

LAYING UP teamwork

With many new members on the varsity team, the boys worked together to make the season memorable.

The ball leaves the player's hands and hits the backboard aimlessly while the crowd is silent in anticipation. Swish. The fans erupt in cheer as the players embrace each other with shining smiles.

"I could describe our team as a family."

- Junior Nicholas Friedel

The crowd just saw players with the same jerseys on the court, but to the boys, the meaning of team was so much more.

"I could describe the team as a family," junior Nathaniel Langston said. "We all get along and work together well, like a functional family, including the coaches."

Being on a team also allowed the players to learn together.

"[Playing on a team] makes you rely on each other instead of everyone relying on a certain person... It just creates better

relationships throughout the team," junior Cole Riekeberg said.

The boys worked and grew together as a team to prevail against the competition.

"I think that our ability to be a great shooting team and a team that can also take it in the paint and score is pretty unique," junior Nicholas Friedel said.

The team might have lost big players last year, but the current team was not letting that hold them back. The boys team was number one seed going into districts.

"Making it to districts in first seat and our record for this season is pretty memorable because they are big achievements for the team," Langston said.

Playing as team and acting like a family brought the team closer together to make the season memorable. /a. billes/



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all TIED UP

As a senior, Josh Estrel made memories for himself.



Senior Josh Estrel tied up the school record at seven for the most three pointers in a game.

"It feels awesome [to make seven points in one game] because in all the years at Timberland I am one of the few people to have achieved this," Estrel said.

Estrel has been playing on the high school team for four years and knows the coaches pretty well.

"Josh has been very consistent shooting the basketball," assistant coach Russell Aydelott said. "He is one of the best three point shooters in the St. Louis area."

Getting this achievement took Estrel to give his all at practice.

"[Coach Deweese] always tells us that you practice the way you play so we always work really hard," Estrel said.



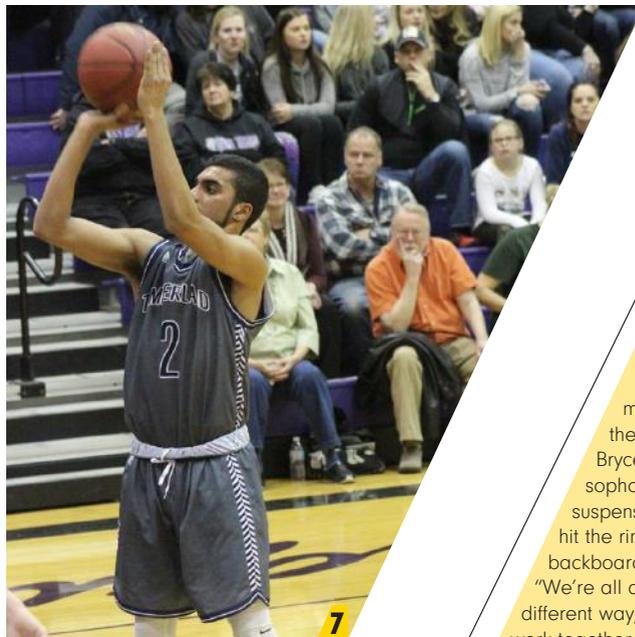
infographic by a. biles

1/ Taking a shot, junior Cole Riekeberg focuses on the basketball hoop. Being focused and confident helped the team defeat competition. "It's nice to play the way you know you're capable of and to fight back against a team that previously beat you," Riekeberg said. *photo by trotter* **2/** While in possession of the ball, senior Josh Estrel pivots in order to hand off the ball to junior Shyamal Patel. The ball was later handed back to Estrel when he took a shot and received a point. "I'm only one of the several scorers on the team but it feels good to help however I can to win games," Estrel said. *photo by b. pfanstiel* **3/** Senior Grady Daniels throws his hands up to block a shot. To fall in position, senior Josh Estrel and junior Shyamal Patel backed Daniels up. "It's really fun [to play as a team] because the atmosphere is just great," Daniels said. *photo by a. biles* **4/** Junior Michael Weissinger keeps the basketball in his sight as the opponent is in possession of it. Weissinger fought for his position and playing time. "Earning time on the floor didn't come easily and I had to work for what I got," Weissinger said. *photo by b. pfanstiel* **5/** On offense, senior Jacob Auringer reaches for the basket to score. Auringer got the point and his teammates praised him. "We have overall good chemistry and we all love playing together," Auringer said. *photo by trotter* **6/** Junior Kamron Lenoir takes possession of the ball as he is surrounded by the opponent. This was Lenoir's first year on varsity. "I got my first varsity dunk when we beat Troy and that was really exciting," Lenoir said. *photo by b. pfanstiel* **7/** As the crowd is waiting in anticipation, junior Shyamal Patel aims for the free throw. Patel focused on what was in front of him instead of the past behind him. "Always keep your head up and focus on the next play instead of looking back on the last play and thinking what you did wrong," Patel said. *photo by b. pfanstiel*

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"We're all athletes in a different way, but when we work together good things happen," Eaton said. *photo by a. biles*

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1/ As sophomore Cole Martin has the ball, he looks around for an open teammate. Martin was already friends with most of the boys on the team, so playing with them came naturally. "We really bond and we're close friends so that helps us play together," Martin said. *photo by a. biles* **2/** Off the ground, sophomore Steven Busateri makes a shot. Busateri made the shot and received cheers from the crowd. "When my family cheers for me I feel relieved to know that I am making my father proud, and when my brothers cheer for me, it's hard to explain when my hero's and the people I have looked up to for my whole life are cheering for me," Busateri said. *photo by a. biles* **3/** While on defense, sophomore Brett Hiatt jumps up to try and block the pass from the opposing team. The team regularly faced competition and they showed their abilities by taking first place in the Francis Howell Central tournament. "It was a great moment because we came together as a team to win the tourney," Hiatt said. *photo by a. biles* **4/** Sophomore Bryce Eaton is getting ready to make a shot with sophomores Brett Hiatt and Cole Martin watching in suspense. Hiatt and Martin backed Eaton up when the ball hit the rim, but Eaton rebounded and aimed for the backboard again when the basketball went in the basket.

Shooting for victory

JV basketball

Boys Basketball / 61 /