



# Students Find Special Friends

When springtime rolled around, many started planning for that special day. People from Colleton, Hampton, Beaufort, and Jasper counties came to the new track at Walterboro High to celebrate the Special Olympics.

Activities began in the morning, starting with the opening ceremony. This ceremony included the lighting of the Special Olympics torch

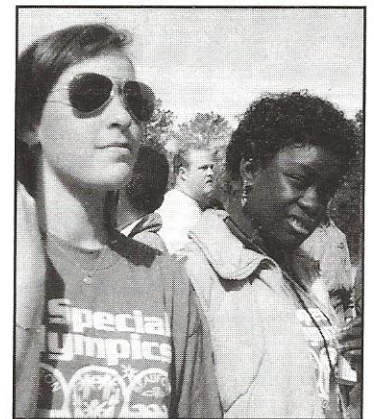
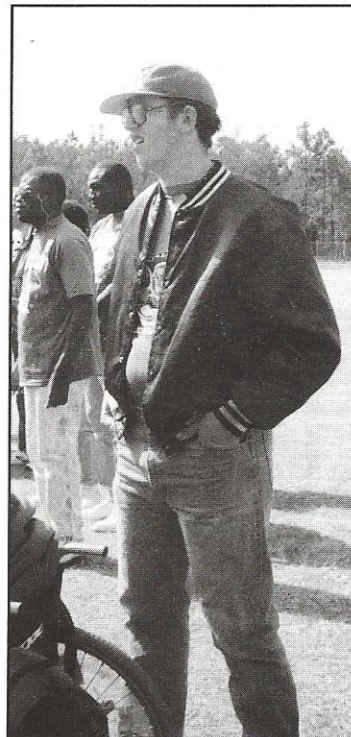
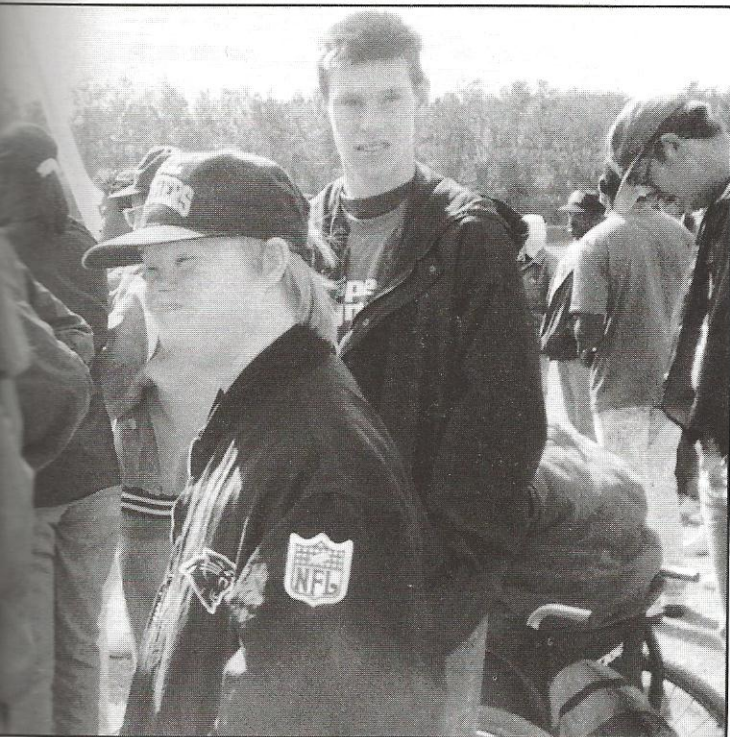
by meteorologist Bill Walsh and selected Colleton County law officers, the landing of two parachuters on the field, and the release of many balloons. Events then were underway, ranging from the softball throw to the 100 meter dash. In between events, participants and volunteers could have their faces painted.

At lunchtime, everyone received a bag lunch, including

a ham sandwich, an apple, candy, and a drink. They used this time for relaxation and satisfaction.

After lunch and the few remaining events, the closing ceremony gave the volunteers and participants a chance to say goodbye to new friends and to look forward to a year's wait for another special time.

— Lindsey E. Robertson



**Are you taking a picture of me?** Waiting for the green group to move the next event, volunteer Melissa Williamson and participant Victoria soak up some rays.

**When's my turn?** Participant Rufus Crosby waits for his turn to send a softball into the clouds at the softball throw.