

# [choices we make] Election

By: Caitlin Bokulic

With every election year, comes great debates and arguments from opposing sides. The election of 2004 was no different. With the world that we live in today, everyone realized the power of their vote and its importance.

"I believe that it is very important to vote. By voting you can insure the protection of your rights and those of you fellow citizens," said **Leah Daniel, 12**.

Whether able to vote this year or not, everyone was sure to voice their opinions. While most people strongly supported a candidate because of ties to a certain party; other people believed in voting based on the person.

"I support a candidate, not a party," said **Melissa DeJonckheere, 12**.

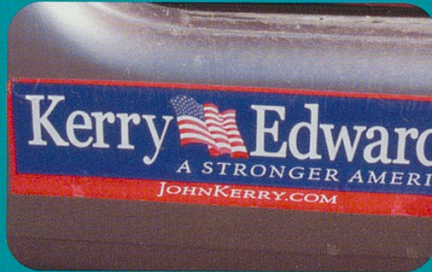
While people contested the candidates, everyone seemed to agree on what they believed were the biggest issues that affected the campaign.

"I think that the biggest issue was the war in Iraq. I also didn't believe that the obsessive campaigning like TV commercials made a difference because I know they are biased," said **Samuel Kim, 12**.

In the end the people re-elected George Walker Bush to serve the country in the White House.

## SENATOR JOHN

Kerry and President George Bush fought hard in the 2004 presidential election. Each candidate toured the country in hopes of getting the public's vote.



**SHOWING HIS SUPPORT FOR JOHN KERRY, MATT KURSMARK, 12, PUTS** a Kerry Edwards bumper sticker on his car. President George Bush and First Lady Laura Bush waved to the crowd at the Great American Ball Park. **Lauren Jones, 12, and Caitlin Bokulic, 12,** cheered on President Bush at the rally. President Bush gave his inauguration speech after he was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States.

**AND THE WINNER IS... THE SCHOOL** poll closely resembled that of the national election results. **Katie Grueninger, 12,** voted at Good Shepherd Church. This was the first time that she was able to vote.

