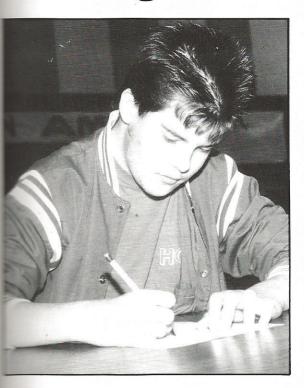


Ron Dubois Paula Dubois Chris Dukes Paul Edwards Priscilla Edwards Shayuanda Edwards

Vincent Edwards Cassandra Elkins Koretta Ellison **Hubert Erwin Barry Evans** Brian Evans

Ladon Farmer Yvonne Farmer Barry Farrell Andrea Ferguson Daisy Ferguson Keith Ferguson

## Getting to the Heart of the Problem



Sophomore Brian Evans could often be found in the commons area drawing before the bell rang to go to first period. Brian peps a positive outlook on life despite all the hardships he faced

Sophomore Brian Evans has been in the hospital a total of ten times. He enjoys playing the piano and drawing in his spare time. When asked about the effect the surgery has had on everday life, Brian replied, "I have no limitations, but I do tire easily."

Brian was born with a congenital heart defect - Coarctation of the Aorta. In this condition the aorta, the main artery which connects blood from the heart to the body, is pinched or constricted.

Brian's first surgery was March 24, 1978, when he was 2 ½ years old. When he was 5, he had his second surgery. He was 12 years old when he had his third surgery. He is scheduled for another catheterization for the summer of 1989. One was administered in John Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. The others were

done in the Medical University of South Carolina.

Brian said, "I don't feel any different from any of my classmates. I feel very lucky. I almost didn't make it through my last surgery; I had a stroke."

Despite all hardships that may have been placed on his life, Brian worked diligently to keep up with his peers. He took college preparatory courses and was a member of the History Club. Brian also allowed at least thirty minutes every Tuesday afternoon to playing the piano. When asked what type of music he liked most, he guickly replied, "I don't enjoy playing any one type any more than the other. I play whatever type of music I feel like playing that day."

By Lisa McCall