

# Will We-go remain a nuclear dump?

by Robin Marvin

The decision on how to dispose of the radioactive wastes at Kerr-McGee is in its final days. This month is the set time in which the courts and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will decide if the wastes should be moved off-site or buried on-site. Jan Strasma, an official with the NRC branch in Glen Ellyn, said of the probability of the wastes being moved. "If West Chicago is worried (about the danger) so would any other location that would receive it."

The Kerr-McGee facility, located in the proximity of Ann and Factory streets, is a 43 acre site that is contaminated with thorium. A low-level radioactive chemical, thorium can be converted to uranium 233, an atomic fuel used in gas purification, vacuum systems, and as a scavenger with other metals. Thorium has been used on the site since it was first built in 1931 by the Lindsay Light and Chemical Company. Lindsay used the mill for the extraction of thorium and nonradioactive elements from such ores as monarite. During World War II

the site was used to produce hydrofluoric acids, mesothorium, and gaslight mantles, which also contain thorium. American Potash and Chemical took charge of the site from 1958 until 1967 when Kerr-McGee took over the plant. In 1973 the plant was shut down.

The Atomic Energy Act of 1954 says that the producers of thorium, a radioactive material, are subject to federal regulation. When under the ownership of Lindsay, the facility received a license to produce and handle thorium and thorium compounds. This license was later transferred to Kerr-McGee, who continues to be licensed by the NRC under the authority granted by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974.

As written in the **Draft Environmental Statement**, May 1982, a NRC-Kerr-McGee report. "As a result of years of operation with radioactive materials, the equipment and buildings at the site are contaminated with thorium, and the disposal site contain relatively large quantities of residual materials."

Kerr-McGee was ordered to draw up a plan to decommission the site in 1977. The

NRC rejected the first plan, dated December 21, 1978 as being inadequate. However, Kerr-McGee's next proposed plan of August 1978 was found suitable for review by the NRC. After many revisions since, Kerr-McGee has offered several alternatives in disposing of the wastes. The company has also offered to help in the clean up of contaminated soil from Reed-Keppler Park and in the Kress Creek area.

The NRC reports that the removal of wastes had begun in conjunction with Argon National Laboratories, and that the remaining wastes are those with the greatest radioactivity. Basically six alternatives were proposed. Alternative I is the favored Kerr-McGee plan calling for permanent on-site storage in which the wastes would be segregated in three adjacent areas. Alternative III asks for licensed on-site disposal, which actually adds another five years of waiting, before a final decision on where to put the wastes is made. Off-site disposal within the state or Alternative IV would allow the contaminated material to be hauled to private dumps within the state itself. Alternative V is another off-site dis-

posal proposition which would mean shipping contaminants to Nevada or Washington to federally licensed dumps. Finally the sixth alternative is to keep the facility intact, which opposition from West Chicago City government wouldn't allow.

According to the **Draft Environmental Statement** the most costly would be Alternative V, out of state disposal, at \$84,900,000. The least expensive was permanent on-site disposal, or Alternative II at 11 million.

The latest affliction West Chicago has encountered with Kerr-McGee is in the delay of Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA) funds for the West Chicago-Winfield regional sewer plant. Sometime before 1950 the city used some fill from Kerr-McGee to fill an unused settling tank. The detection of thorium on the new sewer plant site has caused the EPA to delay the release of funds. The project will not be able to begin in 1983 even if the funds are released soon.

So it may be years before a solution is finally enacted. Even then it may be too long of a time for the people that have to live with a radioactive dump next store.

## The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School

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## The military draws many young Americans

by Laura Pollastrini

With the economic situation as dim as it is, many young Americans are joining the military.

Sergeant Mical, a Marine Corps recruiting officer in Wheaton, said that close to 70 people from the DuPage area have enlisted in the Marines this year. He also added that only one out of five people that try to get into the Marines are accepted because of the Marines' strict background check, and anti-drug policy. "The most commonly accepted branch is the Air Force, not the Marines, because people feel that our training is the hardest. But besides all the benefits, like apprenticeships certified by the Department of Labor, we teach poise, leadership, and confidence in yourself," added Mical.

In order to join the military you must be 17 to 26 years old. After first being interviewed by a recruiter the interested person takes a 30 minute test over basic reading and math skills, and if the scores are high enough the next step is the Armed Services Vocational Aptitudes Battery (ASVAB). This three hour test determines what fields a person is qualified in. The recruiter and enlistee select a career field that is suitable to the individual's needs.

The days of signing up on a Monday and leaving on a Tuesday are things of the past. The process of enlisting has become a long and tedious process. An enlistee begins the process by informing the recruiter that they want to join. Next comes hours of signing documents and checking tiny boxes on reams of paper. These papers ask about past police runs, drug use, and political beliefs. Most documents must be signed with the person's last name and social security

number. This thick packet of documents must be completely and correctly filled out before a person can journey down to the Military Enlistment Processing Station (MEPS).

Located in downtown Chicago, this is the place that anyone joining the military in the Chicago area must go to take their physicals. The day begins at 4:45 a.m. when each room at the hotel in which the enlistees spend the night is given a wake up call. After breakfast the enlistees must report to the MEPS center by 6:30 a.m. Once they are logged in at the main desk, the physical is started. More health forms have to be filled out as the group of about 40 persons go through the process at the same time. "I really couldn't believe how long it took for a physical, mine wasn't over until 12 p.m.," commented senior Eric Brosted who enlisted in the Marines. The enlistees have their eyes and ears checked, blood drawn, and various other tests done on them as they move from place to place during the physical. If a person passes the physical, then the final stage of paperwork must be completed. At the end of the afternoon those who have been accepted take the oath of enlistment, and are officially in the military. "I was so glad when I finally took the oath, I knew then that I was finally in the Marines," added Brosted.

The Delayed Entry Program (DEP) is what allows seniors to join now, and go later. The wait on DEP may only be two months, or maybe nine in extreme cases. While on the DEP the enlistee is expected to keep in touch with his or her recruiter and inform them of any changes in their physical or mental well being.



While swamp wading isn't for everyone, it's only one of the jobs in the military. (Photo courtesy U.S. Army)

## Driver's Education doubts

by Nancy Binzen

Concluding a year and a half of study, a state board of education committee has recommended eliminating mandatory driver's education in Illinois schools.

If this proposal is passed by the state legislature, the "board of education would have to sit down and make a decision as to what would happen," said Assistant Principal Richard Waterhouse. Schools would have the option of offering a program similar to the classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction found at WCCHS, or of contracting with private driving instructors if they wished to offer driver's education at all.

Numerous complaints from school boards regarding the rising costs of behind-the-wheel training prompted the 18 month study by the committee. Any school district offering a driver's education program would still be eligible for appropriate state funding.

Approximately two-thirds of WCCHS driver's education funds come from local taxes. The remaining third comes from a re-imbursment by the state. WCCHS receives \$10 for every student who completes the classroom phase, and \$40 for every student completing behind-the-wheel instruction, for a total of \$50 per student successfully finishing the program.

Another possible way of obtaining funds would be to charge a fee, but Waterhouse doesn't foresee this happening in the future. The idea of a \$10 refundable deposit was brought before the local board of edu-

cation, but was not received favorably. The goal in charging a fee at WCCHS would not be to obtain additional funding, but rather to commit a student to the program. Waterhouse expressed his concern over how to figure out how many teachers and how much instructional material would be needed. He said approximately 90 students enrolled in driver's education, and only about 50 completed the course.

Two entire classes could have been eliminated, thus saving money. To counteract the problem of student dropouts the board suggested a solution which Waterhouse feels is "very powerful," and would let him know exactly how many students to compensate for.

The board proposed that if a student enrolls in a summer driver's education program, he must attend class regularly and complete the program. If the student doesn't complete the program, they would be placed at the bottom of the list for next year's driver's education.

Waterhouse has also looked into simulators two or three times, but does not anticipate purchasing them. An initial expenditure of \$65,000 would be very costly, and it would be a very long time before the financial benefits would be seen, said Waterhouse. He also commented that simulators are "not as realistic," and therefore should not be used.

Because nothing has been passed, WCCHS is offering the usual driver's education program for next year.

## Ink Spots

### VICA captures awards at convention

by Eric Brosted

Jackie Francisco, a junior here at WCCHS was elected as state secretary for VICA. Francisco is the only person from We-go to have been elected to the VICA state board of officers. On April 21 to 23, 31 We-go students attended the VICA state convention in Springfield. Various competitions were held between the VICA members from different schools.

In the oral safety presentation, Mark Bruington took first, Wanda Hardee second,

Brian Decent third, and Sarah Coyne took fifth place. Aoy Lutman won fourth place in job interviews, and Linda Schank took fifth in job interview competency. Brian Decent, Sarah Coyne, and Wanda Hardee won fifth place in case study, which was a team event. Roberto Estrada won a gold medal in VICA corporation.

Francisco will be serving her term as secretary starting this summer as she and other VICA state officers plan next year's convention.



# They want to ban what?

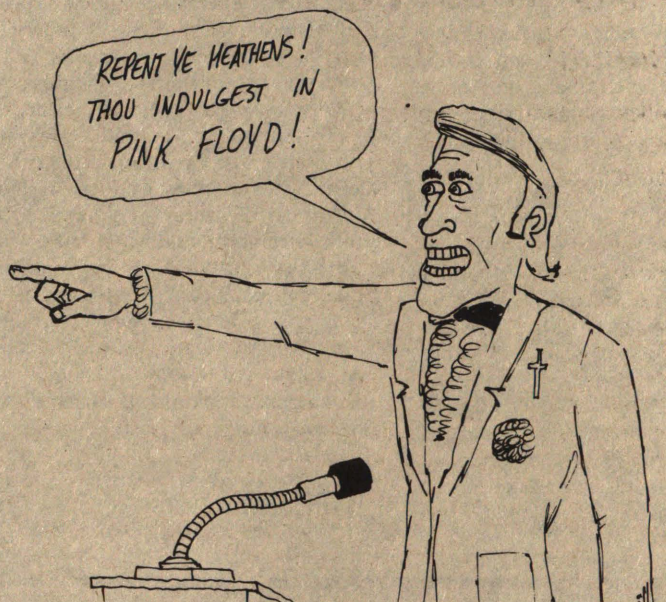
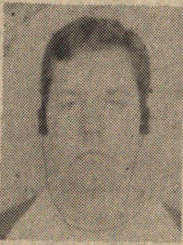
by Eric Brosted

As you look at the average person, you notice how his half-closed eyes and look of sheer concentration contort his face as he listens to fist-pounding Rock.

You've probably seen someone walking down a street with his Walkman blaring away on his head. It probably never occurred to you that he might be listening to the music of devil-worshippers. Yes, that's right, we have up and coming devil-worshippers in our midst. And their ranks swell daily as more devil-worshipping zombies are created by the music funneling into their heads.

Sound far-fetched? It certainly sounds silly to me. But apparently some people take this whole issue seriously enough to listen to an album played backwards that supposedly contained satanic messages. The recording sounded more like you were listening to the sounds of a metal garbage can being severely trounced by a group of baseball bat swinging teens. Who knows, maybe there's a message in beating garbage cans. Now how many people are going to take their \$10 albums and listen to them backwards, if that is even possible. Now for the sake of argument, let's say that a person spends the \$10,000 on electronic equipment in order to decipher these inscribed messages. So what. Is this person now going to fall to his knees and worship the devil before ax-murdering an entire church choir? I think not. But considering the average person couldn't hear the message, even if they exist, what's the big deal?

If you mention the fact that American teens are bombarded with devil-worshiper music, you're bound to stir up a fervor. The American public in a state like that starts screaming for justice, and the solution certain groups have come up with is banning the music. This country seems to have an obsession with banning guns, books, music, etc. You



name it, and somebody wants to ban it. That scares me. Who's going to decide what isn't fit to listen to? What happens when you caught listening to banned music? Do they ban concerts by the bands in question?

People in a state of frenzy tend to overlook these major questions. This country is looked upon as the land of the free. How free would it be if you couldn't read or listen to what you wanted? There's already enough countries in this world that practices such policies. And I don't want any part in them.

Anyway, I'm getting tired of listening to my "Chimpunks go Punk" album. For all I know it could be on the list to be banned.

# Foreign language helps business skills

As a student sits in a foreign language class, it is usually difficult for him to realize the benefits of knowing a second language. All he understands is that the college he wants to go to requires the knowledge of a foreign language for admission, and so this student decides to suffer through four semesters of a foreign language. What he doesn't understand, as most high school students don't, is that being a college requirement is only one very small reason for taking a foreign language in high school.

One of the most significant benefits of taking a foreign language is not very obvious, although it is somewhat logical. Taking a foreign language will, 99 percent of the time, help a student become better

"A command of the language of the country you are dealing with will open many doors." — Lilian E. Stafford, University of Michigan lecturer.

in his English skills. Learning a foreign language might seem to promote just the opposite of this since all foreign languages conjugate verbs and do other things differently from English. However, before one can conjugate a verb in French, for example, he first must know what a verb is in the English language. Not only this, but a student

must know the difference between a phrase and a clause in English if he is to construct a phrase or clause in German.

Another more obvious reason for taking a foreign language is to increase one's vocabulary. Since English is derived from Spanish, German, and French, for the most part — all of which are offered at the high school — it is not uncommon for words in these languages to look very similar to words in English. Therefore, possessing a large vocabulary in say, Spanish, will probably increase your English vocabulary along with helping out in discovering the meaning of some unfamiliar English words when you run across them.

Yet another reason for taking a foreign language is becoming increasingly important to today's world. In an article appearing in the *Chicago Tribune*, Lilian E. Stafford, a lecturer at the University of Michigan, states that the knowledge of a second language is extremely important in business. Stafford points out that although English has been known as an international language in business, the percentage of people using English in the world's business community is declining. As competition in the world market stiffens, the United States will find itself trying to keep up with the technological advances of foreign nations. A basic requirement for doing this is a comprehension of that nation's native language. According to Stafford, "A lack of language skills then can result in lost business opportunities. A reasonable command of the language and an understanding of the culture of the country you are dealing with will open many doors." Before you drop your foreign language class or decide not to take such an irrelevant class, try to remember some of the benefits that can be had in the long run by taking a foreign language in high school.

## Letter to the editor

# Marching uniforms embarrass band

To the editor:

If anyone besides members of the band have seen the band uniforms, more than likely "yuk" comes to mind. If you haven't seen them close-up, you are extremely lucky. These uniforms have been here since 1962. That's 21 years old! No wonder they're out of style.

The hats are really what gets on our nerves! They're dark navy blue and the front is about four inches higher than the back if you wear them properly. And if you lower them at all, they make you look like a policeman.

If you're beginning to get the idea that we're complaining, you're ab-

solutely correct. "It's embarrassing to be seen wearing them," is a comment most band members have to say about uniforms. Sure, these are warm uniforms, but if you add the hat you look like a cop patrolling his beat.

As everyone knows, this school was built a long time ago, in 1904. As the years changed so did the school. Now, how about changing the band uniforms with the years?

We realize that the price of uniforms is expensive, but can we please stay with the times? I'm sure that most band members would agree with most everything I have said.

Deborah Welz

## The Bridge

The Bridge is the student newspaper of West Chicago Community High School. The Bridge office is located in room 216.

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must be legibly signed by the author(s). A maximum of five names will be printed with each letter appearing in the paper. The name of the author(s) of each letter appearing in the paper will be printed. Letters to the editor will be printed as time and space permit. The editor reserves the right to edit, if necessary, for length and libelous material.

Unsigned editorials appearing in the paper are the opinion of the majority of the Bridge editorial staff. Content and editorial policy are determined by the editor with the concurrence of the Bridge editorial staff. The Bridge welcomes both faculty and student responses to its editorials.

The newspaper adviser acts in the capacity of a professional consultant.

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# Not to be too critical, but ...

by Scott Brandt

No, sorry folks. This article isn't going to be another scathing attack on unrealistic legislation or on political faults in the United States government. Some of my closest friends have recently hinted on the fact that such articles have no tangible bearing on our students and school. Therefore, due to popular demand, I now set out to write on a subject of real importance — something we can all apply to the search for our purpose on the planet — which is, of course, Prom Night.



Much to my dismay, though, I could not elevate myself to write about this prestigious event. I was quite disappointed when I realized this as I was looking forward to the great personal gain I would receive by interviewing the Gingus Tux-Bus driver. However, I did manage to stumble on to a topic that everyone would approve of, the topic of "senioritis" (the dreaded disease which has swept through the class of 1983 over the past several years). It is with this topic that I urge all teachers to be patient with us seniors. Most college-bound students have applied and/or are accepted to the college of their choice and are awaiting their future education (for which they are paying dearly). Students who are planning to go straight to work after high school are anxiously awaiting either their full-time employment or their unemployment. Those of us who have not yet decided what we will do or have decided to do nothing at all are anxiously awaiting their indecision and sleep, respectively.

Regardless, we seniors feel that we have completed our purpose in this high school and are ready for a new life. However, this is not the only cause of "senioritis". Some students feel that high school is simply not worth their effort any more. Woe to these undisciplined, delinquent individuals! Such an attitude has been seeded by such insignificant events as being bumped off the high honor roll by a "B" in physical education, being unable to take Biochemistry because of the requirement of Health class (you get to learn how to clean your ears instead of the structure of the DNA double helix), and by ridiculously redundant assignments called "busy-work". It is truly a shame that a 17 or 18 year old person would

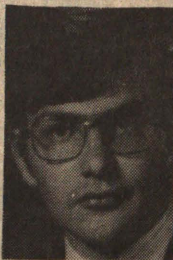
actually flinch in discouragement after undergoing such trivial occurrences.

Darn! Now I've gone and done it. I promised that this article wouldn't be a scathing attack on anything. According to some people I am far too critical of everything and should be more tolerant. Well, I'd just like to point out that things which I like or which are perfectly all right with everybody else need no criticism. These things need praise and I believe most of the other writers in this paper take care of most of that. But someone's got to do the dirty work — that's me. So, now that I've already blown the lid off this article, here goes: I HEREBY SCATHINGLY ATTACK EVERYTHING AND ANYTHING!

# Opinion reign ends

by Ed Rahe

My reign as Opinion Editor of the **Bridge** has finally come to an end. Boy, and I was just starting to get the hang of this job, too. Now it's time for me to just sit back and watch how the next Opinion Editor does while reflecting back upon some of the experiences I encountered while being an editor.



I can remember when I first learned that I was going to be an editor for the paper. I kept wondering what I was doing working on the school newspaper when I planned to study some kind of technical field when I went to college. I didn't even like English all that much, but then again who does besides English teachers.

Our first issues of the paper were pretty rough because most of us didn't know what the heck we were doing, at least in the beginning. As time went on, however, things got better and it all began to fall into place and no, I'm not talking about the layout of the paper. All of the stories weren't really just thrown down on to the paper, they just look that way sometimes. At least we managed to get the pages of the paper in the right order.

Throughout the course of the year, I learned a lot about the many different journalistic techniques along with a lot of neat things associated with newspapers in general. The first thing that I discovered is that people like to have their name spelled right when they're listed in the paper. I always figured that as long as I was within two or three letters of being correct, it would be all right, but I guess I was wrong. Oops. I found out that it isn't too easy to get a verticle cartoon in a horizontal space, but you can do it if you use the right kind of saw to crop the picture to the prescribed size. I also learned that it is almost impossible for more than one person to agree with anything that anybody else says. No matter how hard I worked on writing an editorial (say, 10 or 15 minutes) at least one of my fellow editors had to disagree with whatever I said. Needless to say, this led to some interesting "discussions" while going over editorial commentary.

Perhaps the most important thing that I discovered was that all you have to do if you are an editor and you want to get into a lot of hot water with the Board of Education (future editors take note) is mention something about sex. Whether it be birth-control, abortion, or the mating habits of the monarch butterfly, the Board of Education immediately hones in on this article and characterizes the entire **Bridge** staff as immoral. It's really amazing to me how much flack you can get from just mentioning a few simple words. Oh, well. At least these little skirmishes make it a little more interesting when you get bored at working on the paper.

Letter to the editor

## 'Is this what I pull?'

To the editor:

"Is this what I pull?" were the last words that Judy McCall heard her son say before he shot her? He thought that it was just a toy — just like his others — so he pulled the trigger. He was only three.

"Mommy, I promise that I won't do it again," and he probably won't, but someone else will. Every 23 minutes someone is killed in this country by a handgun.

Handguns are the fifth leading cause of death among children in the U.S. Handguns are a disease, being purchased every 13 seconds. One in five Americans have easy access to one.

It's a fact that handguns are fast becoming the American way of death.

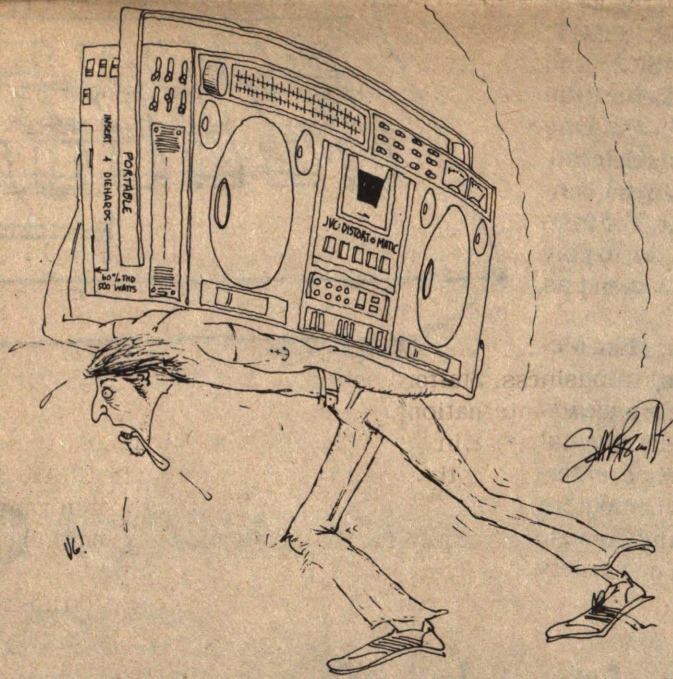
Seventy-five percent of the citizens in Illinois now favor stricter handgun control. Yet, the citizens still haven't gotten what they want, tougher handgun control. But why?

Handgun control is a political struggle. That's why people who want to fight the gun lobby have to organize themselves.

For information on handgun control write to Illinois Citizens for Handgun Control, 109 North Dearborn, Chicago Illinois 60602.

By writing you could save a child from having to say, "Mommy, I promise I won't ever do it again." Think about it. We need handguns like we need a hole in the head.

Wade Smith



# Walkman rule revised

Students who were enrolled at the high school last year may remember that it was against the rules for students to play any type of radio or tape player in the school last year, including the popular Walkman-type tape player or similar types of tape players. This year, however, the school administration has decided to allow students to play their Walkmen in school.

According to Principal Richard DuFour as long as a radio or tape player does not interfere with others, it shall be permitted in the school except in the classroom. Walkman-type devices can also be used in the school's LRC as long as they are not played at a volume level high enough to disturb others. However, radios or cassette players that are not used with headphones are still not allowed in school at any time. The times of the school day during which Walkmen are permitted are during passing periods, before school begins in the morning, and after school ends in the afternoon.

Since the **Bridge** is pledged to supporting the most beneficial learning atmosphere possible, it believes that the administration's policy with Walkmen is reasonable since these personal radios will be strictly prohibited from the classroom. Also, allowing Walkmen to be played in the LRC, for instance, may actually cut some of the noise in the LRC because a student may be more quiet and less talkative if he is occupied with listening to his favorite type of music. The **Bridge** fully supports the administration's policy in this issue.



# Computers will be a household necessity

by Sue Lindenmeier

Two chickens in every pot? Maybe. Two cars in every garage? A probable occurrence in today's society. But a computer in every home? A short time ago the concept of having a computer in one's home was fairly unheard of. Yet today it is estimated that by the year 1990, 7 out of every 10 homes will have some type of computer. Marketing expert Egil Juliussen estimates that not only will this percentage of homes possessing a computer increase, but the new programs will allow them to practically run the households.

According to Juliussen, the cost of computers is one factor which might at first deter consumers. Manufacturers, however, are helping in this respect by vying for marketing position by offering large rebates. Texas Instruments, for example, is offering a \$100 rebate on a popular model, bringing the price of this basic computer down to \$199, compared to \$1,150 for a similar version in 1979.

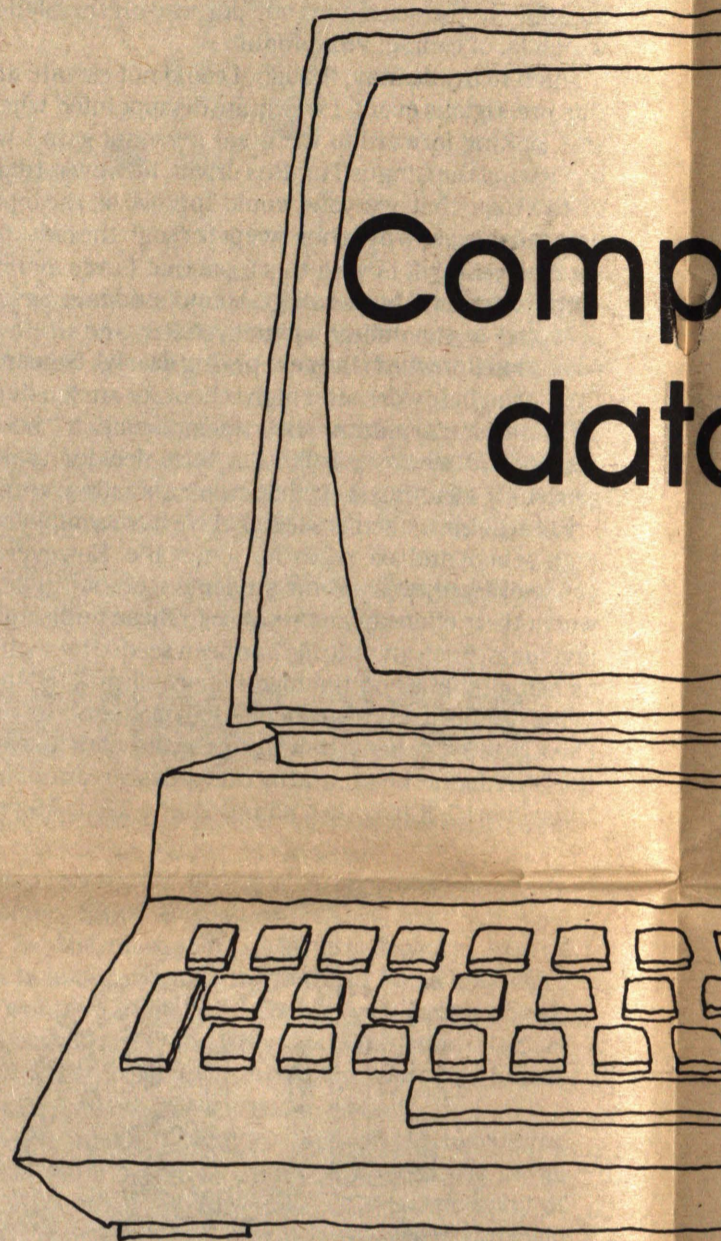
Computers contain many "extras" but there are certain basic items that are necessary in order to carry on a specific function. The video display terminal, a t.v. set by another name, is necessary for display. If you don't need graphics or color, a black and white portable will suffice. The keyboard is another essential part which looks like an ordinary typewriter except that it has more keys. The most important extra keys are for commands, which allows one to give instructions to the computers more effectively. The printer is an essential part for permanent copies of what is on the screen. Printers come in three basic varieties. Impact, prints like a typewriter dot. Matrix looks like the printing you find on cash register receipts. Thermal is the third type which uses special paper. Almost all home computers use a floppy disc memory with two drives. One drive is for the programs, while the other is for a disc on which you will store and retrieve information. Therefore, one should look for this type of memory disc in order to carry on the mentioned functions. **Modems** are an optional part of a computer, unless one wants to tie into data bases, talk to other computers or other computer users. In these cases, one merely hooks this device up to the telephone. Joysticks are another option to be purchased only if the consumers wish to play games with the computer. Customized joysticks have more contact points so that they can

control the motion of your starship or tank with greater accuracy.

After first looking for these basic types of parts, the consumer should then consider the purpose of their purchase. In other words, the buyer must pick from the type of programs out on the market according to their needs at home. One would purchase a word processor if they wanted a program designed to check spelling, hyphenate words, move paragraphs and words around as well as type. This product could be checked up on the screen so changes can be made. If one wanted to perform research, he/she would purchase the computer with the modem described earlier. With the use of this device research could be transmitted within minutes. Another function to keep in mind is whether or not one wants to play video games. According to Juliussen, a machine of lesser technology will suffice.

The computer scientists of the University of California have compiled a list of things to check for when examining a computer. The first thing which should be considered on the computer is the hardware. This hardware consists of memory, color of display, graphics, interface keyboard storage, capacity/drive, printer, and data communication. In this department, these scientists picked the Apple 3 and the IBM Personal Computer as being the best because of the RAM memory and superior graphics. The next department on this check list is the software. This includes languages (BASIC, COBOL, Pascal, AUT OR, PILOT, FORTRAN, CP/M, FORTH, CBASIC, and MBASIC) operating systems and documentations. Then, the consumer should cost. One must use their own discretion in this determination, but these scientists recommend considering application of the computer. For instance, if one is just buying a computer to play games, he or she would not want to spend as much.

According to computer researcher Mike McGrath, the home computer is beginning to "transform the way we live." They are a means to do household activities, perform menial work, do homework, and experience entertainment. According to McGrath, computers are the "ultimate home appliance" and because of the technological development of our society — they will soon be a necessity."



Compu

## Are you a computer quiz whiz?

by James Austgen

The rise of computers in modern life has brought a whole new jargon to the forefront. This quiz is designed to test your knowledge of computers. If you have any trouble with these questions, it would be advisable to forget a career in computer science.

1. What is a megabyte?
  - a) McDonald's new three quarter pound hamburger
  - b) Getting all four ghosts in Pac-man
  - c) 1,000,000 bytes
2. What is a CPU?
  - a) Combat Patrol Unit
  - b) City Policeman's Union
  - c) Central Processing Unit
3. What does IBM stand for?
  - a) Idiomatic Bumbling morons
  - b) Insane Bomb Makers
  - c) International Business Machines
4. A computer program is
  - a) a TV show about an adding machine in love.

- b) what computers read when they go to the theater.
  - c) a list of instructions in a logical sequence which instruct a computer in what processes to execute.
5. Documenting a program is
    - a) Making a documentary called "The Making of M\*A\*S\*H".
    - b) Writing a computer's playbill on a piece of parchment.
    - c) Adding full length explanations of the logical steps of a computer program.
  6. If a program hangs itself you should
    - a) cut it down with wire cutters.
    - b) call an electronic mortician.
    - c) discontinue the program.
  7. What is a silicon chip?
    - a) a new cookie ingredient for poor people
    - b) a gambling marker with no money to back it up. (much like a rubber check)
    - c) a tiny piece of semi-conductor material

- that has a number of circuits on it.
8. Debugging is
    - a) What happened during Watergate.
    - b) What the exterminator does.
    - c) Removing errors from the logical steps of a computer program.
  9. The first computer was called ENIAC. ENIAC stands for
    - a) Exasperating, New, Intelligent, Arrogant Computer.
    - b) Electric necktie Incinerator and Coffee-maker.
    - c) Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator.
  10. What do Cobol and Basic have in common?
    - a) They both have five letters.
    - b) They both have a "b" and a "c" in them.
    - c) They are both computer languages.

Answers: All of the correct answers were c, except number ten. In number ten all three answers were correct.



## Outlook is promising for computer careers

by Pam Fenning

In 1980, government forecaster Betty Vetter predicted that the top two promising careers would be accounting and computer science. The executive director of Scientific Manpower, a research institute, has been proven correct in her assessment of job opportunities in computers. A statistic which backs up her feelings found in a 1980 issue of *U.S. News and World Report* is the fact that the sharp increase of computer programmers from 176,500 in 1970 to 240,000 in 1980 was followed by a jump to 280,000 in 1982.

One of these new computer programmers in the field is Joyce Hogan, who at 25 was tired of her "dull job" in clerical work. She felt that her three years of college had gotten her nowhere. After leaving a job at a telephone company at \$8000 annually, she acquired a secretarial job. After this, Hogan opted to enroll in Computer Learning Center in Springfield, Missouri. It took her six months for her to complete it and she "can't remember working so hard." She joined DuPont company in Wilmington where she is a computer programmer in the corporate accounting division. Being the mother of two, she decided that she had to have a "high paying job with good hours which she can enjoy." Her job includes using a specially designed computer language to give instructions to a computer which solves complex business problems. The endpoint of her work is a financial report which helps executives make decisions on such matters such as purchasing expensive equipment or expanding a factory.

Hogan's field is one of the hottest in the industry because of the growing use of computers in big business and industry. Although the number of these in the computer industry has increased drastically, there are still shortages of computer programmers in large cities near industry.

Programmers work for diverse employers such as hospitals, banks, insurance companies, data processing firms, manufacturers and government agencies. Although the computer field has many opportunities, hard work is required to achieve one's goal. Sometimes as

many as one-third to one-half of the applicants for programming are turned away. In Hogan's class of 70, 17 passed.

Those who perform this hard work for their coveted career range from women who have been out of the work force for years and secretaries to those who have their degrees in areas unrelated to computers. A number of college graduates are turning to programming and other computer areas. "These people are generally liberal arts majors who are only offered scarce positions in secretarial and some forms of liberal arts," Carl Simmons continued. He is director of the Computer Learning Center in Minnesota.

With a higher level of learning, one can progress from a computer programmer to one in computer technology. This might include writing programs, engineering and expanding existing computers. "A knowledge of programming is basic to an understanding of computer technology," said Bob Loughlin, vice-president of Computer Processing Institute in East Hartford Connecticut. Computer programming is the "entry level" for someone who might become a true data processing professional. Instead of feeding the information into the computer file programmer, a data processor analyzes the readout and writes programs to gain new information.

Besides being a field in which there is much opportunity at the entry level and for advancement, the computer industry is a stable one. It is stable in that a company is more willing to retrain old employees in the ever changing computer industry than hire a new one. In all, it costs 60,000 to hire, train and move a new employee at entry level. "We are asking our employees to better themselves for the company's benefit," says one business executive. "That's much easier to ask if the employee knows we are expecting him to stay around for a career," he continued.

All in all, if one is willing to work hard, he or she can find him or herself in a fulfilling and well-paying career. The base is over \$20,000 with security and opportunity for advancement.

## Computers lighten the industrial workload

by Tabitha Wilson

Our lives are increasingly involved with computer procedures in which we have an active part or which affect our daily activities in obvious or subtle ways. Computer processed information forms the basis for executive decisions, points the way in scientific research, solves problems in engineering, aids in medical diagnosis, maintains the records of business and industry, and serves in many other ways.

One may get a better understanding of computer structure and function from examining an industrial processing operation. There is a material aspect to assembly in a factory or shop operation — a quality elusive in a pure data processing job. In a factory, workers are concerned with materials, shapes, colors, weights, and other physical or chemical aspects as well as with movements and combinations through processing channels or along assembly lines. With data processing, however, they are concerned with abstract things, such as numerals, symbols, words, mathematics, and the relationship of fact with fact.

Industrial processing is literal and process control is straightforward. Even the data processing aspect in industrial processing is obvious and when in operation it is relatively slow, which can help one to follow and understand

the high speed but often similar activity that takes place in a computer doing a data processing job.

Chemical and petroleum companies have achieved outstanding success with automation. One major oil producer increased production by more than 60 percent while cutting employment by more than 10,000 workers. Industrial automation is often complex since it requires the use of mechanical and electronic substitutes for personnel who have performed both mental and physical tasks.

Factory production line automation ranges from segments of a process to the complete process job. Product packaging, bottling, and canning are often completely automated. Many phases of automobile manufacturing are controlled by computers. The list is not endless but it is growing rapidly.

Computer control of manufacturing is in the area of management and is subject to management supervision. It may cover all aspects of the manufacturing process, of which production-line automation is only one phase. An effective computer control program can determine the best sequence of jobs in the fabrication or assembly of a product. It can specify the flow of materials and parts, the arrangement

and loading of machine tools, and the allocation of manpower. It can determine whether the plant's available resources (manpower, materials, machinery) can produce the desired number of finished parts within a specified time. If delivery of an order will be late, the computer program can present alternatives and their probable cost. This will enable management to decide whether to increase manpower, add to equipment, subcontract work, or reschedule work within the existing limitations.

The computer program can also detect and point out needs for production line balancing, where the time requirements of successive work stations are different. A job of soldering may require three minutes, thus delaying production at the next work station, which may require only one minute to join a part with screws. Some jobs may be combined to achieve balance and to make each man's work load the same. To carry this still further, a lack of production line balance in one area may decrease the rate of production in another area, or work under automated control may not be coordinated with work under manpower control. Proper line balancing results in economical production scheduling.

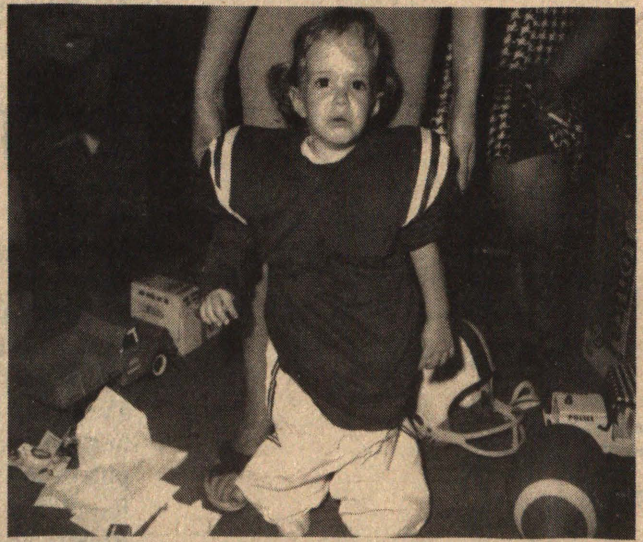




# Graduation

by Jeane Murray

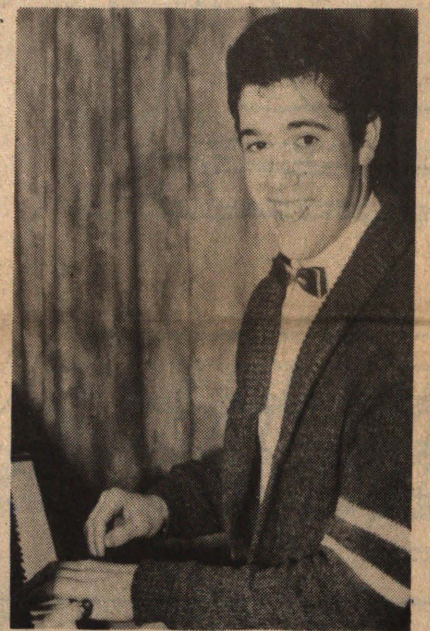
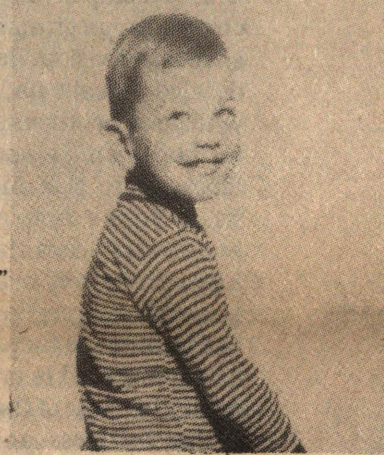
Remember first grade — we thought we were so old.  
The day that we had show-and-tell, we brought in some "fool's gold".  
And remember a few years later, we thought we were divine,  
We teased the "first grade babies" at the ripe old age of nine!  
Remember back in fifth grade, we looked at him and sighed,  
And dreamed of all the coming days in the huge new junior high.  
Remember eighth grade graduation, high school was just waiting,  
And along with high school came EVERYTHING, like a job, and cars and dating!  
We vowed to "Take it over" and be the best class yet!  
Our whole lives were ahead of us, and we cashed in our bets.



It's eons later now, as I sit with my teddy bear. He's worn,  
With one eye missing, as if he'd been in school.  
In silence I ponder about my friends.  
The years and many hours spent building and perfecting  
The most fantastic relationships.  
And it's all quickly closing to an end now.  
Here I sit remembering.



Remember the times we ran laughing through the halls,  
Stumbling blindly, for the tears of joy obscured our vision.  
Remember decorating lockers for birthdays?  
Making certain the entire school was aware  
Of the auspicious occasion that had arrived.  
And remember cleaning the mess before first hour?  
Remember shopping together for Homecoming dresses  
And searching for "just the right shoes"  
Remember helping each other after those "massive parties"  
So Mom and Dad "wouldn't catch on".  
And remember first dates, and the devastation after they flopped.  
Remember frantically converting from weeping convulsions  
To screams of unleashed terror, because of that "D" on our report card  
Meant certain death at home — or worse yet: a two week grounding!  
Remember dashing through the halls, so as not to be late to class  
Then sitting in detention hall because "being in the door as the bell rings"  
Is not the same as "being in your seat".  
Remember getting our license, and staying out late  
Remember weddings in class, and dreaming or dreading your own?  
Remember food fights, and off-campus, and lunch for 60 cents?  
These will be only memories soon.



"Remember those times — the good ones and the bad, remember the joys that we shared  
Remember the highs, remembers the lows, and the fragile souls that were bared."  
Saying goodbye to the memories is the hardest thing to do.  
The school will be here. Always. Each year.  
New people, coming, going, laughing, growing  
Each one submitting their precious memories to stone.  
There're locked safe within each locker, the halls and every classroom.  
And here I stand, watching you grow to life, that's different than mine.  
Wondering whether our paths are destined to cross again.  
And I worry.  
"The time is upon us, the moment is now when we must exchange farewells  
We say we'll call and "get in touch", we vow to "get together" and promise to write.  
Tears streaming into broad smiles, we embrace  
Knowing these promises are in vain.  
But comforting each other with empty vows anyway.

Photos from top: senior Jean Murray gets ready for Halloween. Centers Bonnie Martin, senior, and Steve Bahlmann, junior, relive the 1950's. Bottom right: everything is just a song and dance for senior Ken Smith. Bottom left: senior Ed Rahe's opinions have been a help to **The Bridge**.

We pull apart for one last glance  
A thousand memories screeching through our minds.  
Scanning the brain for something to say  
And fumbling over a simple "Goodbye".  
The memories are forever, they're always in reach,  
and each one is very special.

So now I say so long dear friends  
Please know I'm always wishing the best for you.  
And praying for your safety and success throughout life.  
Please remember me and our memories  
And proving my wishing and praying to be worthwhile!  
To quote someone quotable:  
"I hope I have been  
as much for you, as you have been for me.  
my Friend, I love you"  
Goodbye.

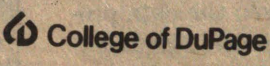
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# Naperville Central tops conference list

by Dino Tiberi

The conference tournament is fast approaching for the Wildcat varsity tennis team. The tournament is being held at Wheaton North this year, and according to Head Coach Wayne Kosek, Naperville Central is the pre-tournament favorite. Senior first doubles player Mark Matijasevich agrees with Kosek, adding, "Naperville Central definitely has the edge over everybody. Bruce Fraser did beat their second singles player in our dual meet, so Central may not make a clean sweep if Fraser can win again, or if someone else beats them." Gregg Van Dine, first singles player, thinks that for the team to catch Naperville Central that they will have to win every match 5-0 and do well in the tournament. Matijasevich thinks that Naperville North will be up there, while Kosek feels that Wheaton Central and Glenbard North, as well as We-go will be in contention.

At press time, the team's dual record is 2-1 in conference, with the only defeat being to Naperville Central. The two wins came at the expense of Wheaton North and Glenbard North. The overall dual record is 7-1 and the team is coming off the first place finish ever in the Addison Trail

Invitational, finishing with 23 and a half points, 7 and a half points ahead of the second place finisher. Bruce Fraser was very impressive in the tournament, losing only 3 games out of 43, while taking first place in second singles. Matijasevich and partner Dave Gary took first place in first doubles by winning four straight matches,

and Gregg Van Dine was first in first singles. Tom Butler added some additional team points for the Wildcats as he took second after winning his first three matches.

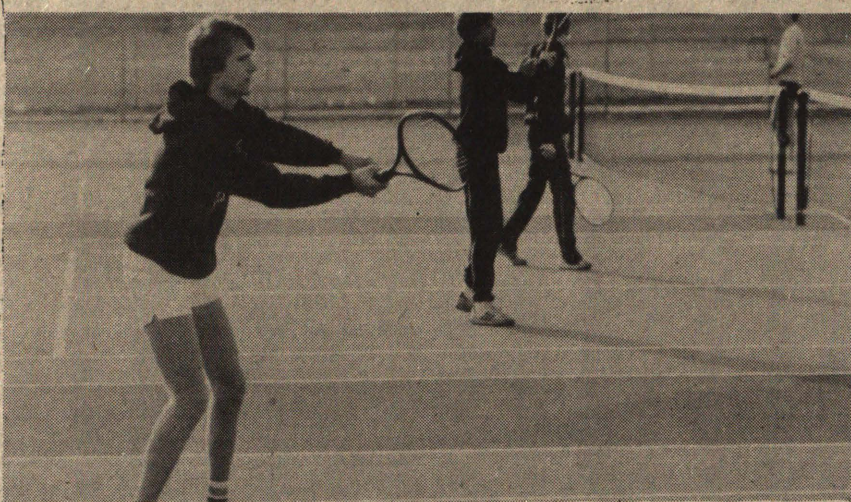
Kosek was asked who was playing well and he mentioned the names of a few players with impressive records. "Bruce

Fraser is undefeated this year, Gregg Van Dine is 8-3, Tom Butler is 8-3, and the doubles team of Gary and Matijasevich are 10-1," said Kosek. Matijasevich thought that Van Dine was playing well and that Fraser was probably "playing the best tennis he ever has."

The highpoint and lowpoint of the season according to Kosek were winning the Addison Trail Invitational as the highpoint and the loss to Naperville Central as the lowpoint. "We thought the Naperville Central match could have been won by us 3-2."

Matijasevich thought that most of the team's goals have been accomplished. "Our original goal was to finish second in the conference, and so far it looks good. We now have our depth which has won our first two meets," he said. "Naperville wiped us out 4-1, but they will probably win the rest 5-0, so we won't lose ground on the other teams."

In order to keep up their success in the conference and the state tournaments, Kosek had a few suggestions, "We need to maintain our consistency, try to keep up, hope that the bad nights can be played through, and that everyone does not have a bad night at once."



Gregg Van Dine (closest to camera) feels that Naperville Central has the edge over everybody in the conference. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

# We-go takes on one of conference's best

by Dino Tiberi

The varsity softball team, which is 1-4 in conference play and 4-5 overall (at press time), hopes to knock off Wheaton-Warrenville for the second time. The first meeting between the two ended with We-go on top, 4-3. Warrenville, on the

other hand, is among the leaders in conference with a 3-1 record (at press time) and hopes to avenge the previous defeat.

Up until the Warrenville game, the team, after a successful non-conference season of 3-1, could not get untracked in con-

ference play, going 0-4 until the Warrenville win stopped the losing streak. However, the record is not indictive of the way the team is playing, according to Coach Gail George. "We've been playing well, but after the Wheaton Central game (in which We-go out hit the area's number one team but lost 9-1) we've been error plagued," said George.

The Glenbard North game is a prime example, with Glenbard only getting 5 hits, but scoring 14 runs because of 19 errors. "If we start to commit errors all of a sudden our hitting also goes bad; At times the girls were a little flustered in the field, when the errors came at a bad time," George added.

George thought that the team came apart for a while during the losses, but is beginning to come together again. "My philosophy is that of a team unity concept, that all 9 players have to stick together to be successful." For a while the team became unraveled, but George thinks the team is learning more, becoming stronger and deeper as the season progresses.

Senior pitcher Cindy Hughes agrees with George on the fact that the team is losing its togetherness. "We have to have confidence in our teammates, not worrying about how many errors have been made by teammates, but about how you yourself is doing; If we don't have confidence, we aren't going to go anywhere," said Hughes. George also felt that the girls were becoming more and more tense and uptight during the first few conference games.

Last year We-go took both games from Warrenville, by the scores of 16-2 and 12-3. George feels that Warrenville is un-organized, and though they've been competitive, aren't as strong as We-go is.

When asked about the players who have been playing well, George thought of several players who have been making contributions. "Vicki Lakomecki has done well behind the plate, throwing out 3 or 4 runners stealing and picking off a few at third base," said George. "Stacey Anderson has settled in at shortstop, and Carrie Barkwill is doing a fine job at third base; Both Carrie and Stacey do their mechanics well and this enables them to make the plays," said George. Two other players, outfielder Mary Gilbert and first baseman Karin Hensge, as well as pitchers Cindy Hughes and Tracy Chmiel are also doing well. "Mary strengthens our outfield, and Karin saves a lot of runners on base because of her stretching ability," commented George. "Cindy is a very cool and collected pitcher for us, while Tracy keeps getting stronger and stronger."

In order to win against Wheaton-Warrenville, both George and Hughes feel that cutting down on the errors will be a major factor. "We need steady, consistent play from the team to be successful," said George. "This team is fighting to get up in the standings, they want to win badly, but the numbers of errors committed will be important," she added. "If we keep our heads, hit the ball, and cut down on the errors, we can win," said Hughes.



Karin Hensge (facing camera) and Janice Strayve practice a reflex drill in preparation for their upcoming game against Wheaton-Warrenville. (photo by Mike Sitarz)

# Baseball team must break from 'dry times'

by Mark Hoffer

Defense will be the key to the game Tuesday when our Wildcats take on the Wheaton Central team.

"We need to keep from giving away runs like we have been doing in the past," commented junior catcher Mike Rubino. "We are a sound team defensively, and are strong hitting wise, but we tend to have our dry times."

West Chicago will be looking to the pitching that enabled them to beat Central in a previous meeting. "We have to look out for their first baseman Rob Kronenke because he can hit the ball, but our pitching hand handled him well in our last meeting," said Rubino. We-go won that game with a score of 5-3.

Scott Burardt, Mark Moore, and Pat Sparks all have been having great seasons pitching so far for the Wildcats and will be looked upon to pitch strongly for the rest of the year. Burardt was the winning pitcher in West Chicago's win over Wheaton Central.

The Wildcats are running on a press time record of 7-3-1 overall and an above .500 season in conference at 5-3-1.

The conference wins for the Wildcats include a sweep of all the Wheaton schools, Wheaton Central, Wheaton North, and Wheaton Warrenville. Their two non-conference wins were over Geneva and Streamwood, while the one tie came in the game against Glenbard South.

"We hope to finish in the top three," commented senior Dino Tiberi. "The season is about what I expected, but the hitting has been surprising with eight home runs already."

The defensive lineup for the Wildcats is; catching, Mike Rubino; first base, John Macko; second base, Jeff Browne; short stop, either Scott Burardt or Kurt Mosson; third base, Dino Tiberi; left field, Rich Schulz; center field, Lee Dungey and in right field, Genaro Cabral.

The sophomore team, coached by Tim Courtney, has also been having a .500 season, going 4-4 with their last game against Naperville North being a come from behind victory, with a grand slam homer by Jim VanBuskirk and a three-run homer by Rick Nickelson.

The season looks pretty hopeful for the sophomore team. "We keep improving each game, reducing the amount of errors," commented Greg Wilde.

The Wildcats are looking to the pitching of Jim VanBuskirk, John Cortez and Bill Fairbanks. The hitting has been sporadic for the team with no one person being really outstanding, but they are looking to the bat of Cortez, who has been coming through with the clutch hits.

The fan support for the games, especially the varsity team has been better than in the last years. "More people could come out. I like it when people come out and root for the team," said Tiberi.

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# What's the excitement about?



Now I know why they call him "Snake." Bob "Snake" LeGrand, the head coach at the University of Texas at Arlington sits at my dining room table along with me and my family. He tells me how much his program at Texas could use a player like me. He tells me he will send up airline tickets for me to fly down to Texas on a visitation. As he left my house, my hopes built that I would play at a Division I school such as Texas. I never received another call or letter from Mr. LeGrand,

leaving a big question mark in my head. I presume he must have found another ballplayer that suited his needs more than I did. This is one of the many examples of how young men are treated during the college recruiting season.

When an athlete gets his first letter of interest from a college, it sends a chill of excitement through his body. Pictures of trips to beautiful campuses and calls from college coaches all over the nation run through his head. The choices and decisions that the athlete will have to make during the recruiting season is a rude awakening not only to him, but to his family, and they realize that recruiting is just a big business.

For most high school basketball players, it starts as a dream. Every athlete wants to play Division basketball, which consists of the nation's major basketball powers such as DePaul, North Carolina and UCLA. These schools can offer an athlete a full scholarship, consisting of room, board and tuition. The next level of competition able to offer a full scholarship is Division II, but the competition is not as great as Division I. The last level is Division III, but they cannot offer an athlete any type of athletic scholarship. As found in the Athlete's For Better Education pamphlet, College Admission for the Student-Athlete, only 22 percent of all the four year colleges have Division I status, and there are approximately 400,000 athletes playing high school basketball. This means that of those 400,000 only 600 will play Division I. Because of this, most of these young athletes will never have their dream of playing Division I basketball come true.

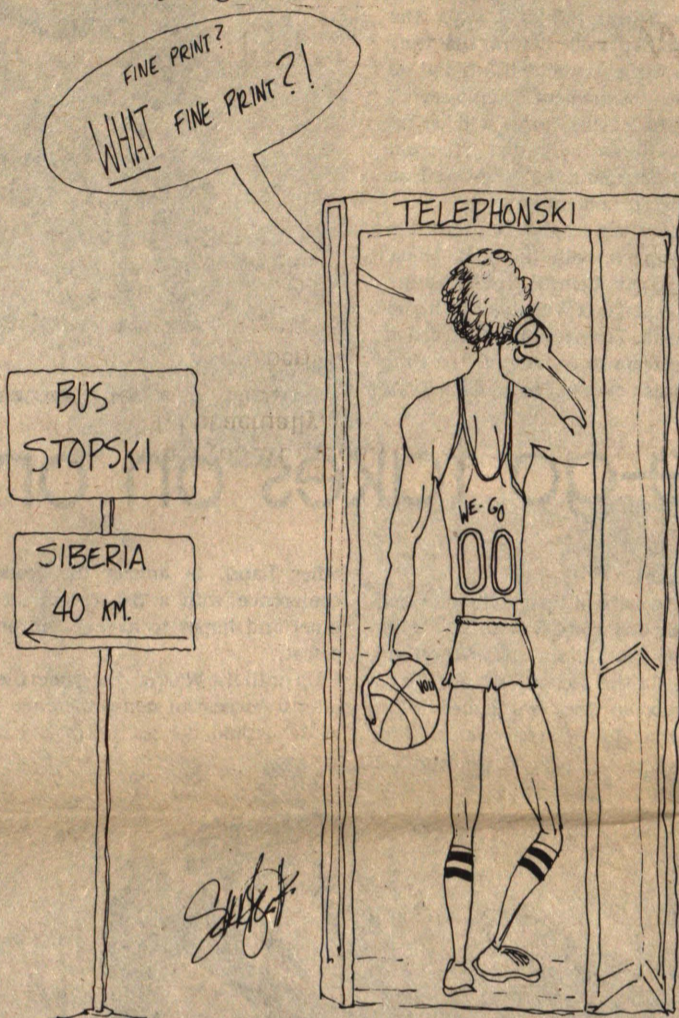
The first letter I ever received from a Division I school, let alone any college, was from the University of Notre Dame in my sophomore year. According to George Libbon, the Los Angeles Coordinator of Athlete's For Better Education (AFBE), Notre Dame sends out between 250-500 letters to high school athletes each year to fill about three spots on their roster. Of this vast number of letters that are sent to these athletes, very few are followed up on. After my first letter from Notre Dame, I received two more that same year, and then all contact stopped. They did not let me know if they found someone else, or if they just didn't think I could fit into their program. All contact just stopped.

This happens quite often, not only to me, but to many athletes who are recruited. Rick Munoz, a guard from St. Charles High School, says that at least five schools that were recruiting him just broke off contact without any notice to him.

Cornell University, the prestigious Ivy League school in Ithaca, New York, along with Illinois State University both promised me trips to their school, all expenses paid. After waiting for a phone call for a date on my visitations, I read in the paper that both Cornell and ISU had finished their recruiting seasons. I didn't receive a letter, or even a five minute phone call telling me that they weren't interested in me anymore. An athlete can handle the fact that the school recruited someone else, but the way both of those schools acted (along with Texas at Arlington) was without class. It's too bad that the coaches at this level cannot be honest with a recruit.

To what extent would colleges and coaches lie to an athlete? The assistant coach of DePaul University, Joe Meyer, says that it is totally unbelievable. "Out in Philadelphia, we were recruiting a kid named Dallas Comegeys. Villanova University was also very interested in him, and when they found out that we were in the running, they got very upset. They began to tell Dallas a lot of bad things about us (DePaul), to the extent that we sleep with prostitutes. This really turned Dallas off to them, so we got him."

Bob Topper, the head coach of Illinois Institute of Technology said that it's too bad, but it seems that if you want to be a big time coach, you have to lie and cheat the young men.



The whole college recruiting season that I just experienced is one I would like to forget, but one I won't. The puffing up of the athlete that these so called "college recruiters" and "prestigious coaches" do to the athlete just makes the letdown at the end of the season harder to take. They make you feel that you are the only one they want, and that you are at the top of their list, but actually, you're not. You're just another name on their long list.

College recruiting is an experience that can leave a sour taste in a young man's mouth. The beginning of the season brings promises of a college scholarship with calls and letters from various colleges. More often than not, the average high school basketball player's dreams and hopes are crushed by broken promises. The whole college recruiting season seems to be a big broken promise and dream. Athletes wait to be recruited, but then when it is over, they wish they never had been through it.

## Jock shorts

### Track teams compete in meets

#### Girls' and Boys' Track and Field

Tonight and tomorrow will bring the girls' track and field sectional meet at Plainfield High School. The meet will begin at 10 a.m. Conference Meet at Glenbard North. The meet begins at 10 a.m.

Tomorrow our boys' track and field team will compete in the DuPage Valley Conference Meet at Glenbard North. The meet begins at 10 a.m.

### Will any We-go girls advance?

#### Girls' Badminton

This weekend will bring the girls' badminton state finals. At press time, it was not known if any girls from We-go have qualified for this meet. Place and time of this event was also unknown.

### Can We-go make it two in a row?

#### Girls' Softball

Tonight our girls' softball team will travel to Wheaton-Warrenville to take on the Wolverines, with the opening pitch at 4:15. The last time We-go played Wheaton-Warrenville, We-go won by a score of 4-3.

### Conference tourney starts tonight

#### Boys' Tennis

The boys' DuPage Valley Conference Varsity Tennis Tournament will take place both today and tomorrow at Wheaton North. Times of all events were not announced at press time.

## Track team a year away

by Sue Lindemeier

The West Chicago boys' track team will come to the height of their season with the DuPage Valley meet this Saturday, May 14. According to Coach Doug Juraska, the varsity team had to combat the obstacles of "being young with only four seniors." They were also confronted by the injuries of senior Carlos Cuiriz and Scott Schaeffer. According to Juraska, Schaeffer was a We-go hopeful in placing in this meet. However, there is still a chance that he will be able to participate depending on the severeness of the injury. Juraska named runners John Engel and Rich Vignes as "doing pretty well," and believes that these runners have a good chance of placing in the meet.

Senior Scott Deason believes that they will end up "somewhere in the middle of the pack" with Glenbard North and the Wheaton North being the teams to beat. "It won't be easy," stated Deason. "This meet should be tough because there are a lot of good teams." Juraska feels that We-go's inexperience might prove to be the deciding factor. "It is a question of the young

competing against the more experienced," Juraska stated. "Most of the kids are still a year away."

So it seems that this young team is looking ahead to next year. The sophomore team has broken many of their own records as well as tying some of the varsity records. "The sophomores are really setting a pace," stated varsity pole vaulter

"... when they're ... on the varsity, they will be turning some heads."

Mark Schibur. "Next year when they're all together on the varsity, they will be turning some heads." Juraska agrees with this point, and is hopeful that these sophomores will "continue their winning attitude" as they've learned to "progress". It is this attitude Juraska hopes will evoke the support that will make "next year's team a success. I think," he added finally, "they will surprise a few people."