



Kiley Timperley/DN

Tina Schroeder performs with the Pomalinks at Lincoln High School during a girls basketball game Friday night.

Select few Pompons carry clout

No typical jock Grades vital, star says

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Editor

While most students at Lincoln High School are struggling through their first class of the day, Tina Schroeder is showering, putting on makeup and fixing her hair in the locker room.

At 8 a.m. Friday, she carries her duffel bag down the halls, heading for her locker. But her bag is not full of books; it's stuffed with the Link-trademark red and silver pompons.

Schroeder is a Lincoln High Pomalink. Every day at 7 a.m., Schroeder and the 16 other drill-team dancers practice for their basketball halftime shows. Afterward they have an hour to prepare for the day ahead.

"It takes a lot of commitment," she says.

Only juniors or seniors can try

out to be a Pomalink. Girls practice a week before tryouts to be able to perform the splits, flag, pompon and jazz routines before judges. This year about 60 students tried out.

"The first year I was nervous," she says, but this year she was confident at tryouts.

Being a member of an elite group has had an impact on Schroeder's social life at school, she says. Sometimes her classmates look up to her or think of her as being popular, Schroeder says.

"I never could understand that," she says. "I'm no different than anyone else."

Schroeder says this attitude has caused some hard feelings between her and others.

"They say, 'Oh, you think you're too good for anyone else.'"

Does she think of herself as popular?

"Yeah, I don't want to be conceited, but kind of, yeah," she says.

Because Schroeder fits the stereotypical blonde-haired, blue-eyed cheerleader image, she says she sometimes is treated as if all she can accomplish is dancing at halftime.

"They say, 'She can't do anything else. She's dumb,'" Schroeder says. "I just try to ignore it. Someone's always going to say that to you."

Pomalinks is a big part of Schroeder's out-of-school life, too, she says. Almost all of Schroeder's friends are Pomalinks, she says.

"We've been together for so long... We're used to each other."

Schroeder says she'll be sad at her last Pomalink performance in two weeks.

"I'll probably start crying."

By Adeana Leftin
Senior Editor

Remember Moose from Archie's gang?

Tall, blond sport hero, ate like a horse, built like a truck, but not carrying a full load?

Well, Andy Campbell, a junior at Lincoln High, is a complete opposite.

OK — he is tall and strong and he does play on three different varsity teams and could have unusual eating habits.

BUT — he's not blond, and he's not dumb.

Campbell, 16, says people kind of expect him to be stupid.

"But I like to prove them wrong — try to, anyway."

The football quarterback, basketball shooting guard and 800 and 2-mile-relay running hopeful has a strong B average finishing up his

junior year in high school and says he shrugs off knocks from classmates.

But, he says, "It depends on who says it and how they say it."

Campbell says he finds that many

— "66"

It just doesn't take talent for football. You've got to get good grades too.

Campbell
Lincoln High junior

— "99"

people look up to him because of the position he's in.

"I'm starting quarterback for varsity... The people below you, on the sophomore and junior varsity teams, they want to be up there so they look up to you to see what they need to be at that level," he



Kiley Timperley/DN

Andy Campbell waits for his chance to play during Lincoln High's game against Fremont at Pershing Auditorium Monday night.

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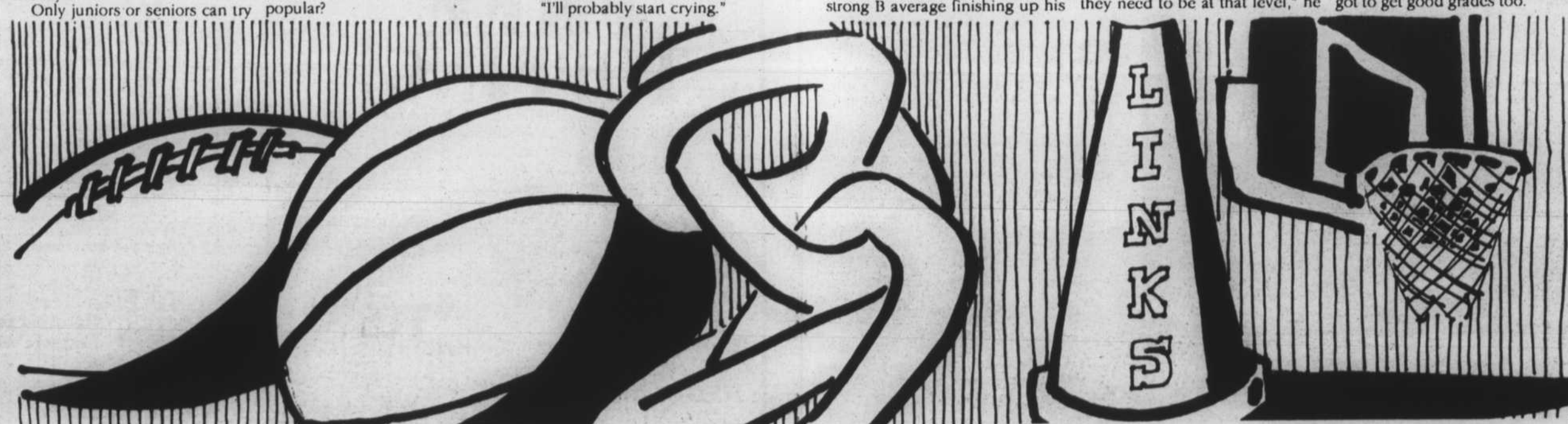
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