Poies and Poroblems Whatever happens, just hang on!

ith the century coming to an end, time is on our mind. And if time has taught us anything, it's that we have little power to control what happens to us.

Life has been known to surprise us by tossing cream-filled pies in our face. Sometimes the pie is sweet, but oftentimes it is bitter. We felt that this year as we sat in stunned silence, and watched the shock and tears on the faces of Littleton, Colorado students as they struggled to understand the violence that had erupted in the hallways of their school. And, closer to home, we felt that deep pain when one of our own, Marcie Fabus, left us without saying goodbye. She had walked among us, loving us, laughing with us, and being our friend as well as our teacher. Then suddenly, she was gone. We understood once again our inability to control life.

It is the glimmer of hope, that unexpected pie, that helps us to look for a new tomorrow. Like the one that hit us on that crisp October evening, Homecoming night. Many of us will never forget that night, defeating Vestaburg and walking away with a victory in the most important game of the season with smiles on our faces and Ashley Pride illuminating the cave where the Bear sleeps; the inner heart of the Ashley fans.

Good pies, bad pies, sometimes there are pies that are both good and bad. We experienced that when Mr. Larry Walden, longtime counselor, announced his retirement. Good for him, bad for us.

Even though life tosses those unexpected "pies" our way, we still have the resilience to survive, to grow stronger. To know that we don't have the power to choose what happens to us, but we do have the power to end it Divinely!

Angela Simone