

# THE BRIDGE

West Chicago Community High School Vol. 3, No. 4 November 6, 1973



Recently there have been several false fire alarms at WCCHS. After strict warning from the office, they still continued. Perhaps, it might have been accidental, but then it should have been reported as such. If this is someone's idea of a joke, the fire department doesn't consider it as being very funny.

Pulling a fire alarm intentionally without just cause, that person will be fined. One of the staff members at WCCHS said the individual fire alarm has to be reset after it has been pulled. In this case, if a false alarm occurred, then a real fire started before that individual alarm was reset, it could not be sounded. If this happened, someone might die in the time it would take to go to another alarm and pull it! If some-

one died because of that, then it wouldn't be funny at all!

The ambulance driver who came to one of the recent false alarms gave his views of the false alarms. He said that it was terrible to have the false alarms set because if there happened to be a real fire, maybe no one would come.

Some of the viewpoints around school about the false alarms were these: "It is really stupid that it is being done. Someone is doing it just to say they've done it. In the future if we continue to have these kinds of incidents, I hope that the amount of time staying after school doubles until the false alarms stop." "It's

dumb to keep the students after school, because the ones that are pulling the alarms probably have Off Campus anyway!" "When they kept people after school, it helped to find a culprit."

There were different viewpoints about the false alarms, but probably everyone's viewpoint would be the same if someone were seriously hurt or if someone died because of someone's idea of a joke.

Perhaps if someone was trapped inside when there is a real alarm, then would it be so funny?

by Mary Weyrauch

## VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

On the afternoon of Friday, November 9th, at 3:00, the annual Veteran's Day Assembly will be held in Weyrauch Auditorium. This assembly will be voluntary. It will last approximately half an hour, and includes several speeches and selections by the orchestra. The assembly will be different from those in the past, in that the A Capella choir will not perform. The subject of the assembly was discussed in choir, but many of the students did not think it was necessary to perform. Most of the students agreed that a per-

formance by the choir would make the program too long. A vote was taken and the majority did not want to participate.

The speeches in the program will be given by Lou Anne Beardsley, Bessie Bello, Joanne Benesh, and Tom Sampson. All these students will write their own material; presenting their thoughts on the significance of the day.

The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Gene Haney, will present several selections. One of these selec-

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interview

# THE LIBRARY'S MR. WICKS



If people were to stay on their own path and not step on other peoples' rights and stop violating them, this school would be in better shape, and of course, there would be more to offer.

Like what goes on in the Learning Center at WCCHS; the continuous theft of books. Mr Jerry Wicks cares a lot, trying to prevent and hopefully stop the loss of books each year. "Usually the good and new books get stolen right away, at least two a day," says librarian Mr. Wicks.

"In the school year 1971-72 an-estimated loss of 1300 books was totaled and with

an estimated cost of \$10 a book, cost the school \$1300. Last year 292 books were missing. That's why many books are kept behind the desk. There was a \$500 replacement of the things that were stolen last year," claimed Mr. Wicks.

Also other rights have been stepped on, such as tearing up and unscrewing of furniture, writing on and clipping out pages in magazines and books, and more noise than is needed in the Learning Center.

Prevention of theft and vandalism in the Learning Center is a costly problem. "One of the ways that would surely stop the stealing of books is to buy a special system, in which a buzzer goes off every time a book is taken out of here without being checked out. But this certain system would cost around \$10,000 to be put in.

Another means of prevention is locker checks." At least 55 books are found per locker check. Mr. Wicks dosen't prefer this method, but says that "there has to be some-

thing done to slow down the theft of books." If anyone is caught with a book and not intending to check it out, he will be sent to the Dean and "certain action will be taken."

Every year Mr. Wicks puts in a wide selection of books and magazines. This year he has added 350 new books. If anyone would like to suggest a book for the Learning Center Mr. Wicks will try to honor their wishes. Also this year he has added new encyclopedias, including a 13-volume animal series, and a set of Spanish encyclopedias. Mr. Wicks is also announcing plans to get a tape deck and start a pop record collection. He is trying to add more things of interest to the students.

"If students want these things, one rule they should remember is not to violate or step, on the rights of others, because nothing will be accomplished by the foolish mistakes that are made."

by Karen Hill

## THE BRIDGE Photographer Injured

A fall sustained on Wednesday, October 17, has taken Chris Deitz out of the part of "Buddy" in the All-School Play, "Come Blow Your Horn."

Joel Murphy, who is also Student Director of the play, is taking over as the youngest son in the production. Says director Mrs.

Marge Macey, "I'm sure he will do a fine job in both capacities."

The change came about when it became apparent that Chris would be hospitalized for an indefinite length of time due to a disc injury. Since the production is scheduled for November 9 and 10, it was necessary to find a replacement immediatly. There were only three boys trying out for three male

parts, therefore three were no understudies who could be assigned the role. Because the change did occur so suddenly during the second week of rehearsal, time did not permit a second series of auditions. Joel was the unanimous choice, as it was impossible for one actor to portray two roles.

by Joan Horzich

# Editorial apathy

Remember apathy? That illness which used to afflict students before the era of activism. It's surfacing in our high school again today; with it an old-fashioned cure - a good, strong dose of school spirit. The kind that's identified with the 1950's. Whether this is nostalgia, an effort to regain innocence, or a pastime prompted by a death of popular causes, I don't know.

Costume parties where we dance to songs that are almost as old as we are, can be fun. The old days of crew cuts and ponytails were harmless enough. But the minute we start referring to the fifties as "the good old days" watch out. They weren't all that we're cracking them up to be. Sure, it was a time of innocence and idealism. But many kids then also lived in a fantasy land in which young people were bound by strict male/female roles and complacent attitudes.

In the early sixties we woke up and were forced to fact the traumas of the "real world." Missile crisis, assassinations, race riots war, poverty touched our lives directly, even if we didn't understand them. Our naivete died, but I think something better was born. Our growing awareness and concern were worth a thousand times more than the superficial school spirit we lost.

The trouble is that everybody seems to have a different idea of what school spirit really is. To some,

rah-rah, go-team-go enthusiasm is the only legitimate sort. For many kids, interest means being active in school affairs like clubs and student government. And for others, spirit is caring about our school and one another. This kind is not always flashy, but it is the most meaningful and it has grown in recent year. All that's needed is more urging to bring it out in the open.

## VOICE

I agree with the girl who wrote about distrust in your recent issue. Imagine making us show our I.D.'s to get into the library! Paraprofessionals roaming the halls ready to pounce on any likely-looking students. You would think we were prison inmates. I feel guilty just walking down the halls. I will admit I'm a freshman. We were told that High School would be fun by the faculty. How can it be fun when police are breathing down our necks!?

Indignant!!!

THE BRIDGE comment: We agree that the school often takes on the appearances of a prison; but, perhaps, we are in large measure the ones that sentence ourselves. Thousands of dollars worth of books have been "lost" from the library (see interview, page 2). Students roam the parking lots in spite of the rules. The lunch room is the sight of daily misuse by thoughtless children. Vandalism causes great expense for the school, both in terms of time and money (see Vol. 2, No. 12, March 30, 1973 in The Bridge). Perhaps the

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## Book Review

The New Centurions, a book written by Joseph Wambaugh is a nationwide bestseller.

This novel portrays today's lawlessness and how the police must cope. It leads you down the streets to the gangs of rioters, prostitutes, robbers and murderers. It has its full share of sex and violence but in this case they ring true.

Joseph Wambaugh has been a street cop for ten years. He writes of the experiences he knows so well. The policemen he writes about are the men who almost alone are responsible for whatever stability and decency survives.

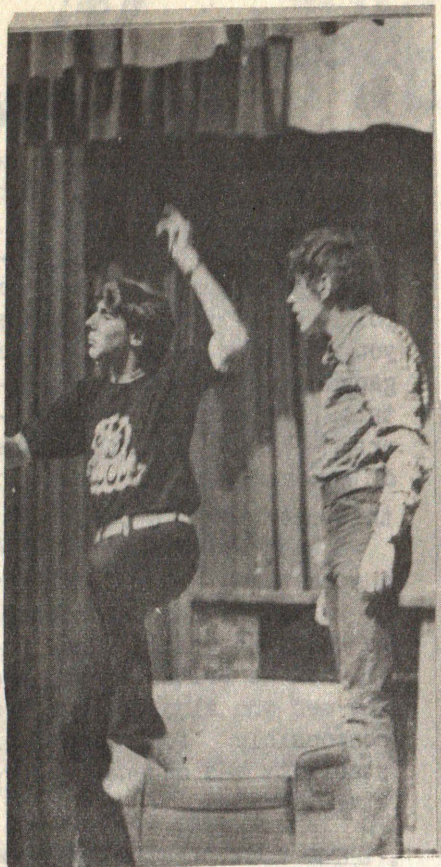
The book begins at the Los Angeles Police Academy where the men learn to struggle with whatever will come their way. When they graduate from the Academy they go out into the jungles of Los Angeles and its vicinity.

Before this book finishes in a terribly tragic burst of gunfire, the reader has been taken through a world that he didn't really know existed.

In this reporter's opinion, this book is excellent reading. Its true adventures hold the readers interest through each exciting and authentically different chapter.

Do you like cops? Read The New Centurions. Do you hate cops? Read The New Centurions. It will take you into the hearts and minds, the nerves and guts of other human beings.

by Pam Snyder



## Come BLOW a horn for FREEDOM

Rehearsals are getting fewer, the casts (there are two) are working hard, and the play seems to be coming off the ground. The general consensus of the casts seems to be, that the beginning rehearsals lagged, but have now definitely picked up.

Joel Murphy is the student director. One of the responsibilities of the student director is to fill in if a character gets sick and who consequently, doesn't have an understudy. Well, Joel got his big chance to fill this roll, since Chris Deitz (who was to play Buddy, one of the leads), blacked-out and fell down the stairs here at school. He was then taken to the hospital and placed in traction. Joel then took over and he seems to like his

character very much.

The play is a satire with some very interesting character changes. Some of them through various incidents take on personality traits that are not like the ones which they begin with. For instance Buddy has led a very secluded life and turns out to be a swinger.

The cast likes the play very much and most agree that a comedy is a good change and has a greater audience appeal. They are extremely optimistic toward the final product; the performance.

The actors and actresses are: Steve Borchert as Alan ; Joel Murphy as Buddy; Jim Nixon as their father Harry Baker; Peggy Bloxam as Aunt Gussie; Paula Prutzman (cast 1) and Carol Murray (2) as Peggy; Sue Ashmont (2) and Kathy Farson (1) as Connie and Jill Murphy (1) and Margie Iuro (2) as Mrs. Baker.

The performances are Friday, November 9 and Saturday November 10 at 8:00 p.m. ; cast 1 and 2 will play, respectively. Admission is \$1.00 and \$1.50. Rehearsals prove that the performances are very promising, so come and see the play.

by Marilyn Morales

## Deutsch- Klassen

Pläne! Pläne!

Was machen die Deutsch-Klassen dieses Jahr? Der Deutsch - Tisch hat schon begonnen. Zweimal haben wir echtes deutsches Essen gehabt. Hoffentlich gibt es noch mehr davon.

Im November macht eine Gruppe eine Milwaukee-Fahrt, um das internationale Volks-

## US

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Halloween

Halloween is the time of year  
for every youngster to run, scream and cheer  
To run, scream and cheer is what they do  
for some lucky fellow has scared them with a  
Boo.

October 31st is the time for the dead  
So the father of the house said.  
Their are witches and demons and goblin a glow  
Now run children run children go, go, go.  
To every house you'll urn with your feet  
With laughs and giggles you'll have had  
a defeat.

Scaring the ghosts away with a chime  
Now go to your rooms now, its beddy bye time  
Now with your dreams you'll remember  
and here

I can wait to be a ghost next year

Mike Campagna

CREATIVE WRITING



There's this guy I really like in my French class. Just when he was paying attention to me a new girl comes into our class and starts monopolizing him. How can I get his attention back?

Cut-In Cn

It sounds to me,  
For what it's worth,  
You fear the competition.

Take my advise:  
The best results  
Will come when you impress him.

dear CAR(O)L

Looking at a reflection  
I know I see me

But what if your reflection reflected  
nothing you wanted to see?

Oh, but there's no hope. For you  
can not escape from what you are

I say you can run and hide  
But can you really go very far?

What you are is what you'll  
always be

Even though your reflection  
is not what you wanted to see.

Sakoren

I'm so mixed up inside  
I hope that I can tide  
Myself over through the night.  
It does seem awful long to me  
And I know it's wrong to be  
All tied up this way.

Seems like only yesterday I  
Cried I don't know why  
Asked me what was wrong  
I lied  
I just think that I might die  
But why, I dont know why  
Sigrid

a rock  
steadfast - true  
abounding in  
earthliness, care  
and  
love  
mew

Wally is a walrus,  
his fame is known far and wide,  
of how he saved an igloo,  
An eskimo and his hide.

It was a snowy day back in 64'  
The worst they'd seen in years  
Wally was in a barroom  
sucking on frozen beers;  
When an eskimo entered,  
(His name was Dan)  
And told of an incredible thing-  
The invincible; the incinerated-monster-snow-man  
Was gonna eat our eskimo Dan,  
Brave Wally the walrus knew what was wrong,  
So he tweaked his ear,  
And gave the monster a beer,  
And cooked the eskimo in a pan.

Tracey Baum

# CAMPUS COLLOQUY

(A one-time professor, editor, World War II serviceman in the South Pacific, and Pulitzer Prize winner, James A. Michener has brought a whole new dimension to the world of literature. One of the most prolific and exciting writers of the last three decades, Mr. Michener has authored such best-selling novels as Hawaii, Caravans, Theria, and The Drifters.)

Don't be too calculating. Don't be too scientific. Don't let the Shrinks terrify you or dictate the movements of your life.

There is a divine irrelevance in the universe and many men and women win through to a sense of greatness in their lives by stumbling and fumbling their way into patterns that gratify them to utilize their endowments to the maximum.

If Swarthmore College in 1925 had employed even a half-way decent guidance counselor, I would have spent my life as an assistant professor of education in some midwestern university. Because when I reported to college it must have been apparent to everyone that I was destined for some kind of academic career. Nevertheless, I was allowed to take Spanish

which leads to nothing, instead of French or German, which as everyone knows are important languages studied by serious students who wish to gain a Ph.D.

I cannot tell you how often I was penalized for having taken a frivolous language like Spanish instead of a decent, self-respecting tongue like French. In the end, I sacrificed my academic career.

Instead, I continued to putter around with Spanish and found a deep affinity for it. In the end, I was able to write a book about Spain which will probably live longer than anything else I've done. In other words, I blindly backed into a minor masterpiece. There are thousands of people competent to write about France, and if I had taken that language in college I would have been prepared to add no new ideas to general knowledge. It was Spanish that opened up for me a whole new universe of concepts and ideas.

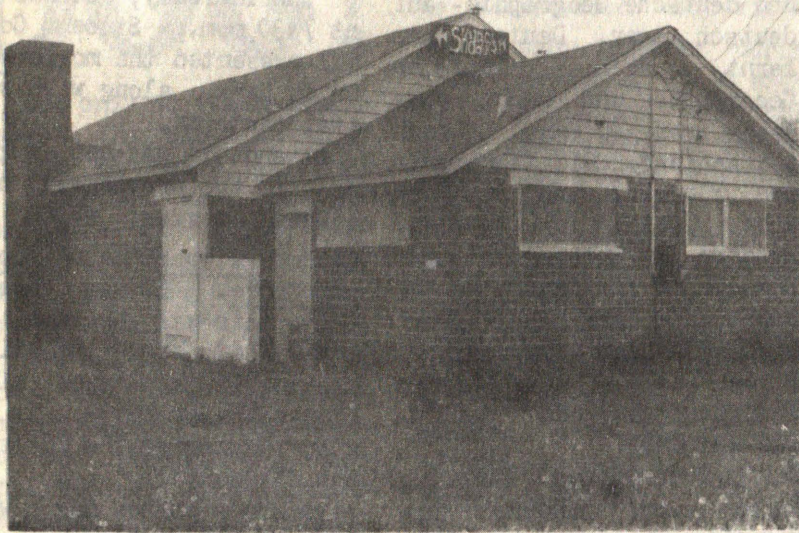
I wrote nothing until I was forty. This tardy beginning, one might say this delinquency, stemmed from the fact that I had spent a good deal of my early time knocking around this country and Europe, trying to find out what I believed in, what values were large enough to enlist my sympathies during what I sensed would be a long and confused life. Had I committed myself at age eighteen, as I was encouraged to do, I would not even have known the parameters of the problem, and any choice I might have made then would have had to be wrong.

It took me forty years to find out the facts.

As a consequence, I have never been able to feel anxiety about young people who are fumbling their way toward the enlightenment that will keep them going. I doubt that a young man -- unless he wants to be a doctor or a research chemist, where a substantial body of specific knowledge must be mastered within a prescribed time -- can waste time, regardless of what he does. I believe you have till age thirty-five to decide finally on what you are going to do, and that any exploration you pursue in the process will in the end turn out to have been creative.

Indeed, it may well be the year that observers describe as "wasted" that will prove to have been the most productive of those insights which will keep you going. The trip to Egypt. The two years spent working as a runner for a bank. The spell you spent on the newspaper in Idaho. Your apprenticeship at a trade. These are the ways in which a young man ought to spend his life ... the ways of waste that lead to true intelligence.

Two more comments. Throughout my life I have been something of an idealist optimist, so it is startling for me to discover that recently I have become downright Nietzschean! I find that the constructive work of the world is done by an appallingly small percentage of the general population. The rest simply don't give a damn...or they grow tired...or they failed to acquire when young the ideas that would vitalize them for the long decades.



# SHADRACKS

by  
Lisa  
Becker

Are you bored Friday and Saturday nights? Do you find yourself doing the same thing week after week? Try going to Shadracks one evening. Shadracks is located in the center of Reed Keppeler Park by the large parking lot and is open every Friday and Saturday nights

at 7:30. There is a small cover charge of 50¢ at the door.

Shadracks was started in the basement of the West Chicago Bible Church. Then it was held in Christ the King Seminary. It was finally moved to the empty scout cabin in the park on January

of 1972.

There is approximately 20 qualified people on staff there. To be on staff, an application is to be filled out and you must have a talk with the manager or the board chairman. Most staff members are college students but there are a few high school staff members. The chairman of the board at Shadracks is John Ross of Batavia. There are two co-managers this fall, Tom Fowler and Gene Johnson.

Shadracks is a place to go when you have nothing else to do. If you want to be entertained you can go there also. Or if you just need someone to talk to, there is always someone to talk to.

At Shadracks, there has been many local singers, groups, and silent films. In the future Shadracks would like to show popular films but that would mean many people would have to attend. A variety of food is sold but since this is a non-profit organization, no money is made off the food.

Shadracks would like anyone in high school or older to feel free to drop in.

## CAMPUS COLLOQUY

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I am not saying that they don't matter. They count as among the most precious items on earth. But they cannot be depended upon either to generate necessary new ideas or put them into operation if someone else generates them. Therefore those men and women who do have the energy to form new constructs and new ways to implement them must do the work of many. I believe it to be an honorable aspiration to want to be among those creators.

Final comment. I was about forty when I retired from the rat race, having satisfied myself that I could handle it if I had to. I saw then a man could count his life a success if he survived -- merely survived -- to age sixty-five without having ended up in jail (because he couldn't adjust to the minimum laws that society requires) or having landed in the booby hatch (because he could not bring his personality into harmony with the personalities of others).

I believe this now without question. Income, position, the opinion of one's friends, the judgement of one's peers and all the other traditional criteria by which human beings are generally judged are for the birds. The only question is, "Can you hang on through the crap they throw at you and not lose your freedom or your good sense?"

I am now sixty-four and three quarters, and it's beginning to look as if I may make it. If I do, what ever happens beyond that is on the house...and no concern to me.

## assembly

cont'd. from p. 1

tions. One of these selections will be the Civil War Suite, which is a medley of tunes from the Civil War. Another number will be Victioy At Sea, by Richard Rodgers, which is the music from an MBC documentary series of the same name. Mr. Haney will play the traditional "Taps" which will be echoed by Steve Borchers.

Because of the lack of student intrest and participation the Veteran's Day Assembly might be a community project in the future.

by Diane Taylor

## deutschklassen

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fest zu besuchen. Unsere deutsches Austauschstudentin fährt auch mit. Wir können viel Deutsch sprechen.

Später gehen wir nach Chicago ins deutsche Kino. Wir werden natürlich alles verstehen!!

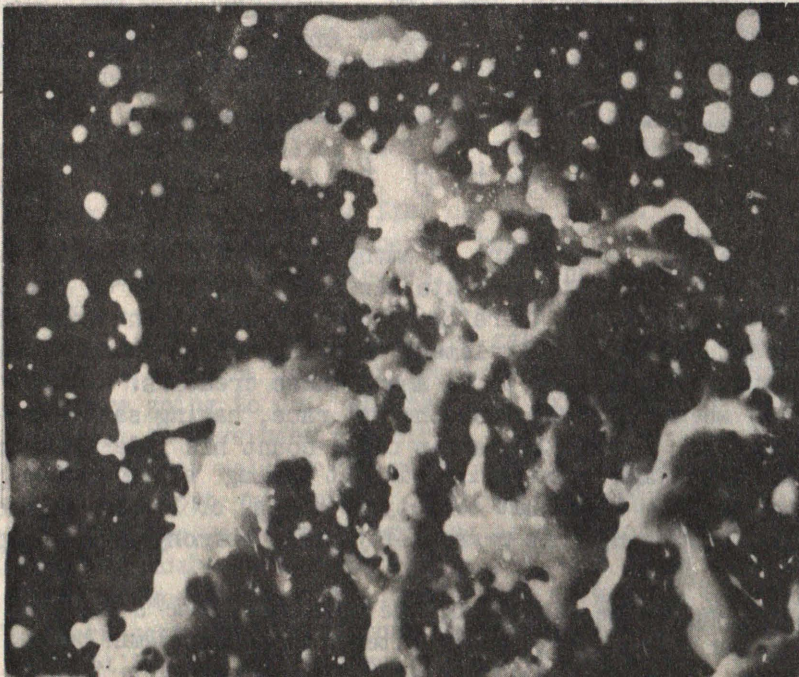
Dieses Jahr liest eine Klasse deutsche Geschichte und deutsche Geographie- auf deutsch sogar. Deutsch Eins lernt auch deutsche Geographie und macht eine Reise von O'Hare nach Deutschland. Sie fahren mit dem Flugzeug und sind in acht Stunden in München. München ist interessant und schon, aber sie fahren weiter nach Freiburg, Heidelberg und dann den Rhein hinab. Bevor sie zuruckkommen besuchen sie auch Berlin-Ost und West.

Auch Language Sampling fährt nach Munchen und besucht ein paar andere interessante deutsche Städte.

Reisen in der Klasse sind schon und gut, aber hoffentlich können wir alle einmal wirklich nach Deutschland fahren.

H-O-F-F-E-N-T-L-I-C-H!!!

Use THE BRIDGE mailbox outside of room 300.



The student offering the best description of this photograph will receive free admission to the first home basketball game and the first wrestling meet.

# MOVIE

On Thursday, October 25, at 7:30 p.m., Student Council presented the movie Wait Until Dark, along with several cartoons.

Attendance was not as good as at the previously held council movies, which included Airport and Bonnie and Clyde. It was thought that this was because the movie had been televised previously and was aired that night at 10:30. It was also playing at the Pheasant Run Playhouse.

Doormen at the movie were Mr. Charles Greenberg and Mrs. Mary Jane Waitace. According to them, there was little disturbance during the film, probably due to the fact that most people were extremely interested in the film.

Most of the students that attended the movie were underclassmen. Some of their reactions were: "It was a good show. I'd never seen it before." "It was okay but it should have been scheduled better." "I wish we could have a really new movie sometime soon."

The receipts of the movie totaled \$55, with the price of the movie being \$57, plus the cost of the cartoons, no profit was made on the event.

by Robin LaVictiore

VOICE cont'd from page 3  
school will allow us to have "fun" when we decide that our "fun" shouldn't be disruptive.



# HOT DOG!

Not only do the football players, the marching band, and the pom-pon girls play as important part in the home games at WCCHS, but also the members of IRO who spend their Friday nights working dilligently in one of two booths at the south end of the track. It is the members of this organization who are responsible for supplying the spectators of the games with hot dogs, candy, and other assorted

But IRO has a lot more to it than just working in a concession stand. Everyone participating in it has a past-time job that they must

report to each day they attend school. These jobs range all the way from working at a bank to being a sales-clerk. This provides on-the-job training as well as class-room experience which they recieve during either second or third hour. In this class they hold group discussions as well as calculate their previous day's earnings.

At the beginning of the year, officers were chosen to represent the IRO Program with results as follows: Don Rowan, president; Mark Cowart, Vice president; Janet Adeszko, secretary; Kathy Sickinger, treasurer; and Kathy Stonequist, historian.

by Kerry DuCharme

# NO #20

"West Chicago will never beat us."

That was a quote from a sycamore fan after they defeated the conference champion Wildcats last year.

There have been fans here at West Chicago who were ready to agree with him. But the "Jinx" is finally gone.

The We-Go Varsity defeated the Spartains 20-6 on the Sycamore team's home field.

"Everybody hoped this year would be the year to win," remarked one We-Go fan after the Wildcats beat their arch rivals for the first time in twenty years.

We-Go drew blood on the very first offensive series. Tom Truitt scored on a seven yard reverse over the left side of the line.

We-Go scored again on the very next offensive series. The defense forced a punt that was blocked, and landed on the Sycamore ten yard line. On the next play, Scott Hall sneaked in for a touchdown. Henry Antes scored a two point conversion, and We-Go jumped out to a quick 14-0 lead, which followed the Cats to the half-time locker room.

We-Go's lead was cut to eight points when Sycamore broke lose on a 75 yard touchdown.

But the Cats came back with a 10 minute, 93 yard drive that Coach Paul Unruh later said it, "Broke their back." The score came on a pass from quarterback Hall to halfback Joe Alaniz.

was the longest scoring drive of the year for the Wildcats and made the final score 20-6.

## volley ball

GRA is starting off another year of volleyball. The season consists of three home games and five away games.

Last year the A team was two for two and the B team was two for two. This year the team is trying even harder to win the Little Seven Conference for GRA

Volleyball. The conference Sports Day was held at West Chicago last year. The team's first game will be against Batavia, on November 20, there, at 7:00 p.m.

From a previously large turnout, there are now only 18 players.

by Sandy Rameriz

## gra playnight

The first in a series of GRA playnights was held on Friday evening, October 19. Activities included ping-pong, volleyball, badminton and basketball, with both gyms being in use. While the main purpose of these activities is to raise money for the Girls Recreation Association, which give annual scholarships, they also provide a night of entertainment for everyone.

