









ACTUALLY,  
guns DO  
Kill People

## Captions

### Photo One

Matt Atkinson shares challenges related to conducting musical orchestra. “The end of Act One. There was a chase between the two main characters and the two football players. It was the most exciting music we got to play in the show.”

### Photo Two

Megan McKinney displays the first spot of color in the bleak greys of the marching show. “The audience was in awe,” McKinney said. “I was just trying not to drop anything.”

### Photo Three

Whispers of defeat were silenced when the team displayed remarkable effort against Sachse. Though everyone picked the team to lose, quarterback junior Blaine Barker had no doubts before the game.

“I didn’t have any extra pressure on me because I didn’t care what the predictions of the game were,” Barker said. “I went out there with a chip on my shoulder trying to beat undefeated Sachse, and I knew if we played as a team we would do nothing less.”

### Photo Four

After their playoff win, Hendrickson celebrates with their trophy. The team was presented their trophy after the game.

### Photo Five

On April 20<sup>th</sup>, students protest gun violence during the national school walkout. August Smith was among students who carried signs showing their protest.

This year was my first year as a photojournalist at Hendrickson High School. I am so thankful that I began high school as a part of the journalism department at Hendrickson. I've enjoyed every second of being in the photojournalism class, and it's been an experience that I wouldn't trade for the world. Photojournalism has been something that has helped me grow as a photographer and a journalist, and as a student.

I learned that photography was more than just snapping a pretty picture this year. I learned to ask the critical questions about what is going on in the photo and what taking the picture contributes. I learned that having an understanding of the story behind the image is what makes the picture impressive. I learned that to truly appreciate the image, you must truly appreciate the subject.

This year, I went to the JEA/NSPA fall national convention in Dallas, where I had the time of my life. I learned ways to become a better photographer, while having fun and exploring a new place. I learned how to use the power of Photoshop to edit, while staying within journalistic ethics. I learned how to capture the action of a photo, take a portrait that tells the subject's story, take sports pictures that show the emotion of the game, what it's like to photograph a war-ridden area, and so much more – all from professionals who are renowned in their field.

This school year, my photographs were published in our newspaper, *The Hawk*, and our yearbook, *The Talon*. As well, some of my photos were used on our theatre department's social media to promote their fine arts musical. Events I covered include Hendrickson's talent show, that showcased the talents of my fellow students, and students from schools around the district, Hendrickson's award winning musical, *Heathers*, Hendrickson's performance at a district band showcase. I also photographed students working in class, football playoff games, soccer games, student clubs, and our journalists at the JEA national convention.

My freshman year at Hendrickson has been spectacular, all thanks to my classmates and experiences as a photojournalist. Thank you to the editors for nominating me for this honor. You have worked so hard to create a phenomenal yearbook and publish a breath taking newspaper every month. Thank you to my fellow photojournalists. Your hard work, dedication, and time has paid off and the photos that you have taken are stunning.

Last but not least, thank you to my advisor, Mrs. Riemer. You've pushed me and helped me grow so much this year, all I can say is thank you. Thank you for trusting me and believing in me enough to send me to a convention 200 miles away, when you had known me for less than a year. Thank you for sending me to fun places to capture the emotions of playoffs. Thank you for helping me grow as a photojournalist and as a person.