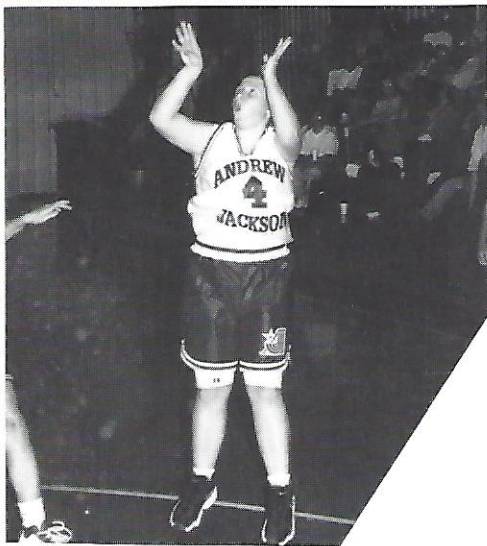


Jessica,

We thought your words would say it the best. We love you and know that you can achieve anything you set your mind to do.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Elizabeth and Gordon



### How It Feels To Be Me

By: Jessica Nipper  
"Meanie" #4

When I was young  
My world was unique  
I heard not the hum  
Of the bird that so petite.

When I was older  
My world seemed colder  
I heard not the wind  
That blew through the limbs.

When I was a little older  
My world seemed no bolder  
I heard not the faint words "Have they told her?"  
That the sounds she had missed  
May never be hers to hear  
Unless a great aid  
Could be placed in her ear.

When I was much older  
I found basketball to be my love  
I heard not the crowd  
When the man with the whistle called "Foul!"

My love of this sport you see  
Keeps me going and believing in me.

I know not what the world will bring  
But playing in the game has always been my dreams.

