

by Lisa Suszek

Last year when I accepted the position of assistant editor, I had some idea of what I was getting into.

I knew about the long hard hours that are needed to put out a paper. I knew of the tension that arises when a group of people are stuck together in a claustrophobic room. I knew of the wild urges to strangle people when they ask you to "pass the rubber cement," or to stab someone with your precision exacto knife, who says "I found a typo on page nine," because you just spent half an hour laying it down.

I also knew of the feeling you have when you're looking at the paper fresh off the press, reading your name in the black print that rubs off onto your fingertips. It's a feeling of pride, of accomplishment. Suddenly the people that were grinding at the tips of your nerves the last few days of deadline are sitting next to you, giving that extra pat on the back for a job well done.

As you flip through the pages to find your article, advertisement, comic, picture, or design, you know that you've done your part to make a difference.

Our September issue was done by a group of people that were thrown together and told "Here's your job, now get it done!" But, I can proudly say that I saw improvement in quality and work in every single issue that followed.

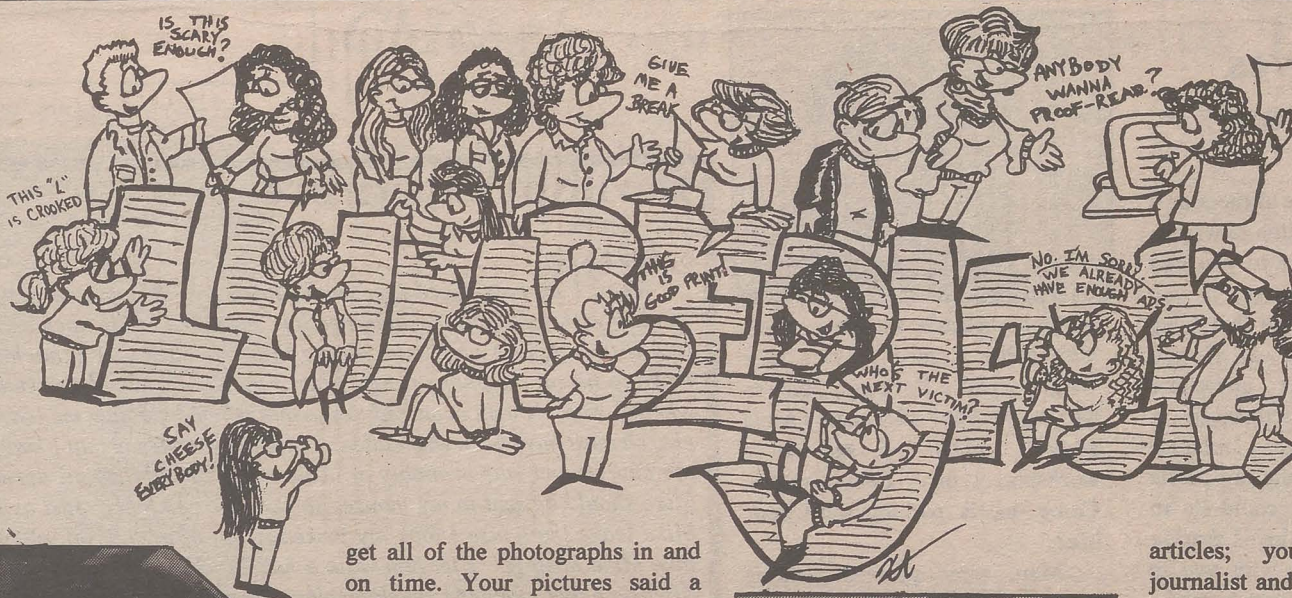
The group of people that once were running around like chickens with their heads cut off have pulled together into a newspaper staff, and a damn good one too!

I just wanted to thank each of them personally for a job well done.

Karen Mason, thank you for doing such a great job on advertisements and for not hitting me when I accidentally left one out.

Lori Pahlkotter, thank you for the great job that you did in advertising. The pride that you showed in your work made me strive harder in my own.

Elaine Kosloski, thank you for going beyond the call of duty to



get all of the photographs in and on time. Your pictures said a thousand words.

Kurt Anderson, thank you for the comic relief; you're an excellent artist.

Rich Spicer, thank you for taking some of the hardest articles. Even when you weren't here, all we had to do was turn on the radio and you'd be cheering us on with your dedications.

Darin Hite and Matt Southwell, thank you for the features that kept the paper from getting too dry. Your humor is what kept a lot of our readers from putting down the paper.

Tammy Wisniewski, thank you for spending the extra hours laying down the paper. You've got an A+ in my book.

Yvonne LaFave, thank you for keeping the peace during deadline weekends. Your sense of humor kept me calm in some of the most tense situations. You are a great asset to the paper and it will be a privilege to have you as my assistant editor next year.

Les Maxon, the grey ghost, thank you. We didn't see a lot of you, but the paper demonstrated the efforts of your work.

Frank Krist, thank you for your willingness to try every part of the newspaper process; you were fun to work with and will be missed next year.

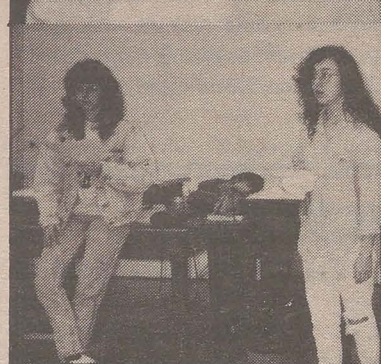
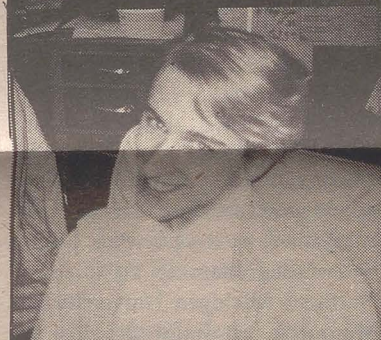
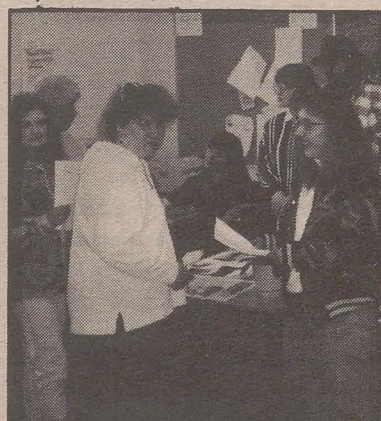
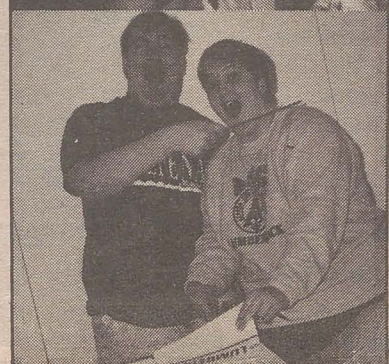
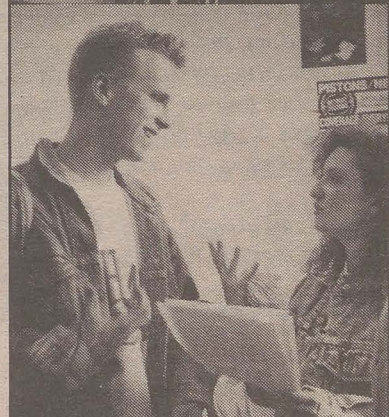
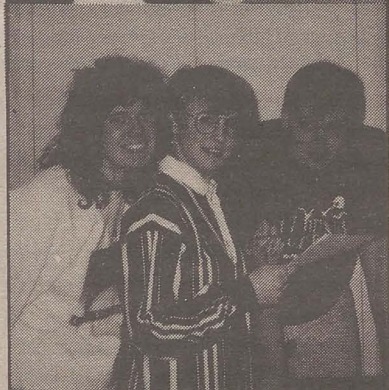
Ellen Wisniewski, thank you for your many hours of proofreading; it's one of the most important parts to the paper and no one likes to do it.

Karen Belt, thank you for taking extra responsibilities. You have an air of quiet strength that shows through in all of your work.

Paula Taylor, thank you for your patience. It may have taken a while to design that page, but your persistence paid off in perfection.

Kirstine Titus, thank you for the variety of work that you put in the paper. Your dancing and singing around the office during deadline weekend provided great entertainment for the staff, even though it drove your mom nuts.

Melissa Parteka, thank you for the entertaining and informative



articles; you're an excellent journalist and we'll miss you next year. P.S. If you win that personal word processor it's mine!

Larry Lisiecki, thank you for all the enthusiasm that you showed toward the paper. Your booming laugh and that mischievous look always lightened the load.

Traci Manning, thank you for all the extras that you did for the paper. Although you complained most of the time you were here, you did everything with so much energy that it kept me going.

Roxanne Harmon, thank you for your innovative design ideas. They added some spice to the paper and influenced mine.

Jen Goodburne, thank you for taking all of the sports articles that were thrown at you. We didn't even have a sports writer until you came along, and it really helps to have someone who understands the games.

Kory Lefebvre, thank you for some really great article ideas. You've been an inspiration to me since I first met you.

John Eagen, thank you for the informative articles that you've submitted. It is always nice to have non-staff members join in and help make a difference.

Last, but not least, Jackie Skaluba, you've worked so hard to make this paper informative, organized, fun and exciting. I know that it was hard at first; we were pretty much starting from scratch. I think that you've started a great foundation for the Lumberjack, which I hope I can carry on next year and then pass on to the next editor. Thank you...

I know that it all sounds kinda mushy. This is the type of thing that you hear on a soap opera with violins serenading in the background, so I guess I might as well finish it off with the biggest sentimental cliché of them all... "I consider all of you family!"

Before you think that I forgot about you Mrs. Titus, our teacher, our advisor, our friend, I want you to know that we all thank you for being what our Lumberjack family thinks of as Mommy Sonya.