

Seventh grade is rough,
but we've all been through it.
And when it's over,
you can say

We Did It!

The first day of school as a seventh grader. We were finally out of the baby elementary and into the high school. We sat in the old gym and waited anxiously for Mr. Wayer to step into center stage and welcome everyone back. For the rest of them it was just one of the many first days they had endured thus far. But for us, it was only the beginning.

Mr. Wayer stood in front and explained some of the new rules that we had to live with that year. A chorus of groans from upperclassmen echoed through the gym. For them, it was an attack on their freedom. Something they had come to get used to had been changed. But we didn't care; after all, we didn't know any differently.

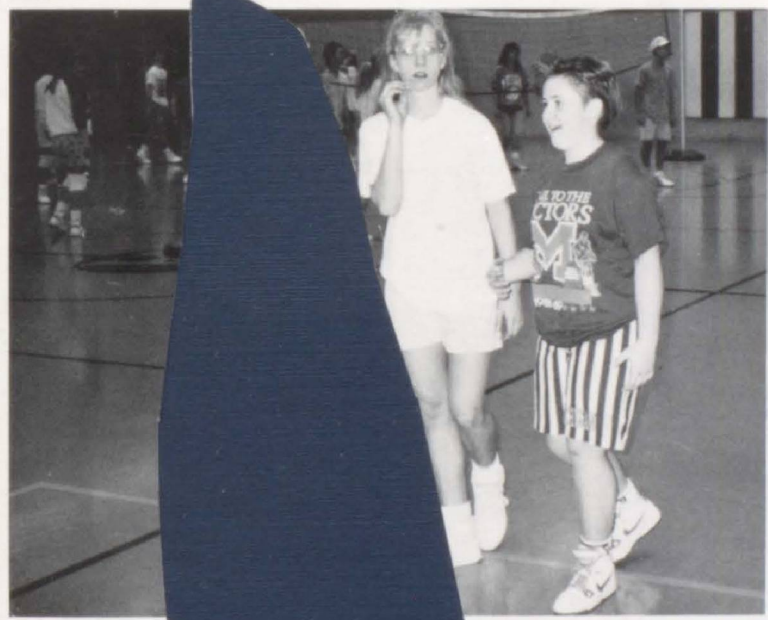
Finally, Mr. Wayer excused the rest of the high school to their respective classes. It was us, all alone. We sat in the empty gym, waiting for someone to tell us what to do. Mr. Wayer stood gazing at us, an amused smile playing on his lips.

To him, we were just another seventh grade class. To us, he was intimidating.

He went through the standard routine, making sure we knew our place on the totem pole of high school — at the bottom. He then dismissed us to go to our first class and gave us extremely specific directions on how to get there. We were off.

We spent the rest of the day wandering around the school, getting pushed and shoved in every direction. But finally, mercifully, the day ended. We went home exhausted and excited, looking toward tomorrow with both anticipation and dread.

The next 179 days went quickly, but not without problems. We lived each day for the next, waiting impatiently for the day when we'd finally be eighth graders. And when that day finally arrived, we were overcome with relief. It was over, we had done it. But we had not only done it . . . we had survived.



LIFE IS GREAT when you're excused from exams. Erin Polash, Sarah Brzak and Jaime Morris decided to spend their exam day in the gym.

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is a part of the game plan as Ashley gets set to tip off against Elsie. That plan apparently paid off as Ashley went on to beat Elsie, 33-13.

