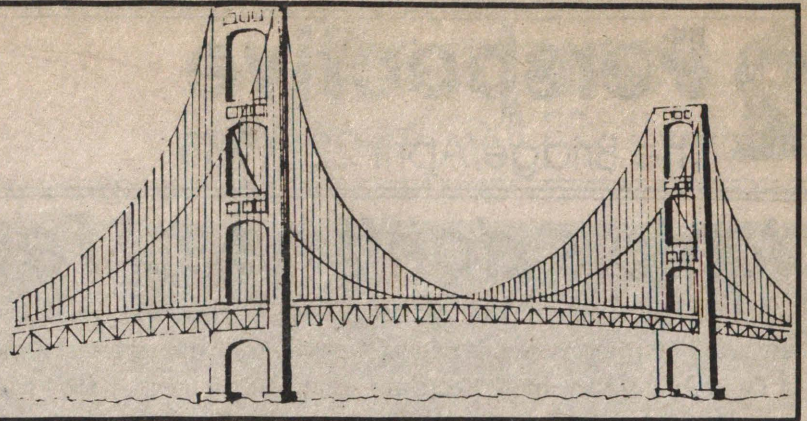


The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL. 60185
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Cocaine trend escalates in Illinois

by Risha Jamison

CHICAGO (YNS)—Teenagers' cocaine use in Illinois and Chicago is escalating, even though there appears to be a downward trend nationwide.

Linda Hartnart of the Illinois Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse said, "The general trend of young adults in Chicago is up [for cocaine use]. This is especially true for the Cook County area." She said she bases her assessment on the increased number of cocaine related arrests and hospital emergencies, as well as the increase in the rate of admission into drug treatment centers in Illinois.

Hartnart said the use of "crack" has also been "creeping up" in Illinois, particularly in the past six to nine months. But she said that the use of cocaine may

be leveling off as a result of drug prevention programs combined with law enforcement measures.

In Illinois, an estimated 2,400 12-14 year-olds are addicted to cocaine, said Hartnart. The average age of a teenager trying marijuana for the first time is just over 13 and just over 12 for alcohol.

The Illinois trend contradicts recently released statistics from the University of Michigan that show a sharp decline in cocaine use among high school seniors on a national level over the past year.

The study surveyed 16,000 seniors in 130 public and private schools and 2,400 other young adults. Over 10 percent of the students surveyed used cocaine at least once in the past year as opposed to 12.7 percent in 1986. This represents a 20 percent decrease — the largest in eight

years.

The study also showed that the percentage of teenagers using alcohol has increased over the past three years. Marijuana and "crack," the smokeable form of cocaine, have also not shown similar decreases.

Many experts attribute this overall downward shift in cocaine use to the deaths of prominent sports figures such as the Cleveland Browns' Don Rodgers and the University of Maryland's Len Bias in 1986. Experts say these deaths caused a drastic change in teenagers' views of drug abuse because they began to realize the serious consequences of cocaine use.

John Bailey, a counselor with Intervention — a local drug rehabilitation center working specifically with teenagers — says he thinks the notion that cocaine use

is decreasing among young people is misleading. "Cocaine has yet to reach its peak. People's memories [regarding the deaths of the sports figures] are short."

Bailey said that at the time, the publicity surrounding the athletes' deaths was very effective in reducing the amount of drugs taken by young people; but now it is rising. "Cocaine is a very popular drug," he said.

Opinions on the drug problem vary from city to city, but experts agree that alcohol is the fastest rising substance of abuse, and it continues to be the number one killer of teenagers in America.

Risha Jamison, 17, is in grade 11 at Whitney Young High School in Chicago. She is a reporter for the YNS Chicago bureau.

Army helps fund college education

by Dana Netzel

When a person enlists in the Army, it doesn't take away a person's education, it just helps finance it.

In the Army continuing education system, a person may take the College Level Examine Program (CLEP), which is five tests with 30 credit hours, or the Defense Activity For Nontraditional Education Support (DANTES). The tests are arranged, and part of the required process.

If a person is interested in education after the Army he can enroll in the Education Assistance Program or the GI Bill. Under the GI Bill possible education earnings are \$17,000 for two years; \$22,800 for three years; and \$25,000 for four years.

In the GI Bill, \$100 is deducted each full month for 12 months, and the government contributes \$9,600 making a return of \$10,800 to go towards college.

The Army College Fund (ACF) is another way to help students. To qualify for the ACF, a person must be a high school graduate with a score of 50 or above on the Armed Forces Qualification Test.

With the ACF a person can earn \$8,000 for 2 years; \$12,000 for three years; and \$14,400 for four years. This amount added to the government money and the deduction of pay forms the money a person uses towards college.

According to Student Press Service (SPS) the money earned in the Armed Forces does not cover the whole college bill, most institutions of higher education base their financial aid requirements on need. Having GI benefits does not exclude anyone from applying for financial aid.

The Army may not pay for all of a college education, but it can help provide money for part of it. Getting an education after the Army is possible especially with the aid which could be received.

Schlotzer as exchange student

by Jerry Madsen

Junior Yvonne Schlotzer will spend the 1988-89 school year as an exchange student in Germany. She will go to Washington D.C. for a three day convention on July 18 and meet with 310 other exchange students. She will then go overseas on July 21.

In October of 1987, Schlotzer filled out

Soon after Schlotzer was told that she had been chosen to go.

"German was the first language I learned because my parents are German. I didn't learn English until I was five or six," said Schlotzer when asked about how she learned the language. She took German IV here at We-go her sophomore year and took another course of it at the College of DuPage last semester. "I have

"German was the first language I learned"

a rather extensive application for the exchange program. "The application had me answer questions about myself and it had a few essay questions as well," said Schlotzer. She was then notified that she was a semi-finalist and would have to attend an interview in the Lyons Township. "I was interviewed by a committee and then the six semi-finalists from Northern Illinois had a group interview."

never had any real problems speaking or reading, but I have them in writing. I may have some problems with it when I first get there, but it should become second nature to me after a while."

Schlotzer will find out exactly where she will be staying in Germany in about two months. She plans to return to the states in July of 1989.

Undercover program against selling liquor to minors

by Marya Sosulski

Delaware State Police have implemented a new undercover program to catch liquor stores that sell to minors. This program, which uses undercover minors to find the stores that sell liquor to underage kids, may prove to be a model for many similar programs in other states, like Illinois.

The program, which will operate in conjunction with the Alcohol Beverage Commission, will focus on problem stores that have a record of repeated offenses. "We won't be going out to get any run-of-the-mill package store," said State Police Captain Andrew Stayton, who will run the program.

The program isn't designed to be deceptive. "These minors will look their

ages — we're not going to use people who are 18 and 19 but look 25 and 26," Stayton said.

Here's how the program will work: state police officers will instruct undercover minors to make an effort to buy beer, wine, or hard liquor, send them into a liquor store, most likely with a microphone, and State Police officers will wait outside listening to the exchange. The minors will not present false identification — if they are asked for any, they simply say they have none. At most places, Stayton said, minors will be asked to leave. If a sale is made, however, store owners will be prosecuted.

Delaware minors can volunteer to be in the program or they will be selected from students studying criminal justice at area colleges. High school students will not be

used and undercover minors will receive no salary.

This plan is a weapon to help State Police fight their war against teenage drunk driving in Delaware, which has escalated in recent years, Stayton said. "Minors only make up a certain percentage of the driving public, but they're represented twice that much in accidents, a good many of which are alcohol related. Inexperience in driving and inexperience in drinking make a very dangerous combination.

Several area liquor retailers said they think the program, which is slated to go into effect sometime before early summer, is unfair to them.

"It looks like a setup," said Nat Milton, owner of Milton's Liquors in Wilmington.

"The State Police should try to help us keep minors out instead of trying to camouflage them to get liquor store owners in trouble. When they (the state police) catch an underage person in a store they should really discipline him, and if you discipline him enough then you won't have to worry about them being served," Milton said.

Linda Collier, owner of Collier's Liquors in Wilmington and president of the Delaware Liquor Retailers' Association, agreed with Milton. "Just because a kid thinks he has to be a big deal by buying liquor, I get fined, I get my license taken away, I can get closed down, while the kid gets a ten dollar fine, a twenty-five dollar fine, or nothing. My feeling is the kid should get the big fine and the kid should lose his driver's license because that is something that matters to a kid — even

the money doesn't really matter because their parents pay it."

Collier pointed out that it is illegal for any minor to enter a liquor store, so the State Police will be actually breaking the law through the program, which she said isn't right.

Stayton contended, however, that the offense is part of an undercover enforcement operation, which makes it perfectly legal. Stayton also pointed out that the undercover minors will not actually be buying alcohol to keep or use.

Inkspots Music everywhere

State music contest will be held on April 23 at Aurora West High School. Boys girls, mixed and swing choirs will all be competing. This will be the final contest.

Fox Valley Music Festival - held on April 24 - 25 at Aurora East High School. This is not a competition, but just an event where 21 highschools get together to sing and have fun.

Spring concert - May 31 held in our highschool's auditorium.

Monday night concert - Fox Valley Honors Band

Prom fundraisers

Approximately six hundred dollars was made at the car wash/white elephant sale last Saturday. And about two hundred dollars was made as a result from Prom-aid. Due to the success of these fundraisers for Prom, a second car wash will be held Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Ebenroth finalist in pageant

by Sara Langellier

Junior Jane Ebenroth will be participating in the Miss American Coed Pageant held this Friday and Saturday at the Marriott Hotel in Oakbrook. Ebenroth will be competing in the areas of interview, application, evening gown, and interview outfit. The winner of this contest will receive a full paid trip to Hawaii for national competition.

Juniors don't need Federal testing

School children in the elementary level are currently tested every few years by the government. Iowa Tests of Educational Development or California Achievement Tests are administered over a period of one week. In high school, or the secondary level, students no longer had to deal with the Iowa Basic...until an education bill was passed last December, giving \$7.4 billion dollars to the nation's educational system. The legislation, among other things, would provide for the administration of government education tests to 11th graders.

The increase of federal testing is subject to debate among educators. Some suggest the testing would upgrade schools. Many other contend that the subject matter on the tests would establish our curriculum. Education would no longer be a state and local institution. Our public schools would, instead have a nationwide curriculum, as opposed to our current diverse curriculums.

The government wants it to be a "test of academic excellence". The tests would be voluntary. If a student passed the test, they would receive a certificate of commendation from the Department of Education.

There are many disputes concerning increased systematic federal testing. As mentioned earlier, educators are concerned with how curriculum would change and what this testing would really accomplish at the high school level.

Bernard R. Gifford, Dean of Education at the University of California at Berkeley remarked, "If you have national standardized tests, you will end up with a national standardized curriculum." (**The New**

York Times, Dec. 27, 1987) This could very possibly occur. States would be in competition for high test scores. Schools would alter their curriculums to achieve higher test results. "What is on the test becomes more important than what is not on it..." said Larry Cuban, Associate Dean of Education at Stanford University. Gifford continued, "If teachers in Mississippi, Montana, and Massachusetts are all going to be held accountable to a national assessment, then I assure you they will teach to that test." (**The New York Times**).

Politically speaking, educators are afraid politicians might use this testing for evidence whether increased spending will produce better results. The tests would then be used as a monitor for spending in education. Our government might decide to use test results to regulate the spending for our education. That would be based on arbitrary, voluntary test scores.

Another problem with this plan is making the test voluntary, as if high school Juniors need another test to take. There are already college entrance tests, achievement tests, and advanced placement tests. Does the Secretary of Education seriously believe Juniors would take a voluntary test for a *certificate*? The entire "test of academic excellence" program has a number of problems that still need to be solved. Whether, the test is voluntary or not, schools would change curriculums to meet government education standards as a means to do well on the tests. That defeats the purpose of having a *local* public school institution.

Jackson defended

Dear Julie,

In response to your letter and article about Jesse Jackson, I'd like to clear up a few misconceptions you seem to have picked up, and I'd like to ask you a few questions.

First of all, the idea that any "negative comments concerning the Jackson campaign are not taken well by the majority of the public" is unreasonable. You're selling the "majority of the public" short. No one is opposed to any criticism of Jackson on a realistic level, because it's a political campaign and criticism is expected, even desired. However, people don't want to see a presidential campaign deteriorate into the issue of race that you seem to want. You said, in your story that Jackson "discriminates against whites". Where, Julie? You can't say something like that without backing it up. Furthermore, you're wrong. If you've really paid any attention to Jackson's campaign, if you've ever listened to a speech he's given, you'd realize that he stands not just for black rights, but for human rights.

His supporters make up what he calls a "Rainbow Coalition." That is, not just one color, but people of any race who support civil rights and a stronger America. Is that really such an impossible idea for you to accept? The idea that blacks,

whites, hispanics, Asians, and people of any and all races can actually work together for our country's sake shouldn't seem so outrageous to you. Saying that you aren't opposed to equal rights for all Americans as long as we've got a white president doesn't accomplish anything. The longer that the races of our country are as separated as you're comfortable with, the weaker we'll become.

Lastly, you've questioned Jackson's qualifications. He organized *Operation Push* which helped many poor people in Chicago. He's used it to back his strong anti-drug campaigns across the nation. He's gone to the middle-east trying to work for peace. He was on the same balcony in Memphis with Dr. Martin Luther King the morning he was assassinated. Jesse Jackson doesn't have to prove to anyone that he's as qualified as any other candidate. It's obvious, unless, of course, you've chosen to ignore the facts. He's made his mistakes. So what? Is he less entitled to not be perfect than a white candidate? Maybe in your mind, but hopefully not to most voters. Sadly, I think your attitude may just be very typical.

Andy Behrens
Features Editor

Color is not the issue

Dear Editor,

In regards to my article written in the last issue about the presidential candidates, I brought up Democrat Jesse Jackson. Since that publication, I have realized one important aspect. Any negative comments concerning the Jackson campaign are not taken well by the majority of the public. People are afraid to say anything negative because of the fear of being accused a "racist".

Now, wait a second, I don't think my remarks were racial at all. Let's just say a white guy named Smith was running for president. Let's also say he's very religious. Rev. Smith has never been elected to any office. He has never had any real political power and wants to start a bunch of programs which, by the way, have been researched by a major Chicago newspaper. They found out that if these programs were all funded, the country would go bankrupt. Now, knowing this, would you vote for Rev. Smith?

It has been mentioned that Ronald Reagan was an actor and Jimmy Carter was a peanut farmer. Why not a Reverend for president. These are the 80's! Well, wait a second, Ronald Reagan was the

Governor of California for eight years. Jimmy Carter was elected Governor of Georgia and served two years and served two years in the state senate. Jesse Jackson was...is a preacher. He was never elected governor. He never served as a state senator or any representative of a state for that matter.

What do we know about Jackson? We do know that he was kicked out of the University of Illinois for plagiarizing. Jackson's reaction to this statement was that he had quit the school because they wouldn't let him play quarterback on the football team (because he was black). Again, that was looked into, and guess what? There already was a black quarterback on the football team.

My point in the article was not the color of our future president. I don't care what color he is. I also knocked Paul Simon, Gary Hart, and George Bush. Does this make me prejudiced against whites? What about the black people who don't like Jackson, are they prejudice against blacks?

Julie Pollastrani

Run Jesse Run

To Julie Pollastrani,

In regard to your article printed in the March 25 issue (which was well written), your comment about Jesse Jackson discriminating against whites needs some explaining.

Several years ago I taught in another school district. During lunch hour, while relaxing in the teachers lounge, a teacher made these comments, "Imagine this (she was reading from a newspaper), now that Harold Washington is mayor of Chicago, Jesse Jackson has the audacity to run for the presidency." There were 10 teachers in the lounge at the time, but no one said a word. I, of course, responded by saying, "Mr. Jackson is an American citizen, over

35 years of age, educated, a minister, a non-felon, good looking, and a family man who happens to be extremely articulate." She responded by saying, "I don't think a black man should be allowed to run. Besides, I just don't like him."

My thoughts were that these teachers are teaching our kids (black and white) with this attitude. What does the future hold for these kids?

Julie, I wonder, do you believe in woman's rights or affirmative action? Jesse does.

W. Walters

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'Hope I die before I get old.'

—Pete Townshend
My Generation



Daltrey, Moon, and Townshend destroy their instruments at Monterey

Reunion plans for Who should be trashed

by Matt Szesny



There's been a nasty rumor going around lately and it's not the one I heard the other day about Michael Jackson and his monkey. That's a good one, but it's not quite as frightening as what I read in my favorite waste of \$1.95, **Rolling Stone**. In a small article toward the bottom of the page was a rumor that the Who would be regrouping for a U.S. tour this summer. My initial reaction was one of unadulterated joy — **Tommy** was one of my first loves and **Who's Next** continues to top my list of favorite albums — that slowly faded into a realization of what the tour would be — a total sham.

The nucleus of the Who was the aforementioned Townshend, vocalist Roger Daltrey, and bassist John Entwistle. Drummer extraordinaire Keith Moon was added in late 1964, and his mile-a-minute, machine-gun drumming set the standard for a generation of rock drummers to come. It also put the Who far above the local competition, and made them a favorite band of the London Mods.

By early 1965 it was time for the Who to move into the big leagues of British rock, occupied by the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. They burst onto the charts with a Townshend song, *I Can't Explain*, that peaked at number 25 on the British charts before dropping off quickly.

The real breakthrough, however, was their next single, *My Generation*. Its churning blues guitar riff was abetted by Moon's frenzied attack and Daltrey's stuttering, angry vocal, spitting out

Townshend's lyrics. The record shot to number 2, and established Townshend as his generation's voice. It was also the first time Townshend had to explain the meaning of his lyrics, as he'd be doing for years to come.

It was a perfect forum for Moon, who rarely eclipsed his playing on *My Generation*, and for Townshend, who got a chance to try new songwriting avenues, coming up with a true classic, and a personal favorite, *The Kids Are Alright*. The lyrics headed into Bobby Dylan's backyard, and Townshend demonstrated his uncanny gift for expressing teenage angst in a three-minute song. It was a terrific piece of work, but went absolutely nowhere in America, the standard testing ground for a British band's true potential.

The follow-up single to *My Generation* was *Substitute*, a four-chord marvel about a very insecure guy one might very well guess is Townshend. The lyrics fit in very well with Townshend's best "dazed and confused" teen songs. As a testament to the song's power, ten years later, when the punk movement was kicked off, the Sex Pistols often included *Substitute* in their live shows.

The next Who song, *Anyway, Anyhow, Anywhere*, was an attempt to encapsulate the band's stage show on vinyl, complete with explosive feedback from Townshend. The feedback alone set it apart from the more and more homogenized sounds coming out of Britain, but the song's "young punk/I don't give a f—ck about anything" viewpoint was about ten years ahead of its time.

Townshend had, by 1968, tired of the hit making process, longing to attempt something far more adventurous. He had recently been swept up by mind-expanding drugs and a strong belief in his

new avatar, the Meher Baba, that led to a new concept album. While toying with the bundle of ideas and songs that would eventually become the landmark rock opera **Tommy**, the Who toured relentlessly, gaining a reputation as the first and the greatest hotel wreckers in rock and roll. Their costs ran into tens of thousands of dollars for each room. They also got into a gang fight with a group of Shriners, but that's another story.

The gap between **Tommy** and Townshend's next masterpiece, tentatively titled **Lifehouse**, was filled by the incendiary **Live at Leeds**, a set of absolutely molten heavy metal that typified the Who's shows of 1970. It is ferocious, and blows away Zeppelin at their own game.

Something as complex as what Townshend had planned was doomed to failure, and fail it did. But the music salvaged from **Lifehouse** is some of the most spectacular, visionary, rock music ever attempted, and when collected on **Who's Next**, it became one of the greatest albums made. The songs (in particular *Behind Blue Eyes*, *Baba O'Reilly*, Entwistle's *My Wife* and the cathartic *Won't Get Fooled Again*) are near perfect. This is Moon's anarchic high point, playing what seems like an album-long drum roll, and

Daltrey's singing was everything Robert Plant always aspired to but never attained.

That was 1971. How to top their best record yet? Well, the Who never found a way, which is why my story ends its narrative right here. A ray of hope could be seen in 1978's **Who Are You**, featuring the winding title track that became a huge hit in the summer of '78, but it was extinguished with the death of Keith Moon on September 7, 1978.

The two albums featuring new drummer Kenney Jones (**Face Dances** and **It's Hard**.) were flaccid, bordering on mediocre.

One of the reasons for the poor quality of the last two Who albums was the solo career of Pete Townshend. Instead of submitting what he felt was his best material to the Who, he took his best compositions and ran. Townshend's peak as a solo performer was 1980's **Empty Glass**, the best Who-related song cycle since 1973's **Quadrophenia**.

After all this, you hopefully see the problems in a Who reunion tour. Let me live in peace with my library of Who records, and I'll sit, happily listening to *My Generation* until the day I die. Before I get old.



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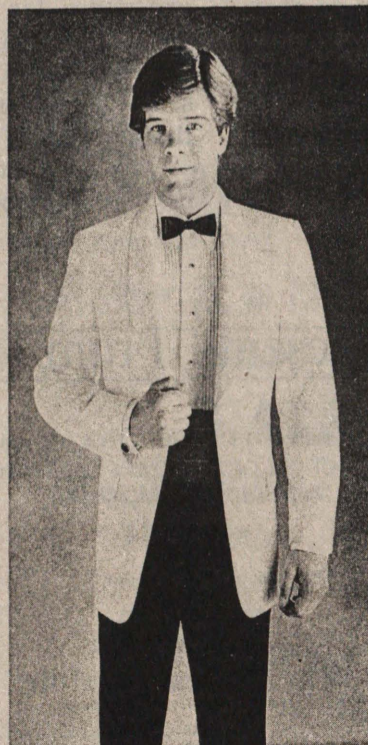
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Covering the issue

by Ed Coronel

"Mom, I have to tell you something," a teenage girl mumbled as she sat down at the kitchen table. She combed back her blonde hair and looked downward at the table, as though she was looking for some way to tell her mother her troubles. Her mother quickly finished the dishes and calmly sat across the table from her daughter while wiping her hands on a nearby towel.

"I know you'll get upset," the girl said as she began her story with tears forming in her eyes. "I'm pregnant, Mom," she paused briefly trying to hold back her tears, "and I really need your help."

From there onward, anything could pos-

sibly happen. The mother could hug the daughter and reassure her future, or she could reject the girl and exile her from home—anything can happen in this day and age.

In-depth is taking an inside look at teenage pregnancy. There is much more to this "epidemic" than what meets the eye. Anonymous students from different schools were privately interviewed to give us first hand information on what this "epidemic" is really like in all aspects, good and bad. Teen pregnancy is an important issue which could effect any one of us. A better understanding of the situation can bring knowledge, and with knowledge comes a better hope for the future.

Guys have feelings too

by Shari Murray and Forrest Rackmyer

For generations teenage pregnancy was kept hidden away. The girls were sent away to distant relatives and the guys were usually forbidden to ever see their girlfriend. This is changing and more responsibility is being taken. The blame is falling more equally. Every person interviewed believed the fault to be shared.

Four guys out of the six interviewed were shocked that their girlfriend was pregnant. Two of these people expected it and showed support or had no idea what to do.

Three of these six planned to stick near their girls and get a job. One had no plans at the beginning; another brought up the subject of abortion. The sixth couple kept the baby, and the guy gives her \$120 per week for expenses.

When asked if they were going to take full responsibility, only two replied "yes." Three believed they needed parental support, and one had no idea what he was going to do.

Asking for advice or telling a parent can be

hard. Five out of six couples did or will seek advice. One is going to a professional counselor, not in school; the other four believed their parents were the best source of advice and guidance. The sixth boy had no idea what to do.

Only one out of six did not tell their parents right away. Four believed there was no choice. The other would only tell his parents if they were in a good mood.

There are many options that can be considered. Abortion was not a popular consideration; only two looked at it as a possibility. Most believed that adoption or (if possible) keeping the baby would be the best possibility.

Half of the guys believed that abortion was strictly the girls' decision. "It's their body, they should decide." But the other three wanted to be included in the decision.

As this survey has shown, guys do want to help. Some feel all the decisions should be made together. They too feel responsible. Girls no longer have to hide because they now have more support from various sources.

Easy solutions hold little appeal

by Yvonne Schlotzer

Abortion is a difficult and controversial topic to deal with. However, it is a subject which desperately needs to be recognized in high school newspapers. Statistics show that 40% out of one million teenage pregnancies each year in the United States end in abortion.

How do these girls handle their experience? What kinds of feelings do they have? WCHS social worker Ron Dow offered some answers. Dow said that the girls are generally "in a shock and haven't had a lot of time to

understand what was happening to them." before and just after having an abortion. Dow specified that most girls went through feelings of denial afterward, such as not wanting to talk about it. He noted that most people experience the pain of an abortion several years later in life. They experience feelings of extreme hurt and guilt and may ask themselves questions like: "Did I do the right thing?" and "Was I only thinking of myself?"

Dow felt that for the most part, the girls' boyfriends seemed to be present during the

abortion in some way or another. He added that they felt extreme pressure, guilt and feared commitments. Dow reasoned that girls who were able to discuss their situation with someone were more fortunate. "If they are able to tell their parents and get support, it makes a positive difference in that they don't feel so alone, and they have someone they can go to."

What made the girls choose abortion? Dow felt that the girls who decided to have abortions had already considered the other op-

the inside story Fearing mother

by Suzanne Worthy

"It's frightening. It's a heart-throbbing being pregnant.

Girls dealing with a possible pregnancy in approaching this situation.

What about the baby? What will my friend I keep it? Get an abortion? Adoption?

In talking with girls dealing with this, a lot of fear hit when their period missed a day. The tension was eased the day their period finally came. However, between the first day missed, and the first day of menstruation actually began "felt like an eternity."

During this eternity is when the above questions stormed their minds. "I really thought I was pregnant. I didn't know what to do, I wanted to tell someone, but I was even scared to do that!" Another said, "I tried to figure out how I would be able to take care of it, pay for its diapers its food, its clothes and all - but how?"

This reporter then asked if they would tell friends, parents, or boyfriends that there was a possibility. One reply was, "I told my best friend, I wouldn't tell my parents, or my boyfriend." A contrasting reply to this was "I don't think I'd ever say any thing until I was sure...even then I don't know."

To 35 people, the most important question was "would you keep the baby?" Again the replies varied greatly. 30 percent would keep the baby, 30 percent wanted to put the baby up for adoption.

According to one girl interview, "It's the most experienced...where can you turn...what can



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don't know."

nt question was "What about the

greatly. Fifty percent said they

wanted abortions, and 20 percent

r adoption.

"It's the scariest feeling I've ever

.what can you do?"

tions. They decided that they could not give

the baby up for adoption after carrying it for

nine months yet they also were not ready to

keep it and raise it for themselves. Dow said

that the reactions from the girls' parents was

possibly the largest contributing factor in

making the decision. The girls felt that they

Teen moms face future

by Julie Pollastrini and Lisa Chung

When a child is about to be brought into the world, a lot of joy and love surrounds that child way before it even debuts into the world. Unfortunately, when a teenage girl is about to become a mother, the problems begin to outweigh the love at birth. Teenage pregnancies are not all planned, but when they occur they have to be dealt with. An unwanted pregnancy just doesn't go away, it gets bigger. Telling Mom and Dad may seem like an enormous step, but it is only the beginning.

The whole situation is publicly believed to be left for the girl to handle while the guy just skips town. This is true in only some of the cases. One teenage mother expressed her and her boyfriend's feelings by mentioning their plans of a wedding. Both are still together, but don't plan on setting a date for quite a while.

Another couple has decided to give their baby up for adoption. Both felt that dropping out of school was not a good decision. It is not easy on either person, but together they feel it will be best for the child.

A pregnancy causes a lot of stress. Feelings have to be sorted out and decisions must be made as soon as possible. The best way to handle the situation is to consult a friend. A shoulder to cry on or a helping hand from a kind person can mean a lot. John Delap has been this person to quite a number of girls. He is a newly retired WCCHS counselor. Delap has counseled many guys as well as girls. Guys do not know how to help or what to do. They also need advice. The support that they offer their girlfriend will let her know that he cares. "Generally they don't do well, not because they don't want to, but because they are unable to," commented Delap. He feels this way because the guys involved are only kids themselves. They do not have much money, and they are scared. According to Delap, many guys have come to him all broken up and with tears in their eyes. Surprisingly, over the past five years, couples have started to come in together for help.

Delap has noticed that the younger the girl is, the more likely she will be to give her baby up. "These girls are not prepared physically, logically, or mentally to take on the responsibility, and they know it," replied Delap. On the other hand, the girls that keep their babies have taken on a huge responsibility.

Delap has seen many girls break down in tears after they have dropped out of school. Why? While their friends go out on Saturday nights, these girls are left all alone. High school girls like to go out and have fun on the weekends, and there is no reason why they shouldn't.

"Today it's more accepted in society that teenage pregnancy exists. Its a sign of the times now, and more girls are deciding to keep their babies," commented Delap.

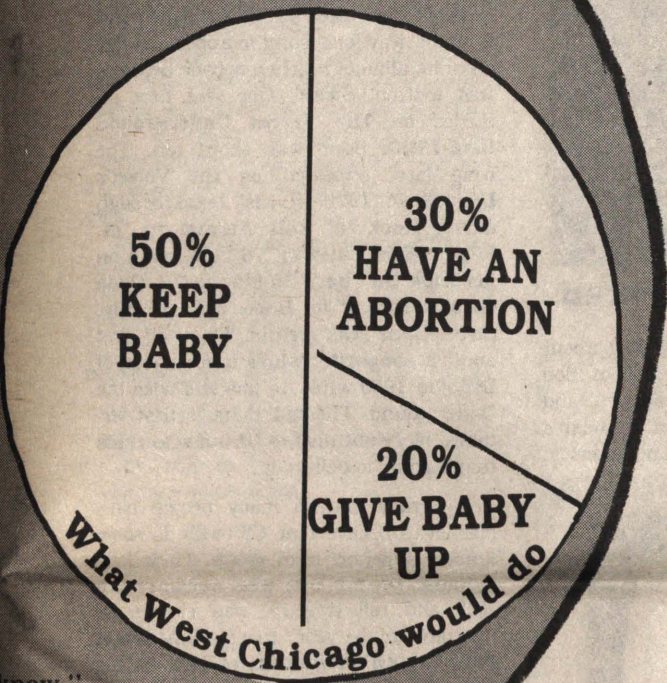
Teenagers' responses are generally a reflection of their parents' beliefs. It is either "the honorable thing to do", or "two wrongs do not make a right" when questioning marriage. However, Delap feels that the kids involved don't have a prayer without some kind of support from their families.

If the couple does decide to get married, economically they will be at a disadvantage. Delap says that young couples will usually live with the girl's family or the guy's. Financially they do not have a lot of choices.

When a girl drops out of school because she is unable to handle all the pressure and responsibility of balancing motherhood, a job and school, Delap will suggest the Early Leavers Program. This program enables the girls to attend DAVEA (DuPage Area Vocational Education Authority) to learn job skills and to work on a GED (General Education Diploma). A GED is the next best thing to a high school diploma. It is a certificate that is awarded after a two day test, which covers every subject has been passed. Employers are more interested in a high school diploma. However, a GED does give you an edge over the people who have neither.

Classes are given at the high school at night in preparation for the test. People enrolled in the classes range in ages from 17 to 75. The classes are especially beneficial to teenage mothers since they meet at night so that friends can take care of the baby. Babysitting is the biggest problem standing in the way of an education for these girls. Years ago the girl's mother simply took care of the baby while she finished up her schooling. This is not so easy to do anymore because most mothers are now at work in the daytime.

The issue was best put into perspective by Delap, "What hurts me is the future. What will happen to these kids? They are good kids and they don't deserve to be passed judgment on. We need to help these kids with the future."



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U2: Writing classics on the obituary of rock and roll

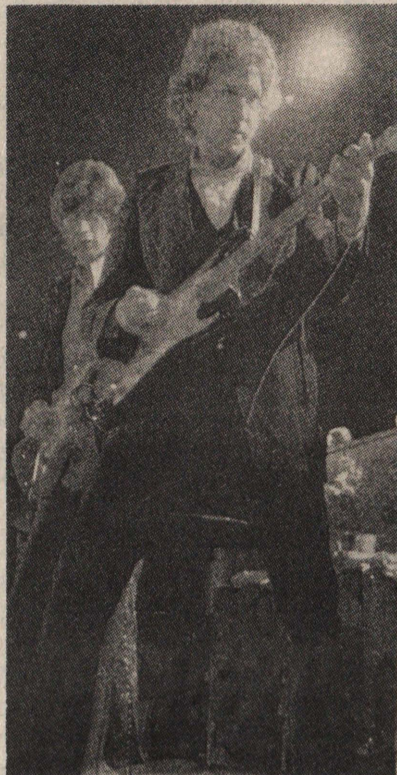
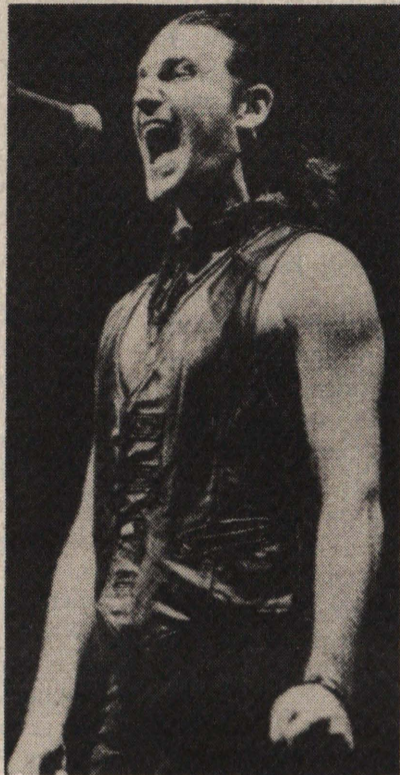
by Andy Behrens



When U2 ascended to national prominence in 1987 with their million-selling **Joshua Tree**, it initially seemed like a pretty good thing. I had followed the band since they hit U.S. shores in the early Eighties, drawn in by

their distinct sound, accompanied by a message. This image, however, has been shattered by the growing number of ignorant fans who can't seem to pay enough tributes to Bono and Co., leading the band toward developing their sickening, self-congratulatory mindset.

The most recent book in the continuing onslaught of material honoring U2 is **Touch The Flame** by Geoff Parkyn, the guy responsible for the band's official fan magazine, the all too appropriately titled *Propaganda*. All the book serves as is a reminder of the lead-singer Bono's delusions of grandeur that have royally turned off so many former fans: "If people come along expecting the world from U2, then they're going to get it." Does he really expect his enormously overrated band to be considered the first and last word in rock and roll? They aren't, especially now that we have hundreds of good groups with just as much to say as this stuck-up Irish band. According to Bono, however, we don't have to worry about thinking for ourselves in music



Bono (left) and Bob Dylan (right) can't be compared

anymore, even if it is the only area left where people of any age can think on their own. Just follow U2, 'cause they're all you need? Yeah, right. He's such a conceited fool.

Bono also doesn't mind talking about himself as the "second coming" or Bob Dylan. Bob Dylan's not dead yet, and Bono doesn't have a fraction of Dylan's talent for writing lyrics. Just listen to

such classic Dylan albums as **Blond on Blonde** or **Highway 61 Revisited**. Nearly all his material is so beyond Bono's songwriting scope that it makes a comparison seem ridiculous. Dylan masterpieces like *Blowin' In The Wind*, *Positively 4th Street*, and the well covered *Mr. Tamborine Man* are so meaningful and so much more fascinating than anything U2 is capable of, that Bono's constant self-appreciation comes off as a joke. The more you stop to admire yourself along the way, the less you'll have time to accomplish. Shut up and play.

I think my favorite false testimony to Bono's self-proclaimed lyrical mastery is one author's suggestion that in an Atlanta bar in 1982, he wrote Lou Reed's classic *Sweet Jane*. Hey, maybe Bono is a genius. It would most likely take a brilliant mind to find a way for a song to appear on five separate albums nearly a decade before it was written. *Sweet Jane* was first recorded on **The Velvet Underground Live-1969**. Bono was about ten. The song later appeared on the Velvet's **Loaded** in 1970, Reed's breakthrough album **Rock 'n' Roll Animal** in '74, Reed's **Wild Child** in '76, and again on his **Walk On The Wild Side** in '77. Quite an achievement for Bono, eh? Actually, *Sweet Jane* was written by Reed (yet another songwriter who's miles ahead of Bono) in 1969 while he was still with the Underground. The sad thing is that virtually every unthinking U2 fan who reads that is going to believe it.

It's crazy that so many people have started to believe that U2 really is some kind of superior, ideal group. Their lead guitarist, the Edge, in what amounts to a rock and roll tragedy, was chosen as "guitarist of the year" in a **Rolling Stone** reader's poll. Regardless of any *hidden* talent he may have, it doesn't show up on record.

U2's a good group; a simple group that used to have something to say a long time ago. They aren't a great group. They never have been, and they aren't anywhere near the level that all their fans keep declaring they're at. How can they be "ahead of their time" and still have all these 13 and 14 year old fans? Kind of a contradiction of terms, don't you think? In quite a few ways, they don't measure up to the best of their time. It now looks as though the new U2 that can't get enough of itself is here to stay. Maybe it's really that they still haven't found, huh?



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Hicks - An All-American

by Kelly Lee

An addition to West Chicago High School staff is basketball player Ron Hicks. Hicks played high school, college and pro basketball.

Hicks attended West Aurora High School and played basketball four years on the varsity level. In high school and college he played forward-center, and was also a starter.

"In high school grades were very important. Grades came first because if you are ineligible you can not play in a sport," said Hicks. Hicks had a 2.5 and higher average in high school and in college. Also while in high school he played on a suburban team and they beat the city team.

After high school Hicks received a four year Scholarship to Northern Illinois University. In order to keep a four year scholarship Hicks replied "you must have playing time and perform."

In college at NIU practices were two and a half hours long and very strenuous. Games were held on Saturday and Sundays. In college basketball Hicks said "there's lots of illegal stuff going on such as players given money, good jobs, and cars."

While Hicks was in high school he received Honors his junior and senior year. He was all city, all area, all state, all American, Honorable Mention and all conference. In high school he was school rebounder and best field goals. In college rebounder. In college he held the state record in shooting, and scoring 2,175 points, 18.6 points a game, 11 rebounds in his four years at NIU.

After he finished college with a degree in Physical Education he pursued basketball. He was drafted by the Golden State Warriors in the eighth round. Hicks never went to the Golden State Camp instead, he went to play on a tour team in Europe. While on the tour team a French coach asked him to play for France. Hicks played for France for a year in a half. Then he went to Holland and played one year. After that he went back to the United States for awhile until he decided to go to Sweden to play for five years after

ketball," said Hicks.

Hicks now coaches Junior Amateur Athletics United, this team consists of the best High School players in the Aurora area and they play in tournaments. He is also on the Senior Amateur Athletics United, for men older than 18 years old. Hicks has built up a sports foundation which consists of all kinds of sports.

For Hicks the most important thing in High School besides grades was keeping in shape. Then when in college the most important things were being competitive,

In college he held the state record in shooting, scoring 2,175 points, 18.6 points a game, 11 rebounds in his four years at NIU.

his five years in Sweden he came back to the U.S. "College basketball is totally different from pro-basketball because there are lots of guys going for one position. High school basketball is also totally different from college because in college you are required to come to practice and must perform on the court. In high school grades must come first before bas-

and making himself better. Hicks is 6 feet five and a half inches tall and has played 16 years of basketball competitively. Hicks wishes he could of played basketball at a younger age than at age 13 when he started.

Hicks' second favorite sport is tennis because it takes lots of energy.

Jock Shorts

by Dana Netzel

WCCHS boys' tennis team was defeated in their first two away matches. Against Geneva they lost one to four. Against Elgin Larkin they lost two to three, the two winners from We-Go were James Koop and Kai Martin.

The next home meet for the boy's tennis team is April 26 at 4 p.m.

Sophomore Baseball

It took six games, but someone finally scored an earned run against the We-go sophomore baseball team.

The run came after a Wildcat outfielder lost a fly ball in the sun. It dropped for a double. Two ground outs later, Glenbard East scored the run.

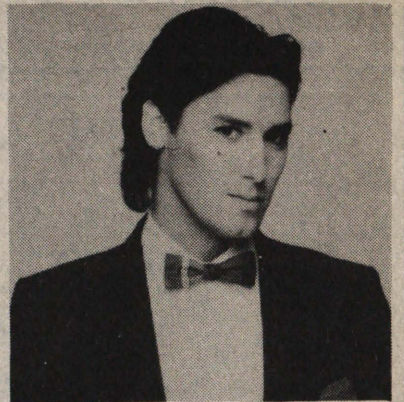
After eight games the sophomores were 7-1 with a team earned run average of 0.83.

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Baseballs greats

by Katie Jemsek

Baseball has been played for almost a century. It is as American as apple pie and Chevrolet. Baseball is "The American Sport." Baseball was invented by Abner Doubleday (1839-1893). Each team consists of nine players: pitcher, catcher, first base, second base, shortstop, third base, left fielder, center fielder, and right fielder.

Some of baseball's greats had a lifetime batting average of .367, the highest ever to this day. Cobb also held the record for most hits, 4,191, until Pete Rose retired with 4,256 in 1986. Pete Rose also broke Ty Cobb's record of nine 200-hit seasons in 1979.

Babe Ruth is said to have brought to the game a new era of excitement. In 1914, he started as a pitcher for the Red Sox. Ruth became all-time leader in career walks with 2,056 and highest slugging average of .692.

Jackie Robinson (1919-1972) was the first black baseball player in 1947. He won Rookie of the Year, batted .297, and led the league with 29 stolen bases. Robinson stole home plate 19 times in his career. In 1949, he was the league MVP, with .311 batting average and 37 stolen bases. His greatest inning ever was in 1951, the last day of the season. In the twelfth inning with two outs and bases loaded, he made a diving catch to keep the score tied. In the bottom of the inning, he hit the game-winning homerun.

Thanks to Abner Doubleday, we have had baseball for almost a century. Many talented athletes have added new dimensions to the professional game and young boys have spent many lazy summer days tossing the ball around. This sport, like any other, draws excited fans annually, yet baseball is a truly American game that will probably see a few more centuries and several more living legends.

Awards night held

by Katie Jemsek

Awards night was held for those who participated in winter sports. This night was held for participants in girls and boys basketball, boys swimming and wrestling.

For girls basketball, the awards given out were Most Valuable, Most Improved, Best Defensive Player, MTXE (Mental Toughness Extra Effort). Teresa Berry received Most Valuable, Michele Burandt earned Most Improved, Michele Lubinski was the Best Defensive Player and Rebecca Rivan was the MTXE winner. Berry received Special Mention for the All-conference team, while Rivan was an Honorable Mention.

Boys basketball also has Most Valuable and Most Improved plus the best Rebounder award. The school award winners were Tyrone Parks for Most Valuable

and best Rebounder, and John Belli was awarded Most Improved. All-Conference Mention went to a junior, Parks and Honorable Mention went to Rory Gallagher.

Boys swimming awards include Most Improved, Most Valuable and Rookie of the year. Jon Zeitlow was Most Valuable and freshman Brian Kozlousky was the Most Improved swimmer. Zeitlow and Shawn Noonan qualified for state in swimming and diving and T.J. Weigands received Rookie of the Year.

In wrestling the trophies are given out for Most Valuable and Most Improved. Both awards went to seniors that almost made it to State. Dave Andrews was the Most Valuable Wrestler and Oscar Marmolejo won Most Improved Wrestler this year. Louie Gonzalez made the All-Conference team.

Varsity baseball season starts

by Lish Hubert

With the '88 varsity baseball season finally starting the Wildcats are roaring to go. Their energy and excitement is visible and sure to win them some games. In fact it already has, their overall record is now at 2-3-1.

There are four returning letter winners: Ken Spielman - outfield, Forrest Rackmyer - pitcher and outfield, Dan Modaff - catcher and pitcher, and Oscar Marmolejo - pitcher and second base. With three returning pitchers, this is their strongest position. In the season opener Dan Modaff pitched a no hitter against Geneva which the Cats went on to win 3-2. In a later game against St. Charles,

Tom Perry pitched very well for five innings and then Modaff came in to finish the last three innings until the tie game was called on account of darkness.

Head coach Ron Hansen feels the one weak point of the team is they really need some strong hitters. In the first game of a double header the Cats only had two hits. Luckily, one of the hits was a solo homerun by Tom Perry. The other was a two run home by Mark Hall. These two hits and three runs came together to beat Batavia 3-2. Unfortunately, in the second game of that double header the Bulldogs came back to beat the Cats 7-1. Likewise the Cats lost to Oswego 6-4 and Glenbard East 6-5.

The varsity Wildcats next home game is today against Wheaton North.

Badminton

by Carrie Ryan

The 1988 Badminton season began March 14. Coach LaVora Singleton said that this year will be mostly for improving the team skills. There are only three returning seniors and a total of 27 athletes. The team competes in three levels Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Exhibition.

Mindy Bert, Senior competed last year at state second singles placing second. "Mindy has improved and is playing better now than at state last year," said Singleton. Singleton said this year Sectional competition will be much harder. Recently Mindy placed third out of sixteen players at the Bloom Tournament.

'Pitching name of game'

by Kelly Lee

The 1988 season for girls' softball started March 30. This years seniors consist of Teresa Berry, Michele Burandt, Brenda Shockey, Rebecca Rivan, Krista Neil, Julie Jakubowski and Bridget McLaughlin. "Shockey is a real exceptional pitcher," said coach Lee Maciejewski. Shockey has been on varsity for three years. "Pitching is the name of the game," adds Maciejewski.

For the 1988 season Maciejewski said, "I'd like to win as many games as we can, play as hard as we can, and be tough to beat." Practices range from one in a half to two hours. In practice, the goal is to try to work on skills to prepare for game competition. They also work on fun-

damentals to win in situations to their advantage.

Kerry Matthews feels "The team has lots of potential and we have to build up our confidence." Missy Vega said, "She wants to reach Maciejewski's goals and go to regionals."

Maciejewski began the girls' softball program four years ago and when he started at We-go only 23 girls went out for all levels. "This year 58 girls are out for softball and are interested in playing," said Maciejewski.

Jane Ebenroth said, "We have lots of potential and have to better our record from last year. This year on varsity there are two freshman and they all work as a team," said Ebenroth. The teams number one goal is to win as many games as they can.

Wildcat Schedule

Badminton			
Apr 26 Tue	Naperville North	H	4:30
Apr 29 Fri	DVC	H	TBA
Apr 30 Sat	DVC	H	9 a.m.
May 7 Sat	Sectionals	TBA	
May 13 Fri	State Finals	TBA	
May 14 Sat	State Finals	TBA	
Baseball			
Apr 26 Tue	Naperville Central	H	4:15
Apr 28 Thu	Glenbard North	A	4:30
Apr 30 Sat	Glenbard East-DH	H	10 a.m.
May 2 Mon	Wheaton Central	A	4:30
May 3 Tue	Wheaton Central	H	4:15
May 5 Thu	Glenbard South	H	4:15
May 6 Fri	Glenbard South	A	4:30
May 10 Tue	Naperville North	A	4:30
May 12 Thu	Naperville North	H	4:15
Girls' Soccer			
Apr 26 Tue	Batavia	A	4:30
Apr 28 Thu	Glenbard North	A	4:30
May 3 Tue	St. Charles	A	4:30
May 5 Thu	Naperville Central	H	4:30
May 10 Tue	Naperville North	A	4:30
Softball			
Apr 25 Mon	Naperville Century	A	4:30
Apr 27 Wed	Glenbard East	H	4:15
Apr 29 Fri	Glenbard North	A	4:30
May 2 Mon	Wheaton Central	A	4:30
May 4 Wed	Wheaton North	A	4:30
May 6 Fri	Naperville North	H	4:15
May 9 Mon	Glenbard South	A	4:30
May 11 Wed	Naperville Central	H	4:15
May 13 Fri	Glenbard East	A	4:30
Tennis			
Apr 26 Tue	Glenbard South	H	4 p.m.
Apr 28 Thu	Naperville North	A	4 p.m.
Apr 30 Sat	Cary Grove/ Romeoville	H	9 a.m.
May 3 Tue	Wheaton North	H	4 p.m.
May 5 Thu	Naperville Central	H	4 p.m.
May 10 Tue	Glenbard North	A	4 p.m.
Boy's Track			
Apr 26 Tue	Naperville Central	H	4:30
May 3 Tue	Glenbard South	A	4:30
May 6 Fri	Dupage County Meet	A	4 p.m.
May 10 Tue	DVC-Non- Qualifier Meet	A	6 p.m.
Girls' Track			
Apr 26 Tue	Glenbard East	A	4:30
Apr 30 Sat	WeGo Invite	H	10 a.m.
May 6 Fri	DVC at Naperville C	A	3 p.m.
May 13 Fri	Sectionals	TBA	

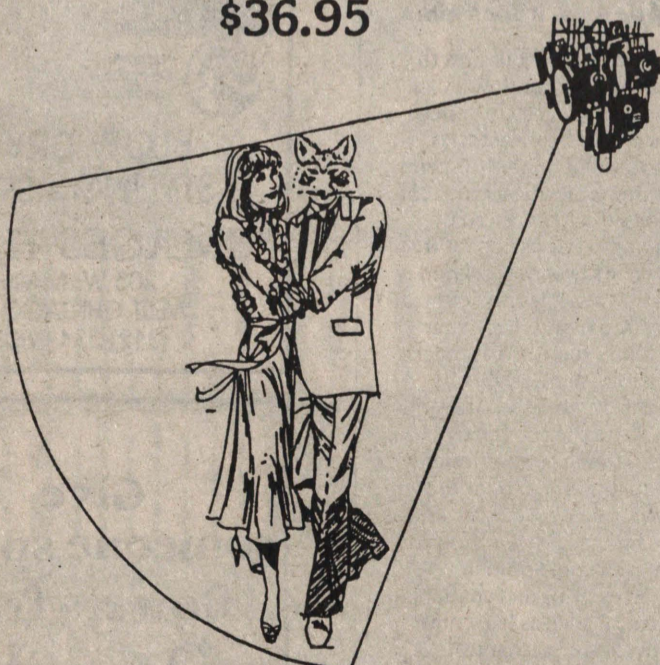


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