

Freshmen Freshmen Freshmen Freshmen

Blinded by Light With a \$3,000 smile



Ignoring the fact that most people cringe at having braces, Penny Spell jokes with her friends at lunch.

"Don't forget your toothbrush, Billy," yelled his mother as he darted out the door, "and remember your appointment is at 2:30, so don't play at the mall!" "Ahh, Mom!" replied Billy. "Don't, 'Ahh, Mom' me. I didn't put all that money in your mouth to rust!" was the reply as the door slammed.

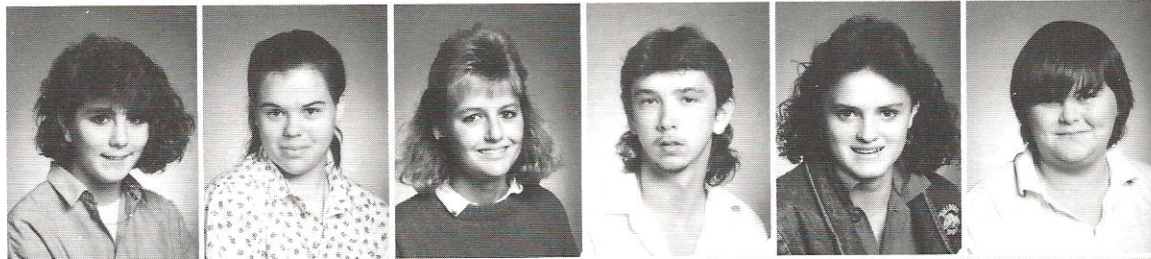
Such was a typical conversation for those who wore braces — not to mention the endless name-calling. "Hey, Brace-face, or Chainsaw jaw, etc.!" was a normal greeting from so-called friends. "After a while I got used to it and eventually it stopped after people got used to seeing me with all that metal in my mouth," was the way one freshman felt about name-calling because of braces.

Yet there were highlights for the students having those bright silver tracks. Their smiles would be more appealing not only to themselves but to others. If their orthodontist appointment was made early enough, they could kill a few hours at the mall instead of taking that dreaded Chemistry test. Then, of course, if they were trying to diet, tightening up the ole' rubber bands cured any urge to chew food for the next three days.

So it was not all that bad. Braces were beautiful, or at least the end product would be. 'Till then . . . there was always the trip to Charleston

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