



The Phoenix

It Looks Great!

By Jacob Hock

On Thursday, December 10th, I took part in a rare opportunity to see the new high school firsthand. The tour began on the front steps, where heavy scraping and remodeling has allowed large piles of debris and dust to form on the floor. As the crowd of teachers and a few interested students began to gather, the wind from the open doors blew the dust into our faces and clothing. Nevertheless, we remained eager. Dean Nance gave us a few basic facts about the new school. For example, the front steps are no longer considered a part of the building and will not be used as a school entrance. Instead, this entrance will be used for the play while large,

drop down gates will block off the academic areas of the school. Also, this school is 6 feet taller than the previous one to accommodate for the heating ducts that have been installed in it.

After the introduction, Mr. Nance led us through the front entrance and into the center of the school. The first

feature was that of the restrooms; the women's contained 20 stalls. As we made our way through the halls, I began to recollect on all the old memories that I had on this property. I caught a glimpse of Memorial Alley before we entered the cafeteria. In it, the brick engravings that have sold for \$100 a piece have immortalized people's names with the school forever. The cafeteria is a stunning display of character complete with a glorious, 2 story window that will shine light on the bronze tiger that has been mounted in front of it. Above

the window is the Latin phrase SCIENTIA REGVLAT DOMVUM, which translates to "knowledge rules the house".

Next, we entered the auditorium. Many people were concerned with the notion that a new auditorium could never compare to the previous one. They will no longer need to worry about this when they witness the beauty of its architecture and ingenious design. Fold out panels along the wall will house spotlights that are hidden from the audience and 600 padded seats will comfortably accommodate them. Additionally, 3 massive chandeliers will be suspended from the ceiling above. The features of the stage are even more stunning. To the side is an alluring spiral staircase that goes all the way to the ceiling of the auditorium and provides access to the catwalk.

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November 8th, 2005 was not only a big day for the voters of Ironton, but also for students. For that was the day the community made its decision about the new schools. Though we had earlier disappointments, this time the vote

Not Just a Building

By Hannah Wilkes

went our way. Everyone is talking about the new school, but

what about the old one?

I first came to Ironton Middle School in the 4th grade as a little kid who cried in the bathroom with her mom begging her not to go, and I left as a 6th grader who thought she could take over the world. I came back as a freshman, nervous and scared, not knowing anything about this new world. I will hopefully leave as a junior not knowing what to expect in the future.

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