

# Scotty showed creative side at an early age

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JMS, sings in the choir, and is the guy who makes everyone laugh with his quick wit and unconventional sarcasm.

## 'Veggie' tales

The quirks started early. "I talked at 10 months. But I didn't walk until I was 18 months ... not sure what that was all about," Scotty says.

Just recently, he says, he and his parents, Andy and Mary Meiser, of Mifflin, uncovered a journal his parents had kept of Scotty's earliest remarks.

"One time I apparently asked my mom a question when I was like three. I said, 'Mom, how smart am I?' And she said, 'I don't know Scotty, how smart ARE you?' and I said, 'I know. I am smarter than a tomato walking down Main Street!'"

He rolls his eyes at the apparent humor in the story and shrugs his shoulders.

Scotty's creativity continued into elementary school as he learned to read and write.

Scotty was intrigued by the PBS program Reading Rain-

bow. The show's host, Levar Burton announced a writing contest for kids. Scotty was determined to submit something.

"Which I did not win anything," he is quick to add, "I wrote some story about aliens ..."

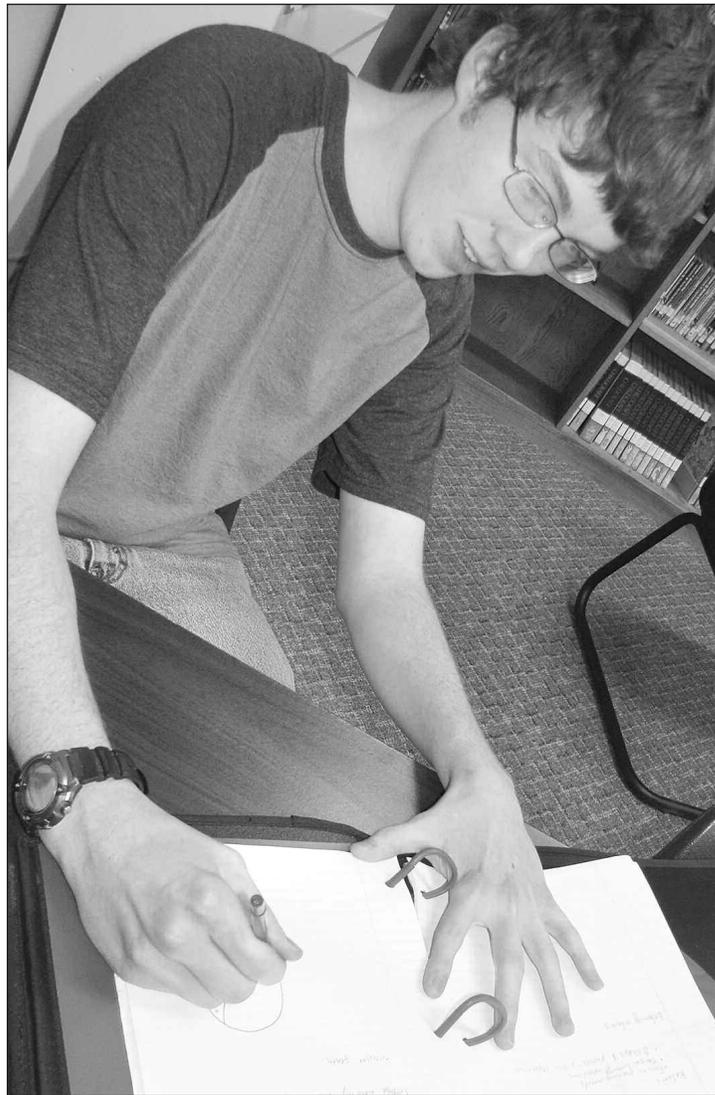
Mary Jo Barner was Scotty's third grade teacher at JMS. At age 8 years, the red-haired boy was more than just a class clown. He had some wit.

"His hilarious running commentary on everything had me straight faced and scolding him on the outside, while dying laughing on the inside!"

Even though he admits his attention span is short, grades "have been my achievement." He has a strong "A" average and is working toward the possibility of becoming valedictorian and jokes about his chances since his senior class has fewer than 20 people.

The margins of his class notes have cartoon-like doodles of aliens, animals and any other creature that comes to mind and has nothing to do with what he is learning.

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*Sentinel photo by TABITHA GOODLING*

Seventeen-year-old Scotty Meiser sketches one of his 'cartoons.'

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— Mary Jo Barner, Scotty's 3rd grade teacher

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