

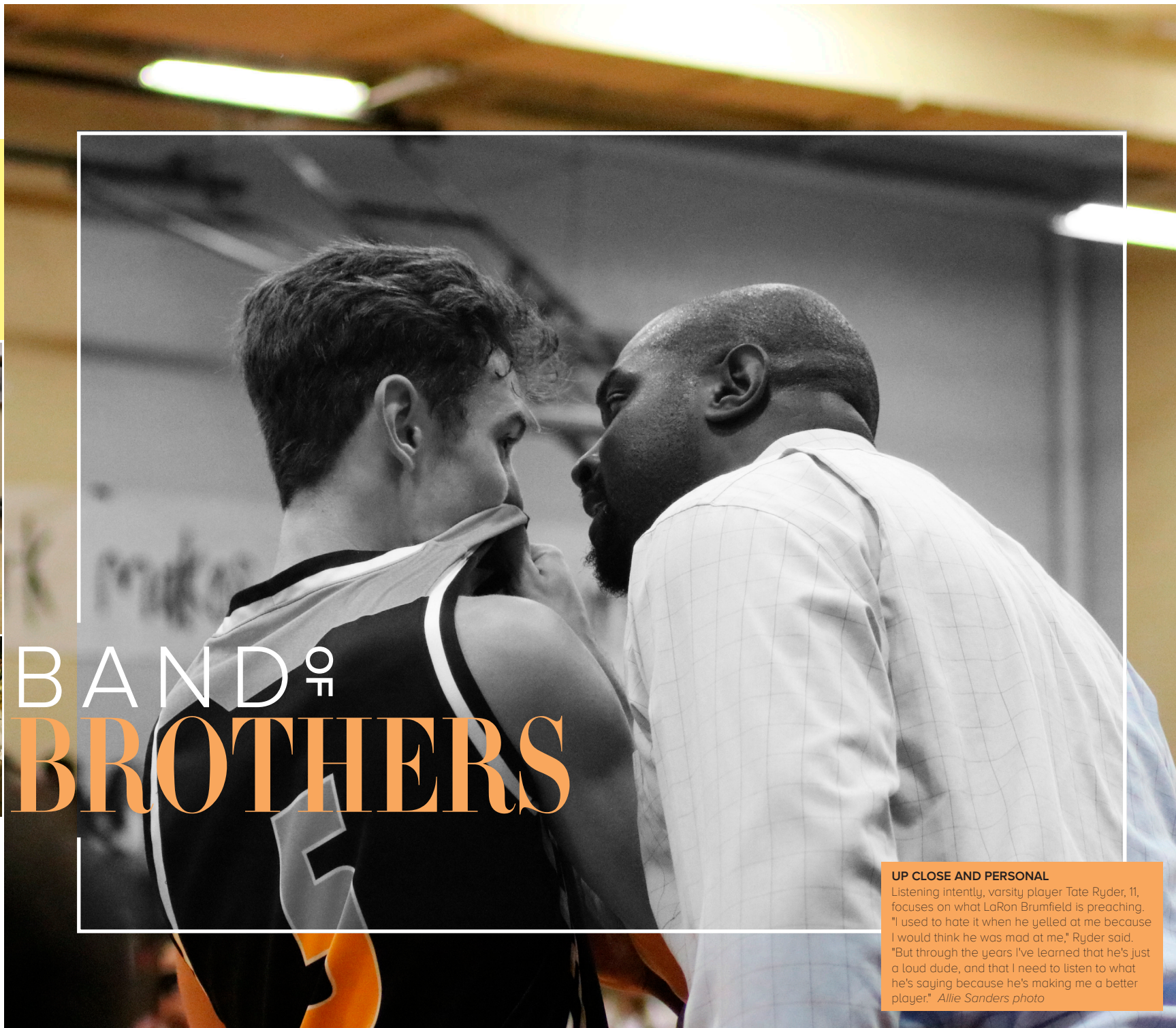
"I have to have a 'Hot and Spicy' sandwich with an orange Fanta and then come back and take a nap. After that, I'm ready to play."
JAYLAN REDMOND, 11



HE SHOOTS, HE SCORES
 Focusing on the goal above him, Kent Gilbert, 10, prepares to shoot. "I really just try to focus on not letting my teammates down," Gilbert said. "I bring all my attention to the rim, bring my shoulders forward, and just follow through."
Caroline Simpson photo

CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES
 Celebrating a shot against Hattiesburg High, Nicholas Paige, 10, cheers on his team's accomplishments from the sides. "I already knew the shot was made before it got in the net," Paige said. "My adrenaline was just going."
Caroline Simpson photo

BAND BROTHERS



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL
 Listening intently, varsity player Tate Ryder, 11, focuses on what LaRon Brumfield is preaching. "I used to hate it when he yelled at me because I would think he was mad at me," Ryder said. "But through the years I've learned that he's just a loud dude, and that I need to listen to what he's saying because he's making me a better player."
Allie Sanders photo

players share their favorite ways to get ready for a game **pre-game rituals**

"I have to listen to music that will get me hyped up for the game, so I probably listen to rap the most."
BRANDON GWIN, 10

"Praying and my pre-workout is essential, then I go chill out and watch JV play."
JERIC FRANKLIN, 11

"I take a real good nap and then I'm ready to play."
RUSSELL SHELTON, 9



SWISH
 In a tournament against Petal, Noah Harris, 12, shoots and scores two free throws, gaining the Warriors two points. Harris averages 12 points per game.
Kamron Mitchell photo

STEPH CURRY WITH THE SHOT
 Surrounded by Hattiesburg High players, Blake Roberts, 10, shoots a basket. "I have to create my own space, and find an open spot so that I can make the shot," Roberts said. "It can take a lot of practice to get the hang of it, but it's rewarding when you finally do."
Caroline Simpson photo

JUMP BALL
 Starting off a rivalry game against Petal, Noah Harris, 12, Kobie Stevenson, 12, and Blake Roberts, 10, attempt to get the ball on their side of the court to give them the upper hand. "I'm on the side of jump ball," Stevenson said. "I always think about the play that's about to happen before it happens."
Kamron Mitchell photo



NOAH HARRIS
 "I'll miss the feeling I get after a big win when I know the team's hard work put us over the top."



ORLANDO SIMON
 "I'm really gonna miss doing something good with a great group of guys."



AWASIS STREET
 "I will miss the friendships with the players that I've made over the past four years."



KJ MCGRUDER
 "I think I'll miss getting to play the game with my teammates."



DEVIN LAWRENCE
 "I'm gonna miss my teammates and Coach Brumfield for sure."



KOBIE STEVENSON
 "I will miss the memories, the brotherhood, and the love we have for each other."

take ME BACK

Seniors recall what they will miss most about high school basketball