

Nervousness+Happiness+Excitement=

Emotions

If you put the Class of 1999 in front of a crowd of approximately three hundred, how would that make them feel? Would they be A: calm, cool and collected, B: ready for a nap, or C: nervous, but able to show the staff, the parents, and the student body how well the big day could be handled? Read on for the scoop.

The graduation ceremony. A time to reminisce about the past and look ahead to the future. A time for the seniors to say good-bye to the staff, the students, and their days at Ashley and say hello to the next chapter in their book of life. Sounds like a lot, right? Exactly. So, how can something this big be handled by only a class of twenty-six? Very, very carefully!

Senior Melissa Wicke stated, "The ceremony was pretty sad. I just started thinking that it was the last time our class would ever be together."

Mr. Jim Fabus, addressing the seniors in the place of his wife Marcie,

their former class sponsor, urged seniors to set goals if they want to achieve anything. "Everything that he said had so much truth to it," reflected senior Tom Jungnitsch. "It was a really good speech."

The tears of sadness quickly turned to tears of joy during roll call. Each senior was called to the podium and then made his or her way across to receive a diploma. That was the easy part. The next part was to shake the Board of Education members' hands and then face the crowd for a few pictures. Well, for Misty Henderson, the shaking of the hands must have been too much for her because she forgot all about it! She remembered after the pictures, then made a frantic dash to the awaiting hands.

After roll call, the seniors turned their tassels from left to right, and just like that, in a matter of seconds, they were no longer AHS students. They had become AHS alumni. "That was the best part. I felt so relieved and satisfied with myself," commented Heather Polish. "That is the moment I waited to have happen for thirteen years."

Some people say they were happy to go. Others were dreading the day of graduation. Either way, a part of Ashley schools will be in every one of their hearts and every one of them will be remembered for something.

Even Katrina Payne, noted for her criticism, confessed, "I'm going to miss this place and **some** of the people in it!"

Terri Kral

THANK GOODNESS THAT'S OVER! Mindy Wallen steps down after she concludes her Valedictory Address. "You can do anything you want if you put your mind to it!" stated Mindy.

