby Morgan
Mike Palmer
Debra Richmond



Lewis Richmond
Joni Rookstool
John Rudisill
Lisa Smith



David Sprouse
Brenda Taylor
Huey West
Susan Wykle



James Wynes
Lisa Wynes
Christine Kesner



PIRATE POWER!



Mike Anderson
Barbara Blankenship
Carlos Bonds
Teresa Bower
John Buckland



Debra Cales
Billy Canterbury
Sandy Dunn
Mary Eary
Jon Fox



Garland Gill
Eugene Hicks
Delwood Kesner
Kay Lilly
Rex Lusk



Jon Mann
Regina Mann
Debbie Meador
Jeff Meadows
Mike Meadows



Susan Morgan
Micky Plumley
Mark Roberts
Loia Sears
Jayne Settle



Lorie Wynes





Tommy Adkins
Tammy Allen
Debbie Brookman
Kevin Buckland
Cindy Cales



Danna Cantley
Robbie Dillon
Barbara Fox
Rodney Fix
Timmy Fox



Barbara Garten
Charles Gore
Sudie Graham
Donna Kincaid
Annette Kesner



Tad Lowry
Billy Meadows
Susan Meador
Will Persinger
Janet Richmond



Jeff Sears
Tammy Snead
Barbara Taylor
Anthony Wynes
Brenda Wynes



Greg Wynes
Anna Mae Yancey



Brian Allen
Stacey Allen
Richard Bennett
Mitch Bowling
Kimberly Brooks



Kathy Fox
Billy Gill
Elvin Graham
Baxton Grimmert
Tracey Grimmert



Reba Godbey
Lori Holloran
Eric Jones
Benwood Kesner
Ray Kesner



Jeff Lane
Kerri Lilly
Dwayne Milam
Lisa Mann
Teresa Mann



Teresa Meador
Sue Persinger
Peggy Petrey
Timmy Presley
Greg Richmond



Melissa Rhodes
Lisa Rudisill
Betty Taylor
Teresa Taylor
Chris Ward



David Weikle
Felix Wynes
Katrina Wynes
Tabby Wynes
Keith Wykle



Sheila Atkins
Roger Baker
Clark Belcher
Myra Bennett
Ronald Bennett



Dwayne Blevins
Patty Bower
Deirdre Cales
Jeannie Cales
Dayton Cantley



Dorothy Cook
Roger Cox
Brian Gore
Dwayne Gore
Billy Graham



Bonnie Godbey
Macky Mann
Mona Mann
Tracy Mann
Dwayne Morgan



Hoss Monroe
Lisa Mills
Diane Meador
Sandra Meador
Sharon Meadows



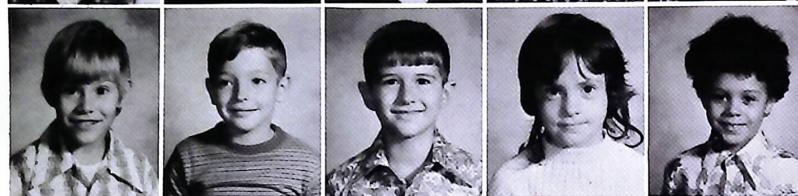
Lisa Meadows
Jennifer Rookstool
Judy Titterington
Lisa Ward
Marsha West



Timmy Wynes



Karen Bonds
Philip Bower
Melissa Brookman
Julie Cales
Norman Cole



Randall Cox
Ronald Fox
Jeffrey Garten
Patricia Graham
Kevin Gore



Thomas Kesler
Richard Lilly
Carla Palmer
Linda Richmond
Jimmy Rookstool



Jack Sizemore
Dale Trent
Jeffrey Ward
Karen Ward
James Weikle



Mark Wills
Jack Wykle
Nedra Wykle



Rebecca Bailey
Jeff Bennett
Leon Bennett
Teddy Bennett
Brian Boone



Sara Boone
Brian Bowling
Kimberley Buckland
Donald Canterbury
Donald Cantley



Ronald Cantley
Christopher Cashwell
Anita Comer
Kristi Fox
Randall Fox



Greta Godbey
Jaunita Grimmett
Shane Harvey
Patricia Hicks
Amy Keffer



Russell Lowry
Steve Lowry
Milissa Palmer
Robert Payne
Amy Simms



Jacqueline Sizemore
Reba Sizemore
Teresa Thompson
Chuck Trent
Lynn Wynes



Valerie Wynes
Robert Yancey



Raymond Bower
Roger Bennett
Meridith Bennett
Vichai Cain
Sherrie Clarkson



Albert Cockran
Jon Cook
Kelly Dillion
Victor Ellis
Kenneth Gaitor



Dwayne Godbey
Cris Gore
Leanna Harvey
Keith Heaton
Harold Holland



Chris Honaker
Mark Kesler
Rusty Lowry
Chris Mann
Freda McComas



Bret McKnew





Cheryl Meador
Deadra Meadows
Jason Meadows
Vicki Mitchem
Michelle Morgan



David Price
Kim Reed
Barbara Sexton
Gary Simmons
Joyce Sizemore



Dennis Swoveland
Michelle Talbott
Karen Taylor
Joshua Thompson
Richard Webb



Pamelia Weikle
Christina Wetterew



HEADS UP !!!

Special Education



Doug Adkins



Tammy Belcher



Ernest Bonds



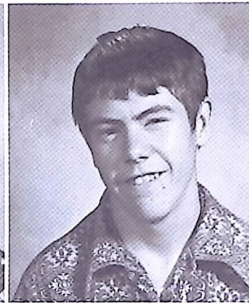
Danny Eggleston



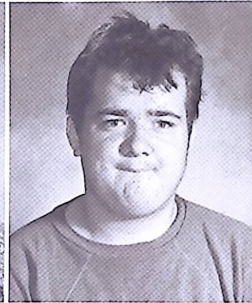
Bobby Fox



Kevin Fox



Joe Gill



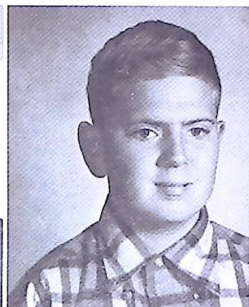
Ronnie Graham



Rosie Grimmett



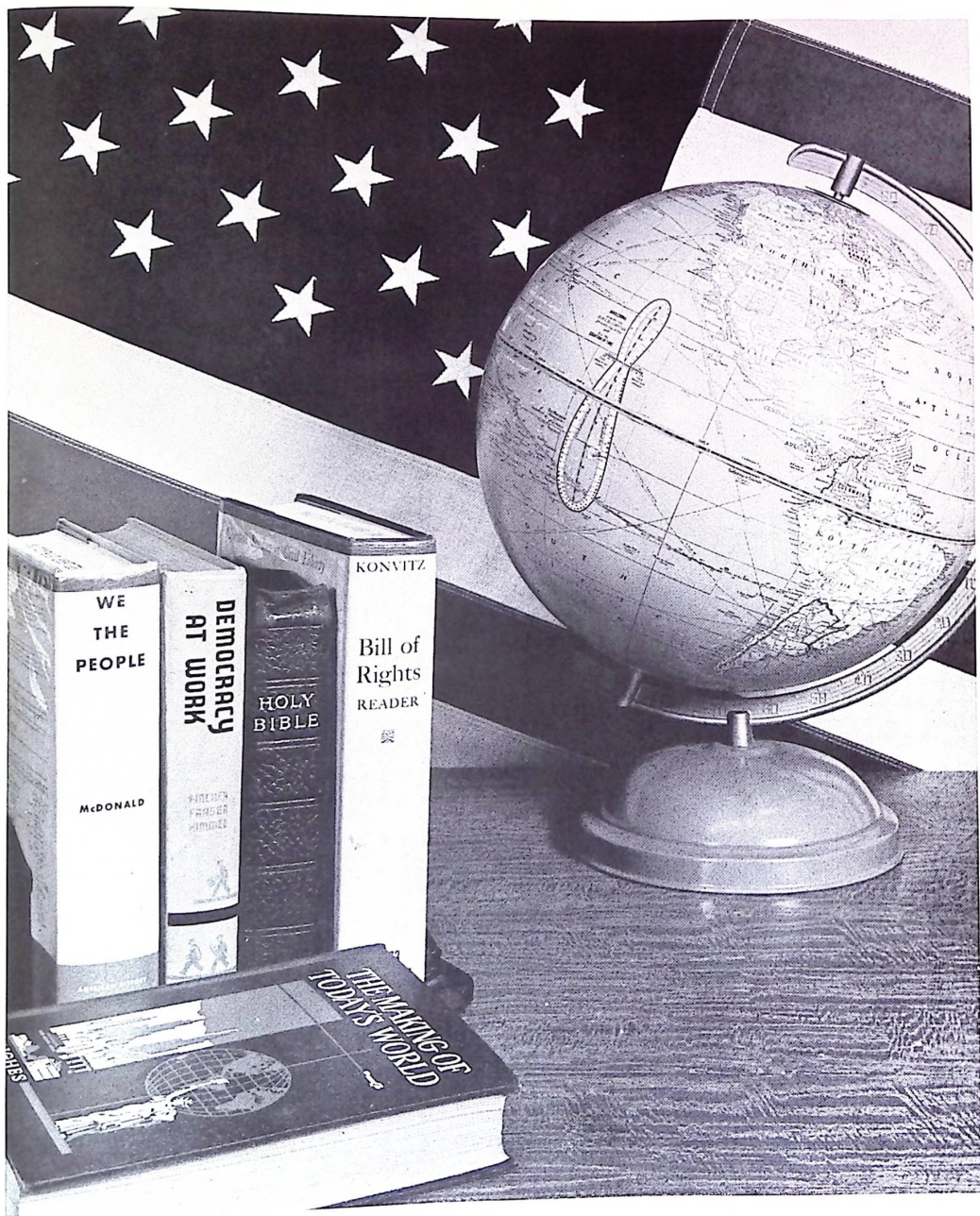
Ronnie Rakes



Phillip Ward



Cecil Wickline



Activities

Summers County Junior Miss Contestant



Debbie Morgan

Miss Debbie Morgan, a senior at Talcott High School, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Morgan of Hildale. She is a member of Mount Pisgah of Hildale, varsity cheerleader, girls basketball team, student council, and a senior favorite, also the Homecoming Queen of 1976.

Summers County Junior Miss Contestant



Pamela Ballengee

Miss Pam Ballengee, a senior at Talcott High school, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ballengee of Tempa, a member of Bethel Methodist Church, secretary-treasurer of the senior class, member of student council, and a senior favorite.

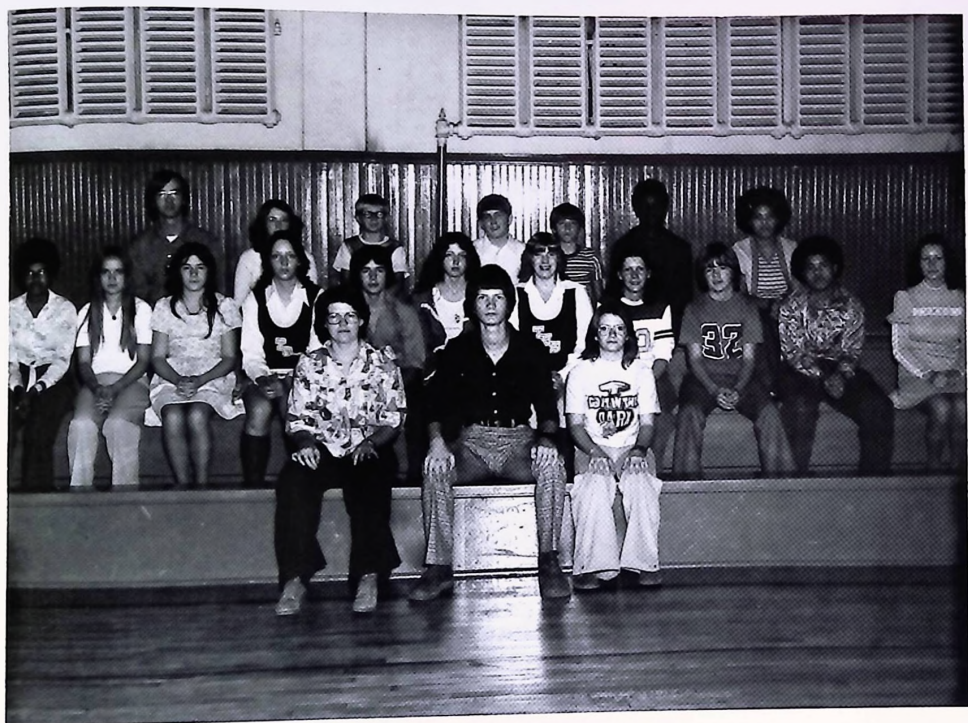
Summers County Junior Miss Contestant



Tammy Gore

Miss Tammy Gore, a senior at Talcott High School, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gore of Hungarts Creek. She is a member of the Second Baptist Church of Talcott, yearbook staff and a senior favorite.

Student Council



Kathy Mann, Pres.; Harry Yates, V. Pres.; Karen Honaker, Sec. ROW 2, (L to R): Teresa Smith, Teresa Adkins, Cynthia Richmond, Cathy Mann, Junior Wykle, Mary Buckland, Mary Hale, Patricia Buckland, Frank Meador, Ed Biggers, Pam Ballengee, ROW 3: Mike Tabor, Susan Richmond, Mark Lilly, Brent Jones, Lewis Richmond, James Wynes, Audrey Biggers.

Pirate Staff



ROW 1 (L to R): Pam Wynes, Junior Wykle; ROW 2: Patty Lowe, Tim Morgan, Jeff Buckland, Randy Persinger; ROW 3: Karen Gore, Mary Buckland, Francine Gore, Tammy Gore, Mrs. Jane Jones (NOT PICTURED)

French Club



ROW 1 (L to R): Edward Schmauss, Susan Wyant, Pam Ballengee, Audrey Biggers, Mrs. Patricia Miller; ROW 2: Harry Yates, Jeff Utterback, Timmy Halloran, Dana Cales, Eddie Biggers, Frank Trent; ROW 3: Becky Faris, Renita Friend, Dinah Gore, Jackie Fox

Varsity Club



ROW 1 (L to R): Coach Dallas Mann, Bob Mann, Kathy Mann, Debbie Morgan, Harry Yates, Coach Patricia Henthorn, ROW 2: Randy Persinger, Tammy Staton, Bobby Talbott, Bonnie Mann, David Talbott, Mary Meadows, Timmy Halloran, Rita Allen, Junior Wykle, Mary Hale, Tim Morgan, Kathy Boone, Larry Meadows, ROW 3: David Wynes, Carol Smith, Jeff Stewart, Alana Mann, Jerry Mann, Marlene Allen, Paul Reed, Cathy Mann, Mike Wynes, Connie Mann, Mike West



Queen Mermaid And Court "75"



(L to R): Jayne Hutchison, Beth Hellems, Sherra Gunnoe, Debbie Morgan, Lawana Zickafoose

Debbie Morgan (4th from left), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Morgan, was selected Maid of Honor for the Court of Queen Mermaid, who reigned over the 1975 West Virginia Water Festival. Debbie is a senior at Talcott High School.



Athletics

Varsity Basketball



ROW 1: P. Reed, T. Morgan, D. Talbott, ROW 2: J. Mann, M. West, R. Persinger, B. Talbott, B. Mann, T. Halloran, M. Wynes, H.

Yates, D. Wynes, L. Meadows, J. Stewart, J. Wykle



COACH
Dallas Mann

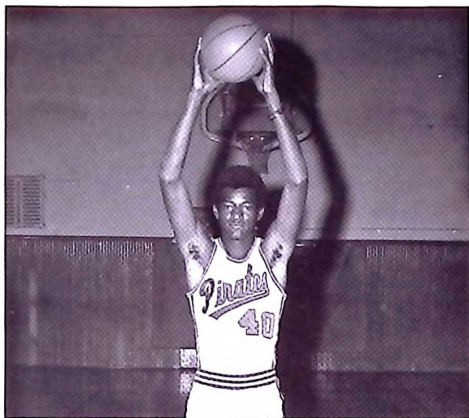
Talcott High School Basketball Schedule 1975-76

Dec. 3	Montcalm	Away
Dec. 5	Alumni	Home
Dec. 12	Meadow Bridge	Away
Dec. 19	Glen Rogers	Home
Jan. 2	Union	Home
Jan. 6	Hinton	Away
Jan. 9	Greenb. E. JV.	Home
Jan. 13	Peterstown	Home
Jan. 16	Nutall	Home
Jan. 20	Union	Away
Jan. 23	Nutall	Away
Jan. 28	Coving. Boys Home	Home
Jan. 30	Glen Rogers	Away
Feb. 3	Greenb. E. JV.	Away
Feb. 6	Peterstown	Away
Feb. 10	Meadow Bridge	Home
Feb. 13	Coving. Boys Home	Away
Feb. 17	Hinton	Home
Feb. 27	Montcalm	Home

Home Games 7:30 P. M.
Preliminary Games 6:00 P. M.
Coach Dallas Mann
Principal ..Charles "Richie" Rodes



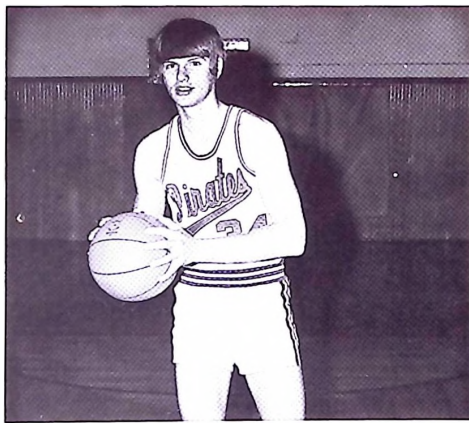
Jerry Mann



Mike Wynes



Harry Yates



Timmy Halloran



Larry Meadows



Mike West

Pirate Cheerleaders

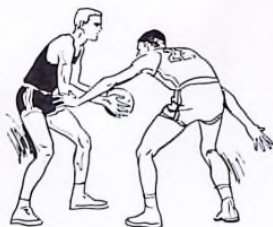


Debbie Morgan

Kathy Boone

Cathy Mann

Alana Mann





Mary Hale



Cathy Boone



Debbie Morgan



Kathy Mann



Alana Mann

Homecoming Queen 1976



Patricia
Hicks



Homecoming Queen Debbie Morgan, escort Harry Yates



Brian
Boone

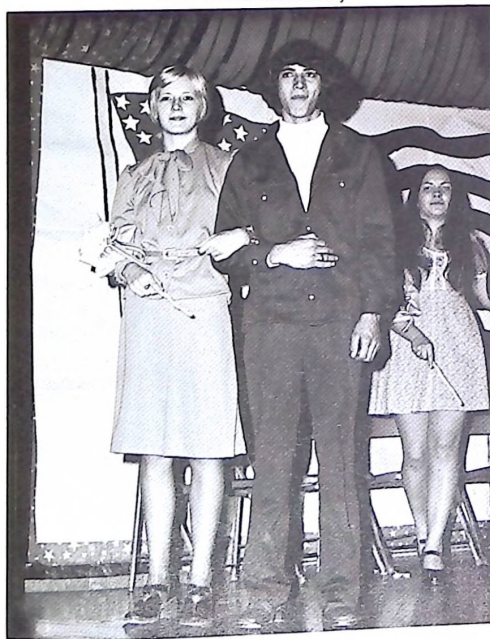




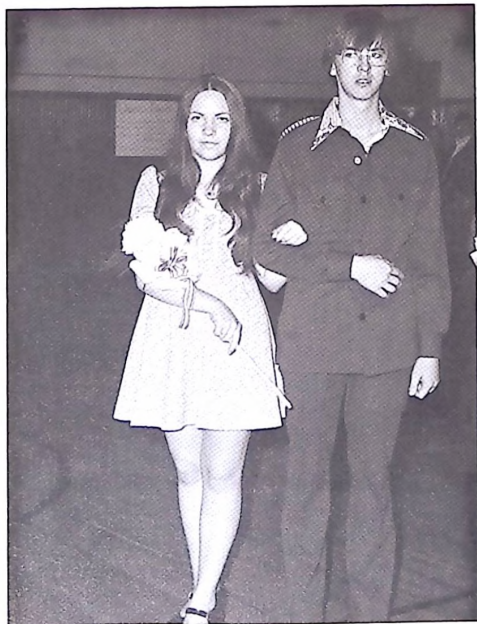
Attendant Kathy Bower
Escort Randal Canterbury



Larry Meadows, Karen Honaker



Pam Hodge, Jeff Buckland



Bonnie Bennett, Mike Tabor



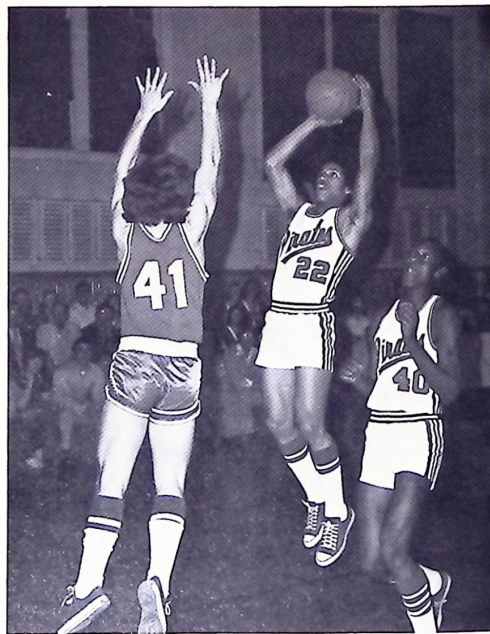
Robin Pettrey, Daniel Farley



Patricia Buckland, Frank Meador



Jennifer Schmauss, Jeff Utterback



Homecoming game

Pirate Baseball



ROW 1 (L to R): Jerry Mann, Jeff Stewart, Jeff Buckland, Bob Mann, Mike Wynes, Timmy Halloran, Harry Yates, ROW 2: Coach Dallas Mann, Danny Michael, David Wynes, Bobby

Talbott, Timmy Morgan, Junior Wykle, Larry Meadows, ROW 3: Johnny Faris, Kenny Friend, Mike West, Randy Persinger, David Talbott, Paul Reed



Girls' Basketball



(L to R): Bonnie Mann, Kathy Boone, Marlene Allen, Mary Hale, Mary Meadows, Kathy Mann, Cathy Mann, Carol Smith, Tammy

Staton, Alana Mann, Rita Allen, Debbie Morgan, Connie Mann, Coach Patricia Henthorn



Rita Allen



Kathy Boone



Bonnie Mann



Kathy Mann



Cathy Mann



Mary Carol Meadows



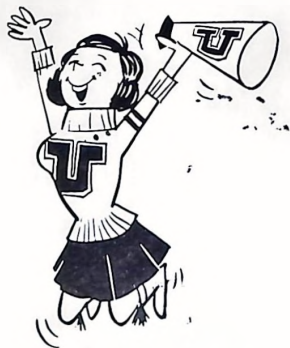
Debbie Morgan

Jr. High Basketball



ROW 1, (L to R): Rick Fox, Larry Richmond, Robert Lane, David Buckland, Bobby Morgan, Rodney Fix, Greg Jones, Richard Hawley, Andre Mann, ROW 2: Coach Mike Allen, Randall

Canterbury, Kevin Lilly, Frank Lane, Kevin Biggers, Eddie Biggers, Frank Meador, Hughie West



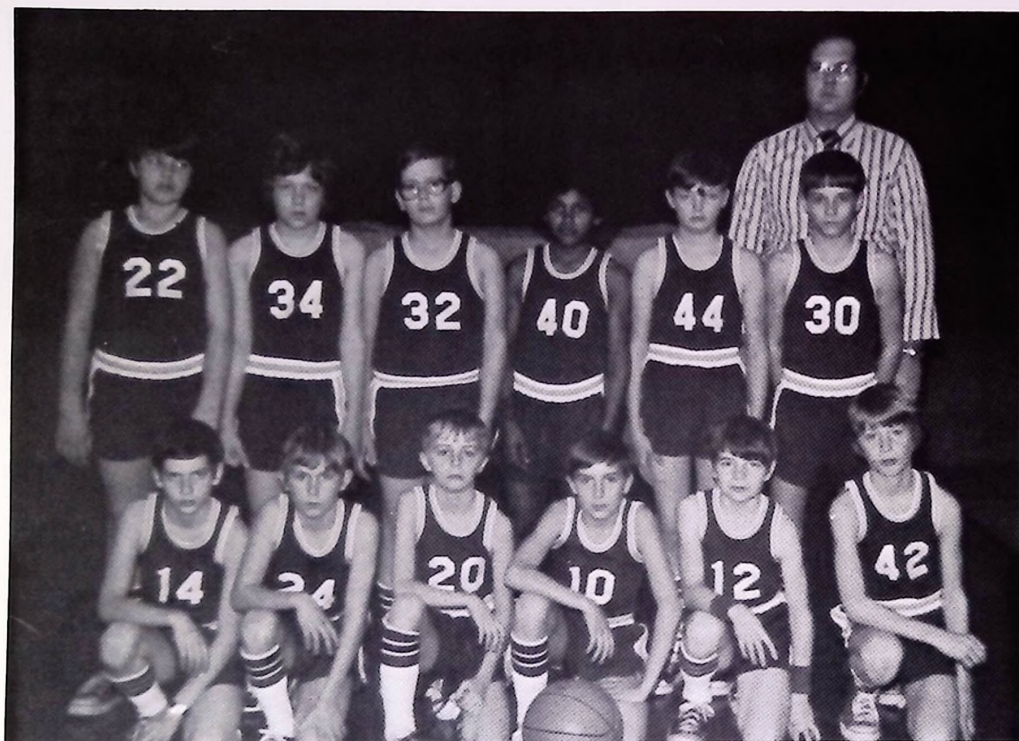
Jr. High Cheerleaders



ROW 1 (L to R): Jonie Rookstool, Jennifer Schmauss, ROW 2: Diane Meadows, Patricia Buckland, Kathy Bower, ROW 3:
Lisa Smith



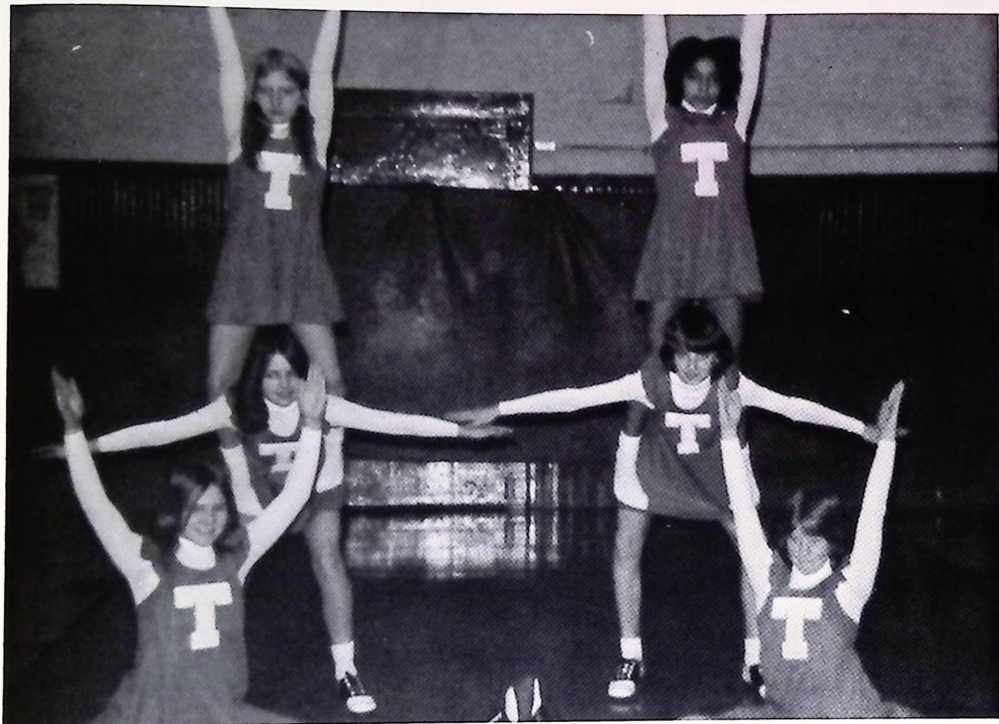
Grade School Basketball



ROW 1 (L to R): Micheal Anderson, Mark Roberts, Hoss Jon Fox, Kevin Buckland, Billy Meadows, Jon Mann, Timmy Fox, Monroe, Mike Meadows, Billy Canterbury, Randy Fix, ROW 2: Eugene Hicks, ROW 3: Coach Mr. Steve Jones

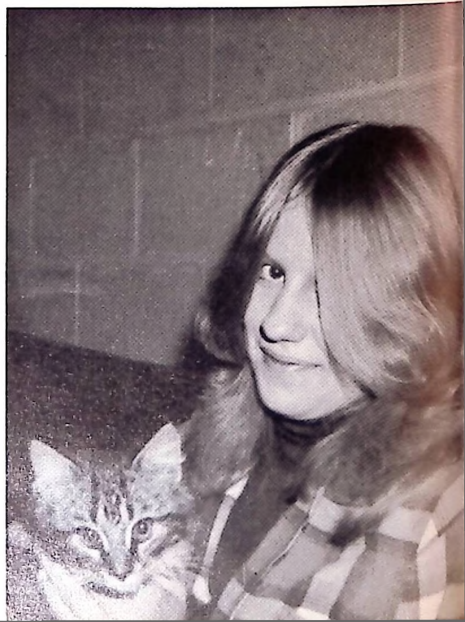
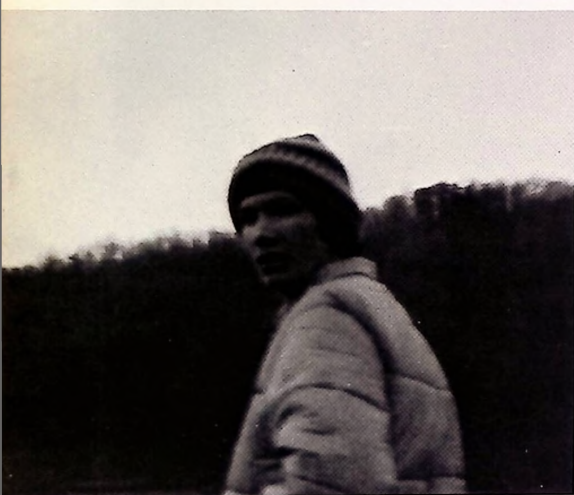


Grade School Cheerleaders



ROW 1 (L to R): Teresa Bower, Kay Lilly, ROW 2: Debra Cales, Susan Morgan, ROW 3: Barbara Garten, Lorie Wynes





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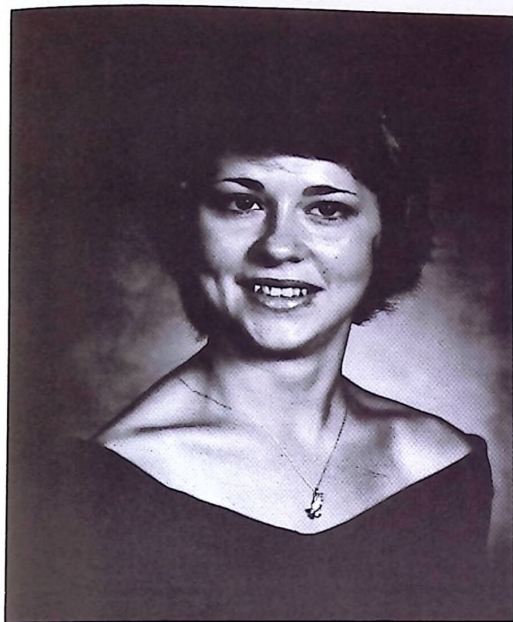
Key to Baby pictures:

1. Jeff Buckland
2. Pam Hodge
3. Jeff Stewart
4. Marilyn Wills
5. Audrey Biggers
6. Pam Wynes
7. Debbie Morgan
8. Kathy Mann
9. Garnet Hamrick

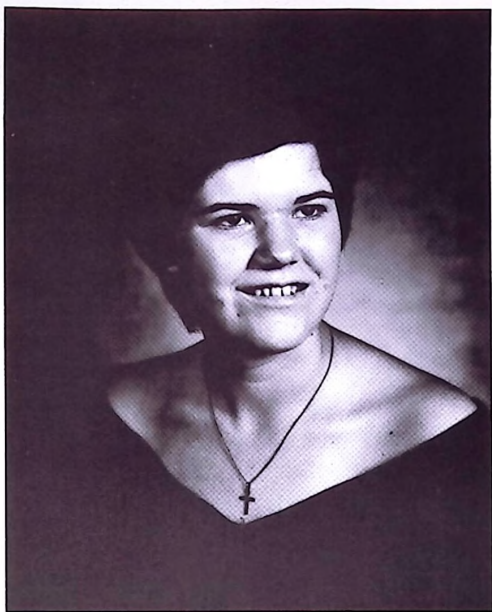
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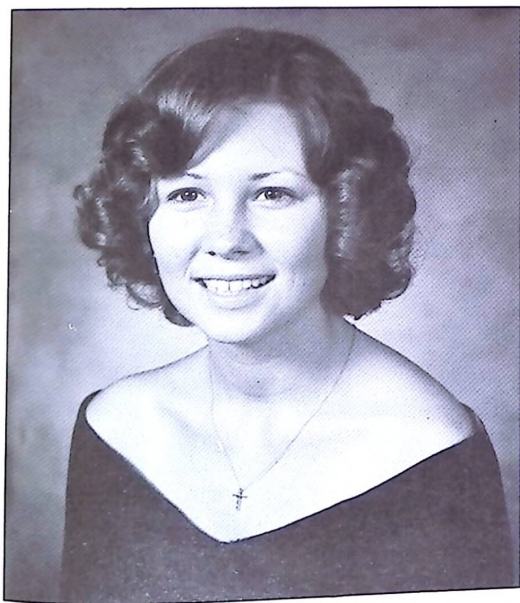
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GARNET WILLEY
DR. JIMENEZ
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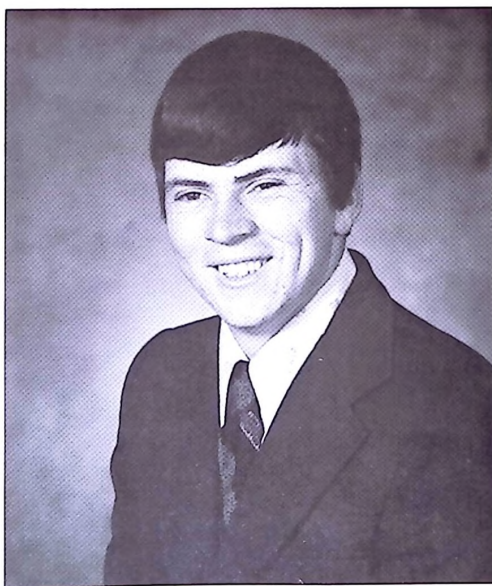
VALEDICTORIAN-KATHY MANN



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FIRST HONORARIAN-PAM BALLENGEE



SECOND HONORARIAN-TIMOTHY LILLY

Spirit of '76

Supplemental color pages
prepared to commemorate the
200th anniversary of the United
States of America in this bi-
centennial year—1976.



1



2

BY THE RIVER BRIDGE THAT
ARRIVED THE FLOOD,
THEIR FLAG TO APRIL'S
BREEZE UNFURLED,
HERE ONCE THE EMBATTLED
FARMERS STOOD,
AND FIRED THE SHOT HEARD
AROUND THE WORLD.



4



6

- 1/ Call of the Minutemen prior to the historic Battle of Lexington.
- 2/ The Battle of Concord Bridge was the first battle of the war.
- 3/ Monument to the Minutemen which stands on the site of the Battle of Lexington, where "the shot heard round the world" was fired April 19, 1775.
- 4/ The signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.
- 5/ Independence Hall, Philadelphia, where the Continental Congress convened to decide a course of action.
- 6/ Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson working to revise Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence.



1

*"Don't Strike
the Colors.
... We Have
Just Begun
to Fight."*

Capt. John Paul Jones

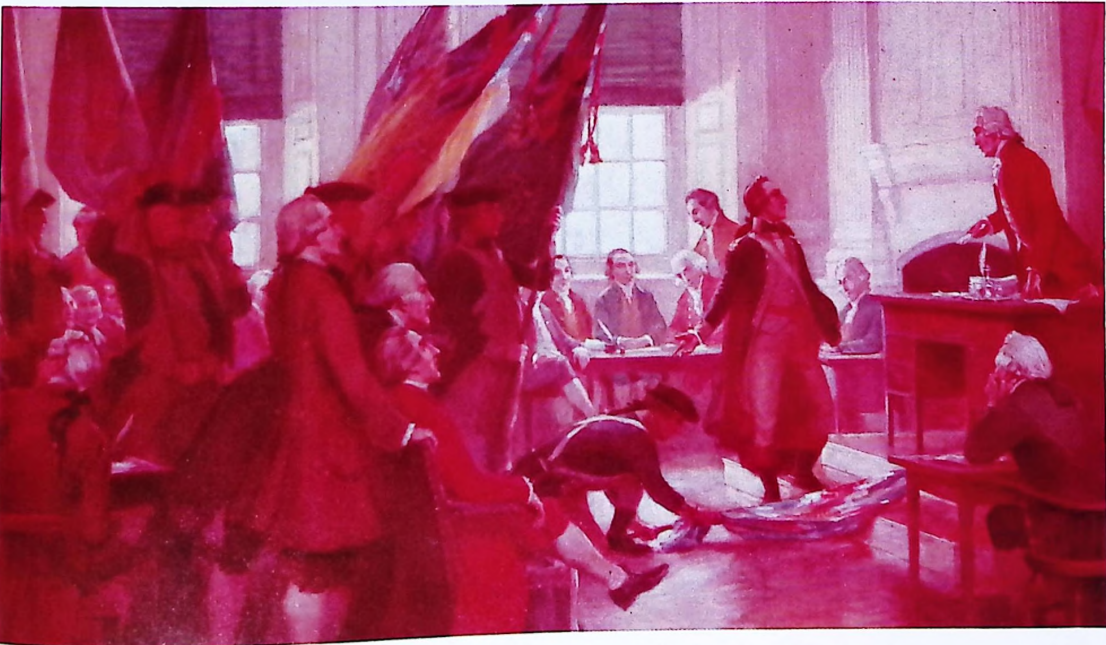




3



4



"These Are the Times That Try Men's Souls . . ."

Thomas Paine

1/ Captain John Paul Jones unfurled the first *Stars and Stripes* over the ocean when the young nation's banner, containing thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, was hoisted aboard the *Ranger*.
2/ From the deck of the captured British vessel *Serapis*, Capt. Jones and his crew watched as the American man-of-war, *Bonhomme Richard*, sank in victory, September 23, 1779. With the aid of friendly powers—namely France and Holland—and the leadership of commanders like Jones, the American fleet was able to effectively combat Britain's naval supremacy in the colonies.

3/ General John Stark led the colonial forces to victory at Bennington on August 11, 1777. The victory, along with an American triumph at Saratoga on October 12 of that year brought France to the colonies' aid as an ally and was the turning point of the war.

4/ Outside of occupied Boston, colonial patriots organized themselves into a volunteer militia known as the *Minutemen*. On the eve of April 18, 1775, British troops numbering more than 800 were dispatched from Boston to seize colonial munitions stored at Concord. Forewarned, Paul Revere and others spread the alarm and the Redcoats were met by a determined band of Minutemen at Lexington. It was here that the famous "shot heard round the world" was fired. It is not known which side fired the first shot of that battle which marked the opening of outright hostilities and led to open war.

5/ The surrender of British troops under the command of General Charles Cornwallis at Yorktown on October 19, 1781, brought an end to all-out fighting. A few scattered skirmishes continued for over a year. However, complications of negotiation with England delayed the signing of a peace treaty for nearly two years. General George Washington, commander of colonial forces, accepted the British surrender at Yorktown and later presented the captured British flags to the Congress.

*“Stand Your Ground . . .
If They Mean to Have a War,
Let It Begin Here.”*

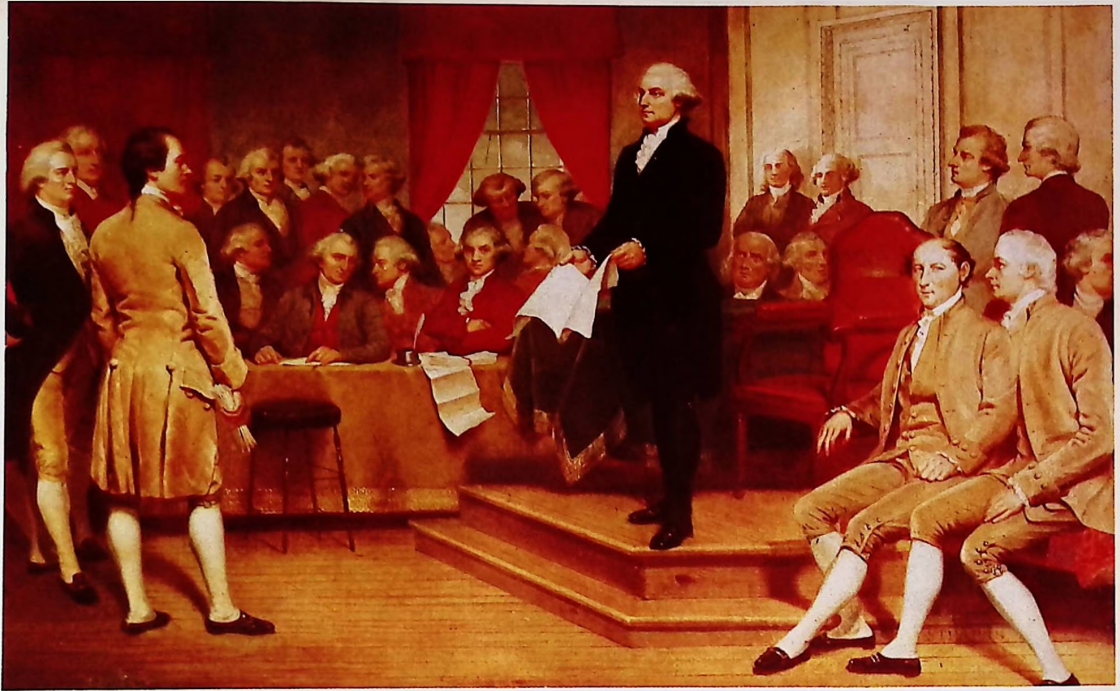
Capt. John Parker

1/ Capt. John Parker uttered those words as the colonial militia under his command prepared to meet the British troops at Lexington. Those words and the painting—*Spirit of '76*—exemplify the dedication and determination of the American patriots in their fight for independence. The colonies had organized to express their grievances in an effort to resolve the differences within the framework of the Empire. Several of the colonial legislatures had instructed their delegates to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia to oppose any move toward independence. The movement for independence was gaining strength and following the publication of Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, which argued for colonial sovereignty, a resolution was adopted and a committee of five appointed to draft a declaration of independence. 2/ General Washington, who had been appointed commander-in-chief of American forces by the Second Continental Congress, was a brilliant military strategist. It was his decision to take his Continentals across the Delaware River on Christmas night which resulted in the first major colonial victory. That victory at Trenton over Hessian mercenaries gave the ragged army renewed vigor. Supported chiefly through the printing of Continental currency, the colonial army also went through the personal fortunes of many American patriots—among them Washington, Jefferson, Richard Henry Lee and John Adams. These fortunes were donated to the cause of liberty—a cause supported by about one-third of the American population which was near 2,000,000. Another one-third remained loyal to the English crown and the remainder were apathetic. Despite many defeats, the colonies managed to keep an army in the field as a symbol of American resistance, to guarantee a negotiated rather than dictated peace.



1





3

*"... Give Me Liberty
or Give Me Death!"*

Patrick Henry



3/ Following the victory at Yorktown, Washington refused the offer of his troops to become king and returned to Philadelphia to aid with the establishment of a permanent government for the new republic—a loose alliance of sovereign states held together by the Articles of Confederation. An envoy composed of Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and John Jay was sent to negotiate with the British. It was not until 1783 that the peace agreement, known as the Treaty of Paris, was signed, guaranteeing the sovereignty of the United States of America. The Articles of Confederation, despite many weaknesses, served to unify the states until 1787 when a special convention was held at Independence Hall in Philadelphia to revise them. The meeting was attended by fifty-five of the most-prominent men of the day. Twenty-nine of the delegates representing a majority of the states met on May 25 and decided to draft an entirely new constitution rather than amend the Articles of Confederation. The meeting then became known as the Constitutional Convention.

4/ The men who assembled for the Constitutional Convention were an illustrious group with nearly every delegate a person of prominence in his home state. A large majority favored a strong central government. After four months of debate, on September 17, 1787, the new constitution was completed. In a little more than four months, six states had ratified the new constitution. Despite the good beginning, the fight for ratification was bitter and it was not until September 13, 1788, that the necessary two-thirds majority of the states had approved the document and Congress could call for states to choose their electors and congressmen. Several of the states had ratified the constitution with the provision that it would be amended. Thus, as one of its first official acts under the new constitution, the Congress added the first ten amendments known as the Bill of Rights. Washington was unanimously elected President and a new nation was launched on a course of democracy.

4

*"Give me your tired,
your poor,*

*Your huddled masses
yearning to breathe free,*

*The wretched refuse
of your teeming shore,*

*Send these, the homeless,
tempest-tossed to me,*

*I lift my lamp
beside the golden door."*

Emma Lazarus

(From "The New Colossus")