

# The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School  
326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL 60185  
October 6, 1989 Volume 19 Number 2



## Drug testing for WCCHS

by Michele Rittorno

Will urine testing for drugs be coming to WCCHS?

Homewood-Flossmoor High School in Illinois is making mandatory drug testing for all their students a reality. Indianola Academy in Missouri also recently approved drug testing for athletes as a requirement.

According to Assistant Principal Richard Waterhouse, WCCHS has "no intention" to require a urine test. Waterhouse said that if they suspect a student is using drugs, they would call their parents, then take any necessary action. Waterhouse comments that for the athletic code of WCCHS, they need evidence to take action. He feels that "schools are out of line" by

making drug testing mandatory.

Steve Heeter, Junlor, states, "They only have the right to test students who are in extracurricular activities." He said that they should not just limit it to sports. If they do the test then clubs should be included too.

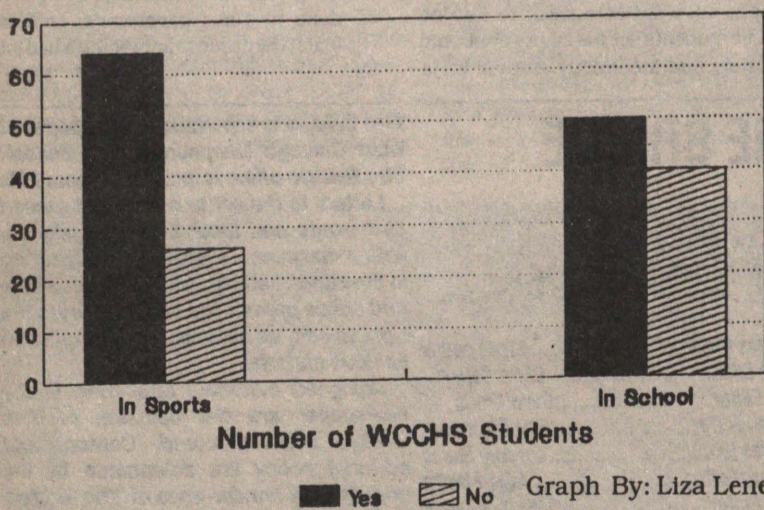
Para-pro James Berg comments, "I am for testing for steroids ... (but) just athletes ... I am against random testing."

Sophomore Monica Mende agrees with Berg by saying, "I'm against random drug testing but for it in certain situations."

Trainer for WCCHS, Ben Penaflor states, "I know for a fact that there are athletes that use drugs here. Maybe it will help them by taking the test." Penaflor believes that the drug testing might make them see that they have a problem.

### Drug Testing

Would you take a mandatory drug test...



## Inkspots Spanish Club

The officers for the 1989-90 Spanish Club are as follows: President; Michele Rittorno, Secretary/Treasurer; Taretta Arnold, and Publicity; Kim Aigner.

## Honors band

On October 11, selected band members will audition for the Illinois District Eight Honors Band. Auditions will be held at East Leyden H.S. in Franklin Park. Students auditioning must prepare a concert piece, an etude, scales, and do sight readings. Students chosen for Honors Band will perform in a festival at Willowbrook H.S. in Villa Park on November 18, and are eligible to be chosen for All-state Band.

## Youth council speaking up in community

by Dana Billick

Recently, Mayor Paul Netzel appointed a council of five members from the community aimed at helping the youth in West Chicago voice their opinions about public matters.

The community members appointed to this committee are Chuck Pheneger, Betty McDonald, Bob Spalo, Dave Roberts, and George Darquea. There will also be students from WCCHS and West Chicago Junior High appointed to this council.

The committee is designed to better communicate how the youth of West Chicago feel about problems or public affairs in the community.

Netzel feels that students should have a say in everyday matters that will affect them. He says the committee is geared at

"looking out for the welfare of youths and their development."

The council will be somewhat involved with youth group and church entertainment in West Chicago.

Although the adult members were appointed to the council about three weeks ago, they have not yet had their first meeting. They are also waiting for the members from the junior high and high school.

Committee member McDonald says, "I'm very excited about it. I think it's something we've needed for a long time." The members have ideas on how to expand the council's abilities. Darquea commented, "I think we should involve many more students and teachers. That way the community will function better as a whole."

## 312 to 708

by Melissa King

Beginning November 11, 1989, our 312 area code (excluding Chicago) will be changed to 708.

The reason for this change is to keep up with the growing demand for additional telephone numbers in the Chicago-Metropolitan area. It was possible that by early 1990 Illinois Bell would run out of available telephone numbers.

In order to complete a call after the No-

ember 11 deadline, one must dial 1-312-then the seven digit number when calling to Chicago. If dialing to West Chicago from outside this area code, one would dial 1-708-then the seven digit number.

To help Illinois Bell customers get used to this change, between November 11, 1989 and February 9, 1990, all calls placed, both old and new area code, will be accepted. After February 10, however, all incorrect calls will not be completed, a recording will explain the changes, and your call will need to be re-dialed.

## The great Chicago fire?

by Debbie Caruso

Tuesday September 5, a fire started on Main Street in West Chicago at 2:30 a.m. The fire caused severe damage to five businesses: Pattern In Beauty, Spielman's Plumbing, Turner Junction Family Restaurant, Turner Junction Ice Cream Parlor, and Video Esterella.

The cause of the fire is still unknown. The state fire marshal is currently investigating the fire. Fire Chief Harper of the West Chicago Fire Department believes the fire started in the back of Spielman Plumbing's basement. Mayor Paul Netzel believes the incident was caused by a dumpster fire because when this fire started, three other dumpster fires started throughout West Chicago.

Gary Spielman of Spielman's Plumbing feels that the fire started by electrical wires or a gas leak. "Unfortunately, we had no insurance but we're looking for a new location and we will still be in business," he said.

Spielman was renting the building and lost a lot of material in the basement. How-

ever, he feels confident that his business will be back to usual soon.

Turner Junction Family Restaurant had severe smoke damage. Steve Potialla, owner, said, "The damage will cost roughly 30 to 40 thousand dollars." Potialla and his wife Vera hope their business will soon be back to usual.

Pattern In Beauty had extensive fire, smoke, and water damage. The residents that were located above the building were rescued by fire fighters. Video Esterella and Turner Junction Ice Cream Parlor also had extensive damage.

When Harper was asked if the fires in July and August, at the West Chicago News Agency and Bob's Salt and Feed, were related to this recent fire he replied, "I don't think they are related in any way."

Fire fighters from Batavia, Bartlett, Carol Stream, Geneva, Naperville, St. Charles, and Winfield came to the aid of the West Chicago Fire Department. The fire was contained within three hours with their help.

## Carnegie hall for WCCHS

by David Smith

The Concert Choir of WCCHS has been given the opportunity of being one of the three high school choirs in the nation to be selected to sing at Carnegie Hall with the Manhattan Philharmonic.

The choir would attend this coming May for five days. They would leave Friday, May 11, and return on Tuesday, May 15. Friday, Saturday and Sunday would be the practices, Monday would be the performance, and Tuesday would be the returning home day.

Peter Tiboras, principle conductor of the Manhattan Philharmonic, sent the invitation on recommendation by Elvis Coble. Coble, of Homewood-Flossmoor High School, heard a concert tape of the choir and saw them perform, and thus made the recommendation.

saw them perform, and thus made the recommendation.

The trip, arranged by Mid America Productions would cost a total of 908 dollars per student. This price includes round trip air fare to New York, hotel stay, food, a cruise to see the Statue of Liberty, Manhattan skyline, and a tour of the Empire State Building.

With over 60 members at 908 dollars apiece, the total cost of the trip would amount to the sum of about 60,000 dollars.

Plans are currently being worked out with the school board to see if they can attend. Fund raising plans are also being considered.

In addition to singing at Carnegie Hall the choir will also be given the opportunity to sing at St. Patrick's Cathedral, one of the largest churches in New York.

## French Club

The officers named to the 1989-90 French Club are: President; Dave Smith, Vice President; Joy Nevins, Secretary; Angie Chavez, and Treasurer; Christine Miller. A potluck dinner was held on September 25 to welcome new members.

## Bridge notes

There will be a dance tonight after the home football game sponsored by The Bridge to raise funds for the trip to the National Journalism Conference held November 1-4 in St. Louis. Recently, members of the Journalism and Journalism Production classes attended a state journalism conference at University of Illinois.

## Seeing your counselor? Bring a good book

by Chris Seper



Ah, the Guidance Office. Undoubtedly the place to go when in search of a schedule change, help with bad grades, or things of the such. It can wind up being AN IMPATIENT PERSON'S HELL!!

Let me explain if I may. It was a normal day in my sophomore year and I was in search of guidance, Robert Hein to be exact. I needed to switch a couple things around on my junior year schedule and he was the man to see. Let me now tell you that what I had to do only takes a total of five minutes. Of course, the person on the outside always has the five minute problem while the guy in the counselor's office has the personal vendetta. Well, anyway, where was I?

I was on my way to Hein's door when I came to see that it was closed. No doubt in a highly stressful tactical meeting with the student who was in his room. Fine, I said, I

can wait. How long can it take anyway?

I must never ask that question again. For, while sitting outside on those wonderful swivel chairs, I waited a total of 45 minutes doing nothing. Now, this would not have irked me so if this was not the first time I had to wait for my counselor. This was the third. And the third strike you're out.

But that was another mistake. I learned that you can't fight the counseling machine. Now I'm stuck with Journ... oops, better not say. But anyway, I feel I'm not the only one with this problem and should voice my anger at the long waits forced on students by the guidance office.

But we all must realize something. It's not your counselor's fault that you have to wait for an hour to see them for a five minute job. It's the budget's. There are only five counselors in this school. That means that with approximately 1400 students to divide among them, they have over 250 students each, more than a regular human should have to deal with. Along with this, some counselors have extra-curricular activities. Mr. Hein is head wrestling coach, ad-

## Choir...Bravo!

In recent years, the WCCHS Concert Choir has attained many significant accomplishments. In 1987, they won the State Music Championship, placed fifth in 1988, and receive third place in 1989. In addition, the choir has given many public concerts, and performed for local schools and colleges. Most recently, they have been one of seven high schools in the nation chosen to perform with the Manhattan Symphony Orchestra in Carnegie Hall.

This invitation has developed into a controversial local issue. We, the editors of **The Bridge** feel that, above all else, the choir and community should be proud of their successes. To be invited is an honor in itself. We wish to congratulate the choir on being selected, and wish them luck in fundraising, securing School Board approval, and a speedy resolution.

visor for SADD, and involved in the peer listening program. Ms. Kettler is in the peer listening program as well, along with singing a mean impression of the Pointer Sisters at miscellaneous assemblies. Most other counselors have involvement in the peer listening program, along with having a life! These people have families to think about! They're only counselors, for God's sake! Jeez, what a guilt trip I'm putting

myself on.

Well, anyway, the point is the next time you get stuck in the traffic jam of what is called the guidance office, don't complain the the counselors, go the Dr. Kamm or any other members of the administration and demand that there be at least two more counselors added to the Wego roster. Tell them it's a moral imperative. Oh yeah, and tell them Chris sent you.

## Photopinion by P.S. Osterman

How long is your average wait in the Guidance Office?



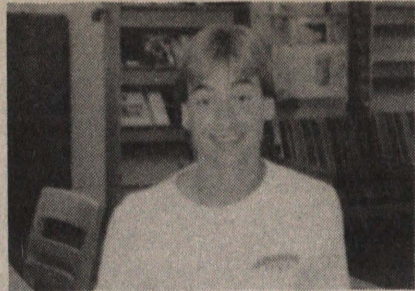
Jackie Mari (Senior) - "You have to wait up to 15 minutes to half an hour for one question. It's easier just to put something in their mailbox."



Angie Webb (Senior) - "Sometimes it's like 45 minutes, but other times I get in there right away. Half the time, they're not in there anyway, so you can't find them."



Julie Loek (Junior) - "I'd say about ten minutes. That's on a good day."



Chad Landis (Senior) - "I don't usually have a wait. Last time I just walked right in."

## Impatience is your fault

by Bill Hein



The Guidance Department: a favorite target of many perpetual complaints. The counselors will always get bad-mouthed regardless, but I interviewed several of them to find out what they thought.

A common thought expressed by the counselors is that there is no shortage of work. There are schedule changes, mounds of paperwork, meetings, kids dropping by to talk, and a limited amount of time to accomplish it all in.

Gene Peterson said that they are "saddled with a certain amount of paperwork" and that it sometimes "takes away from the kids", but he adds that those forms are necessary. Ralph Zaffino thinks that it is "absolutely a problem," but agrees that records need to be kept.

Time is another limiting factor. Peterson says he is occasionally forced to cut "meaningful dialogue" short because of time constraints, but they are rescheduled rather than ended. Robert Hein feels that the schedule changes are "endless" and a limit or deadline on them would help alleviate the problem.

A common complaint that students have is that their counselor is never there. They have some problem, and are looking for a "quick fix" solution. What they don't seem to understand is that the counselors can't sit around waiting for people to drop in. They have many other duties to attend to. Zaffino says some students see his empty chair and immediately and incorrectly assume he is

"out". They leave frustrated, without bothering to check the immediate area. A little patience and effort on the students' part is all that is required. Try setting an appointment.

The first few weeks of school are an especially hectic time for the counselors. They are busy clearing up problems from last year (i.e. failures) as well as other things inevitably resulting from a new school year. A solution that would make this time easier would be to pay the counselors to come in over the summer to work out the kinks. This idea should be looked at by the administration in particular.

Counselors at West Chicago have ap-

'They aren't doing such a bad job at all.'

proximately 270 to 280 students each, not an unreasonable number. Three hundred is the recommended number according to Zaffino. Other schools have it a lot worse. East Aurora, by comparison, has around 450 students per counselor.

The student body's attitude towards the Guidance Department seems to consist of complaints about what they are not getting. The services they do get seem to be forgotten. Granted, as with most things there are problems, but they are being worked on. Certainly with the restrictions being placed on them by time, paperwork, and some students, they aren't doing such a bad job at all.

## Letters to the editor

### Band disrespected

Dear editors,

I just wanted to let you know how I feel about Barabra Kearney, one of our paraprofessionals, and John Highland, one of the assistant principals, on the way they acted on Event Night. They acted very rude to the band that was there, which included Brian Levake, Steve Sackett, Nicole Yoder, Jeremy Mains, and last but not least, Matt Moran. They said they couldn't hear someone on the megaphone, so they had to tell the band to stop, plus people were coming over. If people were coming over to listen, that proves the games weren't good enough. Besides, you can become a pro by being in a band rather than eating something really fast. If they could start here, then the people of West Chicago and other towns could invite them to play. I think the band members should be called down to the office and given an apology over the speakers so everyone can hear Highland and Kearney. If they don't, they should be sent to Siberia or the North Pole.

John Buckner

### Event Night a mess

Dear Editor,

We, as Juniors, were extremely disap-

pointed with the way things went on Event Night. You could not tell what was going on during the games, and besides that, you didn't even give people a choice about whether they wanted to watch the events outside or stay in (and avoid the bugs) and listen to the great band, which, by the way, only played for a grand total of ten minutes. They rehearsed for nine hours and they don't even get a chance to play in front of anyone because they hauled us all outside.

We personally did not like paying one dollar to sit outside, slap at mosquitoes, and have pies thrown at us.

One final note - whatever happened to the "dance contest" they were going to have? That possibly was the one thing we were looking forward to because then we could hear the band and have a good time besides. A response would be appreciated.

Julie Loek  
Teresa Johnson

## So don't go

Julie and Teresa, Event Night has earned a reputation for being messy, disorganized, and chaotic. The Student Council could make activities like these more enjoyable for everyone if they

## THE BRIDGE

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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.

had some control over what was going on. Granted, they try, and some people have fun flinging mud and stuffing marshmallows in their mouths; however, people who don't enjoy this type of pagan entertainment usually don't have a good time. I suggest you don't attend Event Night if you know it's

going to be messy. I also suggest you ask Student Council how well they plan these things out ahead of time.

Peg Osterman  
Opinion Editor

## From Just Below The Land Down Under

by Anissa Garcia

When asked how she felt about coming to America, New Zealander Melissa Stratford replied, "I was scared, but really anxious. It's a big step to take, but it had to be done."

Stratford comes from a town on the northern island of New Zealand called Wellington. While in America, Junior Liza Lenertz is Stratford's hostess. Some of Stratford's hobbies include snow-skiing and tennis, which she has been playing for six years. Along with being a member of the tennis team she also works on the Challenge staff and participates in Student Council.

Stratford will spend her senior year at West Chicago and graduate in June. If she were still in New Zealand Stratford would already be able to graduate in October. But she wanted to experience living in America. "I enjoy school here because everything is new and different, and it's fun meeting people," says Stratford.

Some "new and different" things Stratford is experiencing deal with our school. One major difference between her school (in New Zealand and West Chicago is the amount of freedom. In a New Zealand school, "you can basically do anything you want as long as you get your work done. You can get away with a bit more than you can here," she explained.

Also her school does not have Homecoming dances, cheerleaders, pom poms, or football. Instead they have rugby, a game similar to football, and a "Cabaret", which is like our Prom. Stratford thinks West Chicago has more school spirit because of these differences.

Stratford also said that in New Zealand people wore uniforms to school. It isn't until your senior year that they allow you to wear your own clothes to school.

It seems that New Zealand teens are not that much different from American teens when it comes to weekends. Stratford said, "We normally go to parties." The drinking

age in New Zealand is twenty, but Stratford said, "A lot more teenagers drink in New Zealand than they do here." If caught they do not get in as much trouble as they would here.

"America is pretty much what I expected it to be," said Stratford. She explained that her friends told her Chicago was "flat and very, very cold." Even though she hasn't really visited many places since her arrival, she hopes to "see a bit of everything" before she departs.

What Stratford missed most about New Zealand:

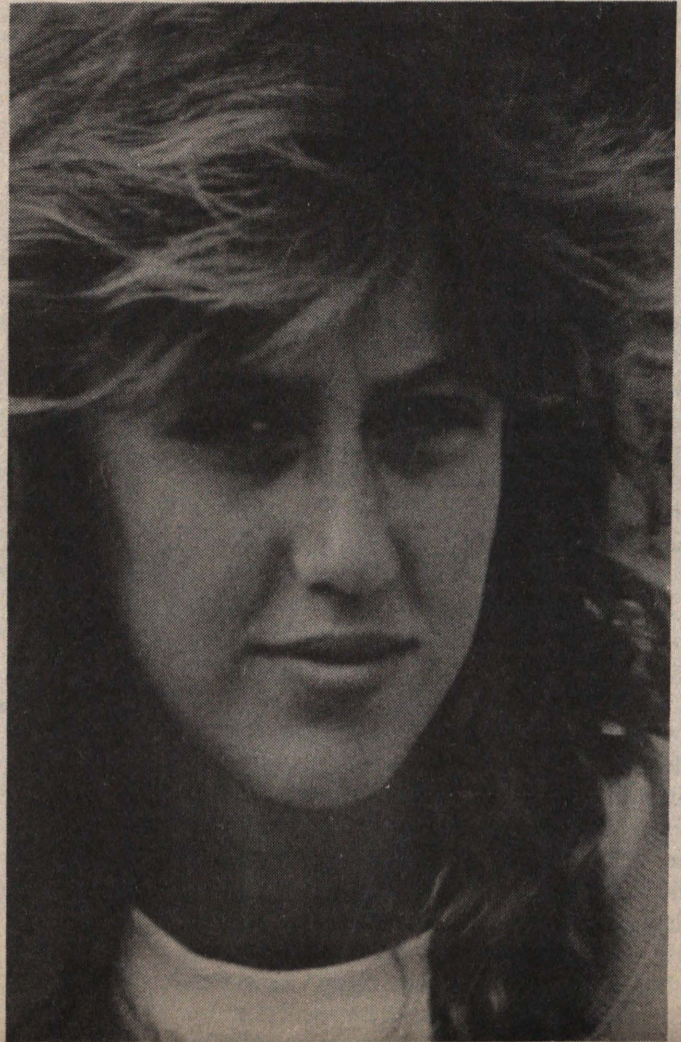
"My friends, family, and fish—n—chips"

When asked what she missed most from New Zealand, Stratford replied, "My friends, family, and fish-n-chips." She thinks American food is "totally fattening. Most of it is junk food. It's nice- I like it."

Even though Stratford likes America, many New Zealanders don't. The reason being that the United States' foreign relations are not very friendly with New Zealand. She explained that America had kept wanting to dock boats which carried nuclear equipment into New Zealand harbors. New Zealand rejected the United States' proposals to dock in their harbor and became a nuclear-free country.

Because of that incident, many New Zealanders are not fond of the United States. But Stratford wanted to visit an American school "to actually experience living in the U.S."

If she had a choice of where she could live, Stratford said, "I'd come to the U.S. I wouldn't mind living here for about five years."



Said Stratford, "I really got a kick out of how Americans say 'dude' all the time. In New Zealand they say 'mate.'"

## Super-Model's Career Linked to Physics class

by Brian York

Cindy Crawford: brunet bombshell? rocket scientist? super model of the world? Now-a-days you see Cindy Crawford's face everywhere- Cosmopolitan, Playboy, the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue.

Just in case you have been dormant for the last three years or so, Crawford is one of the world's leading models. I held an interesting interview with a teacher here who taught her in 1982. The man with whom I held this exclusive interview wishes to remain anonymous. I will honor his decision... Naw, I won't- it's Mr. Wiggin who teaches physics class.

In 1982 Wiggin wasn't teaching at West Chicago. It was at Dekalb High School where Crawford was graced by being taught by Wiggin. Although he doesn't feel he had an impact on her, it's just possible he might have.

According to Wiggin, Crawford was in modeling at a very early age; about sophomore year. But not only was she young for her original grade, she was also ahead a grade. So here's Crawford- young, beautiful, and smart. From what Wiggin said, smart is an understatement. Crawford was so intelligent that, at age sixteen, she was covaladictorian with a 4.0 average.

Young, beautiful, smart, and photogenic. The four characteristics that modeling agencies like. Wiggin took a picture of the whole class, and the first thing you look at is Crawford. She photographs very well.

Suprizingly Wiggin wasn't shocked when he saw her on the cover of a magazine. She was such a "super model" back in high school that he sort of expected it. He said that she travelled all over the world on modeling jobs. Because of this she didn't have many dates; evidently the guys were too much in awe.

Most people would welcome the fame and stardom. But according to Wiggin, Crawford didn't. She thought ahead and recognized that she couldn't model forever. So, at first she took a scholarship to Northern Illinois University and studied engineering. So don't be shocked if you see in an interview, "Cindy enjoys windsurfing, animals, and engineering."

"... Just as successful had she never had Physics."

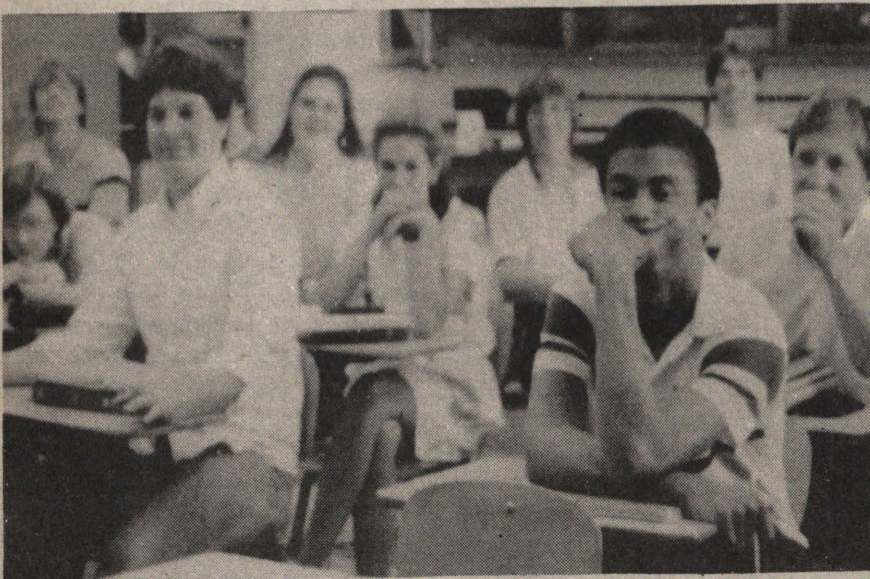
Wiggin still respects Crawford for modeling. "She has high standards", he says in regard to not posing in the nude. Even

though she is in Playboy she is fully dressed. Provocative, but fully dressed. She is definitely not stuck up, and once after she graduated she talked with him at a football game."

Although Wiggin thinks that, "...she would have been just as successful had she never had physics," there is evidence to the contrary. At a party, his daughter met Crawford for the first time. Crawford realized she was Wiggin's daughter and said, "Mr. Wiggin is my favorite teacher. He's funny."

It gives me a definite chill as I think that a super-model's favorite teacher works right here at West Chicago.

Just a bit of advice for future models: Don't take modeling, acting, or photography classes- take Physics.



An exclusive photo from her blurred past, Crawford (in center, covering face with hands) was just 16 when Wiggin took this class.

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# Abuse at WCCHS

by Julie Mastro

All across the country there are thousands of homes that have been torn apart by family violence. West Chicago is not an exception to the statistics.

Ann (not her real name) is a senior at WCCHS and her story is one of anger and sadness. For as long as she can remember her father has physically and verbally abused her and her mother. Her first memory is at the age of four when she saw her drunken father scream and beat her mom and then threaten her with a knife. Once he was finished he started in on Ann, but she ran into her room and locked the door.

"We don't even have a family. We never do any family things. If we do we always fight or he gets drunk and takes everything out on me." Ann seems to be the main target of her father's abuse, although the reason why is unknown. Her father's abuse seems to mostly be triggered by alcohol and prescription drugs. "He started taking Valium and other unauthorized prescriptions when I was about eight." However, Ann also feels that something happened in her dad's childhood that makes him abuse her. She thinks that perhaps he too was abused.

Ann said that there was no incident that was the "worst" because they're all terrible, but one of the scenes that she remembers vividly occurred at the age of ten. She was home alone and was given strict orders by her mother not to let her dad in the house. He came home and began banging on the front door. Ann refused to let him in and that set him off. "He began yelling through the door at me telling me I was never wanted and that I was supposed to be aborted. Then he said he never loved me, but I already knew that."

The behavior of Ann's father has decided her plans for life after graduation. "I want to move out after high school and stay as far away as possible." She said that if she had a "normal family" instead of moving out she probably would have gone to college. But for Ann the only hope she has of leading her own life is to escape her father and his constant abuse. She plans on talking to her mom and younger sister but never

"We have no relationship. It just consists of me hating him and him hating me."

to her dad. As far as she is concerned, "We have no relationship. It just consists of me hating him and him hating me."

The saddest thing in this and most other cases of abuse is that the victim has no idea why he/she is the object of their parent's frustrations. Why should a person suffer for something they don't understand? Ann understands how hard it is to break away from the abuser and leave your home but she says that it is very important to get help. You need to escape the abuse whether you are the victim or the spouse of the abuser. "If you ever marry a disturbed person and have children and things get bad, get out. If you can't do it for yourself then do it for your children."

# F A M I L Y



## Shelters for the victims

by Anissa Garcia

Child abuse, incest, and wife battery are a few cases of domestic violence that many people may be experiencing behind closed doors. Abused people might feel afraid and ashamed of the abuse they receive and try to keep it hidden. It's important that the victims of such violence open up and look for help. This help and counseling is offered in Glen Ellyn for residents of DuPage County.

The Glen Ellyn Family Shelter Inc. (FSSI) is a center that offers many abused women and children the help needed to deal with domestic violence. The center has been treating victims since 1980.

According to the center's Community Outreach worker Judy Swanson, "Domestic violence is the second highest reported crime in DuPage County." Swanson explained, "We're (the shelter) the only comprehensive, domestic violence program."

The FSSI offers many programs for the victims of domestic violence. "Services are confidential and free of charge," Swanson pointed out.

The programs FSSI presents to victims include support groups and individual counseling. Counseling aims at the victims emotional pro-

blems and options for future plans. If future plans include separations and visiting restraints, legal advice is offered.

"Counselors help the children deal with problems and violence in their homes," informed Swanson. Children also receive individual and group counseling.

The FSSI's Community Resource Director, Sue Broad, explained that parent counseling is also offered. Male victims may also participate in these programs, but because only women and children stay in the Shelter, men are not allowed to reside there.

The shelter also provides victims with food, clothing and shelter for three weeks or longer if needed. There are 12 beds available, but in December 1986 the FSSI opened a shelter in Wheaton with 18 beds. If counselors believe victims need longer term assistance they refer victims to other facilities that counsel in the specific needs they have.

There is also a 24-hour crisis hot line provided (469-5650), with counselors ready to give advice, information, and referrals to callers.

For the past nine years the Glen Ellyn Family Shelter Services Inc. Center has been treating victims of the growing problem of domestic violence. Help is confidential and easy to get, but it must begin with the victim's call for assistance.



# V I O L E N C E

## Ignoring the facts leads to liability

by Michele Rittorno

Avoiding evidence that pertains to child abuse or neglect can make a person liable, according to Children of Youth Human Services in Chicago.

Social worker Ronald Dow said that if a person doesn't report a child abuse case then they would be reported to their professional organization. The consequences are determined from there on by their colleagues. The punishment

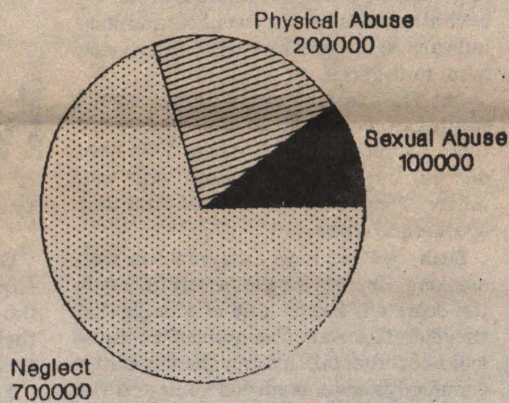
for failing to report a case could even cost the person their job.

Peer listener Sherry Dillner, senior, said "I would go straight to Mr. Dow." if she was in a situation with child abuse. Sandy Manero, senior in peer listening says "We are responsible for reporting any evidence of child abuse."

Counselor Jody Kettler said that if a peer listener didn't report it to herself, Dow, or Robert Hein, they would be suspended from the program.

### Annual figures on abuse

#### Child Abuse Three Categories



In Number of Children

From: National Center on Child Abuse

Graph By: Liza Lenertz

## What makes them do it?

by Jackie Mari

Poor, rich, uneducated, highly educated; from the Northern states to the deep heart of the South. Child abuse, which is also a type of family violence, is everywhere.

It is estimated that there are over a million cases of child abuse each year. Of these, about 2,000 children die a year. That's six a day...or one child every four hours. These statistics are only from those cases which have been reported. Estimates hold that for every case reported four others go unreported. Now that one child abused every four hours turns into five children.

The victim of child abuse could be someone you know: a neighbor, a friend, a relative...maybe it's you. If it is one may be wondering "Why? Why me?" Why parents abuse their kids is not a simple question to answer. It could be many different things. One reason could be that if parents were abused as children, they in return abuse their own kids. This, however, isn't always true. It all depends on the person. A strong-willed person who was a victim of abuse might seek help. Even if the help is years later it could prevent the parent from abusing their own child.

Another cause of child abuse may be that the parent has severe personal problems. This could be alcoholism, drug addiction, mental illness, or stress. Problems like these are major causes of child abuse because the abuse usually occurs when the parent is out of control, and anything could make him/her strike the child. For example, when a person is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, he/she has no rational sense. Even a simple hello could start a fight.

Stress is also like walking on thin ice. Any little thing could make a person angry if they are under a great deal of stress. Even though the parent may not abuse their children any other day, he/she may not be able to control himself in a stressful situation. The child has no way of knowing their parent is under a lot of stress and this may make the abuse worse because the kid has no way of knowing why their parent is angry at them.

If a parent has a drug/alcohol problem, abuse may not occur just during the day—it could be around the clock. It may only occur on Friday nights when the father has had a few too many drinks after work. The child is never aware of the next time dad or mom is going to come home

drunk. They may also have a hard time reasoning with a drunk parent who may, under other circumstances, be perfectly reasonable.

No one should have to put up with abuse. The sad part is that most victims do. Teenagers seem to be in the worst bind because they are old enough to rebel against abuse, but they might still feel weak. This weakness may partly be due to the fact that most teenagers live at home so they are still dependent on their parents. What can they do?

Counseling is a good step. Talk to someone about your problem. There are a lot of kids that won't get help because they are either scared, or they just feel it's their own problem to deal with. The victim may be hurting inside, but don't feel they can go through the counseling alone. Even if it takes awhile for the victim to realize they need help, that's okay, it's always available. Most important is that the abused person must know and convince themselves that it's not their fault, because it's not.

In this article it was stated that, "There are many things that cause parents to abuse their children." Although there may be many causes of abuse there is not many reasons, because there is no reason or excuse for child abuse.

## Comic Biz Booming

by The Masked Avenger

Comic books: the cheap entertainment of little kids. Although this is a popular notion this doesn't do justice to the current set of comics that prove they have grown up.

The media has definitely played a part in the resurgence of comic books. Comics as literature is still a novel idea to them. They also view it as a hip, cutting edge type of storytelling. Art Spiegelman's MAVS, a re-telling of the Jewish Holocaust garnered much attention. Likewise Frank Miller's DARK KNIGHT, a tougher, grittier reincarnation of Batman. Playboy and Newsweek praised the industry in respective articles.

Possibly the biggest factor in the legitimization of comics has been movie or T.V. tie-ins. Hollywood is realizing the wealth of material that has already been developed. Batman is the biggest project that comes to mind, now the sixth largest grossing movie of all time. Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles has been made into a popular cartoon. In various stages of development there are close to 40 movie or t.v. shows based on comic characters.

Another one of the reasons for the increased popularity of comics is the general trend for nostalgia. Adults are buying stuff that reminds them of their childhood (hence the upswing in demand for antiques, old cars, and old rock bands.) Parents are finding that the comics their children are reading are the same ones they read when they were kids. The X-Men, the Fantastic Four, and Spiderman have all been around since the early 1960's.

Comics are increasingly being recognized as good investments. A four-issue set of Batman featuring the death of his sidekick Robin retailed for \$4.50 when it was published. Now, after a year and much publicity has gone by, it's worth about \$145. The popularity of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles has driven the price of the first issue up to \$200. Not a bad return on a \$1.50 comic.

Publishers have been catering increasingly to a more adult crowd. Marvel Comics recently launched a line of hardcover books, priced at almost \$20. D.C. Comics also founded their Piranha Press imprint with a mature audience in mind.

## Bathroom Horror

by Jenni Wilke and Ned Miller

Venture into the realm of bathrooms; to some, a place of refinement, to others a deep swamp of disgust. I take you here to make a general comparison between the guys' jons, and the girls' lavatories.

A quick word of advice; as you enter the plush interior of the girls' room you may see a certain black bug crawling on the floor. Never fear- you soon become friends with these bugs (commonly called cockroaches) and eventually learn to share your space.

Hey Jen! You make friends with the cockroaches? Unfortunately for us guys, we have to whip out the blow-torches and grenades to fight them off. Its too bad that the odds are so much against us (72 hundred to one).

(Ahem, Ned!) On with the girls' room. Our stalls are very unique, to say the least. Each stall has had approximately one foot cut off the top. This is very nice for those of us who want to hold a conversation while pulling up our pants. For those of us who don't there is absolutely no way to avoid eye contact with the person waiting for your stall.

(Excuse me!) You mean you actually have doors? We don't! Which means we get the minimum of privacy and the maximum of sociability. You girls don't know how good you have it. I mean, so far we have "Killer Cockroaches From Hell" and many breezy confrontations. All you're doing is having tea with common household pets while talking to your buddy over a REAL door.

"Well!" If you would let me finish, you would hear some of the bad things. Like the vulgar graffiti written on our stall walls. You would not believe the gossip that passes through there. Did you hear about Kevin and Penny sleeping together? Or Susie and

Tommy's ongoing relationship with the other's best friends? Or who was on Betty "The Bombers" most recent list? Or... Oh! Sorry, I just get so caught up in the emotion that is being poured out in permanent marker. It's very gripping.

Yeah! I bet. I'll give you gripping. How about looking into the mirror and seeing a large bloated, vomitous mass of skin staring back at you? It's like they went out and stole hubcaps off of a cheap car and then riveted them to the wall.

Oh! Thanks for reminding me, Ned. I wanted to tell all the adoring readers out there about our fabulous mirrors. We have one full length mirror and one large wall mirror. They're always cleaned until they sparkle and shine.

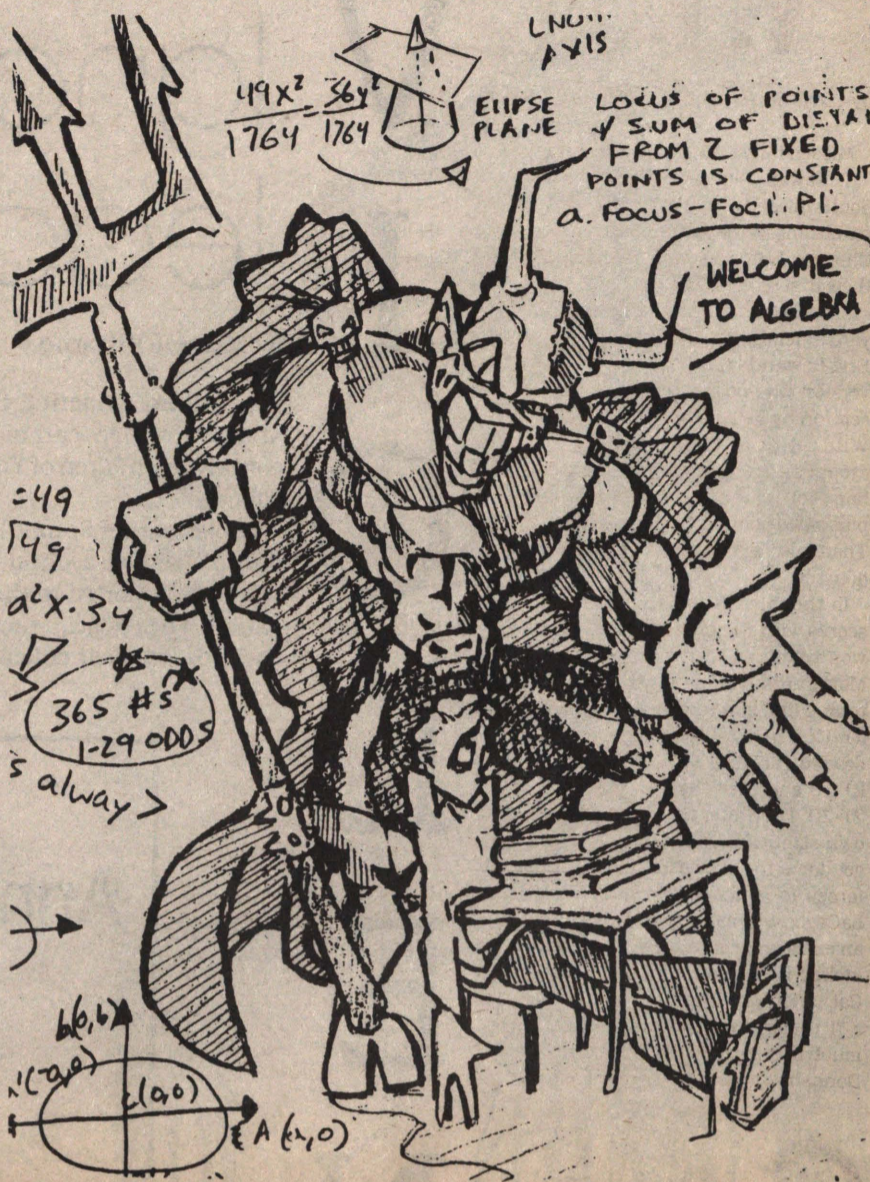
Yeah, well we have a big problem with smokers. Hey! Maybe that's why they took the doors off! Seems kind of strange that they didn't use some common sense and just look above the stall for a grey gaseous matter commonly known as smoke! No matter! The smell, the look, and the grime of the jon all goes along with that tough guy smoker kind of aura.

Well, Ned, our time is almost up and I really need to get down to the office. (Today's the day I ask about getting salmon pink carpeting to match the tile in the bathroom.)

Yes, that's all well and good, but before you leave could you help me get my foot out of this muck on the floor?

Are you crazy? Me- go into that disaster area? I might mess up my hair! Don't worry though. I'll find someone brave enough to get you out, but right now I really must get to the office.

The cockroaches are coming, did you hear me? It's like a trap! They're getting closer and closer! Please, this is a desperate man!



## MORE DOODLES!

by Jeremy Mains

Once again, the Features Department is requesting that any students suffering from the habit of doodling during class submit their in-class created works to the Features Doodles box in room 216.

You don't have to be Leonardo Da Vinci to make a quality doodle. If what you've created is witty, humorous, or even vaguely resembles what it was intended to, we ask that you consider turning it in. Please, however, refrain from severely warped themes. Weird is perfectly O.K., but not severely warped.

At a certain point in the future, Features will dedicate one page to a collaboration of the most original doodles we receive. How-

ever, if we don't receive very many, we won't have a whole lot to print. It would be great to show more than just abstract geometric shapes, stick figures, and tulips.

Therefore, I implore you once again. If you've ever drawn anything in class that was even remotely worth sneezing on, or if you know another student here at We-go who is a closet Rembrandt, turn those suckers in! Thanks.

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(so what the heck's a bushel?)

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# Wildcats take Homecoming!

by Chris Seper

Missed it by that much. That was what happened when Glenbard South missed a 10 yard field goal with 1:54 remaining in the game. With that, our West Chicago Wildcats won homecoming and their first game of the season.

South struck first in this game on a 33 yard touchdown pass by South quarterback Eric Lewandowski, but the two point conversion was no good. Then, after an interception by defensive back Eddie Gonzalez, Wildcat quarterback Steve Klingberg dropped a 23 yard pass into the outstretched hands of tight end John Winterhalder. That, plus a two point conversion made it 8-6 cats. That, also ended the scoring for the first quarter.

In the third period, the two teams traded scores with Klingberg running in a touchdown from one yard out and running back Matt Purdom from two yards out and South taking in a two yard run to make the score 21-12. Then, in the fourth quarter Lewandowski ran in a score to close the gap to 21-18 and then threw a pass to close it to 21-20. Then after a Klingberg fumble on his own eight yard line the Raiders were able to get down to the two only to be stopped and forced to go for a field goal. Kicker Chris LaCroix, who hadn't converted a field goal or an extra point all year, held true to form and kicked it right of the uprights to insure a Cat's victory.

"I thought our (offensive) line played a much better game today," Head Coach Bruce Donash said. We-go scored all of it's touch-

downs but one on the ground, and the three running backs Gonzalez, Chris Nippert, and Purdom ran over three yards a carry.

Donash also mentioned the work of linebacker Chris Davidson and tight end John Winterhalder, who were forced to replace injured captain Chad Busse. "I thought took his (Busse) place at linebacker and Winterhalder had to go a little longer offensively but we couldn't get him a break there.

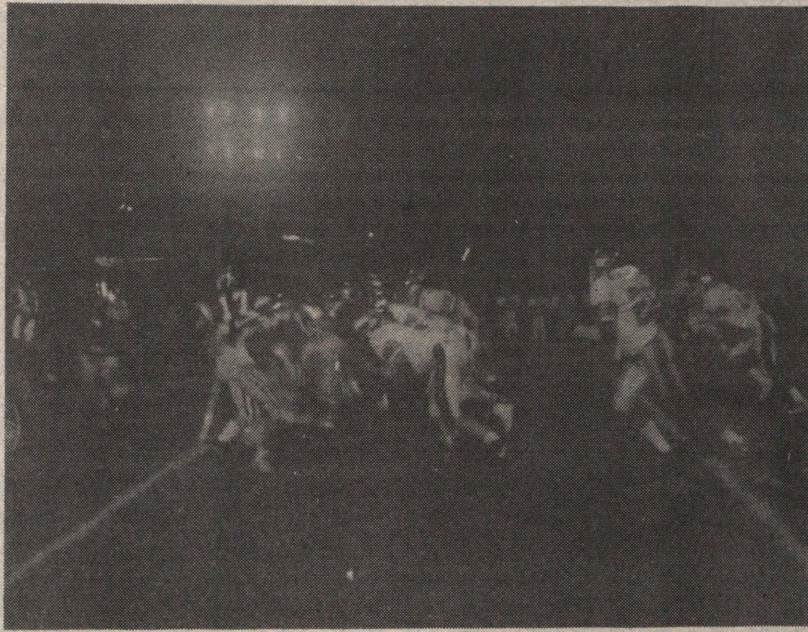
"We miss his (Busse) leadership because he's so intense out there. That way I think it hurt us, but the kids who filled in for him, Chris Davidson I was real happy with." Davidson recorded one sack that pushed South back deep in there territory.

The Wildcats capitalized on some errors by South. Touchdowns all occurred after a Gonzalez interception, a facemask that put We-go in South territory, and a four yard

punt after the Davidson sack. Also, Gonzalez's second interception stopped a two point conversion by South, that would have given them the victory. "Whenever you can take advantage of the other team's mistakes that's important," Donash said.

Donash also felt that the team needed a win to get them started. "I think more than anything we had to get this idea that we are losers off our backs. We hear from so many people all of the time. We read it in the paper when will we ever get better and that kind of stuff. That sits in your subconscious mind all the time and I really think we needed this win really bad to get it off our back that we're losers because we're not."

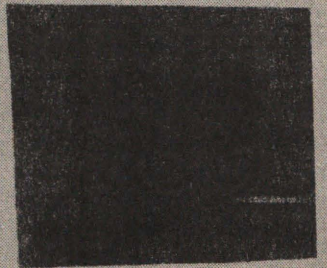
The Wildcat record is now 1-4 (1-2), there next game is tonight against Wheaton North.



Steve Klingberg tries to bring it home in the homecoming game. The final score was 21-20 Cats. (Photo by Kelly Howard)

## Jock Shorts

by Chris and John Seper



Cross Country runs on to victory ...

The cross country team enters regional competition with a record of ?? - ?? . They have won ?? out of their ?? invitationals with junior Rick Montalvo placing first in ?? of them.

## Anti-drug program at We-go

With the fall season starting WCCHS has thought of a way to keep student athletes out of drugs and alcohol. When each athlete joins a team they sign a form which says, "I will not take drugs or alcohol on or off the field."

Recently Athletic Director Ron Hansen and Wrestling coach and counselor Robert Hein held a meeting to discuss being better leaders.

"We want to put the emphasis on education and peer pressure," Hein told the Winfield Examiner. "We're attempting to deal with the demand end of the drug problem and to do it in a positive sort of way."

## IHSA eases job restrictions

The IHSA may soon be easing job requirements for high school coaches.

The proposal would open assistant coaching positions to non-college graduates. But they must go through a training program. The proposal would also open head coach positions to college graduates having substitute teaching certificates. These coaches would also have to take a training course.

These changes would relieve the coaching shortage being experienced through out Illinois.

# Getting up to par

by John Prusko

This year's team won three more meets than last year and finished one more place higher in the DVC. They have gradually improved each year winning none the year before.

After finishing in eighth place in the DVC last year and being 5-9, 2-5 in DVC this year, Head Coach Tim Courtney feels that the 1989 golf team has improved a lot since last year.

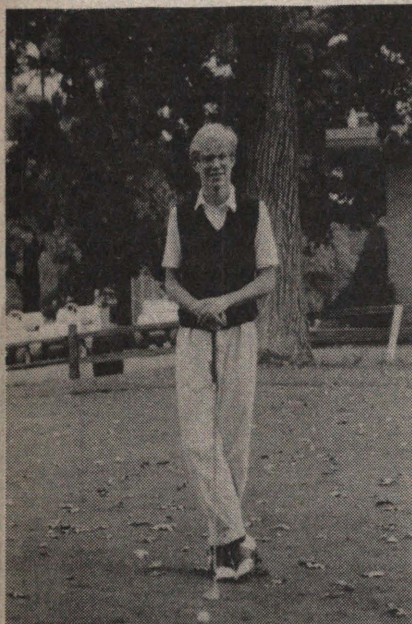
The stars of this year's golf team are senior Chad Landis and junior Jon Turkot. Turkot is the lead scorer with a nine hole average of 40.34 and Landis has a 41.47 average. The average of improvement for the varsity players is over five strokes.

Turkot feels the golf team is doing better than last year. "We have more experience this year, but we still don't have the talent other schools do," Turkot said. Turkot also

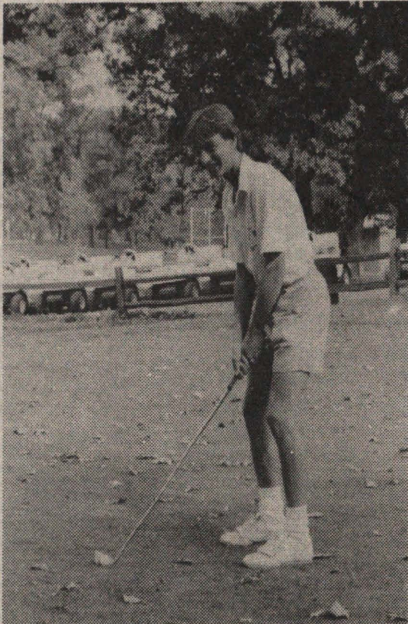
feels he has come a long way since joining the team. "I can deal with pressure better than before, also I can handle my nerves a lot more."

Junior and third year player Kate Jemsek feels that in order for the team's scores to go down there needs to be a lot of practice, hard work, and concentration. "If you combine all those there will be better scoring," Jemsek said. Jemsek feels that the team has improved. "We're doing better. Chad Hansen has improved, he's also shooting better. Jeff Malay has improved a lot." Jemsek also mentioned that the captains, Landis and Turkot have also improved. "The team is shooting in the 170's," said Courtney. "That's O.K., it's not real good and not real bad either."

At points, the team has been winning big with Turkot taking tenth in a highly competitive Dundee Crown Tournament and winning some of the early meets in the season but have dropped some of the conference meets to teams like Naperville Central and Wheaton North, but have come up defeating other teams like Geneva and Glenbard East and North.



John Turkot and Chad Landis grin knowingly while posing for pictures. The team finished a disappointing eighth in the conference tournament.



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## WILDCAT SPORTS TRIVIA

Who from West Chicago was a high school All-American, state champ in wrestling, went to Purdue on a football scholarship and played pro football for the New York Jets and Tampa Bay Buccaneers?

(Answers in the next issue of, **THE BRIDGE**)

# Soccer is on the ball

by Tricia Blum

This year's boys soccer team has a record of 8-3-1. In the beginning of the season they won the Batavia Tournament and now wait to see what the playoffs will bring after a record of 2-2 so far in conference.

Head Coach Bob Owens said "Our strength is being a team, because we play as a team."

"We are working hard to make everyone the best player they can be." Owens said that being a team and working together has helped them win.

The varsity usually consists of juniors and seniors. But this year's team has two so-

phomores, David Seirs and Roberto Cuiriz. Both Seirs and Cuiriz start on the varsity team. So far Seirs has one goal and two assists and Cuiriz, a defender, has one which he scored on a penalty kick. Cuiriz also started on varsity as a freshman. Doug Sawyer said, "It's not how old you are but how good you are."

"The pre conference play for the soccer team has only had one loss. That was to Rockford Boylan by a score of 4-3. Senior captain Jeff Showalter said, "We developed an attitude problem because we were 3-0 and that caused us to be 3-1." Captain Richie Romero said, "We could improve our plays and be in better condition and play as

a team."

The team got first place in the Batavia Tournament. They defeated Hinkley Big Rock 5-2, West Aurora 5-0, and Batavia 2-1.

"I think they played very well against Hinkley, average against Aurora, and good against Batavia," Owens said. "It was a hard tournament for us." Outside of the tournament they defeated Geneva 6-1. In the first half of the game they were losing 0-1 but came back to score the six goals. In the game, Caspar Arias scored one, Eric Louback scored three goals, and Darren Mende and John Schmidt scored one.

Another thing that has plagued the soccer team is injuries. Senior Todd Evans was in

the placed in the hospital after one game because he was unconcious the whole second half. Recently, Seirs was knocked out with a hip injury and Arias suffered an injury in the same game.

So far this season Evans has 6 goals and 1 assist, Arias 5 goals, 1 assist, Romero 3 goals, and Orlando Vasquez 2 goals and 1 assists. The Wildcat goalies are senior Javier Guzman and junior Steve Majerus. "Guzman has seen a lot of action so far," Owens said. "But Majerus has seen a little but will see more." Majerus played two full games and shut out formerly 5th ranked Glenbard North 3-0 and lost to Naperville North 1-0.

## Tennis bouncing back

by Margaret Walen

Ladies Tennis started off this year with a bang. They had their first non conference victory over Streamwood with both varsity and junior varsity winning 5-0, 5-0.

Head Coach Terry Lemberg said, "I think the team is looking a lot stronger at this point of the season than it has in the past at all positions and all levels." Lemberg said that she definitely wants the teams conference record to improve. Last year they were 0-7 and last in the conference standings. Lemberg hopes the team will win more than half of their non conference matches. Last year, ladies tennis was 6-7 in non conference last year, 7-13 overall.

So far, the team has had easy times with non conference schools, defeating teams like Montini, Wheaton Christian, and East Aurora by the score of 5-0, but still struggle in conference competition, losing to Glenbard South and Wheaton North by the same score.

The newest member of the varsity team comes from down under. She is Melissa Stratford, an exchange student from New Zealand. Stratford came in and was in first varsity singles right away.

Trinette Co, second singles and captain of the team agrees with Lemberg that the team is looking much stronger. "Our record will be better this year." Co's personal record last year was nine wins and 10 losses. She said that she is hoping to bring up her conference record and win more than half of her matches. She also would like to see herself and



A blurry fast Trinette Co goes for the ball in competition. (Photo by John Kufer)

Stratford go down state. Lemberg said that depending on how the season goes, she could see Stratford and Co as a strong doubles team for sectionals. Junior Gail Hoffman finishes up the singles team as third singles player.

Juniors Jennifer Bowen and Jamee Taylor are first doubles team. Sophomore Heather Adrian and senior Cheree Brugman finish varsity as second doubles.

## Setting for regionals

by Kate Jemsek

"Stronger every game." That is the theme for this year's Wildcat volleyball team. With only two returning seniors and nine new juniors, this year's team has started out young and inexperienced.

At the start of the season, the Ladycats fell to 1-3 entering conference play. At one point in the DuPage Area Tournament at Wheaton Central, balls were literally falling in front of the players. But the Ladycats have come back. They have defeated Naperville North, Glenbard South, and defeated the Central Tournament winners Wheaton Central in two games but finished last at the Lyons Township Tournament and fell to DVC leaders Glenbard East 15-13, 15-13. They now have a record of 8-10, 5-3 with five more games to play before regionals begin.

The volleyball team hopes to have a winning season and finish in the top three in conference. They have been practicing long hours and putting in a lot of hard work. The first two weeks of practice the volleyball team was practicing five to seven hours a day while now they have gone to a regular practice schedule.

This year's team consists of juniors Melody Benson, Cindy Carrol, Cheryl Greenwalt, senior Karen Getlinger, juniors Jennifer Kramer, Kelly Mathews, Sarah Ognie, Danielle Potts, Jody Schwab, and senior Angie Webb. The most valuable players so far are the returning seniors who have leadership and experience.

When Webb was asked how she thought this year's team would do, she replied "If we work together we'll be as good as last year." When Coach Gail George was asked about this she answered, "This year we have the height we lacked last year which will help us be even better."



Melody Benson bumps the ball during a game. The Lady Cats are 5-3 and in second place in DVC.

### HOME SPORTS SCHEDULE AND PLAYOFFS

#### Football

Oct. 6	Wheaton North	7:30p.m.
Oct. 13	Naperville Central	7:30p.m.

#### Ladies Tennis

Oct. 6-7	DVC Meets	TBA
Oct. 13-14	Sectionals	TBA
Oct. 14-21	State Finals	TBA

#### Cross Country

Oct. 21	Regionals	TBA
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#### Golf

Oct. 10	Sectionals	TBA
Oct. 13-14	State Finals	TBA

#### Boys Soccer

Oct. 7	Wheaton Central	6:30p.m.
Oct. 12, 14, 17	DVC playoffs	TBA
Oct. 19, 21, 23	Regionals	TBA
Oct. 26	Sectionals	TBA

#### Ladies Swimming

Oct. 17	Morris, Crystal Lake South	6p.m.
Oct. 24	Waubonsie Valley	6p.m.

#### Ladies Volleyball

Oct. 10	Naperville North	5:30p.m.
Oct. 17	Wheaton Central (Seniors night)	5:30p.m.
Oct. 24-28	Regionals	TBA

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