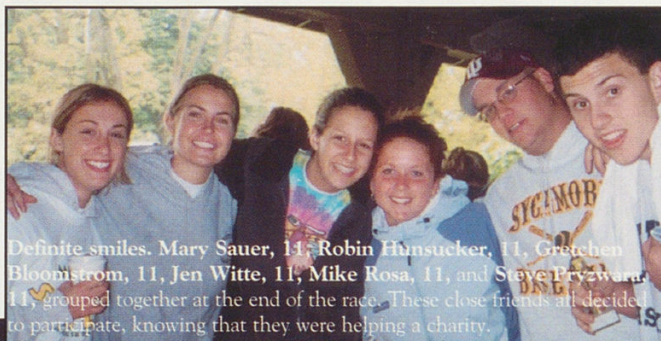
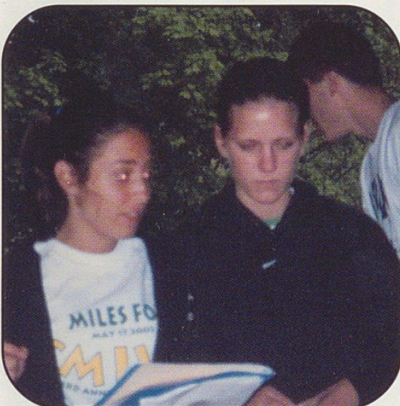


hard work equals smiles



Definite smiles. Mary Sauer, 11, Robin Hunsucker, 11, Grachen Bloomstrom, 11, Jen Witte, 11, Mike Rosa, 11, and Steve Pryzwansky, 11, grouped together at the end of the race. These close friends all decided to participate, knowing that they were helping a charity.

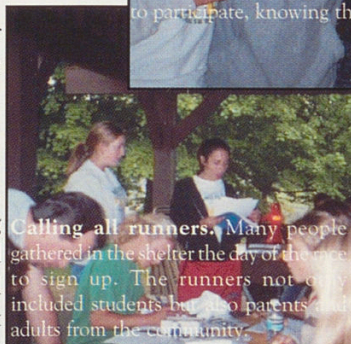


"Miles for Smiles went over very well. Despite the rain it turned out to be a success. All of our work paid off for a good cause."

Krista Whalen, 12

Smiles for everyone. After a year hard work and dedication by the members of operation smile, the result was smiles on both the faces of the volunteers, and those who were fortunate enough to be helped. The club focused on collecting money to help children in third world countries correct facial deformities. Although the club set off to a slow start, the anticipation was matched to the arrival of the annual "Miles for Smiles" walk.

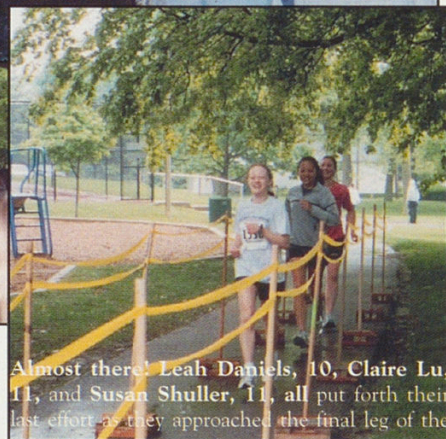
"The planning of the walk was at times stressful and required a lot of work, dealing with both the student body and the community. We wanted to get as many people to sign up as possible which required a huge deal of publicizing," said **Sarah Richards, 11.**



Calling all runners. Many people gathered in the shelter the day of the walk to sign up. The runners not only included students but also parents and adults from the community.

Richards, along with **Krista Whalen, 12,** and **Jennifer Sosna, 12,** were all the co-presidents of the club. Their responsibility lied mainly in planning the year's major event.

"I learned a lot about responsibility and really enjoyed knowing that my work went to a



Almost there! Leah Daniels, 10, Claire Lu, 11, and Susan Shuller, 11, all put forth their last effort as they approached the final leg of the

good cause," said Sosna.

Overall the year granted happiness to the recipients, and the students involved as they felt a sense of achievement.

By Jennifer Fisher

sharing their time

Volunteering to help others.

The volunteer program at school has continued to make improvements. The volunteer board used to have an activity for students to participate in once in awhile. However, now, the volunteer board is continually stocked with opportunities to help with. **Mrs. Marnie May,** English teacher and volunteer coordinator is working hard to continue this improvement.

"When I volunteered I felt like I was helping others while feeling good about myself," said **Brandon Luken, 12.**

Students have continued to help others in different situations such as volunteering at Stepping Stones Center, Kindervelt, with children in the inner-city, or at homeless shelters.

There was also a toy drive during the holiday season. Toys were



Collecting money. Matt Hahn, 11, volunteered to collect money during lunch. This money was to help the measles cause.

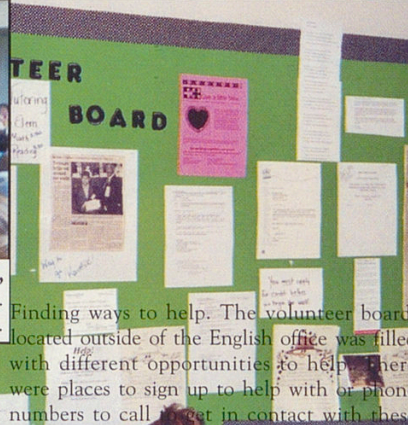
bought by students at our school and then brought to inner-city children in downtown Cincinnati.

Suzie Tufts, 9, organized the toy drive, "Basically it was the thought of kids actually getting holiday presents!" said Tufts.

The volunteer opportunities are endless. So many students



Supporting our country. At the 'Rally For the Troops', students helped volunteer in many different ways. **Jordan Steinberg, 12,** and **Kristen Bledsoe, 12,** helped pass out food for the people that were present.



Finding ways to help. The volunteer board located outside of the English office was filled with different opportunities to help. There were places to sign up to help with or phone numbers to call to get in contact with these

have found unique ways of helping others. The rewards are great. After 30 hours you can receive a half credit, after 60 hours you can receive a full credit. There are also a lot of scholarships for students that volunteer and also just knowing that you have helped others is its own reward.

By Liz Tracy