

# The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School  
326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL 60185  
December 16, 1988 Volume 18 Number 5



## Inkspots



### Raising spirit

"Senior Days" have been declared by Senior Class President, Traci Knutson. The "Senior Days" were created to help raise school spirit among the seniors. The upcoming event scheduled is a "P.J. day" on January 25.

### U of I hosts Thespians

The Thespians will be attending the 14 annual Theatre Convention which will be held on January 5, 6, and 7 at the University of Illinois in Champaign. The group will be joined by students from around the state.

### Home ec. night at We-go

The Second annual Home Economics night was Tuesday, December 6, at 7 p.m. It took place in the Weyrauch Auditorium, where a Fashion Show by Clothing I and a Mock Wedding by Contemporary Life Class were held.

### Howard returns

Exchange student Kelly Howard will be returning to West Chicago from Australia tomorrow, December 17. Howard, a junior has spent the last year in Crafters, Australia, as part of the Youth for Understanding exchange program.

### Choir tours

Concert Choir, Swing Choir, and Madrigals will be making a Christmas tour of local schools today. The tour includes Indian Knoll and Lincoln elementary schools, the West Chicago Junior High, and Winfield Middle School.

The choirs, directed by Ron Benner, will perform traditional carols and selections from the annual Christmas Vespers concert last Sunday.

This week, the choirs also performed at the LaSalle National Bank Plaza in Chicago for an estimated fifteen thousand people.

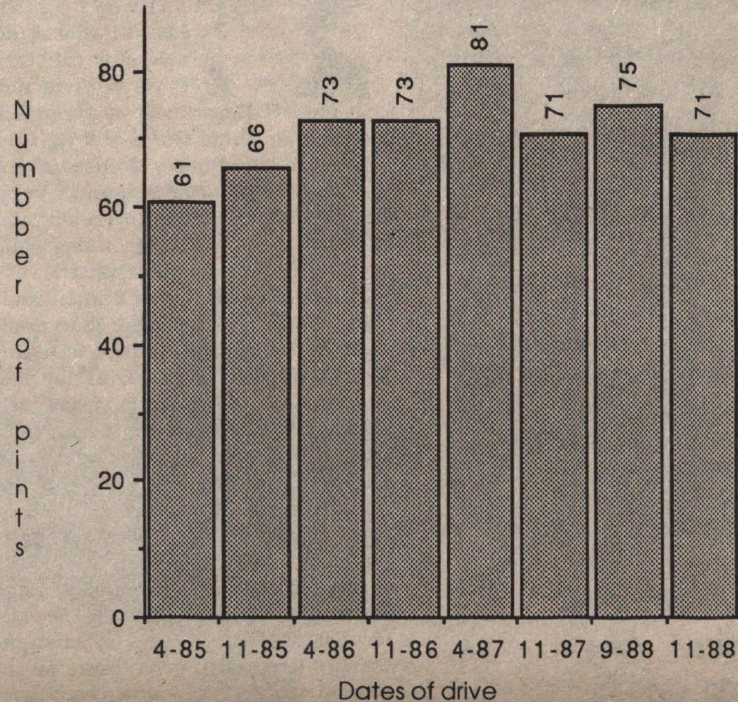
## Blood drive a success

by Julie Mastro

The one hour that 71 We-go donors took to donate blood will aid the many people who are in need of blood and help to give them a chance to live healthy lives.

units. The remaining 58 units were platelet units, which are necessary in order for blood to clot.

A centrifuge, a blood dividing machine,



Whether the blood goes to an accident or a burn victim it is placed in good use. Over the past three years We-go's donations have been outstanding. According to Sherry Kohoit of the Heartland Blood Center, "In comparison to schools of similar size WCCHS has an extraordinary response."

The blood donated is divided into four products. Of the 71 pints four units were kept whole, usually for accident victims. The remaining 67 pints were divided into 190 different products. Sixty-six units were red blood cells and another 66 were plasma

took the original 71 units of blood and split it into 194 blood components. This means that the 71 people who donated blood are actually helping out 194 people in need of blood. The blood is good for six weeks and is especially useful during the holiday season when people don't have the time to donate.

Kohoit notes that We-go is very stable in their donations. "No matter what else happens we can count on 70 pints." She also said, "Look at what these 71 blood donors accomplished — it's pretty wonderful."

## Bridge earns excellent

by Kerri Spoden

"I felt good because I wanted to achieve something when I went there," replied junior Karen Getlinger when asked of her feelings when she won. Getlinger, business manager for *The Bridge*, received a grade of excellent for her design of an ad for a newspaper.

Getlinger and six other editors went to Washington D.C. November 17 to 20 to attend a three day Journalism Education Association/National School Press Association convention. Editors in attendance were Andy Behrens (Editor-in-chief), Kelly Day (In-Depth), Dana Netzel (News), Ismael Rios (Photo), Kerri Spoden (Sports), and Matt Szesny (Features). Advisor Tim Courtney accompanied the editors.

The editors attended classes daily from 8 a.m. in the until 3 p.m. The classes covered subjects such as how to liven up your school newspaper, proper interview techniques, and how to get and maintain a free student

press. Many of these classes had guest speakers from large business chains and television networks. Also, Kathleen Kennedy Townsend was a key note speaker and lectured on the importance of youth involvement in today's society. On November 18, all of the editors participated in a two hour competition to be judged on their writing and design skills.

The Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill hosted the event and housed over 2,500 student journalists that weekend. These students represented over 42 of the 50 states. The Hyatt held various activities including a dance in order for the students to get to know each other and to have some fun. Sight-seeing was another option given and was what most of the students did in their free time.

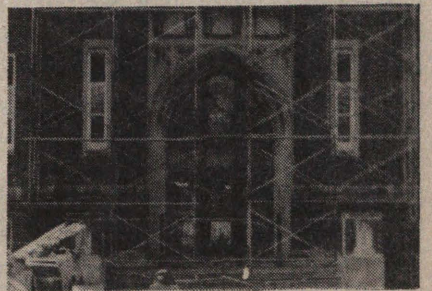
Getlinger's grade of excellence qualifies her for a chance to compete in the JEA National Write-off in Anaheim, California in the spring of 1989.

## Rebuilding the entrance

by Dana Netzel

After 62 years the entrance stairs to WCCHS have settled, and are in the process of being repaired.

Superintendent Richard Kamm said that a janitor noticed that the slabs of stone were coming loose and the stairs were shifting down on the south end.



To repair the entrance it will cost \$19,420 and will involve rebuilding the brick piers that stand against the stairs. Kamm said that the brick won't be the same, but will look similar to the brick on the addition that was built in 1979.

The brick around the entrance will be cleaned up to remove the black on it, and new stairs will be poured on over the old ones so they will be sitting on a footing. The step before the door will then be leveled out to the new stairs.

Kamm said that he is also looking for lights to light up the entrance that was built in 1926. The lights will be either on the building or in the lawn close to the sidewalk.

## Vica supports needy

by Michele Rittorno

"Throughout the years it has been a real good turn out and is increasing over the last two years," IRO teacher Carol Streicher said referring to the annual food drive VICA holds.

The food drive started November 28 and runs until December 16. Students and faculty can bring items to room 201 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

VICA is a club that is for the students who are involved with a work program. As a club they have one national goal: that is to help the community and to become involved with their society. The annual food drive has taken place for about 12 years.

The food is taken to a community food pantry that is at St. Mary's Church in West Chicago. Many people feel that the food drive is associated with the catholic religion, but Senior Debbie Thurston said that it isn't and the "the church just donates the space. Anybody can go to the food pantry from our community."

For the last two years there has been competition between the classes and faculties. The competition between the classes are strictly for the classes, while the different departments of the faculty compete against each other.

A student or faculty member receives a raffle ticket, for every three items they bring in. The winner of the students will receive a gift certificate from Rose Records, and the faculty winner will receive a fruit basket.

VICA is starting a new approach this year. Outside their office, on the bulletin board, there will be a candy cane for each class. "For every 50 items a class brings in then a stripe will be colored on their class candy cane," Streicher said. The candy cane will make it easier to see who is winning.

# WCCHS assists United Way

by Lori Schuermann

Administrative Assistant Richard Waterhouse said that he is quite proud of the staff at WCCHS because they were able to raise approximately 8,000 dollars for United Way.

United Way is an organization that was formed to gather and distribute funds to different causes such as childrens' programs and the homeless. The program is divided up into different sections that raise

money. These sections include the business, rural and education divisions of West Chicago.

Waterhouse represents the Educational department and organizes the eight captains and teams that are chosen. These teams consist of people who are employed at the school, it's not just teachers. Each individual is given 10 to 15 people to visit and explain what the program is about on a personal basis, and leave brochures for the person to look over. Then, after about a

weeks time, they go back to answer questions and collect funds.

Although students may not have the time to go door to door to help raise money, they still can get involved according to Waterhouse. Dances can be held to help raise money or even a donation jar during lunch could be provided.

They were able to increase this year's donations tremendously according to Waterhouse and he hopes that this will continue to accumulate in the future.

## Good Job Student Council

Our school's Student Council is an institution that works sometimes behind the scenes, and does more than most people know about. The phrases: "Student Council never does anything," and, "If Student Council does anything, I don't know about it," represent much of the feeling of the W.C.C.H.S. student body. We, the members of the **Bridge** editorial staff, would like to prove a position to the contrary. Our school's Student Council is active in both school and community, contributes what it can, where it can.

The Student Council's treasury is full and they would like to spend the money on something worthwhile. They are also beginning to recycle aluminum cans to save more money to donate to a scholarship. The council is accepting applications for financial aid by any needing school organization. President Jane Ebenroth and Advisor Terry Zimmerman will review the applications to decide the winner of the funds. Additional monies for this will be raised by the Computer Cupid Fundraiser.

The Council is also paying a visit to the Terrace Nursing Home to raise some Christmas spirit in the residents. The Blood Drive was another important accomplishment by the Student Council. They work hard to organize, advertise, and run these functions for the benefit of the student body and the community. They bring up problems and send them to committee to be solved through a close working relationship with the administration of our school. Our Student Council rarely gets thanks or recognition for services performed and often goes plain unnoticed. We feel that it is about time they were complimented on a job well done.



## School spirit deceased?

Dear Editor,  
Seeing as there are numerous examples of the lack of school spirit, I have come upon the ultimate, perplexful deduction that school spirit at W.C.C.H.S. is deceased.

R.I.P.  
Jim "I.Q." Theisen

## Members of the Class of '89

We really can't stand school any more. We're bored out of our minds. We're just waiting around for party time!

Sincerely,

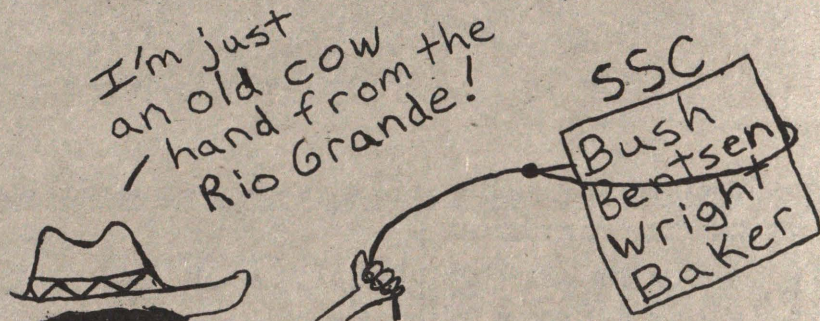
## Roadblock stops D.U.I.'s

Were you on Route 59 on Friday, November 25th between 9:30 p.m. and 3:00 a.m.? If so, you either saw or were stopped by a police roadblock. Illinois state, DuPage county, and West Chicago city police officers cooperated to conduct the roadblock to limit the number of drunk driving related accidents in

West Chicago. Members of S.A.D.D. witnessed the roadblock, which arrested seven drivers for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Breathalyzer tests were also performed by police. Next time you drink, don't drive. Remember what might happen.

Students Against Drunk Driving

## 'Just call me Tex'



"Just call me Tex" is a phrase that is being heard more and more in the hallways at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia now that the U.S. Department of Energy has decided to place the much coveted Superconducting Super Collider in Waxahachie, Texas. Some people believe political clout had more to do with the placing of the SSC than doing what would be the best for the taxpayer.

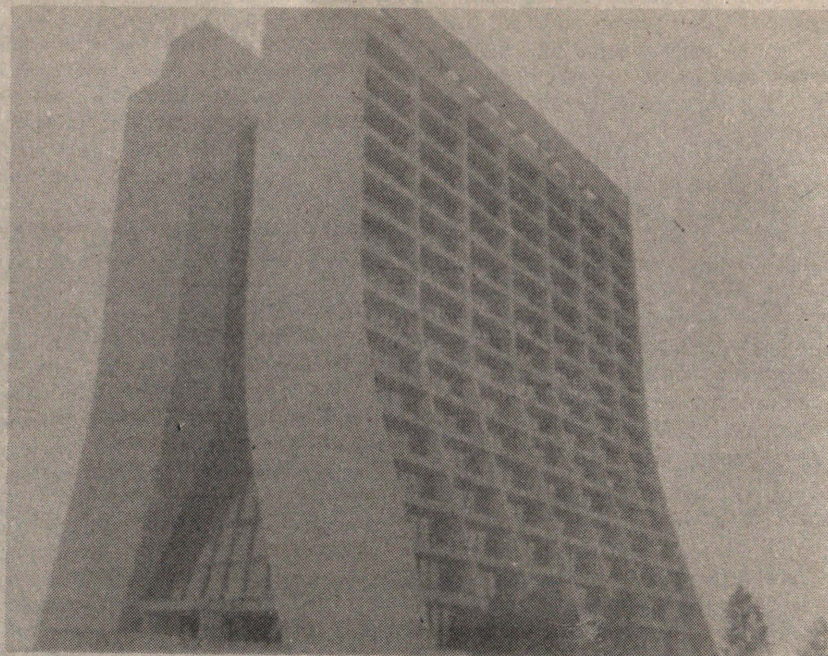
Just take a look at what Illinois had to offer: a site near Fermilab that would save half a billion dollars by using Fermi's accelerator and land, the best experience in the nation in tunnel technology, and everything you need to run a lab. We also come up with the least expensive bid ranging from \$10.4 billion to \$10.9 billion because much of the equipment needed for the SSC is already in place.

This is not to say that Illinois didn't have anything going against it. The organization CATCH (Citizens Against the Collider Here) cited such issues as the relocation of 3,000 property owners, lowering of property values, and a possible danger to the populous. Now, although it's true that some homes would have to be bought by the state, the owners would be more than fairly compensated, and the property values around Fermilab

have risen since its founding. As for any danger to the population, in Hamburg, West Germany they're building an accelerator under the downtown section of the city with no trouble. Unless one of the 12 necessary access shafts is built in your front yard, you would never even know someone drilled a tunnel under your house.

Texas had something going for it that we just couldn't match, a host of favorite sons. There's the President-elect George Bush, Senate Finance Chairman Lloyd Bentsen, House Speaker Jim Wright and Secretary of State James Baker, all of whom call Texas their home. Although it may seem a bitter pill for Illinois to swallow, the same clout that gave Texas the prize may also be the only hope of ever getting the SSC built. Because when the arguments begin to start that the supercollider should be put on the junk heap because our government can't afford to spend \$6 billion so a bunch of eggheads can send a bunch of tiny things around a circular ring to smash into each other, what side do you think Bush and Bentsen will take?

Illinois put up a good fight, but now it's up to Texas to push this thing through to the finish, and we should support them in the effort. As of this writing, Congress has not authorized construction of the SSC. While \$6 billion may seem like a lot of money, it's a small price to pay to keep America a leader in high energy physics.



Fermilab was denied the SSC to the state of Texas probably due to political clout. (photo by Steve Yuroff)

## THE BRIDGE

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Sports Editors..... Kelly Lee  
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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, as necessary, for length and libelous material.

Unsigned editorials appearing in the newspaper are the opinions 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 by the newspaper are not necessarily those of the majority of the student body or the high school.

## 1988 - A year of living dangerously

by Matt Szesny



YEESH.

I know it sounds like a Porky Pig exclamation, but when thinking of 1988, there is not a word that describes its effect better.

"What?", you may say to yourself. "Seemed pretty normal to me. Some guy

with permanent stubble had five No. 1 hits, the hottest movie of the year was about a homicidal cartoon rabbit, and a man incapable of speaking in full sentences became next-in-line to our new president, a man who had us all thinking Pearl Harbor Day was September 7. Whaddya mean?"

Oddly enough, although the American people spoke at the polls in 1988, drug abuse, the federal deficit, our deteriorating environment, and the homeless problem all remain vital parts of our society. It's a good thing, because Mario Cuomo needs some ammo for his 1992 campaign. He can

only hope the Democratic party has been through intensive therapy by that time to solve this recurring identity crisis. Maybe 1992's dirty word will be "conservative," rather than this year's terrifically frightening "liberal," but that would be asking for change, something the American people are apparently against in 1988.

More scary than apathy, however, is the soon-to-be Vice-President of the United States, J. Danforth Quayle. Very simply, the man is an idiot. It doesn't make any difference whether he used his father's influence to get into the National Guard during the Vietnam War. That was the media's plan to dig up dirt on the Indiana native. What they unwittingly discovered, though, through nightly television coverage, was that Quayle is a dangerous man. Not dangerous in the John Wayne Gacy (who also got involved in the election — he didn't like having his name used by the Bush side to scare voters. Then he got his execution date and realized it didn't really matter) sort of way, but dangerous like

that next-door neighbor who's always forgetting to open the garage door BEFORE starting the car. Somewhere, somehow, and probably while eating a peanut-butter and jelly sandwich, old Danny boy's going to make an "honest mistake" that gets us all in a lot of trouble.

While Quayle is yet to begin his first major scandal, many other prominent public figures fell victim to their own folly this year, especially those involved in the dubious trade of TV evangelism. Jim Bakker and his lovely wife Tammy Faye announced their intentions to reclaim the airwaves, but they would have garnered little more media attention had they claimed Neptunian citizenship or stated that L. Ron Hubbard was alive and posing as Mary Hart's famed legs. In short — they're old news. No, this year's religious highlight (other than the discovery that the Shroud of Turin was not Christ's burial shroud at all, but a Judean dishrag) was the wonderfully odd tale of Reverend Jimmy Swaggart.

Apparently, Swaggart got caught in a New Orleans motel room with \$20 prostitute Jessica Hahn doing things that get naughty Catholic high school boys three Our Fathers, and dozens of Hail Marys. This provided the news media with filler for slow news nights and Johnny Carson with six months of monologue material. Swaggart's old news by now, too, and Jessica Hahn was last seen cavorting with Hef at the Playboy Building in Los Angeles and playing opposite comedian/psychopath Sam Kinison in his **Wild Thing** music video. Any press is good press, I suppose.

On the subject of videos, well ... they were, for the most part, unflinchingly dull and similar again this year. The geniuses at MTV decided that Billy Idol's **Hot In The City** video was a bit too risqué for its 13 year old audience, since it featured a mock crucifixion of Idol's then girlfriend. Too bad, maybe if Swaggart had seen it ... nah. Neil Young also had his right to offend removed when his **This Note's For You** video was deemed too controversial for airplay by the MTV bigwigs. The video, in promotion of a song mocking rockers like Steve Winwood, Eric Clapton, and Michael Jackson for using their work at schill sponsors products, contains scenes of a Whitney Houston look-a-like with a can of Pepsi. Not good when those two "artists" make up half of your programming and the product pays for your electricity. So, Neil had to warble his protest without the benefit of a video until the Grinchey decided it was all in good fun and allowed the video to air two months after release.

Movies were, for the most part, exceptionally mediocre in 1988. There was, of course, the summer monster-hit-smash-record-breaker **Who Framed Roger Rabbit?** I saw it. I'm not proud. **Bull Durham**, starring Kevin Costner in the title role, was the best baseball movie ever made, as well as featuring some unbelievable bath tub scenes. The rest of the movies of 1988 were either insipid trash churned out of the studios for the Cineplex Odeon meat-grinder or fine films made by dedicated film makers, but relegated to places like the Fine Arts Theater, a good forty minutes away. What a chore.

Well, there it is, 1988, the incomplete year in review. For all of my criticisms, it's been a good one, I think. Any year that sees the rise of a clown like Geraldo Rivera to pop-icon is okay with me. If he'd just get in another brawl, 1989 would be a guaranteed success.

YEESH.

## Mock Wedding is a gas ...



Reverend Clint Wadsworth gets kooky performing the marriage ceremony at the Home Economics Night, Tuesday, December 6. Pictured from left to right are: Gretchen Matthews and Leshawn Hollins, Wadsworth, and Ismael Rios and Jenny Ostrowski. (photo by Steve Yuroff)

## Have a very Brady Christmas

by Brian Stieglitz

The holiday season is upon us once again, which brings about memories of the giving and receiving of gifts, chestnuts roasting on an open fire, and all that jazz. As far as television goes, it means that those same old Christmas specials are going to be dug out of the archives for the yet another year of family entertainment.

"Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer" is one show that seems to have been around since the invention of television itself. Little Rudolph is teased by his fellow reindeer because of his W.C. Fields nose. Santa recruits him to lead his sleigh on that foggy Christmas Eve. We are also introduced to the Abominable Snowman and the Little Miner who kept singing "Silver and gold, silver and gold" in that deep, annoying voice. The Miner keeps the snowman for a pet and teaches him not to roll over or heel, but to put the star on top of the Christmas tree.

"Frosty the Snowman" is another holiday classic. Frosty (not to be confused with the shake at Wendy's) is made by the school kids, comes to life by some miracle and keeps them entertained. You knew that there would be a problem though, when July rolled around.

The Peanuts Gang has their own Christmas special, but the only memorable moment from that show was Charlie Brown's little tree, which lost all but one needle. What else could go wrong for this guy, who had one strand of hair growing out of his forehead and couldn't kick a football?

One show you must get the VCR ready for is always entertaining (and revolting) "Andy

Williams and the NBC Kids Special." Andy and the kids stroll around in mittens and scarfs singing those same old carols. Remembering, those aren't any kids, they're the NBC kids. Which means you'll have the pleasure of seeing Rudy from "The Cosby Show" and Matthew and Joey Lawrence from "Gimme A Break." These have to be three of the most talented and irritating child actors on television today. I know I'll be watching.

The only Christmas special I think all of America is waiting for is a "Brady Bunch Reunion." I can see it now — "A Brady Christmas." Each member of the bunch will come home to Mike and Carol's with six kids of their own, each as much a pain in the neck as the parents. Kind of a Brady scenerial. Alice and Sam the butcher, now in their 80s will cruise around in the house in a tandem motorized wheel chair. But unfortunately, after having to pay for Tiger's cataract surgery (which was amazingly successful) Mike and Carol have enough money left for a good Christmas dinner, and they all end up drinking Wesson Oil. Or how about "A Partridge Christmas?" Shirley Jones, down on luck signs a contract to play with her kids at Caesar's Palace in Vegas. Unfortunately, she has to go cross-country in the bus looking for them, each trying to make a career on their own. Only Danny Partridge has made it big, having discovered that Jon Bon Jovi is a second cousin. Bon Jovi brings Danny into the band and decides to change his name back to Jon Bon Partridge.

But it won't happen. We'll just have to live with the same old reruns year after year. Or will we? I can hear it now. "Here's the story,

of a lovely lady ..."

— THE —

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# Juniors say

# Christmas

"When I was in St. Louis my mom put my dog to sleep six months before Christmas I was at a mall and I saw this stuffed animal dog like my real dog and my mom bought it for me for Christmas."

Amy Schwendemmen '90



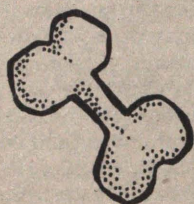
"I got these Superfriends pajamas" Jim Rasgaitis '90

"A sweater vest that was black and had a red kid in the middle" Debbie Caruso '90

"Fake Oxford shirts from K-mart" Diane Madden '90

"When I was five I heard bells and I woke up and ran into the living room and I found presents stacked up to the top of the tree. Now we get one thing."

Angie Webb '90



"A Strawberry Shortcake dress" Jeanne Belli '90

"A dog bone, I got it by mistake" Jess Nelson '90

"When I was in second grade we moved into our new house two days before Christmas and I cried because we did not have a Christmas tree and I did not think Santa would come."

Danella Herman '90

"Underwear" Aaron Brumm '90

"A big denim purse with colored patches and beads all over it" Rachel La Cour '90

"My sister and I took our new van on Christmas day, she backed into the garage and blamed it on me since I happened to be navigating. Our garage was ruined."

Brandi Winquist '90

"It was my first Christmas away from my moms side since my parents were divorced. But, what was good about it was that all the adults in my family would make us wait until after dinner to open the presents."

Christy D'Aguila '90

"Winter gloves, I was really disappointed" Don Chemiel '90

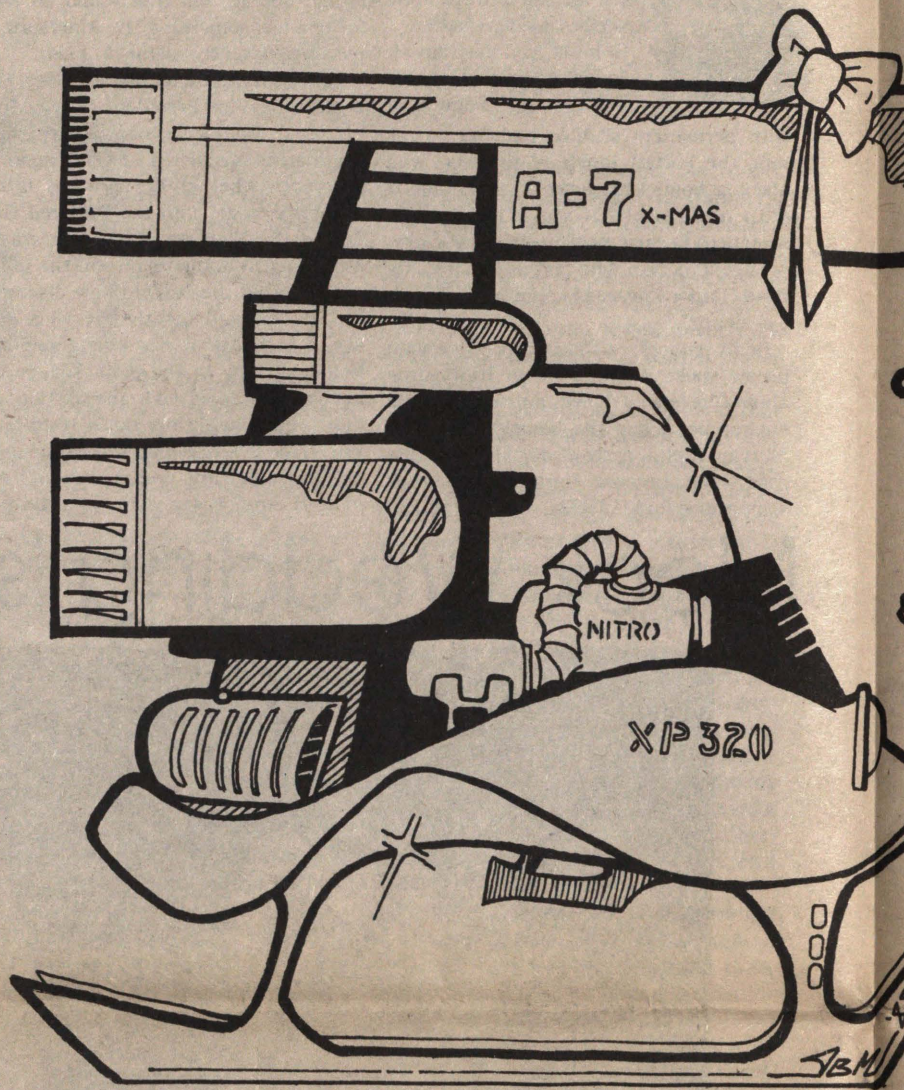
"Anything I got from my Grandma" Rob Barret '90

"My dog Barney jumped on me one Christmas morning and knocked me down three steps and I fell in the mud."

Jenny DiBiase '90

"I was really little and my parents hired this Santa Claus to come and see me."

Lisa Childs '90



## They deck the halls differently

by Teri Blum and Kelly Day

The people of the United States celebrate Christmas with set tradition, yet people do not stop to think that the traditions in other countries may be different. Some of the traditions in other countries are provided here by the 1988-89 WCCHS exchange students.

Casimir Bamberger is from Germany and he is here because his father has worked at Fermi Lab this year.

In Germany, where Bamberger lives the celebration of Christmas is biggest on Christmas Eve. The Bamberger family decorates the tree in the early afternoon all together. They put fruit on the tree. At about five o'clock they dress up to go to a two hour church service. When they come home they sing and decorate their family room. After that they begin to open presents, beginning with the youngest. Then they have a big dinner with salmon and lots of Christmas cookies. On the actual Christmas day, they go to a big church downtown at noon and listen to people singing. In the evening they have a big dinner with friends.

Lambrini Nicolopoulou is an 18 year old

exchange student from Greece.

On Christmas Day church takes up much of the time. They get out of school on December 20. "People go to church very early in the morning to celebrate Jesus' birth." They eat turkey because they don't have a Thanksgiving and also eat lots of candies and cookies. It is a day for all the relatives to get together and talk about the year that has past. They do have Santa Claus but they call him Saint Basil.

Stig Pedersen is a 17 year old exchange student from Denmark. He remembers Christmas in Denmark very vividly. He explains that



Casimir Bamberger, Germany (left) and Lambrini Nicolopoulou, Greece (right).



Wendy Tjemmes, Holland (left) and Stig Pedersen, Denmark (right). (photos by Ismael Rios)

his family always buys a live tree and decorates it with white candles. The family eats together on December 24 which is when all the presents are opened and after they eat they go to a church service.

The celebration on December 25 consists of lots of food and "dancing and singing around the tree." An interesting custom in Denmark is that the parents decorate the tree and the children don't see it until December 24. Pedersen remarks "we eat a lot of food."

Wendy Tjemmes is a 16 year old exchange student from Holland. "Christmas is really

# Memories Seniors say

"An electric shaver for my legs" Kelly Pierce '89

"A sweatshirt my brother gave me, it was really gross" Liz Barry '89

"My brother came in my room when we were small. It was really early so he picked me up and carried me in his arms to the Christmas tree. Then he made me hot chocolate and cookies and set me all my presents in front of me and then handed them to me smallest to biggest!"

Shelia McMullen '89

"A 'Snoopy in a pink car' jersey" Renee Manning '89

"When Santa came to my house, we heard something upstairs, we ran up there and Santa was just leaving and Mrs. Claus was right with him. They stopped and talked to us for half the night. (you decide if this is real or not)"

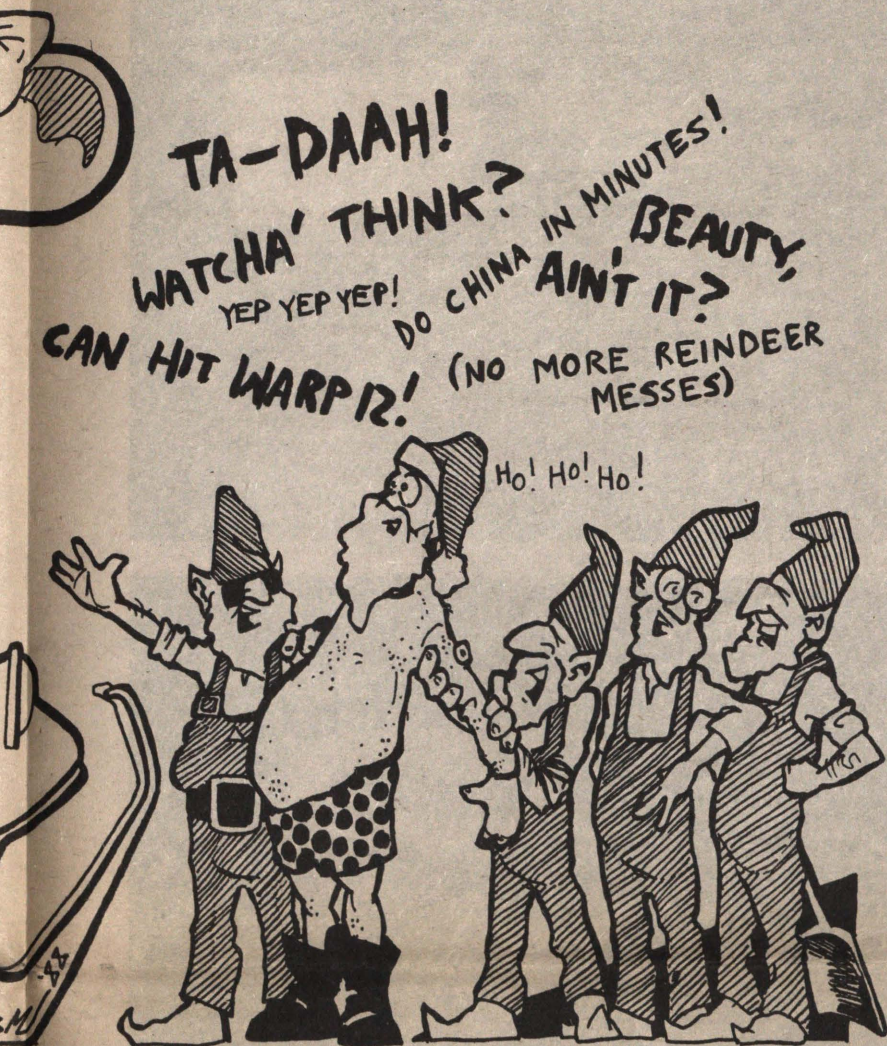
Traci Knutson '89

"The ugliest mint green, bell-bottomed, terry cloth sweatsuit" Cheri Mackay '89

"My worst Christmas memory was I got sick on Christmas day. My parents got my sister and I a "boom box" and she seemed to like it more than me so she kept blasting it. I got sicker and sicker because of the blasting, I threw up on it."

Renee Manning '89

"A really ugly colored silk camisole" Tara Brooks '89



## Sophomores say

"Last Christmas all my family came to our house, I am the only girl my age besides my cousin who is 18. She brought her boyfriend and left with him. All my other cousins are guys. I sat in my room all day. That was the worst Christmas, but the rest have been pretty good."

Karen Sadd '91

"I got this really ugly sweatshirt from Sweatworks and it had mint green, orange, pink, yellow, silver, and gold glitter! It was really gross!"

Espril Coronel '91

"A book of geography when I was five from my grandma." Andy Runyan '91

"A radio shaped like a frog" Efril Coronel '91

"An apple and orange in my stocking" Ingrid Holman '91

"A poster of Michael Jackson" Christine Miller '91

different from how it is celebrated here" says Tjemmes. It is celebrated in two days. A week before Christmas they usually buy a Christmas tree and they decorate it on Christmas eve and go to nightchurch. In Holland they don't have Santa Claus or open presents on Christmas. They exchange presents on December 5. It is celebrated as the day that Jesus Christ was born. The church is decorated with all kinds of beautiful decorations. "We usually go to a Catholic church," says Tjemmes.

About 5 o'clock they eat Christmas dinner. They always start with soup and some warm bread. After that her family eats beef or some other kind of meat with vegetables, and potatoes. Then they eat ice cream. "Most of the time we drink wine, and eat off of the china." After dinner they watch Christmas movies and drink some coffee and tea. The family also sings Christmas carols. And the next day people come over or they go out to eat.

"We always have a lot of fun and talk about things that happened in the past, look at pictures and just enjoy ourselves."

## Freshmen say

"The best one was when we went to Florida, because it was fun" Aaron Owens '92

"My pet monster" Kelle Spoden '92

"A pad of paper" Nikki Brockman '92

"Christmas Day when my parents gave me an envelope with money in it and said buy what you want" Vickie Wehers '92

"A put together puzzle of the counties in Illinois" Matt Zollner '91

"When I did not get to spend Christmas with both of my parents" Michelle DeBenedictis '92

"They're all good" Kevin Campbell '92

"My Dad giving my Uncle an outhouse and my Uncle gave my Dad a nuclear plunger. They do this weird stuff every year" Mike Laschinski '92

"Sheep-skinned slippers." Julie Graczyk '92

"A stapler in my stocking" Bryan Gall '92

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## Welcome to Wag's, home of the heathens

by Andy Behrens

During our four-year sentences to WCCHS, we're subjected to mandatory furloughs called weekends by tired administrators who want us the hell out of here. Often on weekends, students may find themselves up way past their bedtimes, far away from their graphing calculators, and unable to walk a straight line to save their lives. Because such things happen, a few tycoons kept their restaurants open 24-hours-a-day, word got around, and they got really rich.

However, there's something that separates one of these places, take for instance Wag's, from a fine restaurant like, say ... Ground Round. It's some intangible quality that has to be experienced for any would-be midnight gourmet to understand. To anyone who hasn't collapsed into Wag's at three in the morning, relating the act is difficult, but somehow necessary.

The tricky part of late night dining is finding a parking spot. You've got no problem if you arrive before one o'clock, but anytime after that will leave you searching for an empty space among 75-or-so-odd double-parked Novas. Fly in helicopters to help if you have to, though, because any night-owl worth his salt has crashed where you're about to.

Students may find themselves up way past their bedtimes far away from their graphing calculators.

Moments after entering, you're greeted by an impish, basketball of a woman in a green apron. You think about asking if there were any other survivors, but decide that might offend her. As she grabs an assortment of stained menus, her mouth says "Welcome to Wag's," but her eyes say, "Welcome to Hell's commissary."

A short-lived sense of security comes over you after taking your seat in the booth orthopedically designed with your comfort as a definite non-concern. Looking around, you can't help but admire the many shades of brown that several cups of coffee later you realize are actually tables, curtains, and

wallpaper.

About this time, your tongue may roll out of your head as an impossibly large baritone kyphosis victim who coughs anthrax spores

Don't splash on anyone who might be sleeping in the sink, after all, it's only etiquette.

on your place setting asks to take your order. Thoughts turn to *The Adam's Family* and a butler named Lerch. The whites of his eyes are now entirely black, the unhappy result of having been on the job non-stop since '74. You nervously ask for onion rings, and gratefully accept the order of French toast he drops at your feet 15 minutes later.

If at anytime during your visit you might have to use the bathroom, try not to step on anything that makes a squelching noise and don't splash anyone who might be sleeping in the sink. After all, it's only etiquette.

Preparing to leave, the Wag's patron is often frozen in his tracks by the horde of psychotic customers who just then decide to come in, one of whom is sure to yell something like, "This place has THE most bitchin' food!" No matter how well you plan your escape, one of them will probably still try putting his cigarette out on your arm. There isn't much you can do.

While you're racing away from Satan's Breakfast Nook, try to remember all the good times had and the lifetime friends you've made. That's what old Grandpa Wag

"This place has the most bitchin' food!"

really had in mind. And if that doesn't work, try sedation. It's all old hat after the first dozen times, anyway.



Wag's and Denny's, located in Carol Stream, provide customers 24 hour service for any night owls. (photos by Ismael Rios)

## Air brushing at We-go

by Kelle Meza

Two new pieces of equipment have been purchased this year for the Industrial Arts Department to the benefit of the advanced Drawing and the Advanced Electronics students. One is an air brush and the other is a CAD program.

The air brush is an instrument similar to a pen. It's connected to an air compressor by a tube which blows air through the pen itself. The air brush is filled with ink and as the air passes through it, it projects the paint onto a surface. There is a small nozzle at the tip of the pen that allows the opening to become larger or smaller, deciding the width of the line of paint.

Industrial Arts Department Chairman Paul Junkrowski is very pleased with Mike Waterhouse, an advanced Drawing student currently using the air brush. "The person with the most experience with the air brush would be Waterhouse, and he's doing very well," Junkrowski said. Waterhouse uses the brush to shade in geometric figures, drawing, and lettering.

The air brush also has uses in the commercial arts, on T-shirts, touch-up photography, and in making renderings of architectural drawing, to make them more appealing. "You can paint anything," Waterhouse said.

The second piece of equipment is a CAD program, or Computer Aided Drawing. This program is used on both the Apple IIE and the Apple IIGS, with a plotter. CAD im-

mensely increases the drawing speed by doing in a few minutes what it might take days to complete.

The students currently using this program are Matt Schuster and Chris Behling. Schuster is currently designing an electrical circuit. When the design is completed it

"The person with the most experience with the air brush would be Waterhouse, and he's doing very well."

will be printed out on a plotter. The plotter works out in layers and can plot 300 different colors if they are programmed. The printed circuit will eventually become a kind of circuit board.



Senior Mike Waterhouse displays his artistic talent using his airbrush. (photo by Ismael Rios)

# Time to qualify

by Kelly Lee

Wanting to follow in your sister's footsteps is just what brought Erin Meyers to her swimming career.

At the age of six years old, Meyers liked to watch older sister Kristen Meyers swim for competition. "That's what got me interested, wanting to be just like my older sister," replied Meyers.

Meyers started swimming at the age of seven years old. In the summer of 1985 and the winter of 1985, Meyer's qualified for Junior Olympics for the first time. She swam backstroke and freestyle. Then in the winter of 1987 and summer of 1988, Meyers qualified again.

Meyers started swimming for sharks at the age of nine years old. This recent year Meyers qualified for state swimming breaststroke and is ranked number 13 in state. She also qualified for Medley Relay and is ranked 15 in Illinois, and 19th in state for free relay. Meyers accomplished all this her freshman year of West Chicago High School. "It was a big accomplishment and I hope to keep going. My goal is to be ranked number one in 100 yard breaststroke," stated Meyers.

Meyers was born July 16, 1974 and is presently 14 years old. Meyers accomplishments are Sharks swim team, high school swimming, Glenayre Club (which she did in the summer). In 1987 Meyers qualified for Prairie State. She was in a State team which included Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Lake Erie, Arkansas, and Iowa.

ansas, and Iowa.

Meyers was ranked 4th in state for 100 yard breaststroke and 200 yard breaststroke.

Meyers also competed in track, basketball, volleyball and cheerleading at Benjamin Junior High for three years. She plans to be in track at We-go. She is in the 200, 100, and sprints in track, also the 400 relay and long jump.

Meyers was ranked first in State in Junior Olympics for 100 yard breaststroke and 4th for 200 breaststroke.

She would like to attend Purdue in her future schooling and would like to swim. She has a 3.8 grade average. "I love sports, all sports," replied Meyers when asked "What do you like to do in your free time?" She also likes to go out with friends. Meyers looks up to Janet Evans, a long distance freestyle swimmer in the 1988 Olympics.

Meyers also accomplished being athlete of the year at Benjamin Junior High.

When asked what makes you keep swimming she replied friends make me not want to quit. They keep pushing me to be my best. Her biggest upset is when she doesn't achieve goals in swimming.

Meyers has a wide variety of accomplishments and still keeps one in mind in her future. She wants to become the first in State in 100 yard breaststroke for high school and qualify for Nationals in West Chicago Sharks swim team, which is coached by Dan Johnson.

# Success of coaching

by Carrie Ryan

Throughout all sports it is not just the players that make the difference in the outcome, but also the coach. The whole season the athletes do and listen to what the coach tells them to do, the coach can make the difference between a winning and losing team, not only in the sport, but also in attitudes toward life.

We all know that winning isn't everything, and a team can have a successful season even if the record doesn't show it. It has always been important that the coach had confidence in his team. No matter what point in the season it is, the coach always exhibits belief in the team, whether it's the end of a swim meet and it depends on the last two relays to place first and second to win the meet, or if there are twelve seconds left in the fourth quarter and the team is down by three.

It's been helpful when a coach points out individual weak and strong points, as well as the team's, in a positive manner. An

athlete shouldn't feel like everything is presented negatively. The athlete probably will improve more if he has confidence in himself.

The coach often makes goals for himself and his team, and works throughout the whole season to accomplish them. Carol Petusky feels that the coach should be a friend and try to make you develop whatever potential you have.

It is also important to an athlete that a coach is willing to stay that extra 15 minutes with him, or if the coach works out with the team. This may show how much the coach feels it in his heart, or how much he wants to succeed.

Finally a big issue may be how the athletes are treated. Athletes feel the coach should treat the team with equality, showing an interest in each individual. Many coaches have favorites and tend to pay attention to just them. It is better for the team if the coach helps everyone, it brings the team together.

# Ways to keep in shape and have fun during the holidays

by Christopher Nippert

What are your plans for the Christmas Break we have all been waiting anxiously to arrive? What are your plans after you return all of your presents that either don't fit or appeal to you? Some of you are probably going to sleep the vacation away, or maybe you are looking forward to reuniting with your friends in college, or possibly even catching up on your schoolwork. But there are some of you out there that are looking for some more excitement, something of an athletic nature, and here are some options you have.

First, you can do the traditional thing around Christmas time — go ice skating. This is definitely purely for leisure. It is quite fun and enjoyable once you get the hang of it.

Next, for those of you that want to keep in shape (or get into it) over the holidays, there is only one thing that can satisfy your needs — cross country skiing. While it can be also done for just plain enjoyment, it is also one of the best physical exercises you can do. A hard workout for thirty minutes or more will ensure good results.

"Ice skating is enjoyable once you get the hang of it."

Yet, if there are people out there that want a little more action and excitement for this there is no other winter sport better than ice hockey. Depending on how physical you want to get, you can play with little (if any) contact or play hockey for about five months straight — indoor and outdoor with full contact, checking, the whole works.

And for those still seeking even more adventure, challenge, and speed there is snowmobiling. This is probably the most exhilarating winter sport there is (except maybe ski jumping), but also one of the most dangerous. If you are a novice, you should learn how to use and operate a snowmobile before you even try anything difficult, and for you experienced snowmo-

bilers have a great time.

Well, whether your forte is calm, relaxing ice skating or going ninety in a snowmobile, enjoy the break, because from here on out there is more work than there is play. For some of you this will be the last semester at W.C.C.H.S. Maybe this year has been all that you have wanted and maybe it hasn't been so fulfilling, but there is still half of the year left, so make the best of it.

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Junior John Jacubowski wrestles his way to the top during the Wildcat Invitational that was held Nov. 26. (photo by Steve Yuroff)

# Wrestling takes down DVC?

by Kerri Spoden

"It's hard to build a successful program without a good turnout of freshmen," said varsity wrestling coach Robert Hein, "and we had a poor turnout of freshmen."

Despite the low turnout of freshmen this year Hein believes the '88-'89 will do good this year.

Junior Joe Oliver demonstrated his improved skills by winning the heavyweight division at the Wildcat invitational on November 26.

Hein thinks his players this year are Maririllo Castro, junior, Jeremy Clendenning, Senior, Bill Vogel a senior who just started two weeks ago and Alex Yepiz ju-

nior. Everyone on the team said that they hope to improve their record from the last three years (3-13). They'd also like to place in the top four and have some state qualifiers. Because there were none last year. "There were three wrestlers with the ability to get to state, but they didn't come through," Hein said.

The team will be at the Hinsdale Tournament December 16 and 17. They will be one of the 16 teams in competition. Hein has hoped that the team will place in the top 10 and as he puts it would be "delirious if we placed in the top five."

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# Pressure: Does it affect you?

by Randa Bascharon

Tha-dump, tha-dump, tha-dump-your heart beats fast. The pressure is on and getting higher ...

Although this may seem like a deodorant commercial, it's not. This is about pressure. You go to football games, volleyball games, and all types of other matches and meets. You watch it as entertainment, forgetting the amount of pressure the athletes go through while you sit in the bleachers yelling "let's score some points!" and "Rah, rah, rah."

The feeling of pressure is one which all athletes feel at one time or another. It's hard to appreciate those who can handle pressure; the pressure and stress you are put through in the same situation. It's easy to say, "ah, I never feel the pressure, only wimps can't take it." All it takes is to picture yourself in a game situation: the coaches are watching your every move, the person you are dying to date has a front row seat ... Just imagine how you would feel. The real life situation causes pressure which you sometimes cannot associate with because you are not experiencing what they are.

Many times it is taken for granted that athletes may go through a lot of situations filled with pressure. There are many things that can put stress on them. It all depends on what kind of person they are. For instance, out of the corner of your eye, you see your family walking in to watch your game. Your mom's hair isn't combed, your dad is wearing bell-bottoms, and your sister is picking her nose. To make matters worse, every five seconds they yell out your name so everyone knows that they are your family. To some people this would be no big deal. To others it would give them pressure because they begin to worry about what

people might think about them.

Along with the pressures dealing with the crowd comes the pressure to perform well. If you are a star player, then everyone has expectations of you. Coaches depend on you to lead the team. Even if you aren't a star, there are pressures: to do your part, to improve, and to not make stupid mistakes. Not only do those who constantly play have pressures, but believe it or not, so do the so-called "bench-warmers." Many people rudely consider them an unimportant part of the team that they don't have anything to worry about. This is not true! Sitting on the bench is a pressure itself. If your friends come to see you play and you're on your buns the whole game you feel the pressure from your friends fidgeting and waiting for you to go in. Or if you sit on the bench for a long time and suddenly the coach puts you in, you're under pressure to prove yourself. There is no sport where there aren't any pressures. Even cheerleaders and pom poms which many unfairly exclude from the athletic scene are faced with pressures. Pressures to stay in correct formation and not to mess up, pressures to get the crowd going and so on. This just goes to show that all people that are in competition go through stress and pressure that we sometimes forget about.

There are many ways that athletes deal with pressure during games. One of the first things you must do is to be prepared both physically and mentally for what you are going to participate in. It relieves some of the pressure you feel about performing well. Concentrating on just the game and your job can help minimize the stress of the crowd. If you put in your mind that you are going to do your best for yourself and your team, and not to impress the people watching, then a lot of the pressure they put on you won't be

as a big of a deal.

Coaches, teammates and onlookers will be very satisfied if they see you giving 100 percent. But this will only happen if you work up to your potential and never give up. All of this will reflect in the way you play and your attitude. "Keeping your poise is very important" says athlete Chris Nippert. Poise is an essential factor when dealing with your opponent under pressure. If you wear your emotions on your shoulders for everyone to see, then you will almost always be beat. Maintaining control as well as handling pressure with good techniques is the key to being a winner.

By definition pressure is: Pressure a condition of distress, opposition, or affliction. It is a feeling that sends your heart rate thumping, and your palms sweating. Some execute their best under it, and for others it is their fatal fall. Pressure is something experienced by all athletes. This includes

"Keeping your poise is very important." —

Chris Nippert

your competitors. If you can control your emotions under pressure then you are one step ahead of your opponent. Even if they have more athletic ability. Without maintaining control you cannot do your team or yourself any good. Sports, much like life is a game where mind control is an important part of surviving and being victorious in the end.

## We-go is pool proud

by Karen Getlinger

"All this has ranked us in the upper 15 percent of quality pools in the area. By the end of this year I hope to be within the top 5 percent," Director of Business James Mast said.

Mast said that we've been fortunate not to have had any serious problems involving the 213,000 gallon pool that was built in 1979.

The West Chicago Park District helps support the pool. The park district rents the high school pool so the community does not have to support two pools.

They use the pool approximately 1,490 hours a year, while the high school uses it nearly 1,900 hours in a year's time. The park district uses the pool from 5:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

A pool takes a deal of planning and care whether it is 50 gallons or 213,000. "A tremendous amount of maintenance is necessary for a pool," Mast said.

He also said, "People feel that everything should be perfect: the water level, chlorine level and the temperature of the water." Filters, vacuuming and heating equipment must be purchased each year.

Supplies such as chlorine and other chemicals must be bought continually. Last year 10,679 dollars was spent on pool supplies and maintenance.

As part of the agreement the park district vacuums the pool once a week. The filter system circulates the water six times a day. Computers monitor and adjust the chlorine level second by second. In addition the chlorine is hand tested three times a day.

The pool operates on an "open door fee basic" to anyone interested in using the pool. However, this fee could never be compared to the cost of a home owned swimming pool. WCCHS allows anyone to use a well maintained and safe pool. "The pool is a gem to the district for physical education purposes and athletics," Mast said.

## Winning accomplishments

by Carrie Ryan

Five time winner of the high point award, two time winner of the Steve Gannon award, and the McDonald participation certificate are just some of 15 year old Carol Petusky's accomplishments.

Petusky started swimming at age eight because she saw an ad in the paper advertising Sharks Swim Team. Ever since then Petusky has broken numerous records. Starting in the 8 and under age group all the way through 13-14, Petusky has broken records some of which still stand.

### "Qualifier for Prairie State and Junior Olympics"

Petusky swam at Zones this summer which is competition between Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Lake Erie, Arkansas, and Iowa. Last summer Petusky also qualified for Prairie State in the 50 free, 100 back and both relays. Petusky has participated in the Junior Olympics since she was nine years old. She swam a total of eight events and placed third in 50 fly.

Petusky has won so many awards that she can't remember all of them. In the Sharks Swim Team she was named Rookie of the year when she was eight, won the Steve Gannon Award twice, High point five times, Special Award Plaque, several trophies for individual events and most improved. As a freshman in high school Petusky was Rookie of the Year. The Sun-Times said she was a swimmer to keep your eyes on in the future. The most glorious moment in her swimming career was when she won the Steve Gannon award. The only downfall was when she was nine, she had to swim in the 15-18 year old age group. She didn't always place first and this was discouraging.

## Jock Shorts

### All State Montalvo

Rick Montalvo won his selection to the All State Cross Country Team. Montalvo is the first cross country runner ever in West Chicago history to receive this honor.

### Boys Basketball

West Chicago Boys Basketball team will be playing at Waubonsie Valley Tournament December 27-29.

### Lady Wildcat Basketball

The Lady Wildcat Basketball team will be hosting the Wildcat Classic December 27-29 at 6 & 7:30 p.m.

### Wildcat Swimming

The boys swim team will bring in the new year with a swim meet at Benet January third at 5 p.m.

### Wrestling tournament

The wrestling team will attend the Hinsdale Central Tournament December 16 and 17.

## Varsity Sports Schedule

### Girls' Basketball

Dec. 17	Glenbard North	H	1:30p.m.
Dec. 20	Kaneland	H	6p.m.
Dec. 27	Lady Wildcat	H	6&7:30p.m.
	Holiday Classic		
Dec. 28	Lady Wildcat	H	6&7:30p.m.
	Holiday Classic		
Dec. 29	Lady Wildcat	H	6&7:30p.m.
	Holiday Classic		
Jan. 5	Naperville Central	A	6 p.m.
Jan. 7	Naperville North	H	1:30p.m.
Jan. 12	Wheaton North	A	1:30p.m.
Jan. 14	Glenbard South	H	1:30p.m.

### Boys' Swimming

Jan. 3	at Benet; Morris	A	5p.m.
Jan. 7	Riverside-Brookfield	A	12p.m.
	Invitational		
Jan. 10	Morris	A	5:30p.m.

### Boys' Wrestling

Dec. 16	Hinsdale Central	A	5:30p.m.
	Tournament		
Dec. 17	Hinsdale Central	A	5:30p.m.
	Tournament		

Dec. 22	at Waubonsie Valley; Carl Sandburg	A	10a.m.
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Jan. 6	Wheaton Central	H	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 7	Homewood	A	10a.m.
	Tournament		

Jan. 13	Glenbard North	A	1:30p.m.
Jan. 14	Naperville North	A	1:30p.m.

### Boys' Basketball

Dec. 16	Glenbard East	H	7:30p.m.
Dec. 17	Batavia	A	7:30p.m.
Dec. 27	Waubonsie Valley	A	TBA
	Tournament		

Dec. 28	Waubonsie Valley	A	TBA
	Tournament		

Dec. 29	Waubonsie Valley	A	TBA
	Tournament		

Jan. 6	Wheaton Central	A	7:30p.m.
Jan. 7	Waubonsie Valley	H	7:30p.m.
Jan. 13	Glenbard North	H	7:30p.m.

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