



community

# Putting Yourself To The Test

## Handicapped Does Not Mean Helpless

What would it be like to go through life with a disability? Some students got the chance to find out at Columbia-Colleton Regional Hospital.

It all started when Mrs. Sue Keith requested some responsible students to participate in the Rehab Challenge. Mrs. Turner chose senior peer mediators giving them the chance to take part in the seminar.

The Rehab Challenge was an activity in which students found out

how they would deal with a random handicap that was given to them. The "challenge" consisted of completing a number of obstacles, which included eating ice cream.



One of the students that attended the seminar was Sara Rodriguez.

She remarked, "I only had to deal with my disabilities for a short while, but the experience made me realize how hard living with a handicap

must be."

Erin Davis, another attendant said, "It was an eye-opening experience. I didn't realize how horrible it would be to not be able to do the things I take for granted."

Those who participated in the Rehab Challenge came to a realization that they should be appreciative of how lucky they really are.

-Margaret Dresher



An exceptional person around the school, sixteen-year-old Debi Price was born on November 8, 1981. Her interests and hobbies include sports and reading.

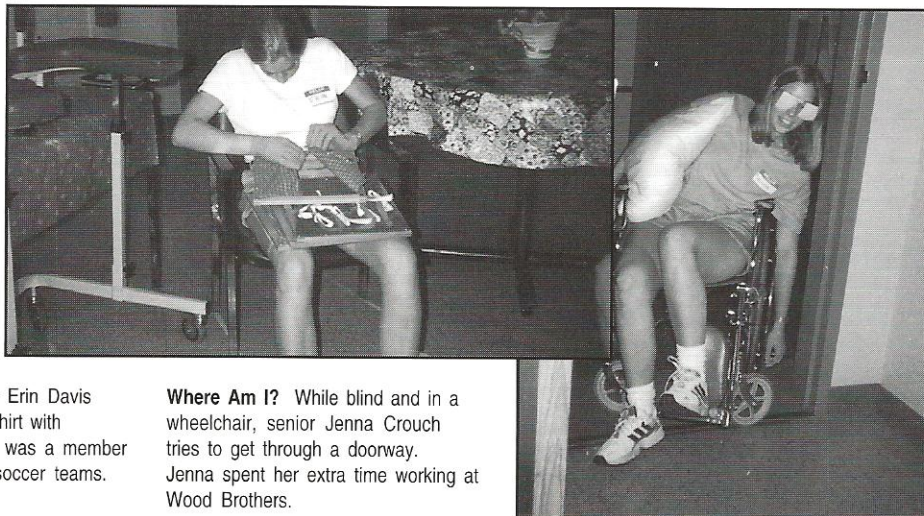
Debi's condition is called "brittle bones." It started when she was five months old when she broke her leg. It wasn't until the other leg broke that she was diagnosed with the disease.

Debi was home bound except for one class, which was chorus. She participated in the 1998 production of *The Music Man* and took classes such as Chemistry, English II, World History, and Spanish II. Being home bound and taking honors classes is tough, but Debi excelled in her classes. She plans to attend USC and go into the area of teaching physically handicapped students.

Debi said, "When I was younger people used to make fun of my condition, but that doesn't happen anymore. I would like to tell those people to not make fun of others, instead, get to know them because it could start a friendship."

Debi's exceptionally kind personality has brought her many friends, and anybody who knows her knows that she is an extraordinary person.

-Margaret Dresher



**Button It Up.** Senior Erin Davis struggles to button a shirt with disabled fingers. She was a member of the volleyball and soccer teams.

**Where Am I?** While blind and in a wheelchair, senior Jenna Crouch tries to get through a doorway. Jenna spent her extra time working at Wood Brothers.