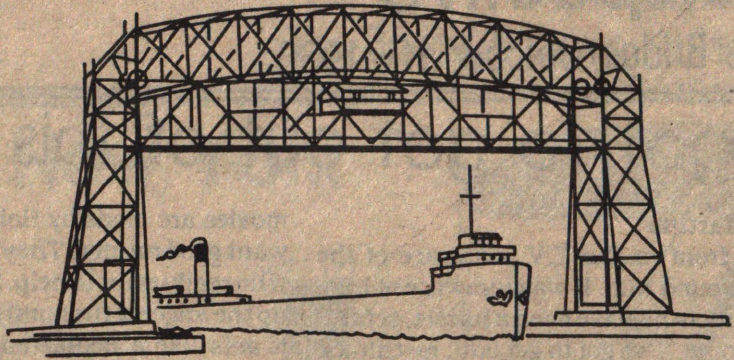


The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL 60185
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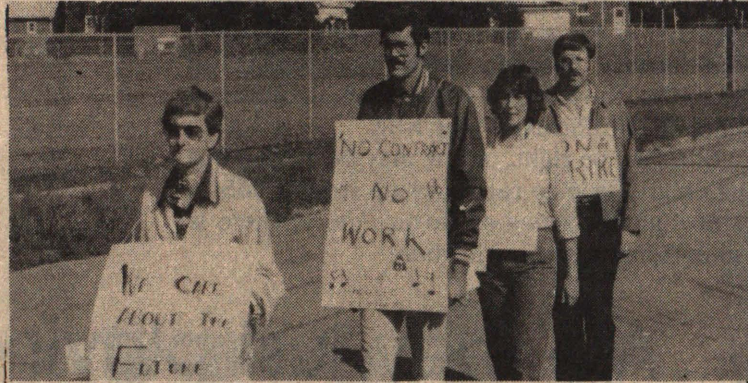
Strike three and the students are out

by Sheryl Wadda

The time has come around. The teachers four year contract is up and they are ready for a strike after little accomplishment in negotiations concerning financial matters. Dianne DeWolfe, president of the West Chicago High School Teachers' Association, has said that the financial issues are their main concern because there is hardly any agreement in the salaries.

DeWolfe explained that the only salary agreed upon so far is the starting salary for new teachers. The Board of Education told DeWolfe that, "the assessed evaluation per student is higher in District 94 than in the Glenbard district (District 87)." That means that the salaries for the teachers at Glenbard are lower than the salaries at West Chicago, even though Glenbard is ranked higher in their pay scale than West Chicago.

DeWolfe also said that the board's proposed salary increases are considerably lower than other comparable schools. Such as, a teacher with a master's degree, extra course time, and years of experience would be making \$3000 to \$6000 less teaching here than he would at other comparable schools. The Board does not want to pay the teachers according to other comparable schools such as Naperville, Glenbard,



LaVora Singleton, Ronald Benner, Amy Gibson, and Charles Greenberg on strike in 1980.

Wheaton-Warrenville, etc. The Board is raising their salaries, but not enough for the experience that the teachers have.

Negotiations started April 10, 1986 and there have been approximately 13 meetings with the last three having a mediator present. DeWolfe told the board that, "Many issues still remain on the table, not least of which are the financial items." She also said why meetings have not gone as they should. She said, "The Board arrived at every bargaining session unprepared — actual negotiations were delayed from 15 minutes to an hour while the Board prepared. Frequently, a secretary was typing and copying while we waited."

DeWolfe added that the association

wanted to have the contract settled before the start of the school year. To do that, the association had prepared research to give to the Board's representatives which also included a total overview of the old contract. However, the association received nothing from the Board. That delayed negotiations considerably. Plus, DeWolfe said that, "frustration began to grow."

DeWolfe ended by saying, "We do not want another strike. We do not believe that the District 94 community wants another strike." Therefore there are other meetings scheduled to try and prevent a strike. However, the association has already filed their strike notice to the police department so they can strike at anytime.

Inkspots

What's new at Fermilab

by Jim Rowley

This October, Fermilab is having an art series which involves speakers and courses in art.

Monteith and Rand comedy team will be at Fermilab's Ramsey Auditorium on Oct. 18 at 8 p.m. Admission is \$7. For reservations and information call (312) 840-3353, weekdays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The School of the Art Institute Extension Program is having courses in art. Registration is up to the day the course begins. The courses are:

Watercolor (Section II) Saturdays, 9:30 to 4 p.m. Nov. 1 to Dec. 6.

Color Workshop: Thursdays, 9:30 to 4 p.m., Oct. 30 to Dec. 4.

Off-Loom Weaving: (Section II), Tuesdays, 9:30 to 4 p.m., Oct. 28 to Nov. 25.

The classes are held at Fermilab's Kuhn Barn at Sauk and Batavia Roads. For more information or Catalog (312) 443-3777.

Ticking off the minutes

by Carl Buzzbee

STUDENT COUNCIL MINUTES

(Sept. 16, 1986)

MEETING OPENED 10:00 A.M.

I. Homecoming Theme

- A. Beach
- B. By a unanimous council vote

II. Homecoming T-shirts

- A. Must sell 300 in order to "break even"
- B. Three styles
 1. short sleeve \$6.00
 2. long sleeve \$8.00
 3. sweatshirt \$10.00
- C. Sales begin on Sept. 17th

III. After school Homecoming events

- A. Judges picked to judge activities
- B. Members assigned to get special supplies for events
- C. Each class president assigned to get their classes tri-cycle
- D. Window painting begins Saturday Sept. 27th
 1. contact your class officers for further details

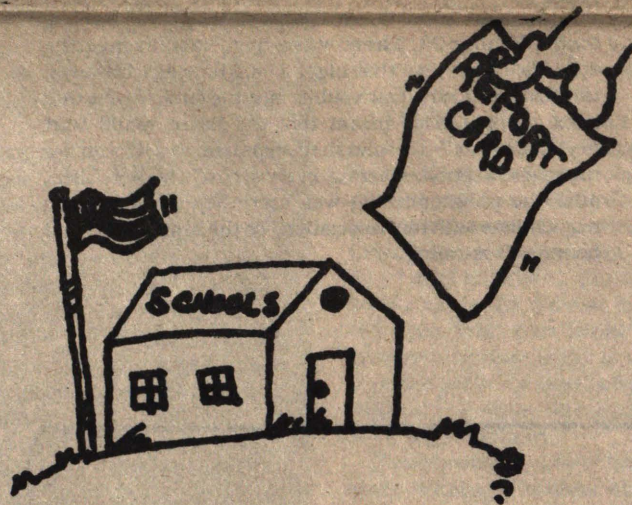
IV. Posters assigned

- A. Each member to make one or more posters
 1. event night
 2. Homecoming week
 3. T-shirt sales

V. New council members

- A. Class of '89
 1. Theresa Romero
- B. Class of '90
 1. Randa Bascheron
 2. Katrina Blake
 3. Anissa Garcia
 4. Alicia Hubert
 5. Chad Landis
 6. Peggy Ostermann
 7. Stephanie Payton
 8. Chuck Picton
 9. David Smith
 10. Chris Wickund

MEETING CLOSED AT 11:00 A.M.
NEXT COUNCIL MEETING — Oct. 1, 4th hour — (members to eat 3rd lunch)



We-go gets a report card

by Jim Recchia

This year our school will be graded by the state for the first time ever, as a part of a state mandate by the Illinois Board of Education.

The deadline to turn over the information to the press and the parents is October 31. This new process will compare our school with about 4000 other schools from the academic success of the students to the schools' financial status. Other things that the state will look at is the ACT, and SAT scores, and high school graduation rate.

The grading systems will reveal many things such as attendance, enrollment of the low income students, student transfers, average class size, student teacher ratios, and even the salaries of the teachers and administrators. According to the Chicago Sun-Times, the majority of the high school report cards to parents, and elementary schools will send them home with the students.

The first idea for the school report cards came last February by Governor James Thompson. While addressing the General Assembly Thompson stated, "Parents and

taxpayers must be assured that the schools they trust and support are as accountable as their students." The state Republicans were mainly responsible for this when they suggested the schools grading system was written into law, instead of leaving it to the state board.

In the grade schools, the schools will reveal test scores of kids and compare schools in the districts. They will base the comparison on which school has more students in the top quarter of the district, and the lowest. One source noted that Lincoln and Pioneer schools will have lower scores because of the higher Hispanic rate and lower income kids.

Sixth grade teachers Gary McClury (Gary School) pointed out that the comparison would not be bad if there was not so much emphasis on it. He went on to say, "The system would be better if it showed progression throughout the year, parents and press will get part of the information but not the whole thing."

The information will be issued to the press and parents soon, and from this information we will have access to things much easier than before.

Inside

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AAHPERD evaluates P.E. students

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I've got to get out of this world!

by Sherry Martins

He sat in front of the T.V. unaware of the movement around him. It was unaware of him. The last few months have been a hassle, school, work, and home. 'I've got to get out', he thinks. Then the story came on, "Thirteen year-old dies of carbon monoxide poisoning."

For a teenager that headline and the story following would be a deadly influence. Recent studies show that the number of suicides is higher after a T.V. movie or in-depth report on the subject. The media may only be a small variable, and elimination of coverage wouldn't change things.

However, the way the movies and/or reports tend to be, teens must remember that the movies tend to over-dramatize doing poorly on the ACT. It is no reason to kill yourself. These

movies are made by Hollywood producers who want good ratings. They are not made by people who really want to help. Shows also tend to play up the anger of the family and friends. However, it acts like a double-edged sword, we cannot pretend that it does not happen and yet when we portray it — it makes things worse.

Television networks immediately criticized the report saying that the number of teens discouraged from taking their lives was not told. "Neither of the studies demonstrates a casual relationship between media portrayals and suicide," said Helen Manasian, director of Corporate Information for NBC.

She may be right, or she may be wrong. But when the suicide rate goes up from 1,555 to 1,666 after a news or feature story, there is something wrong somewhere.



Teens going to mental hospitals

by Naresh Nair

Have you or your friends ever been admitted to a psychiatric hospital or drug treatment center? Do you think it was right or wrong to put them there?

According to a recent hearing a startling fact stated that the admission of adolescents to private and psychiatric hospitals increased by 450 percent between 1980 and 1984, according to the American Psychiatric Association (APA).

In fact, two-thirds of the three million seriously disturbed children are not getting the proper care. The association also said up to 40 percent of the admission are unnecessary.

The association's studies say that the adolescents and youth are getting admitted for inappropriate reasons. These reasons being examples such as emotional disturbances, conduct disorders or adolescents adjustment. Senior Fellow of Hubrt Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, Ira Schwartz said the youth should not be forced into going to institutions by their parents. Schwartz said it should be a free choice of the youth. Many lower-class youth are treated as delinquents when they need serious help.

Are they just playing games?

by Sheryl Wadda

Is the Board of Education just playing childish games, or is the Teacher's Association just asking too much? I believe that the Board just likes to play games. The problem really lies in the fact that the teachers are getting frustrated and the students are worried.

The Board is almost always unprepared for meetings and is difficult to negotiate with. Does the Board realize what it is teaching the students? In my point of view, it teaches us to play games, procrastinate, and pull power plays. The teachers are asking for reasonable negotiations and are getting children for Board members.

The students are suffering more than the teachers because we are in the dark and our adult examples are playing high school games. Teenagers are confused enough with teachers constantly saying, "Be responsible! When are you going to start acting like an adult?" We don't need to see adults being irresponsible and playing games to frustrate people.

An example of the Board's game playing is the meeting on September 23. There was a negotiations meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. that night a long time ago. However, the Board decided to call a public meeting for 7:45 p.m. that same evening. This meant that the Board would start negotiations at 7 p.m. and then stop them at 7:45 p.m. for their general public meeting on the school's budget. Then, after the public meeting was over they would resume negotiations with the association. To the association, that becomes frustrating.

An act of irresponsibility is when the Board "arrived at every bargaining session unprepared — actual negotiations were delayed from 15 minutes to an hour while the Board prepared," said by Dianne DeWolfe (President of the Teacher's Association). Again, what do these kinds of actions show the students?

If one stops to think about it, how hard is it to be prepared for something? The students are almost always prepared for their classes, they are all geared up for their sports' practices on time, they are all learning their lines for the play, and we meet our deadlines. Surprisingly, the students here seem to do all of those extracurricular activities and get their homework done and possibly hold a job. The students seem pretty responsible.

The teachers are almost always prepared to teach, plus some have households to run, and they either coach, direct the plays, or teach night classes. They are also very responsible.

The Board, too, must also be responsible. They must stop playing games. They should keep in mind that they are our role models and that they should be setting good examples.

I don't want striking teachers and neither do the students. The teachers just want comparable salaries to comparable schools.

It has been said that the lack of communication doesn't make the problem go away, it just gets bigger. And, adults are our role models — the mistakes they make we will also make.

Information

by Sheryl Wadda

Students have been complaining about the lack of information given to us. They say they don't know what's going on. When the students were asked what they wanted to know, the reply was, "Anything that affects us."

Even though the comment was rather vague, this writer went to see Alan Jones, principal. After describing the situation, Jones suggested a tri-weekly article dealing with the goings-on of the office, the board, and anything else. In addition to that if you have any questions to ask, or rumors to clarify, write them down, sign your name (or else it cannot be printed) and turn it into Tim Courtney's mailbox, or room 216.

If we get replies, then it will become a regular column and the students will be informed.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

This is regarding the screwed up policy of this school's off campus privileges. I am a senior and have off campus seventh hour, which I depend on because I am employed and must be at work by 3 p.m.

One day I had lost my keys in my locker and was approached by Mrs. Sweder saying that I had to be out of the halls by the bell or I would be placed in study hall. I tried to explain that I couldn't very well leave without keys. I was told that it didn't matter and the bell rang. She escorted me to study hall where I also tried to speak to Mr. Highland. Both were incredibly unreasonable about my job and said, "Well, you'll just be late." Well, I was late, and received a disciplinary notice at work.

It would be understandable (to me) if I had been caught standing around talking, but looking for my keys? I think the deans should come off their power plays, and mightier-than-thou attitude and use some common sense! I feel I was treated rudely and have a question to ask the deans: Haven't you ever lost your keys and been late because of it? Or, are you perfect?

Sincerely,
Jeff Pearson



P.S. I'm sure this, and other letters like mine, will bring about threats of 'taking away' these so-called 'privileges'. Which is, of course, another power play. We're on to you!

The Bridge
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Here comes the Jolt from New York

by Kim Mauk

"All the sugar and twice the caffeine." This quote is found on the can with a yellow lightening bolt and red and white stripes around it. In a world where, first saccharin, and then Nutra-Sweet have been developed to create various sugar-free colas, Jolt cola is one of a kind.

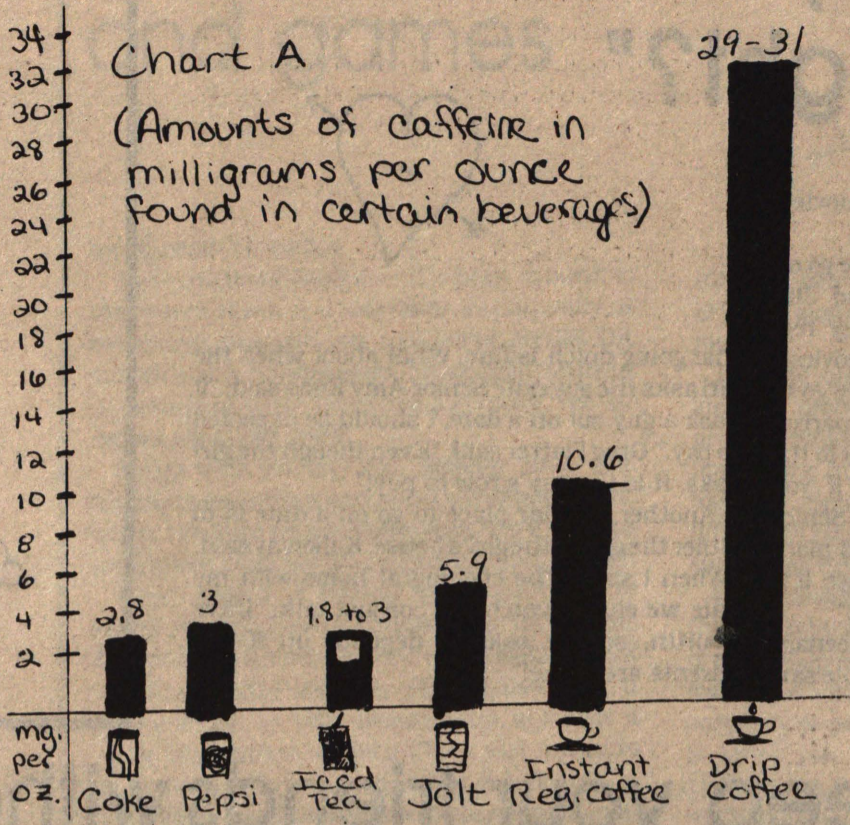
Jolt cola was developed by 27-year-old Carl Joseph Rapp. He is the son of a bottling plant owner and lives in upstate New York. Jolt was "inspired by the need for a better tasting soft drink." Rapp feels that when people think of soft drinks, they should think of a treat "reminiscent" of the soda parlor era (from September 15 issue of People magazine).

Rapp says that the sugar found in Jolt is natural cane sugar, not from corn syrup or something "concocted" in a lab. Natural cane sugar is not found in most other colas. However, the number of calories are still comparable with those in other colas.

Along with "all the sugar", there is five and nine tenths milligrams of caffeine per ounce put into Jolt cola. this is just under the Federal Drug Administration's soft drink limit of six milligrams of caffeine per ounce. (To give you an idea of how this compares with other products which contain caffeine, see chart A.)

The ingredients found in Jolt are: carbonated water, sugar, caramel color, phosphoric acid, caffeine, citric acid, and natural flavors.

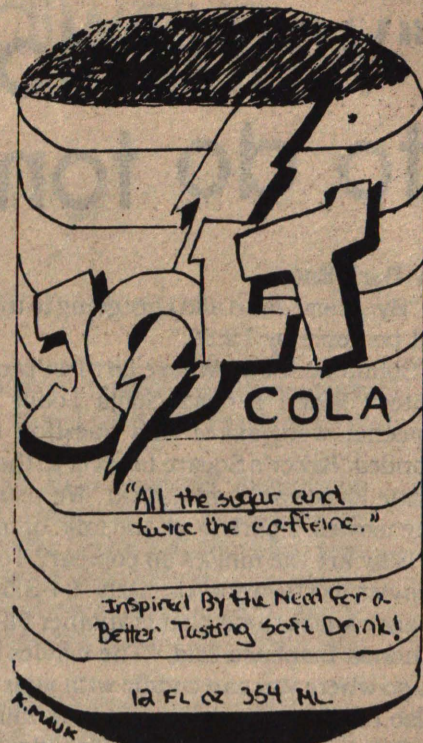
The same ingredients are found in colas such as Diet Cherry Cola, Coke, and Diet Dr. Pepper, except for sugar and citric acid. Instead of the sugar, these colas contain



substitutes such as Nutra-Sweet, saccharin, high fructose corn syrup, sucrose, and artificial flavors.

Some of the ingredients that Rapp left out of Jolt are: potassium benzoate, sodium benzoate, monosodium phosphate, lactic acid, polyethylene glycol, and phenylalanine.

Jolt first came out last spring in Rochester, New York. Since then it has made its way into several large cities at an introductory price of \$1.99 per six pack. (However, the regular price has now gone up to \$2.59 per six pack in many stores to match other cola prices.)



Jolt will soon appear in a total of 30 states. Rapp expects national distribution early next year. Rapp has not released any sales figures yet, but they are expected to be good. This is because, as People magazine put it, all other colas are "insipid", or tasteless and dull.

However, one Washington public interest group has already sarcastically nominated Rapp for "the Nutrition Hall of Shame". But Rapp just keeps drinking his three or more cans of Jolt a day and asks, "Who said soft drinks are supposed to be health products?"

To brush or let crush Dealing with criticism

by Michele Stevenson

Your best friend just told you that you can't match your clothes right. How would you take a comment like that? Would you laugh at it, or would you take it seriously and get upset?

Dr. Richard Stern, adolescent psychologist at Lake Shore Hospital in Chicago, said that the "Adolescent's sense of self hasn't jelled so they rely too much on other people's opinions. They value themselves based on how they think others value them."

Criticism is not necessarily supposed to be taken as an insult. It depends on your personality or even what kind of mood you're in. If you're in a bad mood you might be offensive and take any comment as an insult.

But say it's not one of your close friends that criticizes you. Then would you take it as an insult? A lot of people would, especially if it was said behind your back.

Sooner or later someone is going to criticize you and you will have to take it lightly. If you take it seriously, that means you care

what the person thinks of you, but why?

The following are reasons why criticism affects you:

- illogical thinking
- perfectionism
- low self esteem

Sometimes we believe that words have a true meaning of their own, words have power. This doesn't necessarily make them true, whether they are based on logic or not. This is why when you are criticized your first reaction is to defend yourself before you've even thought of the true meaning behind the words.

"It's all or nothing for the perfectionist," said Dr. David Burns in this book *Feeling Good*. Perfectionists believe that either you're drop-dead handsome or you're ugly; others love you or else they hate you. What perfectionists must realize is that life is rarely all or nothing, there is an in-between.

Criticism can be a harmful thing. There is one good thing about it, and that is that you can really learn something about yourself by how you take it.

Forming close friends or cliques?

Burnouts, Jocks, Stuck ups, Geeks and Brains are just a few types of cliques that one might observe at We-go.

"Being accepted by a crowd — any crowd — is important to most teenagers," believes Beth Winship, an advice columnist. "If you are accepted by a crowd you like, you feel good about yourself," according to Winship. Cliques act in an important roll in development of members' personalities by setting up groups dos and don'ts. Cliques can even help solve social problems of members, because being in such a group makes it easier to meet people of the opposite sex of whom the group approves," according to Winship.

"Exclusiveness is one of the main drawbacks of cliques," believes Winship. Elizabeth Crow, editor-in-chief of *Parents* magazine, agrees "Cliques are exclusive, by definition but, worse, members tend to reinforce their allegiance to another by victimizing non-members." Crow gives an example of how the problem doesn't stop at the clique. "A girl who was tormented by a clique and then was dropped by the rest of

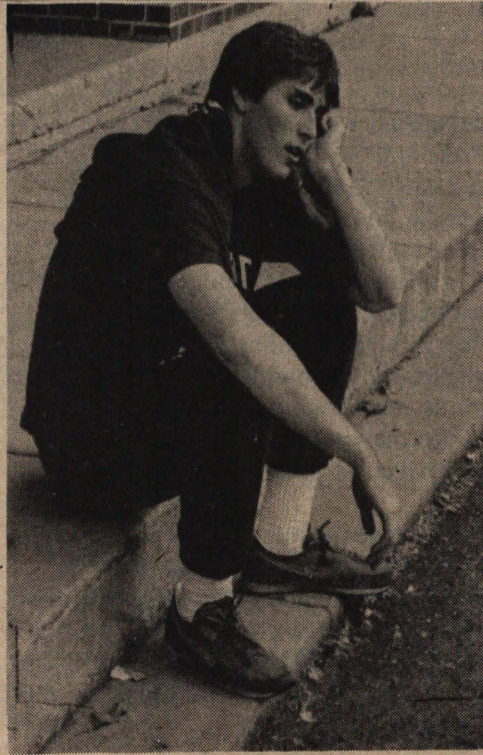
the class simply because the other members of the class didn't want the clique to torment them for associating with the girl."

"Usually if a person doesn't belong to one clique, they normally belong to another," according to Crow. "If you have never belonged to any cliques it could mean you don't know how to develop strong personal relationships," believes Crow.

"From playschool on, groups form cliques which draw boundaries defining how the group will play, and face life's decisions and choosing moral standards," believes Susan Isaacs, an author of *Child Development* Books. "Cliques become important when children face the teenage years when friends become more of your interest than your home and family."

"You can often find yourself in a clique just by building individual friendships," Winship said, "which soon develop into group friendships."

Finally Winship points out, "Whether or not cliques are good or bad, they are just made up of a bunch of friends."



Criticism need not be taken as hard as some people take it.

IMAGES



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"What do you want to do tonight?"

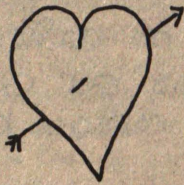
by Barb Enos

"Bye Mom! John and I are going to the movies. I'll be home by 12:30."

Sound familiar? Where do most people go on dates? When seniors Sonja Loder and Jim Recchia were asked this question they responded "Baker's Square to eat or to the movies." Katie Kalloway, junior, said "We usually go to the movies, a park to sit and talk, or to a party."

Why are the movies so popular? To go to the movies costs approximately \$4-5.50. If you want a snack to eat, that is another \$2-3. Senior Rhonda Dispensa said, "The movies is a place to go where you can cuddle with your date. It is also the first place that comes to mind."

Going dutch is a new thing in today's teenage world. In a survey, seven out of ten people said



that going dutch is fine. What about when the girl asks the guy out? Senior Amy Enos said, "If I ask a guy out on a date, I should be expected to pay." Greg Flatter said, "Even though the girl asks, it is the guy's role to pay!"

Another popular place to go on a date is to either the guy or the girl's house. Kalloway said, "When I spend the evening at home with my date we either watch T.V. or just talk." Dave Courtin, senior, said "It depends on if the parents are home!"

Trying to keep your friends without losing your boy/girlfriend (and vice versa)

by Melanie Miller

"Now what am I going to do? I promised Karen I'd go shopping with her tonight, and I also told Joe I'd go to his soccer game."

This girl is caught in a situation where she must decide who to put first: her boyfriend or best friend.

One of the difficult parts of being involved in a teen relationship is keeping your own friends and social life, while also trying to spend all the time with your boyfriend or girlfriend they ask for.

Oftentimes the new relationship becomes priority over old friendships. At first your friends are happy for you, but as time goes by they won't like being second choice.

The more involved you get in a relationship, the more control it takes over you. You may not feel the need to spend time with your friends as your relationship develops.

One solution is to plan things with your friends and boyfriend or girlfriend at the same time. It might work and can be fun, but as Jean Volpe, senior, said "Each person needs a different kind of attention, and that usually leaves someone feeling stuck in the middle."

According to Karen London, a Chicago social worker, "Some teenagers will let the people they're dating control them more than they'd let anyone else — even their parents — control them." She said therefore it's important to understand not just one person can fulfill the needs of another, other people are needed too. That's why you can't let one person control you, and keeping your friendships is important.

When asked why it's hard to keep your friendships as strong when you're involved in a relationship, Ryann Stewart said "Someone is always jealous. Either your friends complain that you spend too much time with 'him' or else

The pain of pleasure relationships



A common sight in hallways

'he' complains you're not spending enough time together." It all comes down to being able to maintain two kinds of relationships at the same time. You can't expect your friends to be there only when your boy/girlfriend's not. To be fair to everyone involved might mean you will have to make some sacrifices now and then, but it will show that both kinds of relationships are important to you.

If you're on the end where you feel you're

"Each person needs a different kind of attention, and that usually leaves someone feeling stuck in the middle."

being pushed aside, one way to solve the problem is to tell your friend how you feel. They may not even realize they're doing it, and they'll be glad to hear it from you, not from what they've heard you said behind their back.

Even though it is a difficult situation, you'll have to face what might happen if you don't consider everyone's feelings. By being fair you can have two kinds of happy relationships at the same time.

Playing the field vs. seeing one person

by Gary Saccomanno

There's basically two options you have to consider when you've decided it's time to date. Would you rather date just one person, or date more people casually, commonly known as playing the field.

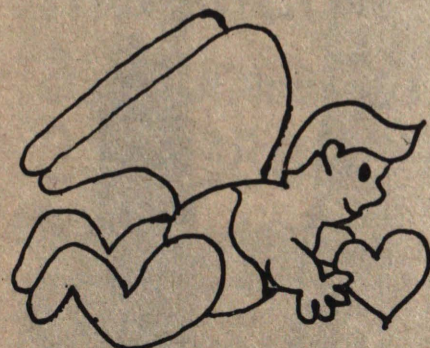
Both have advantages and disadvantages. Playing the field is widely used with people who don't feel comfortable going on dates or who don't have a steady girlfriend or boyfriend. When playing the field you don't have to worry about cheating on someone and you often have more opportunities to meet people. You also don't have to make any commitments to a certain person.

Friends can play a big part in deciding if you should date someone or not. It seems that if your friends don't like a certain person then you will not date them. But the real choice is yours. If you make up your mind you want to go out with someone, then you should follow your heart.

Like playing the field, seeing one person can

have certain advantages too. For example, you don't have to take your date to the movie or out for dinner, just spending a quiet evening at home with them is fine. Having a steady boyfriend or girlfriend often makes you feel better about yourself, and more secure. There are also some disadvantages to this kind of relationship. Many times after a couple breaks up things will never be the same, and it's hard to even remain friends. A serious relationship also involves a lot of time that you may not be ready to give up, and you may feel you're growing apart from your friends.

Different relationships apply to different people, and a person's personality plays a role in deciding whether to play the field or just see one person. The pros and cons should be considered when deciding what's right for you, but one thing usually holds true, don't expect to enjoy the best of both worlds!



ins and es of teen nships



sight seen in West Chicago's

A relationship isn't always and games



by Rhonda Dispensa

The custom of dating — it's been around so long you'd think it would come as naturally as breathing. But still you can never predict the outcome of a relationship. Some relationships go smoothly and others are as "rocky" as the mountain range itself.

Along with having fun, sharing love, and having respect for someone of the opposite sex, when involved in a relationship there are ups and downs you may have to prepare yourself for.

When asked if having your boyfriend or girlfriend going away to college or joining the Army would influence your relationship, most teens responded similarly. One girl said "Yes, it puts a strain on your relationship, but after a while you learn to adjust and if it was meant to be or you really love each other it will last."

Another common problem is money on a date. Dutch treating is one possible solution. You don't have to feel that it is a "one on one" commitment. It also relieves a lot of pressure on a date if you both pay. It helps keep your relationship independent. If money is a prob-

lem you can also try to plan things that don't involve money. It will take the emphasis off money.

Finding enough time to spend together is another problem teens run into in the dating process. Work, extra curricular activities, and homework influence the time you can spend together. Senior, Barb Enos said that "Work limits the time that me and my boyfriend can spend together."

Even though your parents may think you're the greatest thing to come along since sliced bread, your boyfriend or girlfriend's parents may have a different opinion. In any case, the only way to calm their nerves is to let them get to know you. Reassure them that you're not going to lock their son or daughter into a serious relationship too soon or make them grow away from them.

Even though these are just some of the problems encountered in dating, there are a lot of positive things too, and oftentimes you'll find it's worth the risk!

When the end is near

by Laura Barajas

The sweet kisses, the soft "I love you's," the great times out on the town, the deep, intimate, private talks, may mean the world to anyone right now. But it may not last forever. Someday, the sweet kisses could be forever gone, the soft "I love you's" might become nervous "hello's," the great times out on the town won't be together anymore, and the deep, intimate talks will hopefully remain private.

Ending a relationship can be a difficult thing to do. There are many confusing thoughts that run through one's minds. What do you say, what do you do so that it's not as painful for either one of you?

First of all, be honest, let your girlfriend or boyfriend know what the *real* problem is. Whether it be you've outgrown that relationship and want to date other people, or the relationship is too serious, let the other person know why.

It's also important to keep it just between the two of you. It may be silly and a little immature to break-up over the phone or write a "Dear John" letter. Face to face is best, go somewhere so the two of you can be alone and talk things out. There will still be pain no matter what, but this won't seem as bad.

Most of all, don't involve your friends. You shouldn't depend on them to be messengers. Things get turned around, rumors get started, and there's likely to be some misunderstandings. People might get hurt when it may not be necessary.

Now that you know how to break it, how do you take it? "After a break-up," says Jenny Srachta, a senior from St. Francis High School, "there are so many feelings running through my mind, hatred, guilt, revenge, even some happiness." All these mixed feelings can actually wreck a person's life if they don't know how to tackle them.

These feelings after a break-up usually have three stages. First you may experience shock, and want to deny the relationship has ended. "After she broke up with me, I found myself still wanting to wait for her in the halls or to call her, anything. I thought to myself — this has got to be the 'Twilight Zone.' It can't possible be ending, especially like this!" said a senior, Joe.

The second stage is anger, revenge, and hatred. "After he broke up with me, I hated him. I wanted to tell everyone what a creep he was, I did too, and now I regret it," said Karen.

The third and final stage is the mending process. This is when you realize life does go on! "I look back at all the tears I cried and I laugh and think how dumb that was. I'm still alive and ticking. Probably even better than before. But I sure learned a lot from those tears," said Srachta.

These weird feelings may also make you think of getting back together again. This usually doesn't work. "We decided to get back together again after we broke up. Then we stopped seeing each other again, but promised to try later on. She wanted to try again, but I told her I didn't think so. I know it hurt her, it hurt me, but if I'm better off without her, she's better off without me!" said Bob, a junior.

Remember: you broke up for a reason. When you feel your resolve is failing, think of that reason, and be strong.

After a break-up, don't rush into another romantic expedition. Spend some time with friends and family, keep busy. Then, think about what you might want to do differently next time.

"They say that breaking-up is hard to do."

It is and it's painful. Remember to be honest, private, and realistic. A break-up is never a rejection of you personally, it's only a rejection of a particular relationship.

Editor's note: All names are not properly stated by request.



Ken Leisering and Kim Giller

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What goes on in public and private halls?

by Kim Giller

It is 7:30 a.m. on a Friday and students stand in the halls talking while waiting for the bell to ring. At one school, boys and girls are holding hands and laughing. All styles of clothes and haircuts can be seen. Some guys have on their football jerseys and some girls have on their cheerleading uniforms. Lockers are decorated and halls are T.P.'d in preparation for the game that night.

Meanwhile in another school, boys and girls are talking quietly. Everyone has a standard uniform, and no guy has hair past his shirt collar. The halls are neat and orderly, with no real sign of any upcoming event.

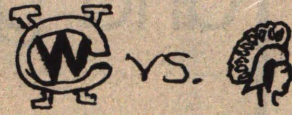
These two scenes represent some of the major differences between West Chicago, a public school, and St. Francis, a private school. Through interviews with transfer students from St. Francis these differences were shown.

One difference is in the rules between the two high schools. St. Francis is more strict on rules concerning appearance, and uniforms are required. Students missing any part of their uniform can be sent to the dean. St. Francis also enforces strict rules on hair styles. Long hair is forbidden. Jeff Pearson, who transferred last year from St. Francis, was told to get a haircut or else transfer. At We-go the administration has no control over hair and very little over clothing.



photo by Kim Mauk

Another difference between the schools is the freedom students have. At We-go students can enjoy the privilege of off-campus, unscheduled hours, and off-campus lunch. There are paraprofessionals to see that these privileges aren't abused. At St. Francis there aren't paraprofessionals, but they don't have off-campus privileges or unscheduled hours either. Instead they have a study hall, even upperclassmen.



St. Francis is noted for having a good academic program. It consists mainly of college prep courses, and the majority of its students go on to attend college. We-go has college prep courses too, but the administration also emphasizes vocational training. Both schools do have the option to attend DAVEA.

We-go has more electives to choose from than St. Francis. The courses St. Francis offers provide students with a good background for college. At We-go it's more the students choice to take college-prep classes.

According to Kim Mauk and Pearson, the students at each school act differently.

"At We-go Mauk said that their weren't as many cliques as there are at St. Francis." Pearson said that St. Francis students seemed to be a bit conceited because most of them are from well-off families.

These two high schools are both respected in the community. While St. Francis is more "cultured" and disciplined, and also is more for the college-bound student, We-go can be for anyone, college-bound or not. It all depends on the kind of environment being sought after.



Two Spartans model their daily uniform. (usually blazers are worn also.) photo by Kim Mauk



Senior Spartan Jerry Fitzpatrick. photo by Kim Mauk.

Sneak peek of fall flicks

(YNS) - Hollywood has moved ahead to complete its fall feature releases. The following Youth News Service exclusive sneak-preview presents the silver screen fall line-up of teen movies. Check your local newspaper for exact release dates and theaters.

"CLOCKWISE" - John Cleese of Monty Python stars as a school administrator whose monotonous living pattern is upset on the most important day of his life. Opening in September.

"HOOSIERS" - Gene Hackman brings the audience to Indiana for a view of highly competitive high school basketball. Opening in October.

"PLAYING FOR KEEPS" - Three enterprising young men convert a run-down hotel into a teen hot-spot and resort. Music supplied by Phil Collins and Julian Lennon. Opening in October.

"THE THREE AMIGOS" - Refugees from "Saturday Night Live," Steve Martin, Chevy Chase, and Martin Short, battle with an evil group of desperados in a quaint Mexican village. Opening in December.

Fighting crime positively

Vandalism, drugs, and alcohol are some examples of what students may experience in high school. According to John Highland, a small percentage of students have tried drugs and alcohol, mainly due to curiosity and peer pressure.

The policy of the school is against vandalism or using or selling drugs and alcohol. If a student is caught possessing or selling drugs, the police are called in. The severity of the punishment depends on whether it is the first, second, or third offense of the student involved.

West Chicago High School has spent a great deal of money to repair school vandalism. Repairing the damaged lockers costed the school \$6000 to \$7000 this year.

Highland feels that the decisions that students make now will be with them for the rest of their lives. He supports three goals which he suggests students should consider to avoid trouble. They are: being prepared for school and maintaining good attendance, being constructive by joining various school activities, and behaving and being well disciplined.

Highland feels that for crime not to affect the students, the school and it students should combine in a joint effort to develop "We-go pride".



Did you lock your car?

Malls attract more than shoppers

by Kim Mauk

Is it really necessary to lock your car all of the time, even if you're just running into a store for five minutes?

"Yes, it is important", says Doug Durr, a senior at West Chicago. On September 9, Durr witnessed an attempted auto theft. He said that he went to work at about 3 p.m. and parked in the Main Street parking lot at Stratford Square.

"I noticed that the door of the car I parked next to was ajar. There was a black man in the front seat kicking the steering wheel, trying to break the lock," said Durr.

Durr ran into Stratford and contacted mall security. Five security men then chased the man to his Monte Carlo, which was parked across the lot. The police were then called.

The fire department was called after the car's power steering overheated, causing it to smoke. "It caught on fire right before the fire truck arrived," said Durr. "Then both the police and mall security took my statement and told me that they would call me in for

a line-up identity."

As a result of Durr's description, the police were able to locate the assailant and arrest him.

In "Crime lured like magnets to car lots", (Tribune), Downers Grove Chief George Graves said that if people would lock their houses and car doors, there would be a "significant reduction in thefts." Property crimes, such as theft, burglary, and auto theft, accounted for 95 percent of all reported crime in DuPage County.

The highest crime rates are found in places with a greater amount of commercial or industrial development. Places with shopping centers, discount stores, entertainment establishments, and apartment buildings draw people with automobiles. As a result, auto theft in those areas is high.

In short, statistics show that smaller towns without many commercial developments have a lower crime rate, and larger cities with an increased population have an increased crime rate.



"Then both the police and mall security took my statement ..."

Girls swim teams' highest finish in eight years

by Deanna Pattengale

"The team just keeps improving with each meet," Coach Amy Gibson said to the girls swim team Monday at practice after placing second at the Wildcat Invitational Saturday, September 20.

This is the highest the team has placed at the meet in the eight years it has been held at West Chicago. Seven teams from around West Chicago were invited to participate in the event. They included Lake Park, Morris, Streamwood, Woodstock, West Aurora, Waubonsie Valley and Whitney Young (Chicago).

Coach Gibson was pleased at the performance from the West Chicago swimmers

and said that almost every person on the team improved her time.

The final scores from the meet are as follows: Lake Park, 399; West Chicago, 217; West Aurora, 149.5; Morris, 124; Wubonsie Valley, 106.5; Whitney Young, 90; Woodstock, 78; Streamwood, 45. Lake Park repeated as top winners of the Wildcat Invitational.

Top finishers for the Wildcats were Jackie Hildebrand, first in the 200 individual medley with a new meet record of 2:15, and second in the 500 freestyle. Carrie Ryan also broke a meet record in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:09. Other top finishers for the Wildcats included Jenny

Mies and Robin Hein in the 100 breaststroke, Linda Girard in the 500 freestyle, Sue Thuer in the 100 backstroke, and the 400 free relay team of Jackie Hildebrand, Carrie Ryan, Mary Beth Eaton and Kelly Howard.

Gibson gives some of the credit from the improved times to the Sharks swim team. She said that she notices quite a difference between the swimmers that train year round as opposed to the ones that swim only three months out of the year. "They have a definite advantage over the other swimmers," she said. She also said that most of the freshmen that are swimming on varsity swam with the Sharks prior to this

season.

Even though it is still fairly early in the season, Gibson is looking forward to the Waubonsie Valley Invitational on October 26. She feels the Wildcat Invitational was a good prep for the younger swimmers for competition at Waubonsie Valley, where the races are split in three levels: varsity, junior varsity and freshmen.

As far as state qualifiers goes, Jackie Hildebrand has already swum state times, though Gibson is hoping that Carrie Ryan will eventually in her career qualify for state. She is also hoping that in a year or two West Chicago will be able to send a 400 free relay team to state.

AAHPERD evaluates PE students

by Teddi Stasiah

The American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AAHPERD) Fitness Tests were taken by all students in Physical Education classes September 29 through October 1.

Lori Jordan, head of the Physical Education Department, says there are four reasons why the tests are taken. 1) To compare students to other students their age. 2) So students are aware of their own fitness. 3) To evaluate the Physical Education program. 4) To recognize students for being physically fit.

The fitness tests involve the shuttle run,

the 50 yard dash, standing long jump, mile and a half run/walk, sit-ups, pull-ups (boys) and flexed arm hang (girls).

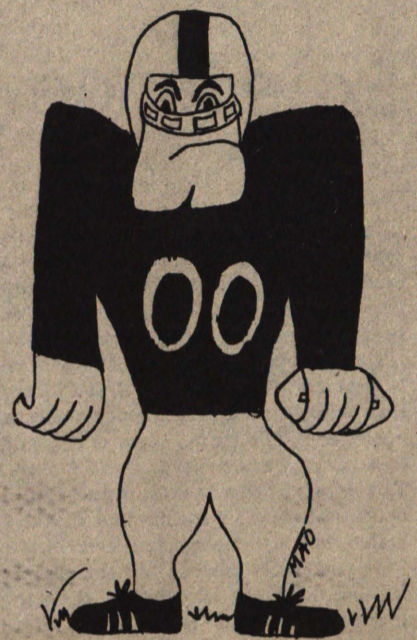
Students have positive and negative opinions on whether or not these tests should be taken. Jerry Hill says, "We should be tested in the bench press instead of the mile and a half." He also said "The scales are too high. It seems like everyone scores low on the tests."

Gary Chezem likes taking the fitness tests because, "It allows me to compare myself with the rest of the nation. I can judge in my own mind whether I am at an acceptable level of fitness."

Patricia Rios thinks some of the tests are unnecessary like the flex arm hang and the long jump. "The tests expect too much out of you. Some of the kids try really hard and they get low marks," adds P. Rios.

John Rios likes the tests, "I like a challenge. I want to try to get the Presidential Award. I like to see how physically fit I am."

Awards are given by AAHPERD to motivate the students. The Presidential Physical Fitness Award is the highest award given for the performance on the AAHPERD Fitness Test. Any student who scores at or above the eighty-fifth percentile on all six items of the test is eligible for the award.



Test your sports knowledge

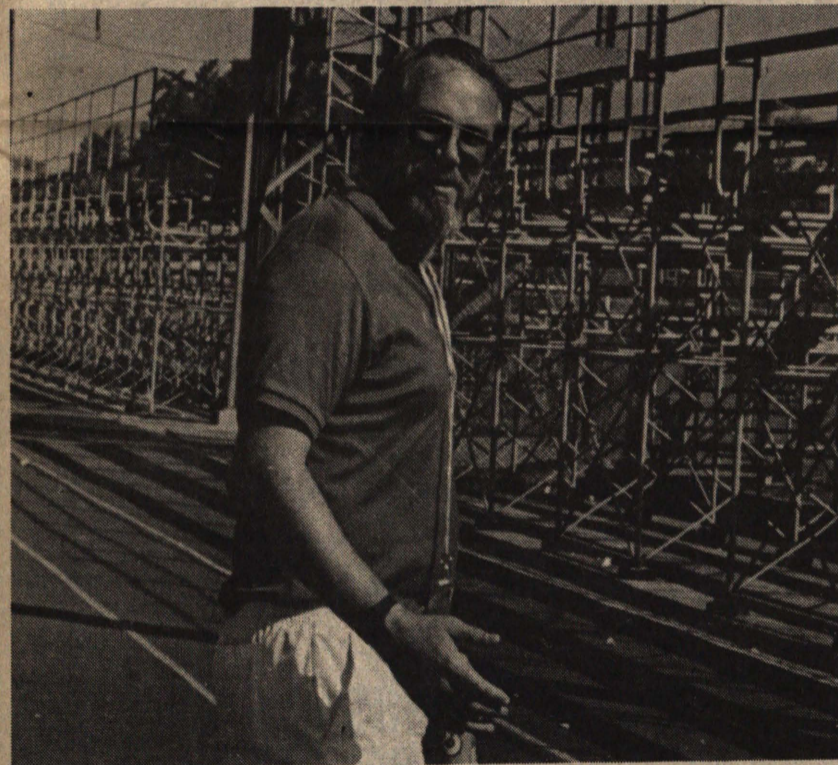
by Marla Jemsek

- Which of the three outfielders in baseball usually has the strongest arm?
- Who was the first black baseball player in the major league?
- What's a ball that hits the foul pole called in baseball?
- What New York Yankee was known as the Iron Horse?
- What two baseball players make up the battery?
- What was the name of the New York Yankees before they became the Yankees?
- What city was the 1984 Super Bowl game played in?
- Who won the first overtime championship game in NFL history?
- Where is the Sugar Bowl played?
- Who was named football back of the decade for 1950 to 1960?
- Who was the first non-American to win the Masters golf title?
- Who set a record for golf earnings in 1963 without winning a national title?

- What female athlete holds the most figure-skating titles?
- What's the oldest stroke used in competitive swimming?
- What's approaching when a cyclist shouts out "oil"?
- What was Mark Johnson referring to when he said: "I still can't believe it - we beat the Russians"?
- Who's the NHL's all-time leading goal scorer?
- What women's tennis star was called Little Mo?
- Who stopped Bjorn Borg's string of Wimbledon singles?

ANSWERS

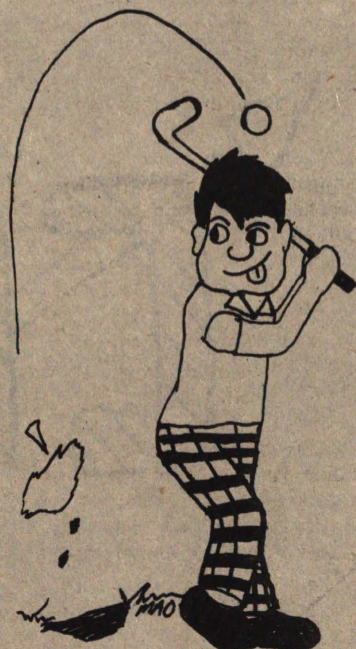
- John McEnroe
Gordie Howe (8) Maureen Connolly (19) car (6) the 1980 Olympic hockey victory (17) a (13) Sonja Henie (14) the breast stroke (15) a Brown (11) Gary Player (12) Arnold Palmer Baltimore Colts (9) New Orleans (10) Jim New York Highlanders (7) Tampa (8) The (4) Lou Gehrig (5) the pitcher and catcher (6) (1) right (2) Jackie Robinson (3) A Home Run



Robert Owens waits for his students to come around the track during the mile and a half run/walk. One of the physical fitness tests.

Upcoming Wildcat sporting events

Football					
Sat. Oct. 11	Glenbard South	A	11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	Thurs. Oct. 16	Naperville Central A 6:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 17	Naperville North	H	5:30 & 7:30	Sat. Oct. 18	St. Charles Tourn. A 9:00 a.m.
Fri. Oct. 24	Wheaton North	A	5:30 & 7:30	Tues. Oct. 21	Glenbard East H 6:00 p.m.
Fri. Oct. 31	Naperville Central	A	5:30 & 7:30	Thurs. Oct. 23	Glenbard South A 6:00 p.m.
Soccer				Girls Swimming	
Sat. Oct. 11	Naperville Central	H	4:30 & 6:30	Tues. Oct. 14	Elgin & Crystal Lake South H 5:00 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 14	Glenbard South	A	4:30 & 6:30	Thurs. Oct. 16	Sacred Heart of Mary H 5:00 p.m.
Sat. Oct. 18	Wheaton North	H	4:30 & 6:30	Tues. Oct. 21	Morris H 5:00 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 21	Glenbard East	A	4:30 & 6:30	Fri. Oct. 24	Waubonsie Valley A Inv. 5:00 p.m.
Thurs. Oct. 23	Glenbard North	H	4:30 & 6:30	Sat. Oct. 25	Waubonsie Valley A Inv. 12 p.m.
Golf				Thurs. Oct. 30	Waubonsie Valley A 5:00 p.m.
Tues. Oct. 14	Sectional Finals	TBA		Girls Tennis	
Fri. Oct. 17	State Finals	TBA		Fri. Oct. 10	DVC Tournament A TBA
Sat. Oct. 18	State Finals	TBA		Sat. Oct. 11	DVC Tournament A TBA
Cross Country				Fri. Oct. 17	Sectional TBA
Sat. Oct. 18	DVC Championship at North Side Park	A	1:00 p.m.	Thurs. Oct. 24	State Finals TBA
Volleyball					
Sat. Oct. 11	Naperville North	H	10:00 a.m.		
Tues. Oct. 14	Wheaton Central	H	6:00 p.m.		



Tom Niketopolis and Colby Walter have just recently shot rounds of 37 and 38 respectively in matches against Naperville North and Wheaton North. Tim Courtney, head golf coach, said these are two of the best scores in West Chicago's golfing history.

What kind of strategy do you have in order to shoot a 37? "To relax!" said Niketopolis, senior. He also mentioned that "I like golfing with someone where I can relax and not be pressured. I prefer golfing with Walter, senior, because he keeps my mind off of how I am playing."

But what about the point of view of the

head coach?

When talking to Courtney, he said that some of his demands are to "try their (the players) hardest, and to look good on the golf course." Niketopolis had a different view. He said, "Don't take the game too seriously, play how you want to and don't get mad and quit; make the best of it!"

Making the best of it is what Walter does. How does he shoot his best? "It takes a lot of practice and instead of goofing around at practice you should work harder." That is exactly what Walter does, because Courtney has hopes for Walter and Niketopolis to advance to state competition and possibly share the title of all-conference! (The all-

conference team consists of the 10 best scores at the conference tournament. This year it will be held at Springbrook, in Naperville, IL).

Niketopolis says, "Everyone has a chance (at state and all-conference competition) but I feel that the way I am playing right now, I have a very good chance." (You could play well all year and shoot high in the tournament and not get all-conference, or shoot bad all year and have a good day and make all-conference).

It takes a lot of practice to become a good golfer. Gary Saccomanno, a senior, says he spends 7 to 10 hours a week depending on the amount of matches in a week.

After talking with Marla Jemsek, senior, the only female varsity player, her goals were found to be similar to those of her teammates'. She says, "My goals for the season are to advance to state competition and play the best I can."

Matches are played two to four times a week, and are either played at St. Andrews, (West Chicago's course) or the opposing team's home course.

One final piece of advice given by Saccomanno referring to pre-game preparation before a match: "Not much at all, (preparation), just get to the team bus before it leaves."

Experience is the key

by Peter Kovac

Tennis is a sport for a lifetime. Tennis consists of solid strokes, shots, sweat, and experience. A high school tennis program tries to strengthen their players in these skills and others, including sportsmanship.

These skills are measured in matches. However, with a team like West Chicago High Schools' these measurements may be misleading. The tennis team is a young team lacking experienced varsity players. The varsity team is missing a second doubles team. This means that in every match they lose one before it even starts. This puts more pressure on the players because the girls must win three out of the four matches for the team to win.

Kim Giller sees this as a rebuilding year due to the loss of last year's seniors. Coach Wayne Kosek realizes they are going to have a difficult time winning, however, he feels that his players have worked hard and the varsity can be competitive.

Kosek says, "All my players are key players." He plans to look toward Elizabeth Lach for team leadership because it's her

third year on the varsity. Kosek named Lach captain because he thinks that her teammates look for her leadership.

Lach, a junior who is seeded first, thinks that after spending all day in school it makes it more difficult to concentrate in practice or a match. Lach thinks that a weakness she has is a lack of concentration or mental toughness. Giller thinks that match experience improves concentration.

Kosek's goal is for his team to play well. He believes that a cycle of participation exists. He says that they are at the bottom of the cycle right now. Kosek thinks that in a couple of years they'll be at the top of the cycle, which will allow them to compete at the right levels.

The team's major goals are to play well and finish well in the DuPage Valley Conference. According to Lach this will be hard because, "We're in a good conference and the other schools have good players." Kosek would also like to qualify someone for the state tournament. Giller believes that that person is Lach.

Cross country rebuilds

"We have a fairly good team this year," said Head Coach Doug Juraska. "Win or lose we still have fun."

"Right now we are 'rebuilding' for next season," Juraska replied, "next year we are expecting at least 50 freshmen to join the team."

"In our 'rebuilding' program we are trying to influence kids in junior high schools to become involved with cross country," added assistant coach Bob Thomson.

"One of our other goals is to get some people into the state sectionals meet," said Thomson. "However, our main emphasis is the future."

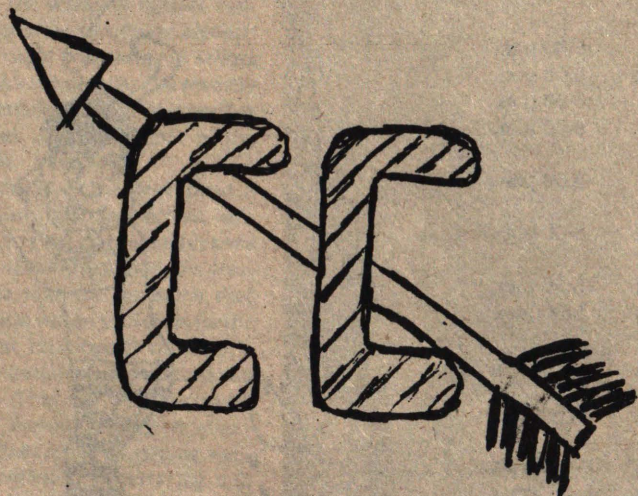
"The 'rebuilding' will help us for next

year," said David Lathers, a junior on the team. "The major weakness is that we have a small team."

At Memorial Park meet in Downers Grove on September 10, Lathers placed 10th and Dante Encinas placed 11th out of 50 runners. Diane Madden placed 10th and Jenny Powers placed 19th out of 53 runners.

The runners' goal is to improve their times. "Mine is to finish," joked Powers, "Finish successfully that is."

"Some of our best runners are Michelle Mailloux, Terry Miltner, Encinas, Dave Lammers, Robin Bolser, Diane Madden and Jean Volpe," mentioned Juraska.



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