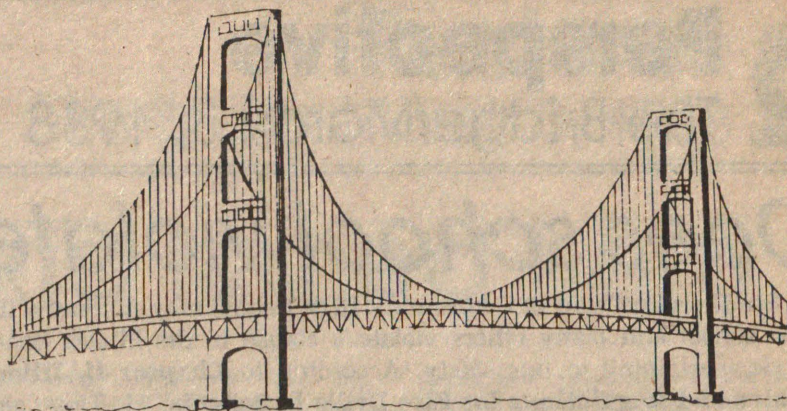


The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL. 60185
Volume 17 Number 9
March 3, 1988



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Extra credit for history

by Jerry Madsen

At the beginning of the second semester for the 1987-88 school year, U.S. History students were greeted with a new extra plan. This new plan caused many of the students to find reason to complain.

The new plan requires four to five hours of additional work outside of what is assigned in the classroom in order to receive an above average grade. "The students could go to a museum, read a book, or watch a TV program and write a summary on it to help meet the requirements," said George Strecker, head of the Social Studies Department. This extra work done would then make students eligible for an A or a B, depending on the classroom work.

When asked why the new plan was used, Strecker replied, "We want the students to learn about the things that the text doesn't teach. This way they could pursue a topic that could be of interest to them." He later went on to say that the U.S. History classes hand out a lot less homework in relationship to the math and English classes. "All we are asking is that they do 25 minutes of work a week over the nine week period. We don't want this to be burdensome. If it were then they would be less apt to learn anything."

Many of the students who were talked to said that they thought the whole thing was unfair. Theresa Romero said, "C students don't have their grade lowered if they don't do any of the extra credit but the A students do." Other students said that they thought doing extra credit to earn an A was reasonable, but not for a B. Strecker said, "The one thing that could be changed was the number of hours students work for in order to receive a B. We are still very flexible about the whole thing. It isn't cast in stone."

Principal Alan Jones response to the issue was in favor of the teachers. "I like the new extra credit plan. If a kid wants an A in class then he should work for it and do some research outside of class. Besides, they should get used to writing research papers. They will be doing a lot of it if they go to a post graduate school."

New teachers at WCCHS

by Teri Blum and Geri Pashkus

There are 11 new teachers at WCCHS this year. And over half of them are "freshmen" teachers.

John Carter, Math Department, said that the students are very diverse. It was not quite what he expected.

Leslie Snow, English Department, said that the students were well behaved and very nice. Snow also enjoys teaching at WCCHS because of the students.

Jeffrey Beine, Social Studies Department, was very surprised at the seriousness of the students here at WCCHS.

Carter was also surprised at the low amount of cliques that the school has. "Most of the students get along with each other fairly well."

Linda Fuller, Foreign Language Department, in response to the students said, "they are no different from any others, typical all around American students."

On choosing WCCHS most of the teachers interviewed were also interviewed by other schools. This school just seemed to choose them. After interviews, some even four hours long, teachers were impressed with facilities, administration, and the dedication of the other teachers.

The new teachers were also impressed with the high expectations that the administration has for the students, and how hard they work to achieve them. The administration has also helped "freshmen" teachers by giving them different tapes, books, suggestions, and giving ideas for teaching. They have also been supportive in case of any conflict. Teachers also believed in the philosophy that the school goes by.

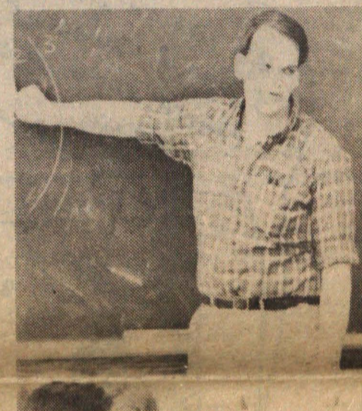
The qualifications for the teaching job were met with a major in that department. Most of the teachers have come from the Midwestern area.



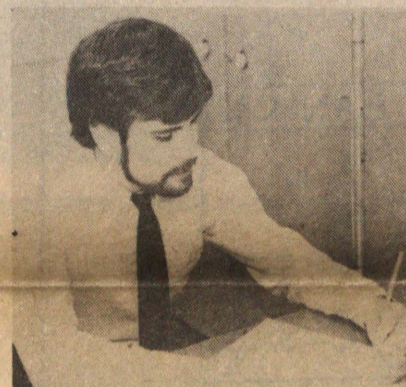
Pat Brehm,
Math Department



Leslie Snow,
English Department



John Carter,
Math Department



Jeffrey Beine,
Social Studies Department

(Photo by Steve Yuroff)

Inkspots

Hawaiian Luau at We-go?

The 1987-88 Turnabout for West Chicago Community High School, will be held on March 19, of this year. The theme of the dance will be a Hawaiian Luau, with the song "Blue Hawaii" by Elvis Presley. The cost of the tickets is \$9 before the dance, \$10 at the door, and \$5 for singles. The dance is semi-formal and it is sponsored by Student Council. A king and queen will be announced as a surprise at the dance.

Band participates in contest

March 5, the band and the orchestra will participate in the Illinois High School Music Contest.

Congressman visits We-go

Dennis Hastert of the 14 Congressional District visited government students of West Chicago High School on February 21, 1988. He discussed several topics pertaining to Contras, the deficit and other important issues pertaining to politics.



Fundraisers for Prom

This year Prom Committee is doing something different in order to raise money to cover the costs.

The Bears/Faculty Basketball Game has been cancelled due to a broken contract on the part of the Bears. The proceeds from this game were to go towards this year's Prom. To take the place of the game, the Committee is planning other fundraisers, such as a garage sale and car wash, which will be scheduled sometime after Spring Break.

"At this point the Junior Class has approximately one thousand, three hundred dollars for Prom. In order to have favors we are in need of \$3000," said Traci Knutson, a member of the committee.

The Committee urges all members of the Junior Class to support them in their efforts to make this year's Prom a successful one.

Prom night is set for May 13, at Indian Lakes Resort. Tickets will cost approximately forty dollars. (More information will be available in the next issue.)

On February 16, the Board of Education approved the 1988-89 school calendar. Some of the dates are:

School begins-Aug. 25, 1988
Thanksgiving break-Nov. 24-27, 1988
Christmas break-
Dec. 19, 1988 - Jan. 2, 1989
Spring Break-Mar. 24 - Apr. 2, 1989
Memorial Day Weekend-
May 27-29, 1989
School Closes-June 14, 1989

Bridge wins again

The Bridge recently won three third place certificates in the "Chicago Headline Club/Columbia College High School

Newspaper Contest." In their first time entering this contest, West Chicago's three winners were Rebecca Rivan, Marla Jemsek and the Bridge.

Senior Rebecca Rivan, and 1987 graduate and former Bridge editor, Marla Jemsek both placed third for in-depth reporting. The Bridge placed third for artwork.

FBLA places at District

At the FBLA Area Conference held at Hinsdale Central High School January 30, 1988, there were 10 first place winners. These were Jill Swan, Business Calculations; Eric Laimins, Computer Applications for Business; Matt Sanders, Economics; Jerry Tavolino, Entrepreneurship; Amy Noffsinger, Impromptu speaking; Heather McGuire, Information Processing; Jackie Hildebrand, Job Interview; Steve Getz, Keyboarding; Sherrie Llyod, Office Procedures; Joe Ursini, Public Speaking;

Second place award winners include: Michelle Pluess, Job Description Manual; Nicole Yoder, Introduction to business; Jim Kappos, Economics; Paul Menerland, Computer Concepts;

Third place winners include: Linda Malec, Accounting I; Laura Mcpheters, Business English; Patrick Duffy and Glen Tepe, Entrepreneurship; Rich Wells, Computer Concepts; Amy Hapgood, Who's Who in FBLA, Marcelina Conception, Michelle Pluess, and Amy Hapgood, Battle of the Chapters.

Don Zabelin, Chapter Organizer, claims the success of FBLA this year is due to the increase of members. "We Jumped from 30 members last year to over 50 members this year," said Zabelin, "and they are very talented students." FBLA will be competing at State which is held in Springfield, Illinois March 24-26.

Does school violate Illinois Code?

Students and staff of Community High School may not know that our school and many others violate a clause in the Illinois School Code, pertaining to our safety. According to **Chapter II, Illinois Rules and Regulations for Fire Drills in Schools**, "1. There shall be at least one fire drill conducted each month during the school year." **The Bridge** noticed that our school has not had an in school fire drill since October 6, 1987. We, the editors questioned whether our administration has, in fact, violated a state educational safety code.

The code pertains to all public education institutions. Private and parochial schools follow their local fire departments safety code (Ordinance 90, Life Safety Code). The State Code requires that these drills shall be held once a month without teachers or students knowing planned times. The second clause states, "The State Fire Marshal or his designated assistants, the chiefs of the local fire departments, shall conduct such drills." But, when talking to the Chief Inspector at the West Chicago Fire Department, he said that administrators could enact a fire drill without firemen present, as long as it was documented. "Maintain a record of fire drills, which record shall be made available for inspection by the state Fire Marshal

or his designated assistants." (Illinois Code)

Upon calling other regional fire departments, they responded either with a "don't know," or "it's up to the school's safety code." Gary Vician, the assistant Superintendent of the Regional Education Board of DuPage County thought that only three drills were necessary. He cited the Illinois School code 10-20.22, which establishes the need for mandatory drills with full participation, no less than three times during the year.

Richard Waterhouse, assistant principal, is in charge of our school's fire drills. When confronted with the State Safety Codes Clause, he said that the majority of schools follow in accordance with their local fire department and our own school regulations. Waterhouse said we usually have one in the fall before National Fire Prevention Week, and then two in the Spring. The weather also effects when we may or may not have a drill.

Our school keeps in accordance with all other regulations, keeping the exits free of obstructions and making sure that all students and staff understand how an alarm is responded to. **The Bridge** editors felt students and staff alike deserve the right to be informed individuals. An issue such as fire drills, may someday save us from a disaster.

Robin's neighborhood



Grades, a weighty issue

by Dana Netzel

Currently WCCHS has an unweighted grading system. So, what is the difference between a weighted grading system and an unweighted grading system?

In a weighted system a higher than average value is given to the grades of certain "advanced" courses and lower than average value is given in certain "special education" courses. To do this the grade points a student receives for honor type (enriched/AP) courses is increased and the grade points a student receives for grades in special education courses is decreased.

If the grade points used for calculating grade point average (GPA) and class rank are A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, then the grade points for enriched/AP courses might be one point higher, and the grade points for special education courses might be one point lower.

Another way to calculate it is to apply a multiplier to the normal grade points. A multiplier such as 0.75, 0.85, 1.00, 1.15, and 1.25 can be applied to the grade points earned in various courses. For example, the four for an A in a general math class was multiplied by 0.75 giving the student three grade points.

Superintendent Richard Kamm said that WCCHS use to have a weighted grading system in 1970, but Student Council suggested that it be abolished. After doing some researching in 1975 the teaching staff, Student Council, and administrative staff found that there was

little difference in class ranks in a weighted and unweighted grading system for the 307 students in the class.

"The problem of a weighted grading system is how do you weight the classes?" Kamm commented. In most cases the advanced classes are weighted along with the last course in a sequence of courses, such as Math IV. St. Charles High School has a weighted grading system, in which four levels each receive different values for their grades. In the weighted grading system a honor student who receives a B is compatible to a Level III student who gets an A.

Kamm also said that it is impossible to measure "difficult" of a subject area or individual course. What is difficult for one student may be easy for another.

I agree with that statement, but I feel that a lot more is expected from AP students in average classes, therefore making Advanced classes more difficult.

Kamm said, a weighted grading system "tends to force choices, and discourages kids from taking electives." There are a lot of "unanticipated consequences" to a weighted grading system according to Kamm. In a weighted grading system a student ranked number one would bring there average down by taking an elective, because an elective would be unweighted, therefore lowering the class rank.

There is "no perfect answer" to which is better according to Kamm. "The Board of Education and Administration doesn't believe that's the thing to do. When we had it students didn't like it. I assure you if we thought it was the best thing for the students we would be for it," said Kamm.

Letters to the editor

G'Day Mates

Well, I made it! It's beautiful!! I just started school here and we begin at 9:00. It's much better than 8:00. We have to wear uniforms in my school. They are a grass green with white checked frocks and long grey knee-high socks with hideous black shoes that have managed to give me a blister, but I will live.

I live in the ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA HILLS or mountains near Mt. Lofty (check a map), but I am only 15 minutes out of Adelaids. I take a bus to school down the side of the mountain, I attend a private Catholic school in the city. I attend church services each Monday, Wednesday and Friday and it's really weird. All of my courses are easy so far, but I know there are tougher days ahead. In Celcius the temperature here is 25-39°.

One day I went to the pool and burnt my back so badly that I still have problems sleeping even after one week. I went to an animal park, CLELAND they have kangaroo's just hopping around and you can feed them bread and fruit and they climb all over you and you can pet them. You can also hold Koala bears and have birds land on you and Emu's chase you - it's great!

I have met people from so many different places, but mainly from the U.S.A.

My family is great, Mr. & Mrs. Tony Potts, and sisters Stephanie (17) and Natalie (14). Just before I wake up in the

morning right before I open my eyes, I think that maybe its all just a dream and that when I open my eyes I'll be in my own bed, but I'm here you guys. I am a YOUTH FOR UNDERSTANDING INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENT and will spend the year 1988 in Australia. Many of you know my parents, John & Lynne Howard, please give them a call. They would be so glad to hear from you and will keep you posted about me.

I hope that I can hear from the students at WEGO, I miss so many of you and know that if you keep in touch you will bring West Chicago right in the door with the mail.

Love, KELLY HOWARD, Class of '90
% T. Potts
1 Tyalla Court
Crafers, SA 5152
Phone 08-339-5046

Sr. privileges

Dear editor,

As freshmen we looked forward to all of the privileges as seniors. These privileges were given to the seniors because they earned it through their four years at West Chicago. One of the most important and well-liked rights to us is the Self Scheduling Process. This process, which has been around from nay years, was taken away from the class of '89 and up. This process enabled seniors to get out earlier from

THE BRIDGE

326 Joliet St.
231-0880 ext. 268

Production/In-Depth

Editors..... Julie Pollastrini
Yvonne Schlotzer
Advertising Manager..... Laura McPheters
News Editors..... Sara Langellier
Marya Sosulski
Perspective Editor..... Jenny Powers
Features Editor..... Andy Behrens
Sports Editors..... Shari Murray
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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, with a maximum of five names appearing in the paper. Letters 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 newspaper are the opinions of the majority of The Bridge editorial board. Content and editorial policy are determined by the editors with concurrence of The Bridge editorial board. The advisor acts in the capacity of a professional consultant. The opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the majority of the student body or the high school.

school if they wanted and if they did not have any designated courses in their schedules. The school says that its new computer is the reason why it has been taken away. They say that the computer does the scheduling and it is a big hassle for them to do self scheduling so it was cut. Well don't they think that it is also a hassle for us (future seniors) to have a schedule split by unscheduled hours which could be anywhere from 2-4 of

them depending on how many classes we are taking. The school should return our privilege to us. We ask the counselors to put in an extra effort for us and return our right, after all we have been here for four years and put extra efforts into our classes, we have earned it.

Hope for a return,
Peter Michalczyk, '89

Holly just a geeky kid turned hero

by Matt Szezny



Many of you saw a movie called **La Bamba** this summer. A pretty fair movie, and what's better, you could hear the music of Ritchie Valens on just about any radio station. The movie was such a huge hit, I wasn't surprised

when there was quite a bit written about its release on video cassette. What did surprise me was how little was written about a true classic released the same week. **The Buddy Holly Story**. It's better than **La Bamba** as a movie, and its soundtrack blows **La Bamba** out of the water. So what? I'm glad you asked. Here's what.

Buddy Holly was born in Lubbock, Texas on September 7, 1936. Like so many of rock & roll's early stars, he took an interest in gospel music. By age 19, Holly was opening shows in Lubbock. In September of 1955, Buddy and two sidemen opened for Bill Haley and the Comets and Elvis Presley on consecutive nights. Not surprisingly, there were several talent agents present, one offering Holly a chance to cut some demos for Decca Records. Although nothing came of the auditions, the authoritative and condescending attitudes of the record executives gave Holly more than a few ideas on how he would do things.

For the rest of 1956, Elvis was the star, the very essence of what rock & roll was. But as the weather heated up, so did the music. In late May of 1957, the Crickets, which was the name Buddy and the band went by now, hit the charts with *That'll Be the Day* and didn't stop until it reached Number One on Billboard's pop charts in early September. Despite Holly, Presley, Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, and countless others, rock & roll still struggled to gain equal status with Pat Boone and Andy Williams in 1957. **Billboard** put it aptly enough in its front page article for July. It announced, "Good music" may be making a comeback on

the best-seller charts but rock & roll continues to dominate the pop market." Good music. Give me a break.

Luckily, these frightening views of the future had no bearing on Buddy Holly and the Crickets. The band released one of the most stellar two-sided hits of all time. *Oh Boy* backed with *Not Fade Away*. The former is a song that can make just about anyone dance, and the latter is straight



Holly, horn-rims and all, became a rock superstar

rockabilly that has been covered by everybody and their brother, from the Stones to the Ramones. The #10 showing of "Oh Boy" coupled with their earlier success catapulted Holly to the national platform for up and coming acts, **The Ed Sullivan Show**.

By this time, the Crickets had ceased to be a true group, often being referred to as Buddy Holly and the Crickets, or even

just by Holly's name. It was obvious why. Holly was instantly recognizable-black, curly hair off-set by very uncool black horn-rim glasses and had become a hero to any 17-year old kid who thought he wasn't hip enough to rock. In January of 1958, Brunswick Records released another Holly classic, *Maybe Baby*, featuring lyrics by Holly's mother. It was also the first rock & roll record to be completely

tended as a confession to Cricket Jerry Allison, of Holly's feelings toward Allison's new wife, named, oddly enough, Peggy Sue Gerrow. Give the guy some credit: he almost wimped out and called the song *Cindy Lou*. In late September, Holly and the Crickets recorded *True Love Ways* and *It Doesn't Matter Anymore*, then settled down with their families before embarking on a package tour featuring Holly and the Crickets, Dion and the Belmonts, Ritchie Valens, J.P. Richardson (a.k.a. the Big Bopper), and Frankie Sardo.

The tour, called the Winter Dance Party, was to make a month swing through the heart of the Midwest in the absolute worst time of year for doing anything, January 23 to February 15, 1959. After playing the eleventh show of the tour at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa, Holly, Valens, and Richardson chartered a plane to the next stop of the tour, so they would have some extra time to do their laundry and pick up their mail. The plane crashed, killing all the passengers.

In *American Pie*, Don McLean sang about February 3, 1959 as "the day the music died", but it was far from the feeling of most people. Holly's death went almost unnoticed as **Billboard** was more concerned about the replacements that had been found, Frankie Avalon and Fabian. The item gave no details about the careers of the musicians, instead the headline read "Tragedy Fails To Halt GAC Winter Tour". No one realized that rock music had lost its first genius.

Most performers of rock & roll's early years are represented by records that now sound dated, no matter what the significance of the songs when they were first hits. But that is the final proof of Buddy Holly's lasting greatness-his songs sound as fresh today as they did in 1958. So if you don't have the courage to buy the six-record set featuring every one of Holly's songs and toting a retail price of \$50, rent the movie. Satisfaction guaranteed, and you'll have better luck finding **The Buddy Holly Story** than a copy of **La Bamba** in any video store.

The Foreigner was really something to laugh at

by Dana Netzel

"Yach! Aglianastica, Omskivar. Das leetskicheeld en namski haidven oski's inda vutz." How would you like to memorize that line? Todd Fuja had to for the winter play, **The Foreigner**. Fuja did an extremely commendable job in portraying the character of Charlie.

Charlie was brought to a lodge where he was to spend three quiet days. He didn't want any disturbances, just time to be left alone. His friend Froggy (Brad Weston) brought him to the lodge and told the owner, Betty (Diane Neuhoff),

that Charlie was a foreigner.

The irony of the play was the characters reactions toward the foreigner, Charlie. Each had their own ways of dealing with him. Betty thought she understood Charlie, Catherine (Tammy Guzlas) told Charlie her problems, Owen (Greg Lemkau) was afraid of Charlie, and Ellard (Mark Carlberg) taught Charlie to speak English which he already knew.

The actors and actresses seemed to bring out the characters and present the play with ease. One of my favorite scenes was the breakfast scene where Charlie imitated everything Ellard did and en-

joyed it. Both actors worked extremely well together and had great sequence of timing.

The play was filled with laughter, although I felt that it got off to a slow start. I also had some trouble hearing lines, which made it hard to catch the humor at

times.

Overall, the cast of **The Foreigner** did an excellent job performing the play and bringing out its humor. They kept me laughing with their expressions and actions, and the script seemed difficult. It was a job well done!



"Todd Fuja mildly makes his point as Tammy Guzlas and the Klan look on."

(Photo by Ismael Rios)

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Looking ahead . . .

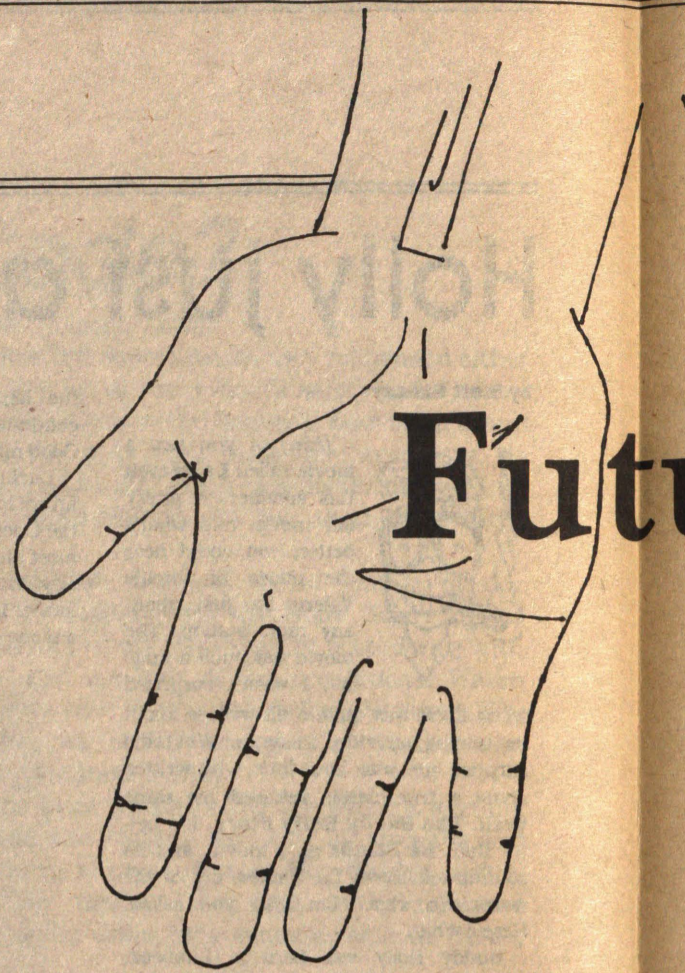
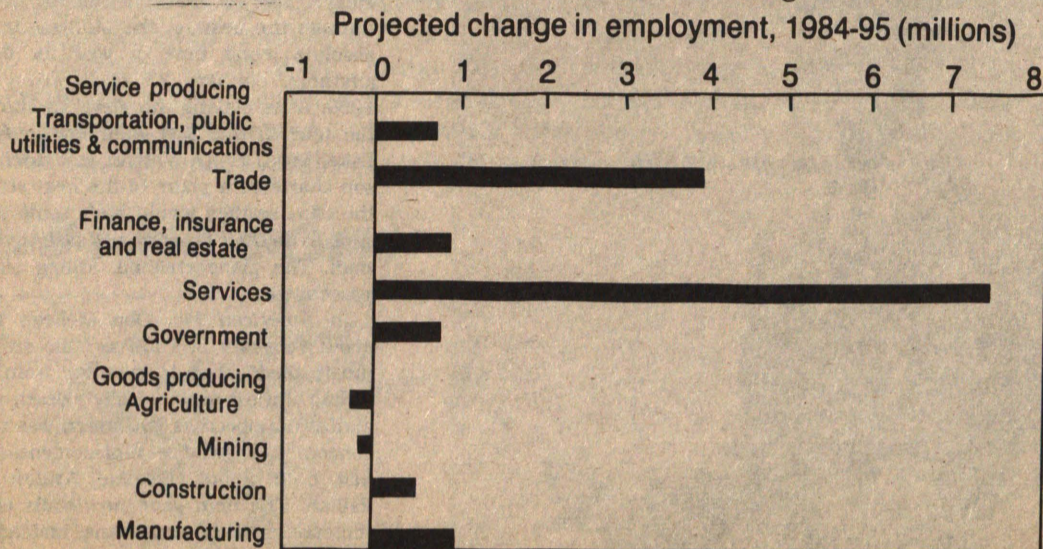
by Yvonne Schlotzer

Employment is expected to increase from 106.8 million in 1984 to 122.8 million in 1995, (roughly about 15 percent). In order to more easily cover employment changes and trends in the job market for the near future, the economy can be divided into two different industrial groups. These groups are: service producing industries and goods producing industries.

The need for service producing workers has become greater on the 1980's. As incomes and living standards have risen, peoples' desires for services have grown more rapidly than for goods. Between 1984 and

1995 service producing industries (transportation, communication, trade, services, finance, insurance, real estate and government) are expected to account for about 9 out of 10 new jobs.

The employment rates of occupations is because of our changing society. As society's demand for a certain type of product increases, the job market has to increase the amount of employers working to produce that type of product. As a result of society's growing dependence on machinery goods and products, jobs in services of the technical nature will be in greatest demand.



is in our

Relaxing career with

by Julie Pollastrini and Kelly Day

You see it happening everyday. More and more females are entering the world of cosmetology. This is considered to be a very feminine career. Not many men are too interested in make-up and shampoo. The few that are, always seem to be ridiculed by other men and unfairly stereo-typed. This is unfortunate because the women generally try to do things to themselves to make their appearance more appealing to the opposite sex. What better consultant could be more beneficial to the women than a man that knows exactly what attracts the women to the men? Still, the females dominate the career.

Why do the woman become so interested in cosmetology? Simply because they enjoy working with people in a relaxed atmosphere. When women get all caught up in their problems of everyday life, they do something to make themselves feel better. Having a fresh make-over or someone fussing with

Realistic St. Elsewhere

by Ed Coronel

Medicine is a vital necessity for health problems, and along with medicine, personnel such as nurses, doctors, or pharmacists may never be substituted by any form of highly intergrated robotics in the near future, because it would always take that "personal" touch of caring.

If you are interested in the medical career, you should realize that patience, knowledge, hard work, and dedication are key virtues to attain to earn a medical degree. You should never enter this field with goals of just "making a fast buck," because medical careers are not glamour jobs as seen on television such as *St. Elsewhere*. Yet the show depicts the understanding how hard it is to make it to the top. Medicine is a big commitment.

As far as schooling goes, Northwestern University, University of Illinois, and University of Chicago are some of the schools that provide the best facilities in the state of Illinois. Schooling for nurses will involve two to four years (depending if you are an associate or specialized); pharmacists four to five years; and doctors seven to nine years (the amount of years of schooling would entirely depend on availability of advanced courses).

Starting salaries are highly dependant on the area worked, such as working in the city or suburbs. Starting salaries for nurses range from \$25,000 to \$35,000; pharmacists \$35,000 and up; and as for doctors, it would vary entirely on specialty, popular among the clients, and whether or not they own their own practicion.

Several students are prepared for this dedication of the medical career, such as Kathy Rahe who plans to go to Loyola University and obtain a degree in pediatric nursing. Rahe says "I hope to be happy with this future career. And I enjoy working with children."

Julie Pollastrini, senior, plans to be a nurse as well. Pollastrini says that other than the knowledge she has learned for her nursing career, it would be beneficial for life.

"I went on a medical mission trip to Honduras," said Todd Odell, who plans on being a pediatric doctor. "And I enjoyed helping the people and saw what medicine could do."

"I like to work with people," Kristi Tar-nauskas agreed with the majority of reasons why picking a medical career. "And people need caring and not many people get it."

James Koop, another senior says that the medical world is an exciting field to be in, and he hopes to go to either the University of Illinois-Chicago or George Mason University to become a surgeon.

The medical technicians, orderlies etc. -the possibilities are great. It takes long hours of study, dedication, confidence, and patients to obtain our goals in life. Always remember that there is more to life than the amount of cash that flows in and out of your pockets.

Working your way to the top

by Julie Pollastrini

What do the guys who made Homecoming Finalists all have in common? Well, six of them made court. This is true, but even more than six all had one more thing in common. If you weren't sleeping during that assembly, you would know that the majority of the guys were interested in pursuing business as their career choice. Not too long ago computers were the popular career choice, now computers seem to be taking a back seat and business seems to be the eye sparkler.

Magazines usually publish the "Jobs of the Future". They inform the public on which jobs are currently in demand. After the news is out, the entire world seems to be automatically interested in those jobs. The people who are in high school, when the information is released, are at a disadvantage. As they pursue an education in the field the jobs are being filled. When they graduate college four

years later, they will be faced with unemployment. This will be the first taste of the real world for our future leaders.

Since our Homecoming Finalists seemed to be so interested in business, will they all be at a disadvantage in four years? Don Zabelin, Advisor for Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), firmly stated, "There are many opportunities and lots of choices in the business world. All you have to do is apply yourself." Zabelin also commented on the ability to simply go into business for yourself as another option. Restaurants and stores are all independently owned.

Currently, published in the *Changing Times* February issue, is a list of four careers and their starting salaries. These jobs are considered with a Bachelors degree. Chemical Engineers, \$30,197; Electrical Engineer, \$29,924; Mechanical Engineer, \$29,457; and Computer Sciences, \$28,331.

The *Changing Times* November issue pre-

Success under the sink

by Kelle Meza

When choosing careers we often think of jobs involving a suit and tie, a field in science or computers, but we rarely think of becoming an electrician or plumber. After all, a pair of dirty overalls with 'Al's Plumbing' on the back is not very glamorous. Yet tradesmen are a very important part of our world; they reflect our culture and some trends have become an art, such as a silversmith. When asking students if they were interested in becoming tradesmen, over half of them said no, and indeed, some did not know exactly what one was. They found the thought of working with their hands much less attractive than other career choices. Upon researching some of the major careers of trade, this reporter found some interesting facts about them.

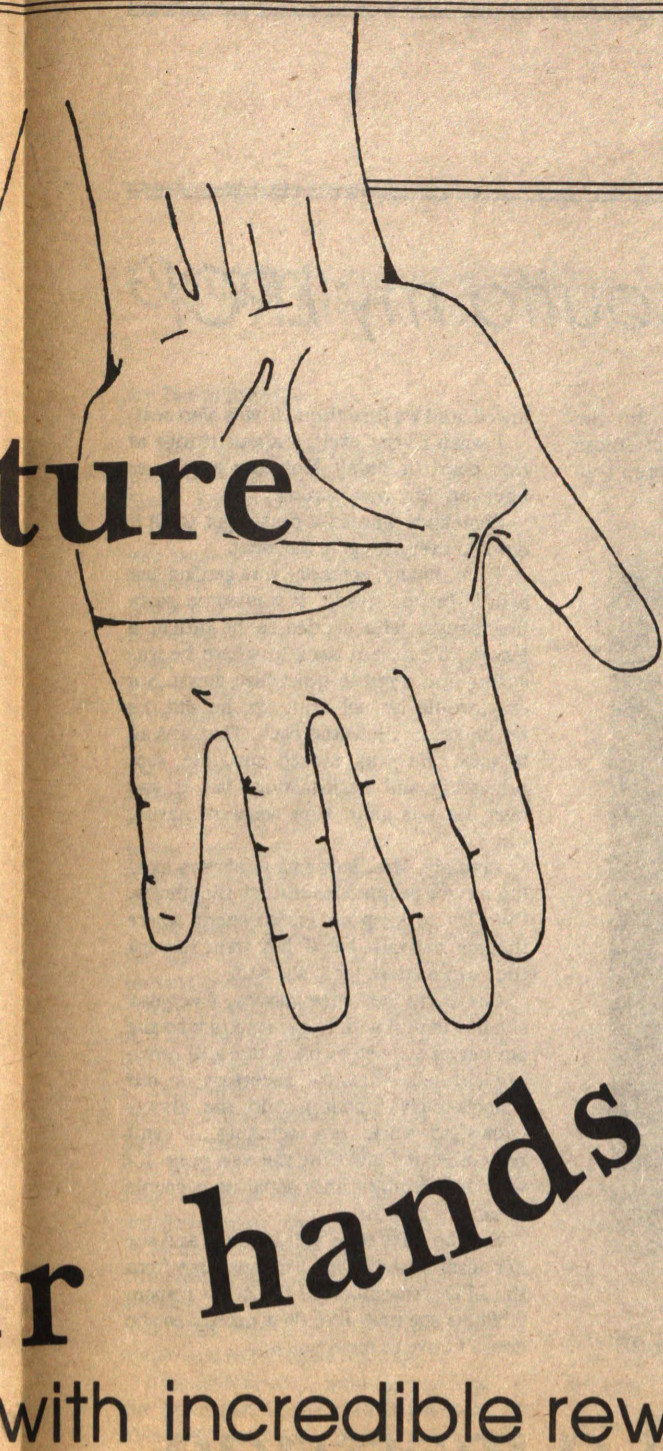
An electrician, of course, works with electricity and every home with electric lights or electrical outlets has an electrician to thank. Electricians are employed through out the country, but usually in heavily industrial states, such as California, New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Ohio. To be an electrician one must be in good physical condition because working conditions often call for a large amount of standing or squatting in cramped positions. The risks that come with the job are injuries from falls, electrical shock, and injuries from falling objects. One

must have average physical strength, agility, dexterity, and good color vision, because wires are often differentiated by color. High school or vocational school courses in electronics, mechanical drawing, science and electrical shop are usually enough to become a beginning electrician, but the best thought method is through apprenticeship, in which there is on the job training. For a union worker the income usually averages to more than \$11.25 an hour. For electricians in construction the yearly average is slightly higher, and for maintenance electricians it is about \$8.44 an hour.

A plumber needs no defining, he is the man who comes to fix your tub or sink when the plumbing has gone awry. A plumber works in heavily industrialized areas, especially those with petroleum, chemical, or food processing plants nearby. Plumbers, too, work in cramped places and suffer from cuts and burns, and risk falls from ladders. To be a plumber one needs to have mechanical aptitude, and physical stamina. A high school diploma is recommended with courses in chemistry, math, mechanical drawing, shop, and physics, but, again, the best method of learning the trade is through apprenticeship. Most plumbers belong to either the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada, or the National Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors. Plumbers are one of the highest paid tradesmen, union wages are usually about \$10.40 an hour.

A drafter is a person who prepares detailed drawings from rough sketches. A drafter must sit for long periods of time and must have good eyesight, manual dexterity, drawing ability, and some artistic talent. There are several ways to becoming a drafter. During high school classes such as mechanical drawing, science, math, and shop are helpful. Vocational and technical schools provide for entry level jobs with companies with on the job training. Technical institutes, junior and community colleges, and the armed forces are also ways to become a drafter. Experienced drafters make about \$11,200-\$13,700 a year, senior drafters make \$16,900 a year and those who are paid by the Federal Government make \$12,200 a year.

Now that you know a little more about these careers it is easy to see that they are difficult and require talent. It is not terrible to be a tradesmen, it takes determination and talent, and we would be all the more sorry if these trades were lost to us.



with incredible rewards

their hair can cause that tension to subside temporarily.

Another reason for this career being so over populated with interest is due to the fact that it doesn't take much expensive training and this training is quite easily obtained. Here at West Chicago we offer a program called DAVEA (DuPage Area Vocational Education Authority). Students take a half-hour ride out to Addison where DAVEA is located. The cosmetology course is the most popular. Many other schools also attend. There are morning and afternoon classes, whichever is most convenient for the student.

In order to qualify for a job in a salon, you need high school vocational training (like DAVEA) and two to three years of an apprenticeship. The salary is based on a percentage of commission from the clients.

Cosmetologists are quite good at what they do. They don't think of their career as just some job, but an art. Art makes you feel good. When a woman looks good on the

outside, she feels even better on the inside. A woman's outer beauty is quite important to her emotional state. When a woman's hair and face don't look exactly the way she hopes it would, nine times out of ten, she'll have a lousy day.



(Margaret Stuart and Amy Dalsion at DAVEA)

dicted for 1985-1995 that Computer Programmers will have the highest growth rate of 72%, followed by Electrical Engineers a growth of 53%, Accountants, 35%, and Engineers in general, 36%.

The jobs in the business field are not to be simply directed in the area of the male population. The business men of tomorrow may find themselves seated next to the girls of today. Zabelin commented, "The trend is going in the direction that the doors are open to the girls." The women are not currently at the top of the ladder, but directly below at the "middle management" level. Zabelin feels that it will only be a matter of time before lots of women are in the "upper management" levels.

Business classes at West Chicago are fairly even in enrollment of guys to girls. The guys do out number the girls but not by much.

Getting started in the business field is like climbing a ladder to success. You have to

start at the bottom and work yourself up. So you start in a company as an accountant clerk, but your potential can be as great as achieving a job as high as Accountant Department Manager. Any job in this field will require making decisions, investing money, and taking risks. When you make your way to the top, your job will consist of deciding what work must be done, and who should do it.

Working a part-time job is a good beginning. A taste of the real action will impress any future employer. A good college education also looks good on a resume. Almost every college has a good business program. Northwestern University has the best business department in the area. Northwestern is one of the top schools in Illinois, but according to Zabelin, going to COD (College of DuPage) for two years and then to possibly Northern Illinois for another two years will not be as impressive as Northwestern, but it

will get your foot in the door.

When you choose any career, you have to consider the kind of life-style the job will bring. Business careers are definitely not an exception. These jobs may require late evening overtime, and business trips for starters. If you want to make it to the top of the ladder, you will have to make many of these sacrifices. Social lives will become the number two priority.

Deciding who you want to be is not an easy decision and shouldn't be taken lightly. Every decision you make will effect the rest of your life. When a career peaks your interest, research it. Find out if that particular career is right for you. If you are unsure, keep looking. If you think you are sure, take some courses. If you find out you are no longer interested try your hand at something else. Be aware that if your first decision is not the best of choices, you can always switch your major.

"Hey, you! You're too 'chatty'! Get outta my LRC!"

by Andy Behrens

There's been a question drifting around out there for quite a long time now.

"Why don't the cafeteria workers assure us that the Jell-o really is boneless?"

Well, no. That's not the question I was thinking of, but it's a good one. Try again.

"What exactly does Mrs. Barsema do to be able to afford all those different pairs of shoes?"

There you go. That's the question I was looking for. I'm so glad you asked.

First of all, for any pinhead freshman who doesn't know who Mrs. Barsema is, she's a library aid who works in the library doing, y'know, library things.

"Library things?" I think I saw that movie over the summer at about 2 o'clock in the morning at Cinemax. 'Adult theatre,' I think it's called. Wasn't Kim Bassinger in that?"

No, no, no. It's not a movie. What I mean is she does a lot of different things for the school and the library that nobody thinks about. How do I know this if nobody else does? Well, I spent a couple of hours going around with Mrs. Barsema seeing what it is that she does, other than kick whining, little sophomores out of the LRC.

What we did most of the time was cut things out for the verticle file. We searched through all kinds of papers for things that might interest students. Then we cut them out. It was neat. So, I

figured, if you want to be a library aid, know how to handle scissors.

Then we grabbed a bunch of catalogs

that various companies send to the school, scampered into one of those strange rooms where students aren't al-

lowed, and we filed them. It was also neat.

I wasn't very excited about things at this point. It didn't look like we'd ever have fun. Boy was I wrong.

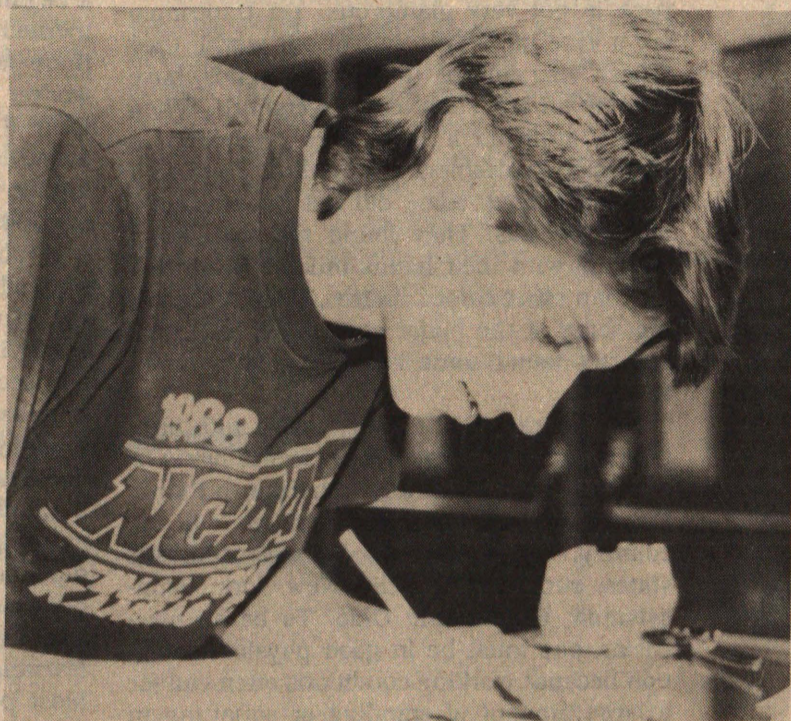
Somebody wanted a pass! I got to fill it out and everything. It was neat.

Then, finally, someone was getting just a little bit too rowdy. It was some goofy headbanger who needed to be taught a lesson. We rushed back to where he was sitting and tried to quiet him down. Not only would he not shut up, he did the unthinkable, He talked back. That was all it took. He was kicked out. He kept protesting and back-talking, but it was over. He was gone. Now we were having fun.

Actually, Mrs. Barsema is always looking out for people who disturb the library. "We try to keep an environment where the kids can talk, but if they want to work they can do that, too," she said.

She earns her shoe money. Everyday she has to deal with hyper rejects who she isn't even allowed to hit, while still carrying out jobs that are necessary to our schools daily function. And she always comes to work. It's amazing. I can't remember the last time she was gone. If I were her, I might only show up a couple of times a month.

So, the next time you look up and see her tossing some ape-like burn-out from the LRC, remember all the other responsibilities she has. Just do it quietly so she doesn't have to mess you up.



Our hero, hard at work, writing passes.

(Photo by Steve Yuroff)

In-touch clown team sends out a message

by Suzanne Worthy

The image of a clown brings to mind visions of three-ring circuses, keystone cops, balloons, happy times and laughing children. These friendly, pie-faced creatures with their oversized polka-dotted underwear and the bongo mingo lady clowns frantically rushing around smashing each other with phony clubs have made all of us laugh.

Clowning not only can entertain us, it also can have a more serious purpose. Using clowning techniques, the In-Touch Team attempts to express the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. The "Just Say No" campaign seems to be advertised everywhere — on milk cartons, crackerjack boxes, possibly even appearing under the lids of toilet seats. While the "Just Say No" method is an excellent program, it may have lost some of its effect through overexposure. After all, how many children run to lunch eager to quietly study the message on their milk cartons?

The In-Touch Clowning Team has initiated a fresh approach for presenting

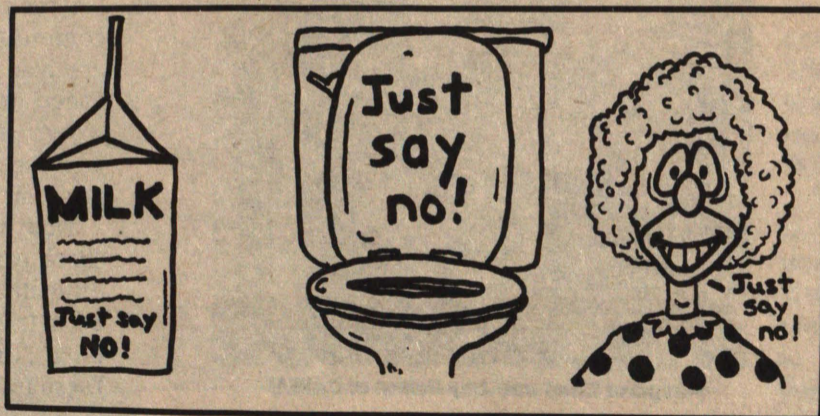
methods of dealing with substance abuse. Approximately a dozen Community High School students put on clown costumes and make-up twice a month and go to the elementary schools to perform skits portraying the potential results of drug and alcohol abuse. A question and answer session is held after the skit is over, and, because the clowns are not intimidating, the students feel free to get involved in

discussions. "We get some weird questions and comments," said Forrest Rackmyer, an active member of the team.

The team attempts to make the skits fun, interesting and to "hit home" with their message. Rackmyer frequently commented on the disastrous effects substance abuse has on the children of today. "We want to make them aware that dangers are out there and can effect

them...we can only advise them...parents play the larger role."

Additional members would be very welcome to the team. Anyone interested please contact Miss Gail Aronoff, Miss Jody Kettler or a team member.



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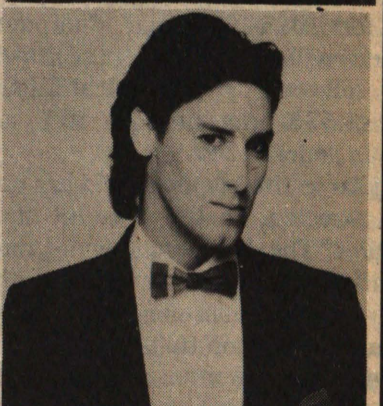
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Common sporting injuries - their occurrence, their cure

by Teddi Stasiak

There are varying opinions on which is the most common cause of sports injury. Some training coaches and orthopedic doctors say improper techniques, others say poor physical condition. While Dr. Norburt W. Sanders, an internist and Director of the Preventive & Sports Medicine Center says "In young people the most common cause of sports injury is over training. It occurs when they have been inactive for a period of time. Then, they start an aggressive training program, and an injury usually occurs within two weeks."

Some of the most common sports injuries are runners knee, tendonitis, strains, sprains, shin splints, tennis elbow and heatstroke.

Runners knee results when pressure on the knee cap and the structure that supports it causes the knee to slip out of its groove in which it sits. Although it usually affects runners, it sometimes affects cyclists, skiers and volleyball players.

Tendonitis is an inflammation of the tendon which connect the muscle to the bone. Tendonitis usually happens when you strain a muscle beyond what it can take. The most vulnerable spots are your achilles tendon, knee and elbow.

Strains and sprains are the result of stretching the muscle, and they vary in severity. A strain is a small stretch or tear, that affects the muscle-tendon. A sprain is a minor ligament tear.

Shin splints are a strain or irritation of the inner part of the skin usually due to abnormal pressure on the muscle that runs along the inside of the leg. This injury often occurs during the first week of running, hiking and race walking. Resulting from over use, coming down on hard surfaces or flat feet. Continuing to run could result in a stress fracture, or a small hairline crack in the bone which could take three or four months to recover

from.

Tennis elbow is an inflammation of the tendons on the outside of your forearm and could occur in any racket sport. It is usually caused by an improper backhand stroke of too much tension in the strings of the racket.

Heat prostration and heat stroke happens when an athlete gets overheated by working out on a humid day without drinking enough water. Heat prostration is recognized by dizziness, nausea and weakness. If ignored it can lead to heat stroke, a serious condition in which you stop sweating, the skin gets cold and clammy and you may pass out.

To help you get back on your feet you should follow these tips: 1) Follow the athletes motto: rest, ice, compression and elevation for minor injuries. "Any injury should be treated with ice for the first 48 hours. "After 48 hours re-evaluate the injury." "Decide whether you should stay with ice or go to heat," says Robert Owens, Physical Education teacher. "This is without doctors direction." Most injuries should disappear within a week. 2) Don't work out until completely healed. 3) Have a doctor examine you to see if you are fit enough to work out. 4) Work out on a cooler time of the day, and drink plenty of water. 5) Warm up and cool down to prevent strains and sprains. 6) Use common sense. If pain persists or reoccurs see a doctor. 7) Find another sport to work at until your injury heals. Maintain your fitness level so you can get back to your sport sooner.

"The athlete should stay physically fit off season"—Ron Hansen

Ron Hasen, Athletic Director of West Chicago High School says "Improper technique and execution will result in injuries." "An example in football would be using an improper tackling technique such as using their helmet to make a tackle." "An improper technique in baseball would be improper warmups and improper throwing techniques which could result in an injury."

"I feel we were very fortunate in football...no catastrophic injuries"—Ron Hansen

"Conditioning of the athlete for his or her particular sport using drills and stretching exercises would help prevent injuries. The athlete should stay physically fit off season. Avoid using incorrect techniques that would make them susceptible to injury," says Hansen. "On a breakdown there were no serious injuries. The credit would go to coaches, players execution, conditioning, condition of the players and in some sense a little luck. I feel we were very fortunate in football. No catastrophic injuries" (knock on wood) "As far as sports statistics on most frequent injuries, we keep a record of the more serious injury, but not cuts and bruises. Coaches are required to fill out accident reports." Robert Owens who is also a soccer and tennis coach had this to add. "Our school does not have a certified trainer when other schools do. How many other schools have certified trainers? How many have doctors or paramedics are on hand also," says Owens.

Brian King, Student Trainer of the West Chicago High School, sees a lot of different injuries pertaining to different sports. King has seen a lot of jammed joints and sprained joints. In football King goes on to say "Equipment should be in the best of condition. Padding and taping also help a lot. I don't know one guy that didn't have an injury. They want to play so bad they won't tell me when they're hurting which really upsets me."

"In basketball there are a lot of sprained ankles from stopping too suddenly. Know what your body can do. Try to avoid it."

"Ankle tendonitis is mostly found in beginning runners for track. There are also pulled hamstring and groin muscles. Warmups and stretching out will help prevent these types of injuries."

In wrestling pulled muscles are also a common cause of injury. "Wrestlers should be extremely loose, do stretching exercises. Know your range of motion, and practice your range of motion."

There are rare injuries in baseball. "I usually treat jammed ankles which result from improper sliding. Sometimes there are broken fingers, and cuts and bruises that are unavoidable," says King.

Injuries in volleyball are mostly sprained ankles, jammed fingers and tendonitis of the wrist. "The wrist becomes inflamed when throwing the wrist back when spiking or serving. Most common in freshmen and sophomores." "Know what can cause an injury and know where you are," Concludes King.

Try to be in good condition before you enter in some kind of sport. Gradually build up your training program instead of having a strenuous program in the beginning. When you start to hurt stop and get it checked out, or a serious injury could occur.

Wildcat wrestling season ends early

by Betty Nordengren

The Wildcats wrestling season ended early this year without any state qualifiers. Although four wrestlers made it to the Sectionals meet on Saturday, February 13th at Naperville North.

In the 132 lb. weight class, Dave Andrews won his first match in 4:59 as he pinned Fred Davis from Proviso East. A 9-5 decision over Jonathan Robert of Glenbard East advanced him to the semifinals. Although his last two matches weren't victorious, they were exciting, with final scores of 4-3 and 3-2.

Hector Gomez lost 10-0 in overtime to Naperville North's Dave Sullivan. He couldn't advance after Sullivan's loss in the next round.

At 155, Senior Oscar Marmolejo just missed a chance to qualify for state, as he took fourth at the meet. He lost an 11-9 decision to Grana of De Lasalle in the first round, advanced by a forfeit, and took the next round 12-8 over Westmass of Wheaton North. He lost 8-4 to Lipscomb of Naperville North in his final match.

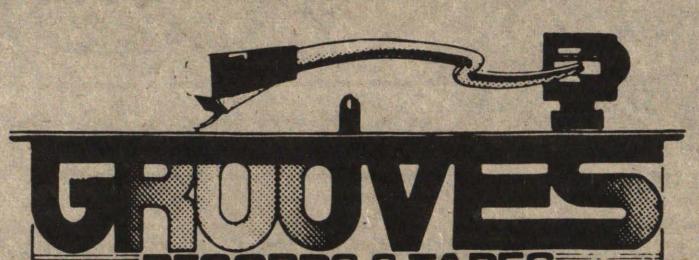
Luis Gonzalez was another fourth place finisher. He won his first two matches with impressive results of 11-0 and 13-1. In the next rounds, he lost 10-3 to Palazzo and 6-5 to Naperville North's Tony Renelia, eliminating him from the state competition.

Although no Wildcats qualified for state this year, fans saw some exciting matches. Our Wildcats will be recognized

for their efforts at the awards night on March 24th.

Luis Gonzalez's advice to next years

wrestlers: "Ask not what you can do for wrestling, but what wrestling can do for you."



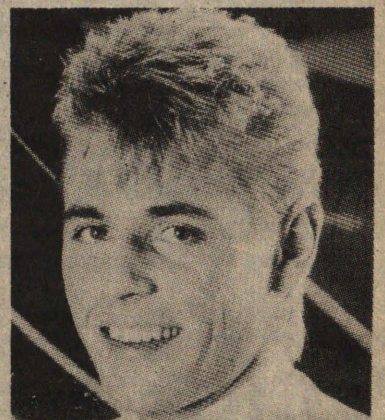
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Disappointing season for Wilcats

by Carrie Ryan and Kelly Lee

With a record of 8 wins and 15 losses the West Chicago Boys Basketball team has finished the 1987-1988 season.

The season started November 24 and ended February 26, the regional tournament will begin March 4.

West Chicago Boys Basketball team will be losing six seniors, Bo McAllister,

'There will be many new players from the sophomore team with lots of potential.'— Lee Maciejewski

Rory Gallagher, Cory Satterfield, Leroy Olson, Scott Hemmer and Jay Langellier. Although losing these six seniors they will still have Sophomores, John Winterhalder and Jeff Showalter, Juniors, Tyrone Parks, Mike Waterhouse, Alan Jordon, and Mark Hall, also more oncoming sophomores.

"There will be many new players from sophomore team with lots of potential,"

Lee Maciejewski said, such as Scott Pold, Chris Nippert and Chad Landis.

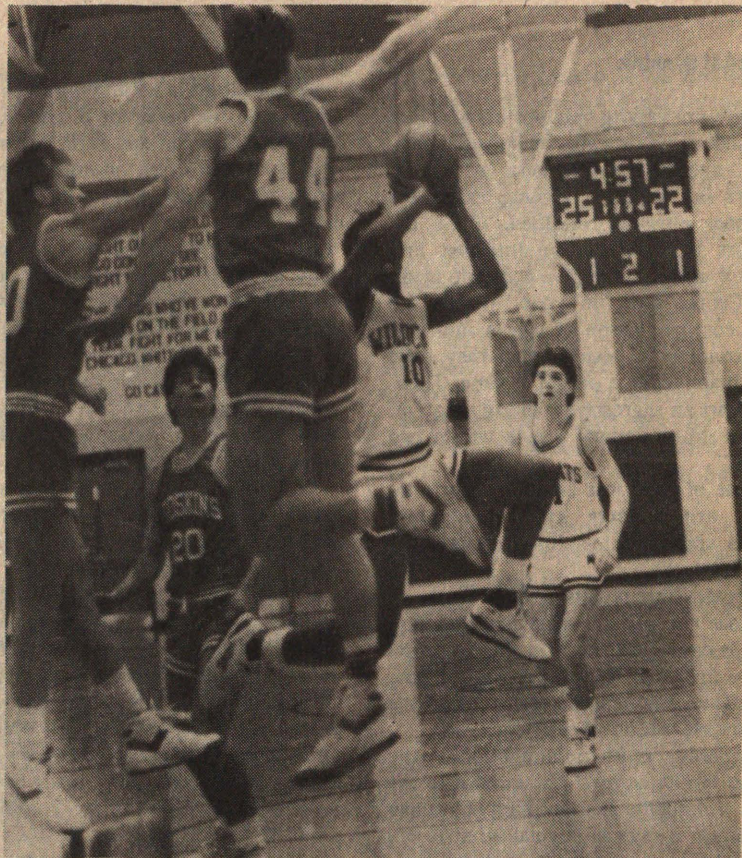
The starting line up depends on the best five boys that work hardest in practice through the week up until Friday night. Maciejewski said there is a new line up practically every week.

This years Varsity team had only a few players who had had varsity experience. There were only four starters with varsity experience, six We-go boys earned varsity letters.

Maciejewski said "the season did not go as well as he had hoped it would." He was very pleased with the boys' hard work and effort. "They are still working hard even towards the end of the season." said Maciejewski.

Tyrone Parks, leading scorer averaged 21 points a game and was also leading rebounder. Rory Gallagher is second leading scorer with nine points a game.

There will be summer camps for the boys basketball team through Glenbard South, open gyms through West Chicago High School and weight training.



"Parks shoots up, over and through against Redskin opponent."



McAllister watches Showalter during the comeback attempt against the Redskins in the end of the 4th. (Photo by Ismael Rios)

New spring sport is here

by Teri Blum

A new tradition will be starting at West Chicago this spring. A girls soccer team will begin led by Stephan Kimery as coach. He is hoping that enough girls will come out to fill two levels.

Kimery knows of approximately 50 to 60 girls already who are trying out for the team, but he wants to wait and see how much commitment these girls have.

There are many schools in the DuPage Valley Conference who already have a girls soccer team these include: Naperville North, Wheaton North and Central, and Glenbard North. Other schools in the immediate area are Glenbard West, Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles.

Kimery hopes to have two levels. His is also looking for another coach but has not been successful in his search.

Kimery hopes to start outside as soon as possible. But will probably have to start in the fieldhouse with baseball, softball, tennis, boys and girls track. The soccer season will start March 7.

Jock Short Tennis starts soon

by Dana Netzel

Boys tennis begins on March 14, for the varsity and maybe sooner for the frosh/soph team, according to head coach Wayne Kosek. Their first match is April 6, against East Aurora and is home. Kosek said that it should be a pretty good season

'A lot will depend on how much we've improved'
—Wayne Kosek

because they have a lot of experience. "A lot will depend on how much we've improved," he also commented. He will have five returning varsity letter winners, but he's hoping for more new comers.

Wildcat Schedule

Badminton

Mar. 14	Mon.	Elgin	H	4:30
Mar. 16	Wed.	Streamwood	H	4:30
Mar. 18	Fri.	Larkin	H	4:30
Mar. 21	Mon.	Downers Grove S.	A	4:30
Mar. 23	Wed.	York	H	4:30

Boys' Track

Mar. 3	Thu.	Oswego/Waubonsie	H	4:30
Mar. 12	Sat.	Naperville at N.C.	A	8:30
Mar. 19	Sat.	DVC Invit. at G.S.	A	9:30

Girls' Track

Mar. 8	Tue.	West/East Aurora	H	4:30
Mar. 12	Sat.	Lake Park	A	10 am
Mar. 17	Thu.	Wheaton North	H	4:30
Mar. 25	Fri.	Fenton Invitational	A	4:30



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