

Recess

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on the blacktop part of the playground," said Sharen Duddy, recess day coordinator. "I think it helps keep the kids spread out where before they were pretty much congregating on one piece of playground equipment."

Kayla Kaufmann, a second grade student, said she and her friends like the new setup. "I love jumping rope," she said. "It's really fun to bounce around and jump up and down."

While some students were content to stay at a single play station for the whole free period, others spent their time testing each new activity. "I didn't play all of the games yet but I'm going to try them all because that's how I'll know what one I like best," said Jonathan Wallace, as he ran from the snail game to the marble square.

The idea has been such a hit, the PTO is adding three more recess day programs to the school calendar. "We want to do one more in the fall and two in the spring,"

said Duddy. "The kids really like it and it gives us a chance, as parents, to be more involved with the school."

Some parents were a little nervous about their role in the project but quickly found it to be a rewarding experience. "I never did this before so I didn't know what I was doing," said Kimberley Smith. "I thought I knew how to play hopscotch but then I was, like wait, can you put your hand on the ground when picking up your marker or not? But really this is so much fun, I love the kids and it's great to be out here doing things they like to do."

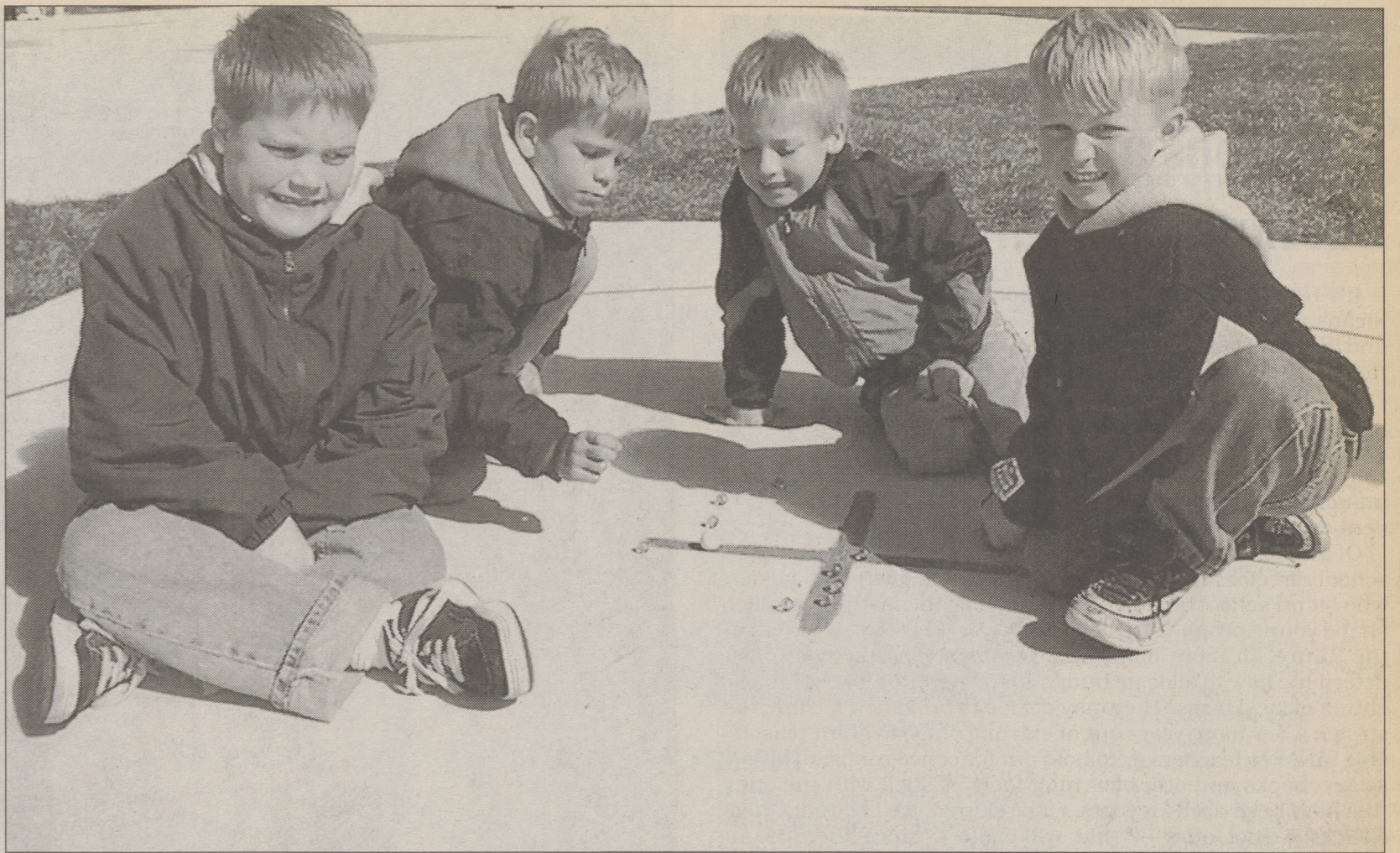
In addition to providing recreation and entertainment for kids and grownups alike, recess games allow children to learn valuable life skills. "These activities teach kids to be patient, to wait their turn and to share," said Duddy. "It's great for all those things."

Volunteering at recess day is also a great morale boost for parents, whose efforts frequently go unrecognized. "The kids love to see mom and dad at school," said Leslie Plesnar. "I wasn't able to do this last year but I'm happy I could be here this time. I didn't even have to go looking for my kids, as soon as the school doors opened they came running up to me for hugs."

Stacey Major, a fourth grade student, hopes there are many more events like this one. "It's cool," she said. "I wish we did this every day."

"I didn't even have to go looking for my kids, as soon as the school doors opened they came running up to me for hugs."

Leslie Plesnar
Dallas Elementary parent



Marking marbles, from left: Jason Crispell, Zachary Smith, Caleb Hufford and Jacob Hilstolsky.

"It's really fun to bounce around and jump up and down."

Kayla Kaufman
Second grade

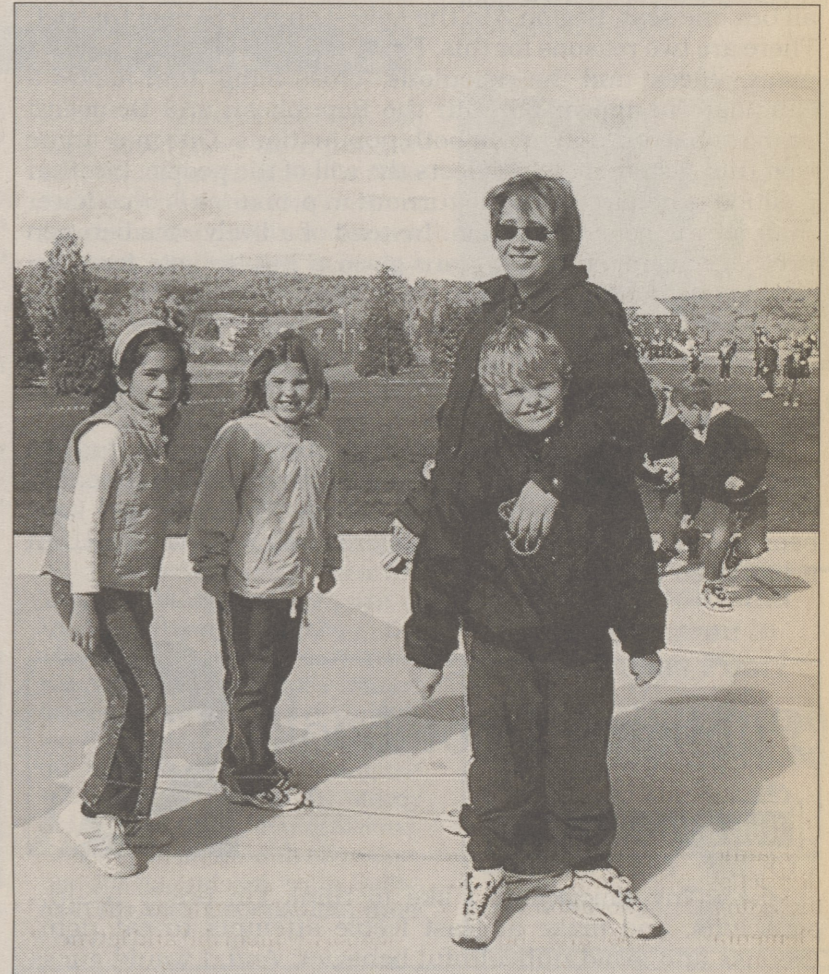


Trying to stay warm, from left, Jodi Bartorillo, Stevie Kioske, Mrs. Nadine Young and Chelsi Hunter.



POST PHOTOS/KASIA McDONOUGH

Olivia Dworak got hold of the ball, playing with Jon Laity, left, and Erik Westfield.



Dorreen Karrott watched over, from left, Kimberly Coscia, Samantha Hinson and Steven Shatrowskas.

Sweet Valley Church plans spiritual revival

The Sweet Valley Church of Christ will host a fall revival Nov. 7-10. Ken Henderson, Executive Director of Teen Mission USA, will coordinate a 5-part discussion on the presence of the Holy Spirit. The revival will begin at Sunday Morning Worship Services, Nov. 7. Additional meetings will be held Monday, Nov. 8, Wed., Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. A nursery will be provided. Call 477-2320 for information and directions.

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