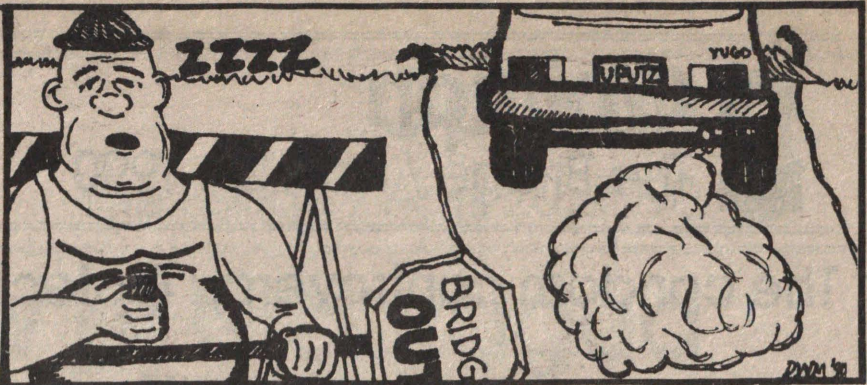


# The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School  
326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL 60185  
April 20, 1990 Volume 19 Number 10



## Thorium: the destination is unknown

by Margaret Walen

Why is West Chicago on television again? What has made this town so popular? What is causing people to speak out?  
It's thorium.

The fight is still going on as to where Kerr McGee should put their thorium. West Chicago is now beginning to see some results in their favor. On Thursday, March 15, US District Judge, James Holderman refused Kerr McGee's proposal of giving them (Kerr-McGee) a restraining order that would permit them to be able to start burying the thorium in West Chicago.

Another option for burying thorium that has become known is to send the thorium to Envirocare of Utah, Inc. The Utah company is interested in taking the radioactive material. They have obtained a license to allow them to be able to take care of the thorium.

The state of Illinois is trying to take control of the site from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Kerr McGee has the license in their hands and are waiting for the go ahead. West Chicago is buying time with an injunction that says Kerr-McGee needs a city and county permit to bury the thorium. As co-founder of Thorium Action Group, Rich



Protesting thorium burial with marches has become a daily occurrence in West Chicago. (photo by Kelly Howard)

Kassanits said, "It's a horse race that's going down to the wire."

The Environmental Protection Agency has become involved in the fight against Kerr McGee. On April 5, the EPA installed monitors in five West Chicago schools. These monitors regulate the amount of radiation around the school. The EPA is also proceeding to place monitors outside selected homes. The houses picked will be decided by those who are willing to have the monitors.

On April 8, TAG held a rally at Reed Keppler Park. There were speeches, songs and a human chain around a fenced waste pile that is being stored there temporarily.

This weekend, TAG will be participating in the Earth Day activities. Tonight, there will be an all-night rally starting at 7 pm at the factory site. On Sunday, TAG will have a booth at the DuPage County Fairgrounds that will display posters and information. The group is also circulating a petition that will be sent to President Bush when they receive 10,000 signatures.

Kassanits stated at a TAG meeting that their strategy is to, "get people elected on our side and get people who don't know about the situation from other towns on our side."

## FBLA second at state

by Dave Smith

The West Chicago chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) recently captured a second place overall finish in the race for outstanding state chapter.

The state conference was held March 23 and 24 in Springfield, Illinois.

Awards given to the chapter overall were: first place in Largest Local Chapter Membership, first place in Local Chapter Annual Business Report, first place in Legislative Advisory Council Award, third place in Partnership With Business Project, fourth place in America Enterprise Project, and fourth place in Community Service Project.

In addition, FBLA was awarded the Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit. This award is given only to the top 10 percent of all FBLA chapters in the nation.

First place awards for individuals went to Jeremy Mains for T-Shirt Design, and Christine Miller for Office Procedures.

Second place went to Claire Broido for Ms. FBLA, Chris Nippert for Accounting, Kerri O'Neill for Job Description Manual, Matt Phillips for Talent Show, Dave Vish for Talent Show, and Phil Walner for Mr. FBLA. Broido remarked, "I was real disappointed that I didn't get first in Ms. FBLA, but I tried my hardest."

Third place awards went to Tom Novak for Business Calculations, and Annette Pavone for Business Law.

Fourth place awards were given to Tom Fox for Business Math, and Ryan Grant for Computer Application.

Fifth place awards went to Kai Martin for Computer Concepts, Nicole Yoder for Business English, and the Parliamentary Procedure team including Dana Billick, Kate

Jemsek, Erin Keeley, Kirsten Nelson, and Lisa Riegert.

Seventh place awards went to Jabaar Murray for Introduction to Business, and

**'Overall I'm very pleased with FBLA this year.'**

the Entrepreneurship team including Taretta Arnold, John Pohodich, and Brian Roy.

Eighth, ninth, and tenth place awards were given to Chad Landis for Economics, Yoder for Who's Who in FBLA, and Todd Evans for Information Processing Concepts, respectively.

In addition to all these awards, Broido, current FBLA president at WCCHS, won her election for State Vice President for the 1990-91 FBLA year. "I was very nervous about giving my speech to 1000 people, but I'm excited that I will have the chance now to become more involved with FBLA statewide," said Broido.

Also, Broido, Miller, Nippert, and Yoder qualified for to compete at the National Leadership Conference in Washington DC, July 1-4. "It's my goal to win nationals. The honor of being a national title holder would tell me that I did the best that I could," remarked Miller.

Next year's nationals will be held in Anaheim, California.

FBLA will hold their end of the year banquet on Thursday, April 26 at St. Andrew's Country Club.

In summing up FBLA's year, Broido said, "Overall I'm very pleased with FBLA this year. We had a lot of potential, and used it to further our chapter the best way we could."

## VICA statebound

by Kim Kosatka

Twenty-one students of the Vocational and Industrial Club of America (VICA) will compete at state level in Springfield on April 26-28. "This is the biggest group to go down to Springfield," said Paul Junkroski, VICA advisor.

Qualifications for most state contenders were taking a written test and ranking in the top 20 amongst other students from other schools. Some students were not required to take a written test due to the nature of their contest.

Chad Day qualified for cabinet making. He is the first person in WCCHS history to qualify in this category. Sara Allen, Hilda Ballines, Jennifer Bohnsack, Barb Giese, Richard Perez, and Leticib Vargas qualified for Commercial Sewing. Perez is the first

male in the state to ever place in this category. Sherry Dillner, Tracey Geisler, Sergio Guajardo, Javier Guzman, Peter Stanek, James Stuart, Heather Wagner, and Holly Woodward will compete for Job Interview.

"Commercial Sewing is the one category that has grown over three years due to help from Mrs. Kozlowski," said Junkroski. Three years ago, only one student qualified, while last year two students qualified, and this year six of the top nine in the state were West Chicago students.

Other students to compete include Luis Aguilar, Louis Mosteller, and Martin Trejo for Oral Safety Presentation; Bill Gilbert for Interview Competencies Contest; Chris Inciso for Prepared Speech; and Ben Seaver for Creative Photography and Job Skill Demonstration.

## Ditch day, an extinct species?

by Debbie Caruso

"Will senior ditch day continue its tradition at We-go?"

Last year 83 percent of the seniors were in school on senior ditch day. In addition, the administration once again made a plea against senior ditch day in the March news letter. Senior Diane Madden said, "It has no purpose, parents are either going to call in or not." Senior Kim Kosatka said, "Most of the parents laughed at the article in the newsletter."

"The students need what we offer at this school," said principal Alan Jones. Assistant Dean, Carol Sweder and Jones both feel that seniors should not ditch because they already get out five days earlier. "It's well deserved because we've been here for four years and it's only one day," said Senior Chris Wicklund.

Randa Bascheron, student council president, brought up the idea that WCCHS could set up a day for seniors to go to Great America. This day would be considered an

excused ditch day. If you did not want to go on the trip, then you would just stay in school. Jones replied this idea is, "a lot of game playing."

"We have a faculty that's dedicated with a good curriculum. Students should use it but they're so willing to give up instructional days," Jones said.

Jones also feels that if you go to the parents before the students this will increase the number of students in school. Senior Joel Ragsdale said, "They shouldn't try and threaten us because it only makes us want to try and ditch even more."

Sweder said the consequences of ditching will result in detentions. The number of detentions is determined by the number of hours you miss. Senior Chad Busse feels that it is fair the way the school handles senior ditch day.

When it comes to senior ditch day Sweder feels the senior class has already had theirs. On February 15, over 50 percent of the senior class was absent, as a result of a snowstorm.

## Phenylalanine

by LeShawn Lee

What is one thing that most diet pops have in common? The answer is Nutra Sweet, a sugar substitute, which is most widely used in diet soda industries today.

Recently, one ingredient in the making of Nutra Sweet has been added to the list of ingredients on most pop cans, for no apparent reason. This ingredient is called Phenylalanine.

Phenylalanine is a form of Methyl ester (a building block) used in the formation of Aspartame, otherwise known as Nutra Sweet. This Aspartame consists of two amino acids, one which is Phenylalanine, and the other Aspartic Acid.

The problem with Nutra Sweet is that many people fear that like saccharin, Nutra Sweet may stunt the growth of young children, slow their brain functions, and should not be taken by pregnant women, according to researchers.

Why Phenylalanine has just recently been highlighted in the make-up of Nutra Sweet is unknown. The Nutra Sweet Consumer Information Department commented that Phenylalanine has been researched and tested for 15 years. Research began in 1965, and was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 1981. Since then no hazardous or cancerous effects have yet to be directly linked to Phenylalanine.

## Inkspots Flores fund

A trust fund has been created for Ruth Flores, a 1989 graduate of WCCHS was seriously injured in a car accident. Money is needed for the extensive medical and surgical care needed by Flores. Money may be contributed to the fund at Gary-Wheaton Bank, 25521 Route 59, Warrenville, Illinois 60555.

## School evaluation

On April 25 and 26 WCCHS will be evaluated by 26 people from the North Central Association. All public schools must be credited and approved by this organization every seven years.

## Music notes

West Chicago Community High School will be hosting a state music contest on April 28, 1990. Thirteen area schools will compete in band, choir, orchestra, swing choir, and/or jazz band. Competition will be held from 8 am to 5:30 pm.

West Chicago Community High School's band, orchestra, and choir will be performing at the Fox Valley Music Festival. The performances will be held on April 29-30 at Geneva High School.

## The condom controversy: Protecting students or encouraging sex?

### Pro-prophylactics

by Liza Lenertz



Fifty-seven percent of all high school students have lost their virginity. In this high school, 65 percent of all relationships are sexually active, and only 39 percent of these relationships use some kind of protection.

These statistics are no joke.

Teen-agers are having sex at earlier ages. We can not stop them. Let's try a different angle, instead of fighting them, let's help them.

Help them to have sex? No, help them prevent unwanted pregnancies and the spread of STD's, including AIDS.

A way we can help is by placing condom machines in both the girls' and boys' washrooms. Condoms could be bought for roughly 25 to 50 cents a piece.

Condoms are also a good way to prevent the spread of STD's. Aids is another quickly spreading disease that could be stopping with the help of some protection.

No, condoms do not provide 100 percent protection against STD's and pregnancy, they provide 98 percent and that is better than using nothing at all.

65% of all relationships are sexually active, and only 39% of these use protection.

People also think that the teen-agers don't know what they are doing, they think that teen-agers are ignorant to the way that STD's are spread, or even how to get pregnant. That might be true in other schools, but every person in this school has gone through a health class either their freshman or sophomore year which contains a unit on sex education.

Some people also believe that the more immature people in this school might have a problem respecting what is offered to them. My belief is that if they are mature to have sex, they are mature enough to accept a condom machine in the washroom.

In 1985, over one million young women under the age of 19 got pregnant. I believe that these statistics would decrease if condoms were available right in the school. Teen-agers would not be afraid to get and use protection.

A protest to the condom machine is that the school might be supporting teen age sex, but they don't need to support it. Teen-agers

by Chris Seper



Condom vending machines, say it's so Dr. Jones, say it's so!

Oh, yes, please bring condom vending machines in my school. But I only wish we could have brought them in sooner! Just think what great fun they could have been

at the basketball games. Along with the confetti, the signs and the chants, we could hurl condoms at opposing players. Condoms! Condoms!



are supporting it themselves. You read the statistics. Whether or not they have protection, and with or without parent's consent or even knowledge, they are having sex.

Statistics from People magazine and Planned Parenthood

We could even get condoms in blue and white so when we have sex, we could promote school spirit! Yes I can see it now, front page of *The Bridge*, "School starts safe sex/school spirit week." They could even pass out ribbons that say, "When the situ-

ation is tight, I go for my blue and whites!" Go condoms go!

And a new homecoming event: Instead of toilet papering the school, we can wrap it in condoms! Or better yet, Chubby Condoms! Instead of jamming marshmallows in your mouth, jam condoms.

Get my point?

Making condoms easy access to teenagers is not a very wise idea. It gives us the idea that, if we're not willing to go out and do something right, that somebody will always be there to make it easier for us.

If we as teens are willing to take the responsibility of having sex and decide to use the option of a condom, we better go about getting it like anybody else. Go to a drug store. Every adult who wants protection does, and sex, since I last checked, is still considered to be a very adult thing.

A lot of people use the reason that the condom vending machines should be in the school is to avoid the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. For people who use that reason, if you are not willing to make a trip down the street to the local drug store to prevent S.T.D.'s, then what is to say you will get up during unscheduled and get a condom there? S.T.D.'s are also prevented by a monogamy and abstinence.

Plus, once condoms are in school, it makes the school look like they are encouraging sex, instead of looking out for our best interests. A school's job is to educate, not to fornicate. Endorsing sex between teenagers would not be the right look for the school, especially since the legal age to have sex is 18. What is the age of an average high school student?

The final reason is usually that it costs too much to buy a 12-pack of condoms at the store in vending machines could give out one at a time. But if you really are looking for cheap protection, health clinics in the area give out condoms free no questions asked.

For every reason given, there is something to refute it. And besides, this school doesn't even have candy vending machines, let alone condom vending machines. Will a school that is worried about too much sugar put vending machines in that endorse sex?

## A plethora of letters to the editor

### Gossen and Kettler justified

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to the dissection article responses carried in the last issue. In the first one Mrs. Gossen pointed out that she was misquoted (or at least misparaphrased), and Chris Seper's response was to apologize several times for not getting her side of the story. The thing that gets me, though, is that he ended it with a self-righteous claim that he disagrees with her, and will continue to do so. About what? Gossen's response made it clear that a compromise had been worked out. If that compromise was not satisfactory, then he should have suggested an alternative instead of engaging in juvenile posturing.

The idea that this issue is too heated to be settled is utterly ridiculous; the product of crass defensiveness. What I'm sure was meant as an apology was turned into a playground for pointless obstinance. Even if he is angry with the woman, he has a duty to his readers to present the facts.

In his reply, he says that he got a certain idea from her. He got this due to his own misunderstanding and not from her intent. I'm assuming she gives the same explanation to all her classes as to where the fetuses come from, that being that they are removed from pigs that have gone to the slaughterhouse because the farmers wanted to cash in on the extra weight of a pregnant sow. Certainly this is not exactly a yummy idea, but it does mean that they would be killed anyway, unless we start penalizing farmers for being greedy: Thus supporting the only

side of the argument, which is that there really is no argument, except in the mind of Chris Seper.

Jason Wold

### Illegal decorating

Dear Editor(s),

Is there some new unwritten rule in this school about decorating lockers for people's birthday? On occasion I have seen janitors ripping down locker decorations. Are these janitors under instruction of some Administrative figure head?

What is so wrong with putting up a few streamers and balloons? These items do not hurt anyone, nor do they disrupt class. The people who decorate the lockers not only spend their time, but they also spend money on the decorations. Is showing your friends you care once a year too much to ask for?

Besides that, the administration clearly approves of Pep Club locker decorations, or is that because it is a school function? Birthday decorations do no more harm than those from Pep Club.

Not only would I like a reply from the Bridge, but I would also like a reply from the administration.

Liza Lenertz

Dear Liza,

I talked to John Highland and James Mast about your letter. They apparently considered it a big enough issue to put the following "guidelines" in the student announcements on April 9:

1. Masking tape, not Scotch tape, should be used on the locker.
2. No tape should be placed on the wall or floors.
3. Decorations such as crepe paper and balloons should not be left on the floor around the decorated locker.

Both Highland and Mast said locker decorations are not removed as long as they are in good taste and not a potential safety hazard. Extravagant decorations (streamers across the halls, etc.) are taken down because they cause hall traffic problems. All decorations are removed at the end of the day.

Highland and Mast said they approved of locker decorating. Mast said other people who come in and tour the school are impressed by the decorations. "I think it's a whole part of school spirit," he said.

I suggest you keep your decorations simple. Climbing around the halls to put up something really great doesn't seem worth it. But don't stop entirely. Also, ask the office if you can borrow their masking tape.

Peg Osterman  
Opinions Editor

### Pep club peeved

Dear Dave Smith,

• The Pep Club is an organization that is supposed to promote school spirit, but we believe that is also reflects school spirit. The is most successful when a large number of students, girls and Boys, get involved in

planning pep assemblies and putting on skits, dance routines, etc.

The Pep Club does not - nor has it ever had - enough money to finance a fan bus to anywhere. The fan bus that went to Glenbard East this year was financed by the school and had ten passengers (other than cheerleaders). The last time we had a successful fan bus was in 1978 when the football team was in the playoffs. If students would ride a fan bus in significant numbers out administration would sponsor more fan buses.

Yes, there were years when the pep assemblies were a bit more lively and interesting. But those were the years when we had creative individuals and groups who came up with new ideas and volunteered to perform at pep assemblies. (By the way, the advisor during those "memorable" years of which you speak was the same advisor as we have now). We did not have a lot of people this year who wanted to help, so consequently the burden of entertaining and recognizing students fell upon a relatively small number of people.

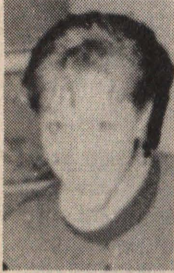
Your idea of a "powder puff football game" is a good one, unfortunately that one has been "vetoed" numerous times in the past for liability reasons.

We hope, in the future, that students will bring their ideas to Pep Club Meeting or give your ideas to the advisor so that we can do a better job of promoting school spirit.

Sincerely,  
Margie Shim, President  
Lisa Riegert, Vice-President  
Shelia Hutchins, Treasurer  
Robert Hein, Advisor

# An American's view of Nicaragua

by Christy D'Aquila



As I rode on the bus down the streets of Managua, the capital city of Nicaragua, youth, my age or older, held up five fingers for me to see who they supported in the coming up national elections. On the voting ballot for presidency, candidate number five was Daniel Ortega of the FSLN (Sandanista Front for National Liberation).

On February 21, I attended an FSLN campaign rally and again was amazed at the number of young people there. A 21 year-old woman, with whom I stayed, attended FSLN meetings on Friday night. There's no need for her to go hang out at the bars and socialize because all her friends are there, too, involved like she is. I was confused and amazed at all of this. These youths, our age, actually have a political opinion, express it, and are involved in the politics of their country. My amazement exists because I'm used to youth here in the United States, who are completely oblivious to our political issues. In Nicaragua, 75% of the 3 million people are 30 and younger, and 50% are 15 and younger. Nicaraguan youth are involved in every aspect of their country's evolution. Sixteen year-olds are eligible to vote and can be drafted. I realize now that we in the U.S. are given the luxury of having few responsibilities until age 18 or even older. American youth, especially those who are European-Americans, have never had anything taken away from us. Well, yes, we get grounded from the car, telephone, or going out for a few nights with friends, but in comparison to being denied land, jobs, health care, education, water, a good sewage system, paved streets, good electricity, and enough food and money to survive, these are embarrassingly insignificant.

On the evening of February 19, I arrived in Nicaragua to experience a country and people I knew nothing about. This experience has changed my outlook on the U.S. government, its people, and my whole life. Reverend Morris, the leader and coordinator of the trip had lived in Brazil for the last 25 years as a United Methodist missionary, and then in Costa Rica from 1976 to 1988. The group that I was with consisted of 32 people from all professions and was the thirty-eighth group Morris has taken to Central America since 1982. The main purpose of our trip was to observe the presidential elections on February 25. We received IDs which looked somewhat like drivers licenses which showed we had electoral observer status from the Nicaraguan government. With this ID, we were able to enter the polling places to observe the election process.

The national elections were to elect a president, local officers, and the National Legislative Assembly, equivalent to our congress. Nicaragua has 21 different political parties, the two main ones being the FSLN and the UNO. UNO is a coalition of 11 out of the 21 parties, and is supported by the by the government. I support the FSLN who has been in power since 1979.

Politically, Nicaragua is a young country. From 1934 to 1979, it has been ruled by three selfish, ruthless, power-hungry dictators of the Somoza family: a father and two sons succeeding. Somoza and his National Guard owned and controlled 35% of the land and all of the most profitable industries necessary to Nicaragua's economic growth. To discourage protest and uprising, the National Guard, befriended and trained by the U.S. military, kept the people "in line" with torture, murders, rapes, terrorism, etc. The U.S. government supported Somoza and his National Guard completely.

In 1961, a liberation front called FSLN was formed. The Nicaraguan people, seeing the vision of the Sandinistas, overthrew the

Somoza regime on July 17, 1979. A group of nine commandants of the Sandinista party came into power to get the country back on its feet. This was a government of the people, not of Somoza or the U.S., but of the poor peasant farmers, the students, the parents, the merchants, of everyone. For 45 years, they had been controlled by power-hungry terrorists: it was time for self-governing and self-determination, and a government that listens to the needs of the common people. The Sandinistas provided this for the Nicaraguan people and their presidential candidate, Ortega. He was voted into office

the U.S. backed government of UNO is now the obstacle that prevents progress in bettering Nicaragua, instead of the Somoza family.

Fifty thousand lives were lost in the 1979 insurrection and 28,000 in the Contra war, and the country is now a nation of impoverished women and children. These women and children decided the vote in the 1990 elections. I feel they did not vote for the U.S. supported UNO party or against the FSLN, they voted for a change in their present unbearable situation. They voted for an end to the Contra war, and end to Low Intensity



Nicaraguan youth showing what party they support before voting in the February 21 elections. (photo by Christy D'Aquila)

in free elections held in 1984. A constitution was established and the country began to rebuild itself. The U.S. saw this, a country determined to grow the way it wanted to, with no political help, and it got scared. The U.S. government couldn't "let" these people have too much, or it would have lost all its influence. So, the Contras assembled, and started a war. Supported by millions of dollars from the U.S., the Contra Rebels were trained and mobilized. Contra in Spanish means "against." Against what? The betterment of an impoverished country striving to live decently in peace with all nations? Yes, so our government cries Communism. What else could scare U.S. citizens enough to support whatever our government wants, like aid for the Contras? Our government has instilled the fear of Communism in its citizens since most can remember. What will they use now that the Cold War is diminishing? This installation of fear was an effective plan and is proven so by the 1990 elections.

The whole idea of the Contras is known as Low Intensity Warfare. The Contras established enough fear through murder and terrorism until the people couldn't stand it anymore. Nicaragua has had enough war. Through Low Intensity Warfare, the U.S. government has forced the Sandanista government to stop all progress in bettering Nicaraguans' lives. The Sandanistas had to call for a draft to fight these U.S. assembled Contras and had to use millions of dollars which could be better spent for health care and education, to supply the Sandanistan army. Because of this draft, every family in Nicaragua has lost a father, brother, or son, if not them all. Again, the positive progress in Nicaragua is halted. This Contra war and

Warfare, and end to the draft, and end of the economic embargo placed on them in 1984, and for an end to U.S. brutality. Will all of this end with a U.S. backed candidate in office? These women and children voted for a change.

The brutal U.S. government has waged a war on young people our age in Nicaragua! I can't imagine! But again, that's why I'm so amazed at the political involvement of Nicaraguan youth. I admire them and am embarrassed at how little I know about anything that goes on in the U.S. or any other country. Going to Nicaragua has opened my eyes and my conscience. I realize now exactly what the U.S. government's cry of Communism means. I have seen the Nicaraguans' experience first hand. I have learned to question what I hear on T.V., radio, and read in newspapers. I find the disinformation in this country disgusting. For example, the idea that Nicaragua is going to wage war on the U.S., the most powerful, affluent country in the world. We've nothing to fear but ourselves and the ability of the government to manipulate us.

When I got back to the U.S., I cried. I cried because now I know what it really means when one is fighting for peace and true justice. In church on my first Sunday back, I sat with the congregation as we read aloud about people of God working for peace and justice in our world. That idea is real for me now. I've always read and known that killing, poverty, and war are horrible things, but now I've seen it, heard it, and know that my government causes it. Too many people in that congregation and everywhere in the U.S. know that this is all insane, but none of us really, truly know what it's like.

## A funny thing happened on the way to the dean's office ...

by Bill Hein



My friend told me about this really weird dream he had. He dreamed he was driving to school at about quarter 'til eight. He drove around the school 17 times before deciding that he'd never find a parking place and that he'd be better off just putting the thing in drive with a textbook wedged against the gas pedal. As the little station wagon raced down Joliet Street, he noticed it was now 7:59.

So he ran inside, only to be tripped up by a male caucasian who looked strangely like an administrator. This guy screamed at him "Don't you know running in the halls could hurt someone?" Then the bell rang. "And you're also late for class, young man. I'll just take your I.D. and turn it over to the proper authorities. Now off with you." Then the administrator picked up his Black & Decker flamethrower and went off in search of illegal hallway decorations.

At this point I told my friend that this was getting to be a pretty wild dream. He agreed, but said it gets even better.

Then he continued on. In his first hour class, he somehow got on one of those behavior contracts, y'know, one of those things where the teacher answers questions about the student's behavior that day. Stuff like "Did the student speak only when spoken to?", "Did the student refrain from physically or verbally harassing other students?" and "Did the student kiss the teacher's posterior like a good little boy?" If a single "no" were to be recorded, severe disciplinary action would be taken.

Everything went well until the end of class when the teacher was filling out his sheet. It was then that he pointed out that she had put down the wrong date.

She hissed "you troublesome runt" or something to that effect and promptly

marked a nice little "no" to question #10. "Did the student refrain from commenting or arguing as to the way this note is marked?"

The sense of impending doom hung over his head as he now wandered the halls, dazed. Luckily, unscheduled was next hour and it might be a little while before he was called to the dean's office.

The sound of the bell broke his trance. He was late again. To make things worse, a massive, hulking, off-duty math teacher stood guard at the LRC entrance.

"You're late," she grunted. "Let me see your I.D."

"Uhhhh... I don't have it with me. It got taken--"

"Don't give me any excuses, MAGGOT!" He backed away from her foreboding presence and toppled over the nearby railing.

The next thing he knew, he was in the nurse's office. His arm was mangled and his nose was bleeding profusely from the fall. The nurse asked him where his pass was. He just screamed about his arm being damaged and hurting like hell.

She replied "Oh. Maybe you'd like to lie down then. I can't give you any painkillers unless one of your parents calls and says it's okay." Then she went to fetch an official AIDS-proof blood containment kit.

As if things couldn't get any worse, the paraprofessional came by with orders to bring him into the office for interrogation. My friend looked up and saw one of them talking into her walkie-talkie. Another one menacingly brandished an ACR-9000 stun gun.

"Don't even think of giving us any trouble, punk." Blue bolts of electricity raced between the posts of the stun gun to emphasize this point.

At this point in the story I stopped my friend and had a hearty laugh. I told him I had heard enough. It was such a ridiculous tale—I mean, everyone knows paraprofessionals can't carry stun guns.

## THE BRIDGE

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- Business Manager.....Liza Lenertz
- Sports Editor.....Chris Seper
- News Editor.....Dave Smith
- Opinions Editor.....Peg Osterman
- Features Editor.....Jeremy Mains
- In Depth Editor.....Julie Mastro
- Photo Editor.....Kelly Howard
- Copy Editor.....Bill Hein
- Adviser.....Tim Courtney

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 adviser 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.

## All agog over Groening goofballs

by Dave Malec

At first, there was *Leave It To Beaver*, *Father Knows Best* and *The Brady Bunch*. As these family sit-coms crumbled into Rerun Hall of Fame, something arose from the ruins. When the dust settled, a newer, raunchier family show called *The Simpsons* had taken their place.

*The Simpsons* made its debut on January 1989, on the *Tracey Ullman Show*. Since then, the show has enjoyed an irrepressible rise to fame, now having its own spot on primetime Sunday night. Television has not seen an animated cartoon as a weekly series since *The Flintstones* and *Jetsons* of the late 1960's.

The Simpson family is made up of a strange array of characters. The head of the household is Homer, who works in the local

The head of the Simpson household is Homer, who works in the local nuclear power plant and listens to a 24-hour Mambo station.

nuclear power plant and enjoys listening to a 24-hour mambo station. He's married to Marge, a loving mother with one mean, three foot hair-do. Bart is their totally cool and rebellious fourth grader. His sister, Lisa, is the family genius and can lay down some jammin' tunes on her saxophone. Finally, there's Maggie, the pacifier-sucking infant of the clan. Together... let's just say you don't want them all in the same room.

Junior T.R. Brizzolera felt that "Homer is like my dad because he lays around all day." Dee Calderini, sophomore, said "Bart is like

my brother because he swears a lot and is obnoxious." Many people can relate to *The Simpsons*, but some people, like Dave Vish, thought, "People like it and they think it's funny because no one would want their family to be like the Simpsons."

This comical family was created by Matt

Groening, artist of the nationwide cartoon strip, *Life in Hell*. Groening earned an Emmy nomination for his first attempts of his animated family made for the *Tracey Ullman Show*. He is presently the Executive Producer of *The Simpsons* along with James L. Brooks and Sam Simon, both

Emmy award recipients.

Simon explained that... "We think it's our job to tell stories and develop relationships and at the same time be true to the family that Matt created."

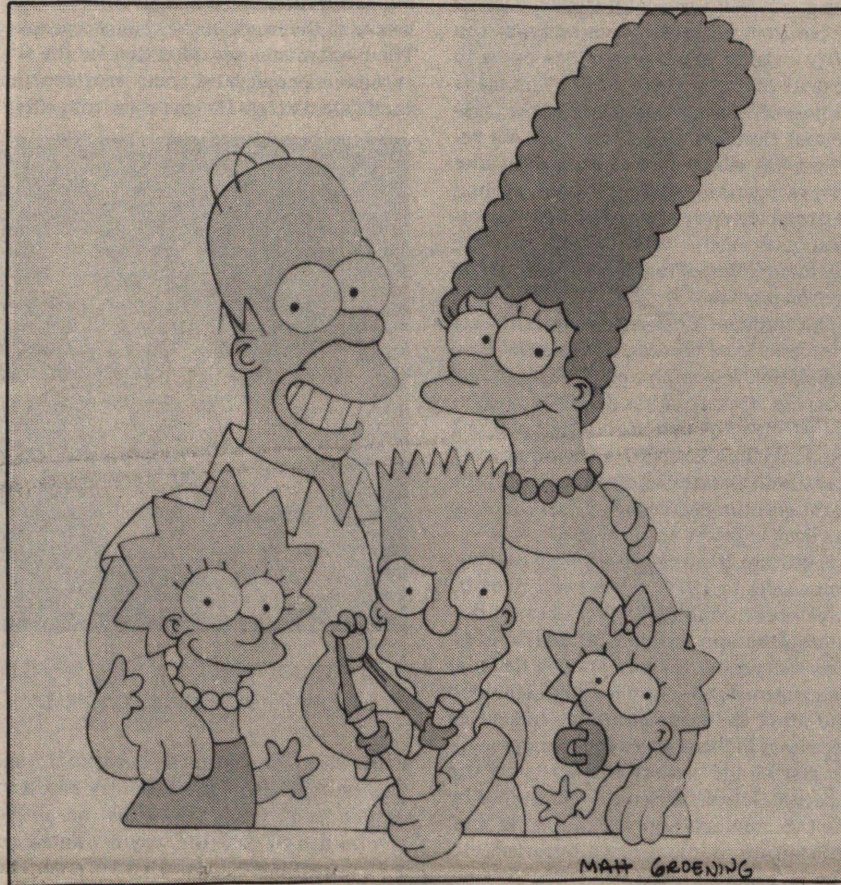
Just what is the appeal of this show? "They're a hell of a lot better than those wimpy, extended commercials for toys like *Ghostbusters* and *Smurfs*," explained senior Bill Hein. Sophomore Brian Gall commented, "It challenges traditional television with its base humor." As senior Gil Rangel bluntly put it, "Well, it's either them or Elvis."

What can be said? Their popularity is overwhelming. It would be a big task to even begin to count all of the *Simpson* paraphernalia— everything from t-shirts to posters to Bart Simpson button machines located in the supermarket right next to the *New Kids on the Block*. They're even coming out with a Bart Simpson talking doll. Imagine pulling a cord on a doll and having it respond "Don't have a cow, Homer."

Although Bart is the most outspoken member of the show, sophomore Chris Baginski said "I like Maggie because of the weird sound that she makes with the pacifier." Sophomore Vanessa Talbott added "I like Marge because of her kinda beehive kinda hair-do."

Believe it or not, though, there are some people who don't like *The Simpsons*. Junior Matt Moron said "Simpsons is dumb!" Matt Burleigh, senior, believes that the cartooning is "moronic" and muttered something about his dog being able to draw better. However, the majority of the people this reporter talked to thought *The Simpsons* were "totally cool."

Groening sums the show up as "...combining the visuals with great animation, great writing and the best of world situation comedy - a combination rarely seen on television."



Described by its creator as "an hallucination of a sitcom," Matt Groening's cartoon family, the Simpsons, is one of several primetime families showing another side to American home life. TM & © 1989 TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION

## Master chef reveals funky oriental secrets

by Chau Truong

For many years I, Master Chef Chau Truong, have been involved in the preparation of oriental cuisine— specifically Chinese food. Don't get me wrong. I can make anything from shishkebabs to enchiladas, but I'm best at the foods that speak my own language. My specialty is Yung Yi Chau Min (Cantonese for Easy to Cook Fried Noodles), better known as Chow Mein.

Over the years, I have noticed that most Americans couldn't tell the difference between Chow Mein and a moldy Ding Dong. In order to fight this sort of ignorance, I am presenting this recipe for my world famous Funky Chow Mein. As its name suggests, this is not only an easy recipe to make, it is

also a great date idea if you don't burn the egg noodles. Besides, I like any dish with my name in it.

For some reason people still think that Chinese and Japanese food are the same. I thought the same thing once, but I was seven when I got involved with cooking. Then I realized Chinese food is cooked before being served. Japanese food is simply many little dishes with an overdose of raw fish that is mainly an aesthetic production in which palatability is sacrificed in favor of beauty. So don't confuse the two.

All of the following ingredients should be available at your local grocery store. If not, then your Chow Mein will probably get more funky with every ingredient you cannot find.

### Ingredients to Chau Truong's Funky Chow Mein

1/4 pound egg noodles (mein) Boil six minutes. Drain.

6 to 8 Chinese mushrooms (dung goo) (English speaking mushrooms will do if Chinese ones cannot be found) Wash and soak in warm water for 20 minutes. Drain, remove stems and cut into 1/8" slices.

1/2 cup bamboo shoots (jook soon) Cut into narrow strips.

4 sliced water chestnuts

3 chopped carrots

3/4 pound pork tenderloin Cut into 1/8" slices 2" long.

1 cup sliced celery

1 clove garlic hacked up (use more than one clove for funky effect)

2 slices ginger root (sang gueng)

1/2 teaspoon sugar

about an inch of diced onion

couple big shakes of soy sauce

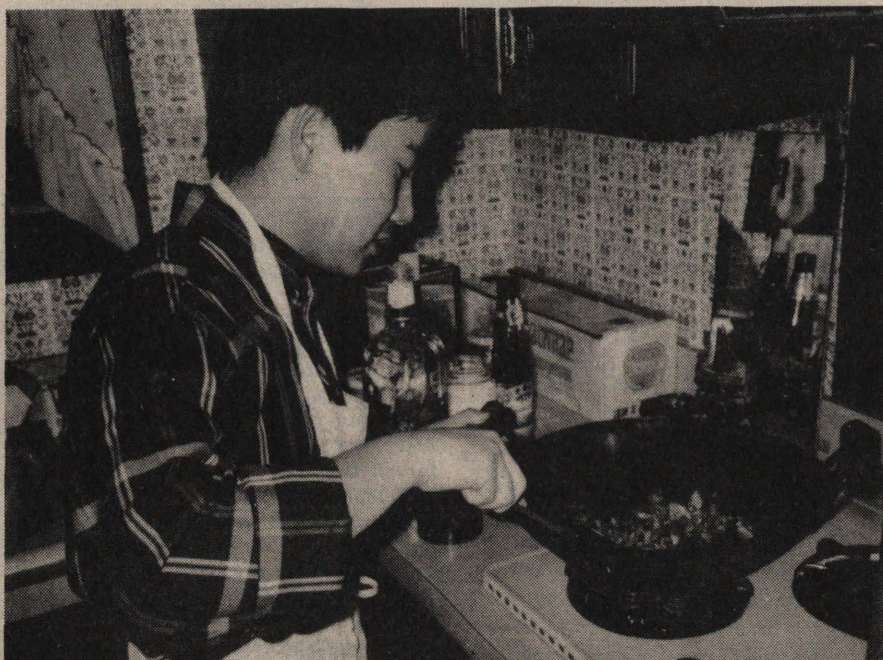
couple more shakes sesame oil

Directions: Heat skillet or wok very hot.

Add generous amount of oil, being careful not to singe your arm off. Add all seasonings first. Next put the pork in, stirring until brown. Then begin to stir in vegetables. When all this appears to be sufficiently cooked, throw in the noodles, mixing it all up. Bingo! Your Funky Chow Mein is ready to impress your date. Remember to take it out of the wok or skillet first.

Chow Mein in the old country was basically farm cooking. Because the poor could not afford to line their tables breakfast, lunch, and dinner with warm food or soup, they would make Chow Mein and bring it out to the fields with them where they would eat it cold.

Not only is Chau Truong's Funky Chow Mein a complete cultural experience, this recipe can also serve many practical purposes; plugging up leaks in the ceiling, stuffing underfilled mattresses, quieting the neighbor's Doberman Pinscher, etc. You shouldn't have too much trouble with it if you keep an open mind.



With the precision acquired from years of intense training, Master Chef Chau Truong demonstrates the essential pork stirring step. (Note the secret Chinese ingredients in the background).

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# We-go pizza mecca redefines 'awesome'

by Brian York



Read this article. Don't just look at the pictures. Pizza. What is it? A word between pizz and pizzicato in the dictionary? The last name of a Middle Eastern leader?

Historians for centuries have been contemplating the origin of pizza. Some say that pizza began in Italy, others argue that it is of Chinese descent. Well, they're all wrong. I say pizza originated right here in West Chicago, possibly the pizza mecca of the world.

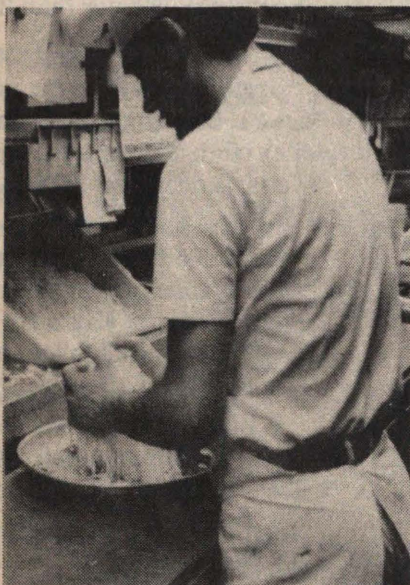
West Chicago does have a large number of pizza joints- eight and a half in fact, (Pizza Hut has both a restaurant and a carry-out). Surprised? So was I. Knowing that there were so many parlors crammed into one town forced me to embark on a journey for the ultimate pizza joint. After all, its quality we're looking for, not quantity.

A some time overlooked place is Campagna's Pizza Limited, located about four blocks from the high school at 145-147 West Washington. Sporting both a jukebox and video games, Campagna's has a pub style atmosphere. The business was founded by the Hudon Brothers in 1981 and is currently owned by Jon Hudon. "Everything's homemade, from the dough to sauce," commented Hudon. When I went there, the service was good and the pizza was ready in no time, not to mention it tasted good.

Another spot close to the school is Dominick's Restaurant and Pizzeria. With a front window overlooking Main Street, Dominick's has a hometown feeling. The service and price were both good. The pizza speaks for itself. The place is cozy. If you're looking for a small but solid pizza joint, this is it.

Domino's Pizza, right next to Frank's on Main Street, has an unusual way of preparing their pizzas. First, they have always hand tossed their pizzas. Secondly, if you watch them make the pizzas, you'll notice they use an assembly line format- a person on the phone, one to two pizza makers, and drivers. A very original format. Don't forget the 30 minute delivery guarantee.

Little Caesar's, with their "Pizza! Pizza!" cartoon commercials, has had a place in all our hearts. Founded in 1959, this chain has



Pal Joey Chef Murph smothers with cheese the pizza hailed by the Trib as one of Chicagoland's finest.

offered inexpensive pizzas to weekend partiers for over three decades. It may not be the greatest pizza in Chicagoland, but you get doubles for most orders and it is fast!

Luigi's, located at 1315 Sarana Avenue, is a homestyle place worth the effort to reach. Another family run parlor, Luigi's was simply put, founded by Luigi. His father had a lot of influence on him and made him want to become a cook also. When he was 20, he cooked for famous restaurants until finally settling in West Chicago in 1974 where he has stayed ever since.

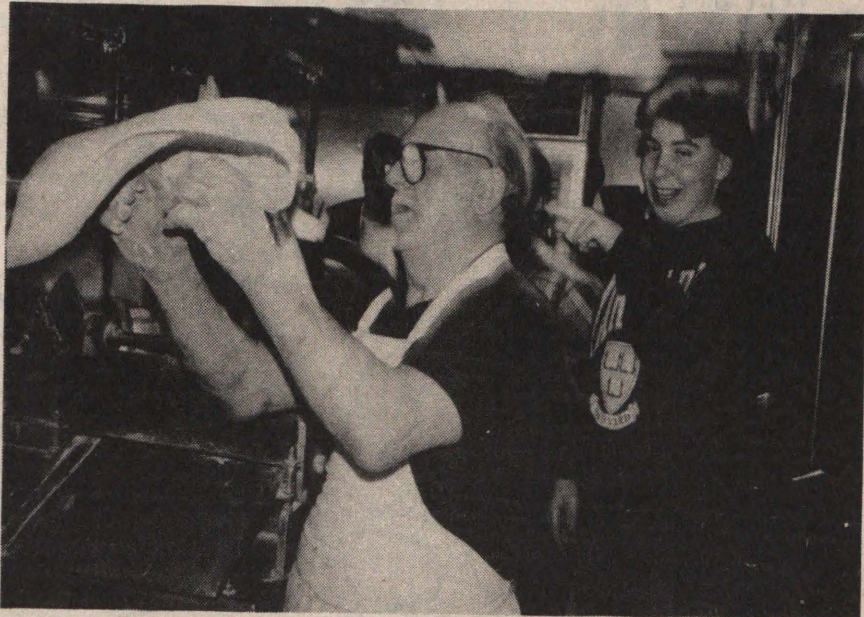
The pizza at Luigi's was great, and the family atmosphere forces you to have a good time, because that is exactly what they are-

one big family. From the minute I walked in they were friendly. The pizza was also one of the best. Definite thumbs up.

Pal Joey's, one of the more popular high school eateries in town, was founded in Chicago 25 years ago. It was originally a hot dog and beef stand. With the pizza that bore his name, Joey moved to Lombard and from

there to West Chicago. Joe Day, partner of Pal Joey's, thinks that the **Chicago Tribune** was very complimentary in choosing Pal Joey's as one of Chicagoland's finest pizza places, (and I don't blame them).

Pal Joey's is filled with pride and hard work. Their service and speed was good, and they checked up on us and were friendly.



Luigi's main twirler Benny gives the dough a whirl as our reviewer takes notes. **WEST CHICAGO STUDENTS VOTE FOR THEIR FAVORITE PARLOR! RESULTS ON PAGE 9.**

The price was very fair for the quality of the pizza, and all the chefs were friendly, constantly lining up for pictures. The newly remodeled Pal Joey's has a nice Italian touch and is a good dining experience anytime.

Pizza Hut was started when two brothers borrowed \$300 from their mom to start a pizza place. That's all nice, but the question remains: did they pay their mother back? Of course they did. Pizza Hut is now a multi-million dollar chain partnered with Pepsi. The service was good when I went but could have been better- they forgot some of the order. Also, we were informed of a wait for the pizza before we got our hopes up.

I talked to assistant manager Mark Carrara and asked him why someone should come to Pizza Hut instead of another place. He replied, "Great pizzas for reasonable prices." The big Pizza Hut secret is that they use only the freshest ingredients for their pizzas.

Rosati's, right off the main highway at 125 West Roosevelt, was not very kind to me when I asked to see their manager, so as far as I know they have no past. They do however have good pizza. They are an excellent carry-out pizza place as well.

After all these different places, you just might wonder which spot is truly the ultimate West Chicago pizza experience. It was a tough decision- they were all very good. But I have to go with the family run joint, and so my mom wins the award. Feel free to come over at any time. The service isn't too hot, but the food is *primo delizioso!*

# Exchange student 'French fried'

by Margaret Walen



Cheeseburgers, my bed and regular showers - it's great to be back in America.

Don't get me wrong - I loved France! It was the experience of a lifetime. The cultural differences, however, can be quite disillusioning.

After nine hours of traveling, seven by plane and three by train, we were greeted at the train station by our host families. Immediately, you are greeted by strangers who are kissing you on each cheek. Everyone in France does this. Whoa - what a custom! (But it can be nice if there is someone you'd like to get a little closer to!)

Then we finally reached what was home for the next week. I unpacked my clothes and met the rest of the family. I was very timid to speak to the family at first because I didn't want my French accent to get laughed back to the U.S. But I quickly loosened up due to my hosts' understanding. Mr. Jaimain would always look me in the eye, speak slowly, and repeat everything so I could catch on.

After the long, tiresome trip, I was ready for a refreshing shower. They led me to the bathroom and my first question was, "Where's the toilet?" Well, the French keep their toilets in a separate room that is as big as a closet. In a great deal of places in France the toilet paper is like cardboard. To my relief, my family used toilet paper like Charmin.

Now, I was left alone to take my shower. The French have bathtubs with a hand held spray. If you do not know how to work these sprays, it is very easy to give the whole room a shower while you're taking one. Not saying this happened to me of course. No! Never!

O.K. Now I was unpacked, showered and ready to start my life in France. What's a better way to begin then by eating? Let me tell you, eating is not something you take for granted in France. When you sit down, you better be ready to eat. First there's salad, then the vegetables, followed by a main course, cheese, dessert, and fruit. Not to mention, during the entire meal attacking a basket of fresh French bread. Each night I felt like I needed a forklift to remove me from the table. It was worth gaining those extra 10 pounds though, because the food was delicious!

Unlike some people who lounged around

during their vacations, we had to go to school. Schools in France are a smoker's heaven. There are cigarette butts everywhere around the outside and a cigarette in most students' hands. Even though smoking is not allowed in school, there were rooms where students could go to catch a smoke.

Then it was time to go to class. Unlike here, where you risk a detention if you feel like talking all hour, students in France can talk all they want without getting in trouble. I saw students talk all hour, change seats in the middle of class, and eat pastries without a word from the teacher.

Teachers taught their lesson, gave out the homework and collected the assignments. They didn't ask many questions of the students. It seemed that it was up to the students if they were going to learn or not because the teachers weren't there to control the noise levels.

After experiencing the French school cafeteria food, I think our cafeteria ladies deserve a round of applause. The first day, I was served an unrecognizable "meat" and a big plate of potatoes. Later, to my horror, I found out this meat was tripe (better known as stomach). I was so happy, I stuck to my potatoes and french bread that day. The next day I ate my bowl of macaroni noodles while everyone else enjoyed some fish mush and pate with pickles.

The French are the rudest yet most polite people I have ever met. Some who do not know you deliberately blow smoke in your face and push you aside when you're just standing there minding your own business. Then there are those who greet you with open arms, continually offering you food and never letting you do an ounce of work. It is easy to become spoiled by those polite ones.

We bid a tearful *au revoir* to our families and went off to the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, Notre Dame, and to eat the best sorbet, plus much more. We had a taste of it all. There is nothing more gorgeous than looking down on Paris from the Cathedral Sacre-Coeur way up on a hill and seeing the whole city lit up at night. Once you have seen the Eiffel Tower shining in the darkness, you can say, "Yes, this is Paris, and I am here living it."

Even though the trip, was an experience of a lifetime that I will always cherish, there is nothing like coming home, sleeping in your own bed and speaking your own language again.

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# Astrology:

by Christine Pomeroy

Astrology is a belief that the stars and planets influence our daily lives and that a "knowledgeably" enough can, on the basis of the stars' and planets' positions, tell us about our personalities and our future.

There are twelve signs of the Zodiac, each occupying one of the twelve segments or "Houses" that each occupies, each following an unchanging order: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius, and Pisces, in that order. The first House corresponding to the sign you were born in is your first House. Each sign and House represents certain unique characteristics of human behavior and development. Everyone's horoscope includes the twelve signs and Houses included in the horoscope. "Their effect on the various events of one's life is determined by the positions of the planets in these signs and the interactions between the signs of the Zodiac and the planets in the horoscope," according to Louis S. A. Frances Sakoian, authors of *The Astrology Handbook*.

American Astrology (magazine), June 1989, said, "Subtleties and nuance are encouraged by long and wordy interpretations of planetary aspects and placements, but by the end of the day each astrologer's mind brings forth its own interpretation."

**Cancer, the crab, June 22-July 22**

Cancerians are often extravert by nature, though they may appear sensitive and emotional at times. They are usually extremely popular and successful, particularly in the business world.

**Leo, the lion, July 23-August 23**

Leos are essentially self-assertive, ambitious, and extravert, and are also born leaders. They are often strong physically and like bright colors and all sorts of extravagance. However, they can be very overbearing at times and seem insensitive to other's troubles. Everything about them is larger than life.

**Virgo, the virgin, August 24-September 23**

Virgos are said to be modest and very reserved, but with tremendous common sense. They often make good teachers and are usually friendly and honest, although at times officious.

**Libra, the scales, September 24-October 23**

Librans are sociable and polite and are particularly interested in the arts. They love peace and hate violence of any kind, and will go to great lengths to see that justice is done.

**Scorpio, the scorpion, October 24-November 23**

Scorpios are essentially energetic, courageous, and hearted and passionate by nature, and like to live a very full and active life.

**Sagittarius, the archer, November 23-December 21**

Sagittarians tend to be very idealistic and often take great pains to attain their goals. They are also optimistic and generous, and usually show a tremendous enjoyment of life.

**Capricorn, the goat, December 22-January 21**

Introvert and conventional, Capricorns seem ill-tempered, but they are also capable of great value far-sightedness.

**Aquarius, the water bearer, January 21-February 20**

Kind and thoughtful, Aquarians usually have a broad outlook in life. Inventive by nature, they often make good scientists.

**Pisces, the fish, February 21-March 20**

Pisceans are often indecisive, but gentle and dedicated; lovers of fantasy, they show a particular affinity for the arts.



## What's your sign?

by Elma Garza

Have you ever wondered what your astrological sign means? Each sign has a different definition which explains one's characteristics.

**Aries, the ram, March 21-April 20**

Arieans are often tough, energetic, reckless and impatient. They enjoy being waited on and are very proud by nature, but can also show tremendous generosity to their friends and those in trouble.

**Taurus, the bull, April 21-May 21**

Strong determined and pleasure-loving. Taureans often make good artists, teachers and philosophers. They enjoy hard work, detest hypocrisy and have a direct attitude towards sex. Characteristically, they show untiring devotion to their ideals and work.

**Gemini, the twins, May 22-June 21**

Geminis are said to be intelligent and very versatile, but emotionally cold. However, they often show tremendous courage and patriotism. The great contrasts in their make-up are usually related by astrologers to the traditional duality of Geminians.

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# Astrology: There is no answer

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tivity of interpreting all horoscopes he or she confronts." However, the main perplexing question most people ask of Astrology is, "How can an Astrologer predict the future"?

This answer is not easily found because every Astrologer has a slightly different format for predicting the future, and no two horoscopes prepared by two different Astrologers are exactly the same.

Such discrepancies arise as a result of different Astrologers focusing their horoscope forecasts on different aspects. One Astrologer may tell you more about your romantic life, another about money, another about health, and so on.

But as to why, each Astrologer knows, that because a certain planet is in a certain place at a certain time means a certain thing, is to this day, unknown. It remains a knowledge handed down through centuries from ancient Astrologers, that are no longer here to explain their peculiar science.

So it is then that, Astrology may claim to have an answer for us when we ask, "What will the future bring?" It cannot, however, tell us "why". That, remains as it has been for centuries, part of the mystery of Astrology.

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# P H O T O P I N I O N

by Danielle Caffarello

Do you believe in horoscopes? Why or why not?



"No, because if anyone models their life off a piece of paper they're a real bonehead." Dave Vish, junior.



"No, because they are never true, and if they are it's a coincidence." Rob Rasgattis, junior.



"Yes, because they tell you about your day and whose going to play certain roles in your life. I base all my judgement on them." Chris Pomeroy, junior.



"No, because I don't believe in that kind of stuff." John Joy, freshman.



"No, I think they are fun to see what they say, but I think people who believe in them and live their life by them are the stupidest people on the earth." Jeff Showalter, senior.



"Yes, because they are true a lot of times, and you try to make them come true, and they are fun to read." Jenny Doggett, sophomore.

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# You think this school's tough?

by Debbie Caruso

Are West Chicago's rules harder than other high schools?

In a comparison of West Chicago to Elgin, Glenbard North, and Wheaton Central, West Chicago has lighter consequences for students when truant. The consequences at West Chicago if truant for one day is five detentions. Principal Alan Jones said, most schools try to "scare students" with horrendous punishments. We try to work with the students.

Elgin High School has a program called project ABATE (Attendance is the Best Approach Towards Education). If a student misses four or more hours they consider you truant for a full day. If a student is truant they must then make up missed time in pm school. This runs from 3:05-4:05 pm. If the student fails to do this, the student is required to go to Saturday school. This

runs from 8-11 am. If the student then fails to go to Saturday school they will be suspended from school.

If the student is absent 18 days during a semester or 25 days for the year (whichever comes first) they will be put in the Core program. These days include all excused, truant, and/or suspension absences. However, if a student has experienced extended illness they will be allowed additional absences. If the student is over 16 years old, with parent consent they can withdraw from the Core program. The Core program is additional help overcoming truancy and/or tardiness; the student may be assigned to the Alternate Education High School at Central; or be expelled from school for the rest of the semester. "I'm the first to admit we're very tight with rules," said John Carlson, assistant principal of Elgin. Freshman Todd Marcordes, a student at Elgin said, "Sometimes your classes are across the building and it's hard to

get to class on time. I don't think it's fair that if you're tardy three times you're considered truant."

At Glenbard North the consequences for being truant could be a number of things. One would be to call the students parents or have the student serve a one hour detention after school. If they see a student in detention frequently they will give the student an option called choices. This is where the student will choose to serve three or four detentions or an hour in a counseling session with the school psychologist or social worker. Assistant Principal of Student Services Bob Jerich said that the school is "kind of happy with the program." Senior Patti Wright, a student at Glenbard North said, "Detentions aren't really a punishment because you sit in a cafeteria and do homework for an hour."

At Wheaton Central if a student is absent for three or more classes that student is considered truant for the whole day. The

consequences of being truant is Saturday school. This runs from 8-11 am where students can serve all of the time or half of the time. On occasions students will serve from 8 am-2 pm which is double the time. "This is to replace in-school suspension so students will not be removed from their classes," said principal Charles Baker.

West Chicago and Wheaton Central both have off-campus lunch. Jones said, "We feel it's a privilege and not many people have abused it." He also said that We-Go is "somewhat lucky" because the school's campus is set up nicely where fast food places are.

While at Elgin and Glenbard North both do not have off-campus lunch. Jerich said the reason that Glenbard North doesn't have this privilege is because there are no fast food restaurants close enough to the school. Also, there is a limited number of students who can drive to school, so not many students can get to a restaurant.

## Bien venu froggies

by Jamee Taylor

On April 2, 12 We-go students who flew to France returned home with their chaperone and French teacher, Marjorie Appel. They stayed for 11 days and encountered many differences between the two countries.

Most agreed that the food was delicious. Junior Karen Saad exclaimed, "The food was really good. We ate lots of French bread and chocolate." Junior Margaret Walen said, "We ate a lot of French fries." Junior Joy Nevin felt that all the walking they did should have equalled the amount of eating they did. Everyone felt that the McDonald's was very expensive with a high tax.

Every returning student had different highlights in their trip. Junior Kyla Fantozzi loved the Eiffel Tower along with many others. Nevin took a plane trip over the Alps with her hosting father who had his

pilot's license. Saad enjoyed attending church at Notre Dame. "Everyone (the people in the church) fell asleep," said Saad.

The We-go students felt that the lifestyles of the French differed greatly with the lifestyles of the Americans. Fantozzi fried her hair and turned it red on her curling iron because of the high voltage. They found that the French often conserved energy by leaving the lights off, even in the classrooms. Amy Schultze, junior, feels that France is the smoking section of the world. The kids in France smoked between every class. The French took showers only about every three days. Saad said, "They smell real bad, but they're real nice." Many were surprised that dogs are allowed to go everywhere in France. Fantozzi giggled, "We were in a restaurant, and at the next table was a dog."

When the students returned, most had jet-lag, and are still recovering.

## Human frying pans?

by Michele Rittorno

"Each year about two thousand people visit emergency rooms due to tanning salon related injuries," reports *Seventeen* magazine.

Tanning beds and sun lamps produce ultraviolet light which can result in skin cancer or cataracts. The artificial lights injure the eyes if the tanner doesn't wear protective goggles. The artificial light burns the skin if the tanner is exposed to the light too long. The side effects of tanning beds may not show up until 20 years later.

Most tanning machines produce Alpha (UVA) light instead of Beta (UVB) light. The UVB quickly reddens fair skin. Dr. Michael Franzblan, President of the Congress of California Dermatological Societies says, "They're even more dangerous because of the damage they cause to underlying tissue." The UVA can cause allergic reactions in many people that take medication.

The Alpha rays can weaken the body's immune system, which fight off the germs

bodies come in contact with. A person who has a tan from a tanning salon may still get sunburn from sunlight. A tan is a sign that your skin has suffered ultraviolet radiation poisoning.

The United States Food and Drug Administration says that there is risk with both of the rays. The FDA now requires tanning salons to label their tanning beds. The labels consist of warnings about exposure to ultraviolet rays.

The Skin Cancer Foundation has set up the following skin cancer warning signs.

- A skin growth which increases its size, and looks translucent, tan brown, black, or multi-colored.
- A mole or birthmark that changes color, size, or if its outline becomes irregular.
- A spot or growth that constantly hurts, crusts, scabs, or bleeds.
- An open sore or wound on the skin that does not heal or persists for more than four weeks.
- An open sore or wound that heals, then re-opens.

## Editors receive honors

by Gil Rangle

Recently two of *The Bridge* staff members won awards of excellence in local and national competitions.

Liza Lenertz, Business Manager, received a first place in *The Daily Journal* ad contest. The ad had to be designed for a fictitious business of the entry's choice. Lenertz created her ad for a business called "The Shoe Shack." Lenertz explained she, "felt surprised because I didn't know what I was up against." For her efforts, Lenertz received a \$50 savings bond.

Features Editor Jeremy Mains received a "superior" award for Editorial Cartooning in Seattle, Washington.

The competition was sponsored by the Journalism Education Association, which was held March 30 thru April 1. The conference was attended by over 2,000 students, mostly from the west coast.

Mains was one of two to receive the award of "superior", which is the highest rank a student can receive at the competition. When Mains found out that he won he said he was, "pretty excited. I let out a big 'ol mexican catcall and everybody looked at me like I was a weirdo or something."



Pictured above, editors Liza Lenertz and Jeremy Mains recently received awards of excellence for their works in advertising and cartooning, respectively. (photo by Joe Oliver)

## Electro field dangers

by Christine Pomeroy

Electromagnetic fields created by power lines and electrical appliances could possibly be a threat to the public's health, according to Health-Section 2 of the *Chicago Sun-Times*, February 13.

"Nobody knows that this causes cancer," said Robert S. Capers of the Hartford Courant newspaper, in Hartford, Connecticut. He stressed that it is known small cancers occur in the human body, but are fought off by the immune system. "Lots of substances promote cancer, it grows in the body, and there is some fear," said Capers.

One factor is if there are effects on human health from exposure to fields created by electricity, they arise mainly from use in the home. Household appliances and wiring produce electric and magnetic fields that in magnitude are comparable to those near the right of way of a transmission line. Increased rates of cancer with exposure to

electromagnetic fields, are causing re-examination of the phenomenon and reassessment of the way electricity is used in the home and work place, according to *Science Magazine*, July 21, 1989.

Although many scientists see no significant dangers, earlier studies completed by other scientists have provided enough evidence that electromagnetic fields, while not causing cancer growth, suppress the body's ability to fight the disease in its early stages.

If there are human health effects, what are the potential hazards? For example, it is not certain whether the changing electric fields or magnetic fields are the causing agents. Are effects related to the integral of field strength over time, or are infrequent exposures to very high fields crucial? Scientists say, the precise mechanism by which electromagnetic fields affect human tissue is not fully understood. But studies have shown there is reason for concern and a need for further study.

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## Earth Day world-wide escapade

by Dave Malec

Earth Day was created to draw the nation's attention to the plight of the environment. On April 22, 1990, millions of people will participate in its twentieth anniversary in a world-wide attempt to turn their countries' eyes toward the destruction of their world.

In 1969, Gaylord Nelson, a senator from Wisconsin, brought about the idea of having

Students buried gas-guzzling car engines, children wore gas masks, and hundreds of thousands of people crowded together for rallies.

The Chicago Tribune quoted Hayes' recollection of the first Earth Day. "The New York crowd is probably my strongest memory. We shut down Fifth Avenue. I remember climbing up on the stage and looking over the crowd. It was like looking at the ocean."

You may be wondering, however, what all

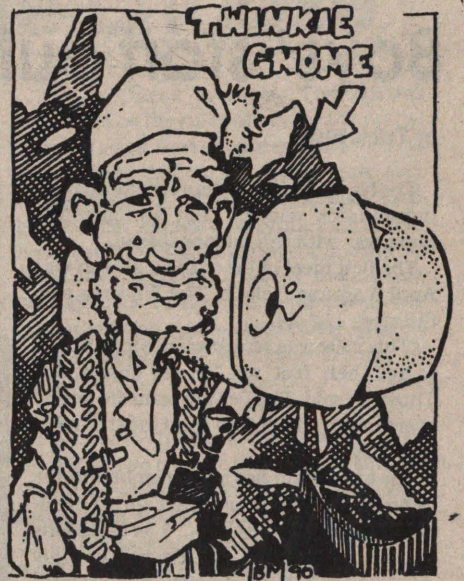
these demonstrations accomplished. One land, they will be planting trees. Hong Kong participants will be parading and asking for donations from restaurants to help with environmental causes. A concert for ten thousand will be held at Yumenoshima Island, Tokyo.

Buried automobiles from the first Earth Day will be dug up in San Jose, California. A convoy of garbage trucks will travel through the streets of Portland, Oregon to stress the point that there is no more room in landfills. Washington D.C. will find such celebrities as Meryl Streep, Ted Danson, and Robert Redford expressing their concerns to Congress and the White House.

You may be wondering what you as a high schooler can do, unfortunately youth activities have been sorely overlooked in this year's Earth Day plans. Although the Earth Day in 1970 was mainly organized by teenagers, there are not any planned activities for America's youth on April 22.

Environmental groups for teens are just now forming, and it will be difficult for Earth Day organizers to plan any activities. You can, however, do things like recycling, avoid using products that deplete the ozone layer, and becoming more aware of the problems we as a nation are facing environmentally. Taking the Green Pledge is one way to do that. By becoming educated to the situation, and by making our personal lives environmentally safe we contribute to the overall effort.

To imagine a world without trees or blue skies seems sick. Earth Day is a good rallying point for the hard issues out there, but much of the fighting takes place with individuals. Take some time to learn what you as an individual can do.



## Another shocking Hostess mystery falls to Features

by Jennie Wilke

Flash... this article contains confidential information! Here you will find the answer to the question that has remained unanswered for years. Just how exactly do they get the cream inside of a Hostess' Twinkie? After months of research through dusty file cabinets, and numerous question and answer sessions with Hostess employees, I found the answer. Sorry to disappoint those of you that believe in the "It was born there" theory.

A very courteous woman at the other end of the line laughingly gave me a list of steps. I give you the facts of "How to fill a Twinkie"...

1. You bake the sponge cake in these baking molds.
2. Then you inject the white cream filling with three tubes (Take note of the bottom of your Twinkie.)

So years later when your child's innocent eyes look into your all-knowing face, and ask "How do Zebras get their stripes?" you will have to say "It's magic." But when they ask "How does the filling get into a Twinkie?" you'll make up some wild story about the secret Himalayan Twinkie Gnome society just to keep the mystery going.

### The Earth Day 1990 Green Pledge

I pledge to do my share in saving the planet by letting my concern for the environment shape how I:

**ACT:** I pledge to do my utmost to recycle, conserve energy, use efficient transportation, and try to adopt a lifestyle as if every day were Earth Day.

**PURCHASE:** I pledge my utmost to buy and use those products least harmful to the environment. Moreover, I will try to the maximum extent possible to do business with corporations that promote global environmental responsibility.

**VOTE:** I pledge to support those candidates who demonstrate an abiding concern for the environment.

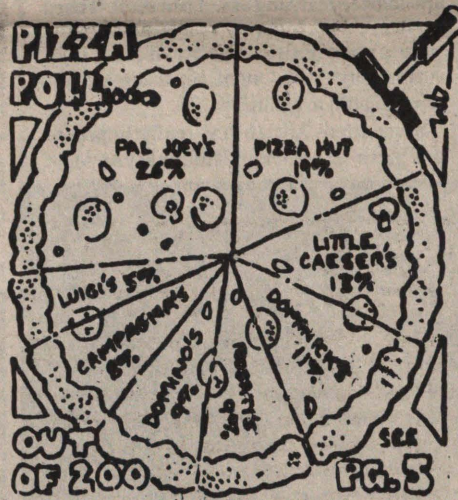
**SUPPORT:** I pledge to support the passage of local, state, and federal laws and international treaties that protect the environment.

environmental "teach-ins" at colleges around the country. These "teach-ins" were designed to inform students of the issues Nelson asked Denis Hayes, a Harvard law student, if he would organize these visits. Hayes dropped out of school and assembled a staff to begin work on this newly appointed project.

He immediately threw out the "teach-in" idea and changed it to a community based environmental event. The first Earth Day was incredibly successful with an estimated twenty million people getting involved.

major step in cleaning up our environment was the passing of the clean air act at the end of 1970. Hayes also managed to form the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which, as its name suggests, acts to protect the environment from being relentlessly destroyed. Much of the nation's remaining wildlife owes its safety to the works of Hayes and the Earth Day activities.

So what will April 22 bring? This global event will involve 122 countries and more than 100 million people in an international bash to save Mother Nature. In New Zea-



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## Boys' start outdoor season without star

by Tricia Blum

The boys' track team has concluded their indoor track season. They are currently underway with the outdoor season.

The first meet of the outdoor season was April 3 against DeKalb. The Wildcats won the meet, 112-34.

"This meet was an experience for our kids to get their feet wet," Head Coach Bob Thomson said. The DeKalb team did not fill every event, so the Cats went into the meet with a lead.

The track team had sixty members at the beginning of the season. After spring break they only had 40 members. "A lot of the kids took spring break off," Thomson said. "Only one-third of the team showed up for practice over spring break."

One team member who quit the team was junior Marvin McNeese. McNeese quit the team because he needed to work so he could go to college. Before he quit, he was one of the top scorers for the team and placed high every time in the hurdles and was one of the top sprinters on the team.

"We can only accept what he has to say," Thomson said.

The shot-put and discus events were swept by DeKalb. "We're hurting a little in some areas," Thomson said. "The balance that we had in the early season is not there

any more.

One runner that Thomson thinks will qualify for state is junior Rick Montalvo. "Rick is reliable and hard working," Thomson said.

"My goal is to reach state and to be one of the top finishers in the two mile," Montalvo said. "Montalvo is presently ranked sixth in

the state for the two mile.

"What I want is success out of my hard work," Montalvo said. His time in the two mile is 9:41, he needs a 9:30 to qualify for state. "The outdoor season looks optimistic," Montalvo said.

The next meet is the Peterson Prep Meet at Kaneland tomorrow at 11 a.m.



Senior James Zimmer and sophomore Mike Callarman lace up for a meet against DeKalb. The Cats won 112-34. (photo by Chris Seper)

## Jock Shorts

by Chris Seper

### Baseball is booming

After a delay of one game, the baseball season got underway with a rousing 6-0 defeat of St. Charles on April 3. Junior pitcher Shelby Dean went the distance in that game, notching his first varsity win and getting a two-hit shutout. Senior Chad Landis also collected two home runs for the Cats.

After that, the Cats went on to beat Geneva 3-2 on April 6, lost to Waubonsie Valley 4-3, and lost 7-3 in a doubleheader April 7. They then defeated Batavia April 9 by the score of 8-7.

Conference play began when they defeated Wheaton Central April 12 7-1. April 16 the Cats played Glenbard North and lost 8-0. The Cats then played April 18 against Naperville North.

### Soccer is superb

The Lady Cats opened up their season on time when they defeated Glenbard East 4-2 on April 5. They then beat Rockford East 4-0 on April 7. April 12 they beat Glenbard South 6-0 and lost to Waubonsie Valley 6-0 on April 16.

The Cats played yesterday at Naperville Central.

### Softball is smashing

After getting their first four games cancelled due, the softball season got underway April 6 when they lost to Glenbard West 3-2, as junior Kelly Mathews faced her first loss of the year.

The Cats played a doubleheader against Sycamore April 7 and won the first game, 6-1 and won the second 11-3. The Cats then went on to beat Oswego 10-0 on April 12 and followed by losing to Wheaton Central 3-2 on April 16. The Cats played Naperville Central April 18.

## Having fun with 'The Joker'

by Margaret Walen

"I do it to be different," says senior Jaret Adrian about his enthusiasm at the West Chicago basketball games this year. He was a leader of handing out newspapers and painting his face to show spirit. But besides this, how else does Adrian share his energy with our high school?

Adrian has been in soccer and baseball all four years of high school. His first love is

baseball though, because he finds it more fun. Adrian explains, "I'm better at it (than soccer) so it makes it more enjoyable."

When he was three, Adrian got on the field and started learning about baseball. "I used to always want to get out there because I was jealous watching my brothers play," Adrian says. "So I went out there and did what I could to get in."

Since then, Adrian has really improved his game. Last year, he received Most

Valuable Player and Most Improved Player for his performance as catcher.

"I was surprised to receive Most Improved Player because I felt there were others who worked harder," Adrian says. Adrian thought there were pros and cons about receiving the awards. He was glad his peers recognized his abilities but, "I felt bad because maybe someone else had deserved it," Adrian concludes. Adrian has also made academic all-conference. Off the field, he represents the seniors in student council as class president.

Adrian's best moment last year was when he was moved from outfield to his "home" as catcher. His favorite thing about playing catcher is that he thinks it is fun. "The position I play is never the same," Adrian says. "You never get the same pitch twice. It's challenging and I'll keep playing until it's not fun."

Competition is a force that Adrian thinks keeps people going. Also, there is a "drive from inside of people. If they want to do it they're going to do it," says Adrian. When he was younger, Adrian's force was his desire to be like his older brother and now it is his fathers support.

"The key to playing baseball is different for everyone," Adrian says. He explains, "people with a natural talent don't need much help otherwise you learn as much as you can from the coach and other players." Adrian also stresses that the desire to want to do it and practice are key factors.



Senior Jaret 'The Joker' Adrian smiles gleefully at the camera. (photo by Chris Seper)

## Boys' tennis start season

by Kate Jemsek

Even though the West Chicago tennis team is young, it has not stopped the team from setting high goals.

The team goal is to win 65 percent of all matches and place in the top four in the DuPage Valley Conference.

Senior Chris Wicklund, one of the players on the number two doubles team said, "We're awesome. We'll go far this year, farther than before." Last year, the team placed last in conference with an overall record of 4-13-1, with a record 1-6 in the DVC.

The singles players have last year's Most Valuable Player, junior Kai Martin at first singles, second singles is freshman Jon Martin and third singles is freshman Pete Garadraba. The number one doubles team is senior Steve Encinas and sophomore Clay Turner and the second doubles team is junior Craig Baldwin and Wicklund.

Even though the Wildcats are in a building stage this year, Head Coach John Moeaki is optimistic that in singles Kai and Jon Martin and in doubles, Encinas and Turner

could travel down state.

Moeaki said that he would also like to see the rest of his "talented young team" to travel down state.

Moeaki thinks that with Kai Martin's brother on the varsity team playing behind him, it will push him to be a better player because he is a competitive person.

"Jon hates to lose," Moeaki said. "It will push Kai to be a better player."

At the first meet of the year, April 6 against East Aurora, the Cats crushed the Tomcats 5-0. Kai coasted through his matchup 6-0, 6-1; Jon easily slid through his first varsity match ever 6-1, 6-1. In a switch, Baldwin played third singles and turned up victorious 6-4, 6-3.

On the doubles side, the team of Turner and Wicklund blasted their opponents 6-0, 6-1; and the second singles team of juniors Alan Courtin and Brian York had the only nail-biter match of the day as they slipped by their match 7-5, 5-7, 6-4.

The tennis teams' next meet is at the Addison Trail Invitational at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday.

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## Memory of the year? Let the people choose

by Tricia Blum, Kate Jemsek, Joe Oliver, John Prusko, Candi Sabol and Chris Seper

The year in sports at West Chicago Community High School has brought many memories on and off their respective fields of play. But which one was the most memorable? That is for you, the students and fans of WCCHS, to decide.

The sports staff of **The Bridge** has nominated three of the many exciting moments of this year's sports season. They are as follows:

### Wildcats win homecoming, 21-20

It was a windy Sept. 22 when the Wildcat football team took on the Glenbard South Raiders in their homecoming matchup. The Cats' star, all-conference linebacker Chad Busse was down due to an injury, but the Wildcats proved that they were far from out.

With only a few ticks on the clock remaining, South had the ball on the ten yard line and was preparing to kick what would have been the winning field goal. But the Cats rose up and rejected South's attempt, walking away with one of the most memorable homecoming wins in WCCHS history.

### Volleyball wins regional championship

The place: Glenbard South. The teams: Glenbard North and West Chicago. At stake:

The regional championship.

Could the Lady Cats do it? Could they actually win another regional championship?



Will the WILD Cat-fans be the 'Memory of the year'? (photo by Chris Seper)

They had only two seniors on their team and that alone seemed to be enough to count them out.

After dropping the first game, the youthful

Lady Cat squad came back to win their second consecutive regional crown. This is the only team so far this year to win a



regional championship.

### The WILD Cat-fans

"I'm going to spit and throw things and get people pissed-off."

This sentence by senior Tom Niland seemed to be the rallying cry for the outrageous Wildcat fans. These mild mannered students by day turned into insane and controversial fans at every home basketball game. This confetti carrying and chant crazy crowd intimidated opposing players, won the heart of Wildcat coach Lee Maciejewski, ruffled the feathers of the administration and, quite possibly, started a new tradition of fan behavior here at We-go.

Feel free to choose from any other memories if you do not like the three given. For instance, who could forget the boys' basketball game when senior Scott Pold canned a shot in the final seconds to beat Glenbard North? What about sophomore Erin Myers placing fifth in state in the breaststroke? Or how about when the Lady Cat basketball team took second at the Lady Wildcat Classic, with two of their games being decided by one point!? Or the boys' cross country team placing 13 at state? The choice is up to you.

Plus, there is still another season of sports left at West Chicago. Who knows what could happen? Just write your choice on a plain sheet of paper and drop it into the ballot box in the back of room 216 by May 13. You may vote as often as you want. Results will be released in issue 12 of **The Bridge**.

## Lights for 'the field'?

by Joe Oliver

### Will Memorial Field be bright in 1990?

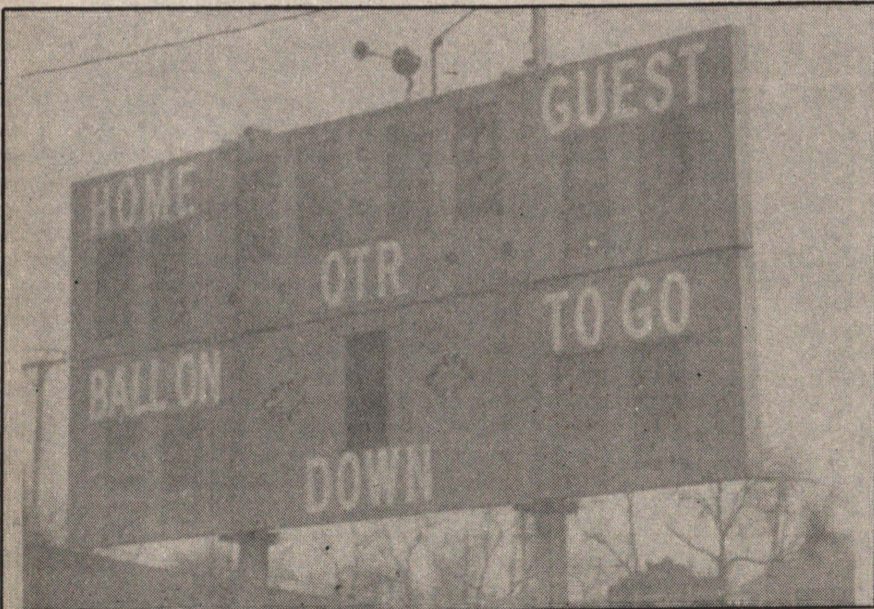
The President of the West Chicago-Winfield Booster Club, Vicki French said that their goal will be to complete the lights on Memorial Field for next year's football and soccer season.

A total of \$70,000 is needed for the installment of the new light on Memorial Field. The new poles that will be put up were purchased from Arlington International Race Course after the fire in 1985 for a cost of \$6000, saving the booster club \$9,000. So far, \$15,000 have been donated al-

personally handed out by French and the rest of the booster club to all businesses in the area of Carol Stream, Winfield and West Chicago. The brochure will also be sent to all alumni of WCCHS. In return, the booster club hopes to get a donation from both the businesses and the alumni to help complete the project.

When asked the condition of the old lights, French said, "The lights are inadequate and do not put out enough light." This is how the lights are described in the brochure:

"Today they (the old lights) serve a little more than to keep the athletes from bumping into each other."



The scoreboard will be one of several changes by the Booster Club on Memorial Field. (photo by Joe Oliver)

ready to the booster club to help with the project. They have gotten some money from the football lift-a-thon, the craft fair and a dunk tank at Railroad Days.

A brochure explaining the project will be

When French was asked how the present lights compare to the rest of the lights in the DuPage Valley Conference, she said that they were "ancient. All the other schools have new lights." The lights at West Chicago were installed in the 1950's.

On May 19 the booster club is holding a fund raiser called the Memorial Bowl. It will be held at Bowling Green from 9 a.m. until midnight. For every game bowled, which costs \$1.50, Bowling Green will pay the Booster Club \$1.

This, according to French, is the first stage of a four stage project. The first stage is the construction of the new lights, the second stage is an auditorium dimmer board which will cost \$25,000, the third step is the construction of a new press box and concession stand and the final step is the construction of a large screen analyzer, a new scoreboard, goalposts and championship banners for all sports.

### WILDCAT SPORTS TRIVIA ANSWER

Mike Rubino hit five home runs in 1984 to get the all-time home run record.

## Girls begin outdoor

by Candi Sabol

The girl's track team is looking for a better season in outdoor. The indoor team placed last in the DuPage Valley Conference with an overall record of 6-3.

Coach Wilbert Walters, the head coach of the girls track team expects a better season outside. "We'll have more girls and have more events to qualify in." Walters feels our conference is the toughest in the state in track and field.

"The strong point of the team is our middle and long distance runners." Walters said. Junior Nicole Horyn was one of the strongest runners for indoor, and one of the oldest. Horyn placed high consistently throughout the season. She is one of the two juniors on the team along with relay and distance runner Heather Jardis.

The team also has a strong shotputter. Sophomore Laura Emery broke a school record during the indoor season when she threw 30' 5 1/2". The old record was 30' 2".

The weaknesses of the girls' track team during indoor was their limited amount of runners. The varsity team had seven runners and all were underclassmen.



Junior Nicole Horyn takes a jaunt around the track. (photo by Joe Oliver)

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# Badminton holding its own

## Despite loss of key players, season going well

by John Prusko

With a varsity record of 3-6 and a junior varsity record of 5-3, Head Coach LaVora Singleton feels the team is doing about as well as can be expected with losing three players this year. They were Dollie Blackledge, junior Laurie Schuermann and Kerri Spoden.

The top three singles players who have contributed to the success of this year's badminton team are sophomore Courtney Adams, senior Carina Perez and senior Peg Osterman.

There are also two surprises. Junior Sue Stadjuhar and junior Liza Lenertz. Stadjuhar "seems to be the most improved who have returned," Singleton remarked. Lenertz has worked her way up from exhibition to varsity level and is currently in the number five spot.

Singleton said that she plans on causing some major upsets in the DuPage Valley conference tournament.

Since graduated senior Spoden is no longer playing, it breaks up last year's number one doubles team of Osterman and Spoden. Adams is taking Spoden's place.

Singleton is glad that Osterman is back. She had many compliments for her. "I'm glad she's back. She's got the ability to

think on the court and with minor adjustments, she can be stronger than last year." Singleton had this to say to all the bad-

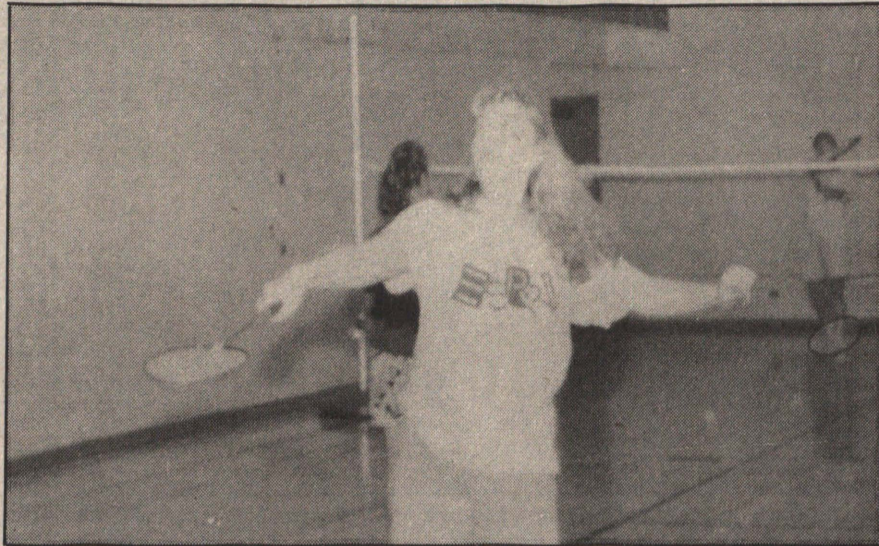
minton players. "If player came in as freshmen and stayed through senior year, I think they'd see the rewards."

This year's number four player is freshman Corrie Gilgallon, at number five is freshman Karen Slusar. Number one doubles team is Sophomore Vanessa Price and Junior Erin Stein. At number two doubles is Gilgallon and Slusar. Number three doubles is Junior Lisa Lammonds and Freshman Pamm Toner.

This year's doubles aren't established yet and Singleton said that each year starts over with doubles, you have to go by skill level not age. A super freshman would have to go with a super senior in that case.

Singleton would like to have someone at sectionals and state. She'd like to get more points than last year for junior varsity and varsity.

Singleton said that the strong points are "They never give up and are very coachable and a great bunch of people." But the only have 23 people however. The bad point is that they don't have an assistant coach. "The fact is that there is only one coach for 23 people makes it hard to coach them," Singleton said.



Sophomore Courtney Adams bats the birdie in practice. Adams and senior partner Peg Osterman recently placed fourth in the 16-team Bloom Invitational. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

# Brotherly love? Not a chance

by Chris Seper

They even have a tennis court in their back yard!

The combination of junior Kai Martin and freshmen brother Jon Martin have been scorching the nets not only at home, but the ones used by the Wildcat tennis team. With Kai at first singles and Jon playing second, the two have helped the tennis team to a

second singles and during sophomore year Kai took first singles and went undefeated for the first ten matches, going 15-7 at the end of the year.

"For a freshmen I did all right," Kai says. "Last year, everything before conference was good. When I hit conference I crashed and burned." Once entering conference, Kai went 2-5.

For Jon, he started "messing around" with

tennis at age four, a little later than his brother. Jon then got serious at age eight, with Alexander as his coach. But he said he also bloomed under his current coach, Randy Shute.

"We got into a lot of fights because we were a lot alike," Jon says about himself and Alexander. "Randy and I are real opposites. He

competitive that year," Jon comments. But the next year was tougher on him.

"Last year wasn't my year," Jon says. Jon only played in three tournaments, facing early losses in each.

As far as competition between the two brothers goes, Kai says that he can beat Jon "anytime, anywhere, anyplace." The reason being, according to Kai, is that he has the superior mental game.

"He's a very talented individual," Kai says about his brother. "But I've got the mental game." Kai says that Jon's mental game is sorely lacking.

Although Jon admits to the fact that Kai can beat him, he didn't agree with what Kai thought of his mental game.

"What Kai said is bull," Jon says. "He doesn't know what he's talking about."

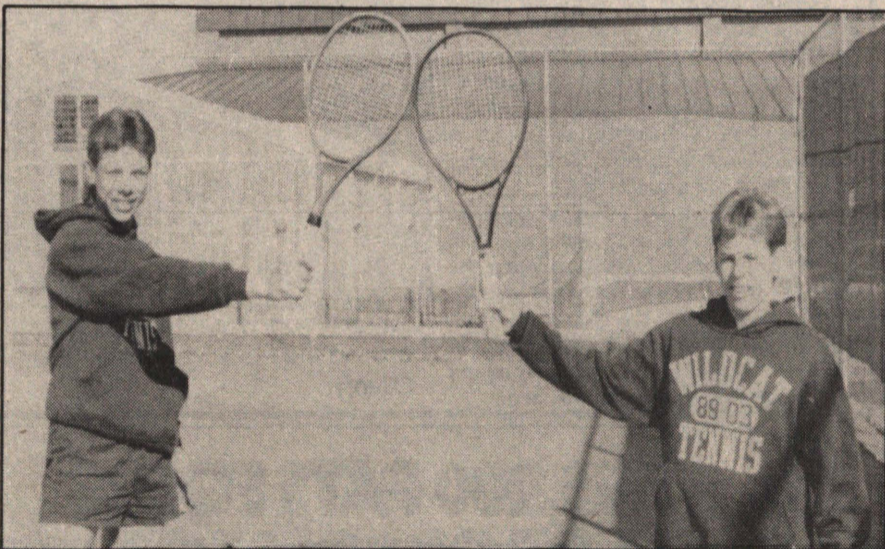
If any one had any ideas about the two brother teaming up to form a doubles team, Jon lays that idea to rest.

"I don't think we'd get along," Jon says. "We're pretty opposite. Kai isn't as intense as I am. We'd get into a fight. I don't think it would work, unless he paid me."

'... I crashed and burned'

never gets angry. I've never seen his face turn red. He helps me a lot with my mental game." Jon sees 75 percent of tennis as mental.

Competition for Jon reached an all-time high two years ago when he was ranked 30 in Chicago's fourteens; an age group for players 13 and 14 years old. "I was really



Junior Kai and freshman brother Jon Martin have been scorching the nets on the Wildcat tennis team. (photo by Joe Oliver)

record of 5-0, and have given themselves a combined record of 11-1.

Kai says that he started playing tennis "at birth" and was first involved with the Glen Ayre tennis club. But Kai got serious only after teaming up with his former coach, Greg Alexander.

"He's very intense," Kai says about Alexander. "He was really hard on me. That was good because no one had ever done that for me before. He was a tennis mastermind."

During Kai's freshmen year he was sec-

### WILDCAT SPORTS TRIVIA

What baseball player has the all-time record for home runs in one season?

(Answer on page 11)

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### Home Sports Schedule and playoffs

Badminton		
May 5	Sectionals	TBA
May 11	State Finals	TBA
Baseball		
April 26	Naperville Central	4:15 p.m.
May 1	Wheaton Central	4:15 p.m.
May 4	Glenbard North	4:15 p.m.
May 10	Naperville North	4:15 p.m.
Girls' Soccer		
April 21	Glenbard West	10 a.m.
April 26	Glenbard North	4:30 p.m.
April 30	Geneva	4:30 p.m.
May 8	Batavia	4:30 p.m.
May 10	Wheaton Central	6 p.m.
Softball		
April 20	Naperville North	4:15 p.m.
April 25	Glenbard South	4:15 p.m.
April 30	Glenbard East	4:15 p.m.
May 2	Wheaton Central	4:15 p.m.
May 4	Naperville Central	4:15 p.m.
May 9	Wheaton North	4:15 p.m.
Boys' Tennis		
April 26	Wheaton North	4 p.m.
April 28	Cary Grove; Dundee Crown; Romeoville	8 a.m.
May 1	Naperville Central	4 p.m.
May 8	Glenbard East	4 p.m.
Boys' Track		
May 1	Glenbard South	4:30 p.m.