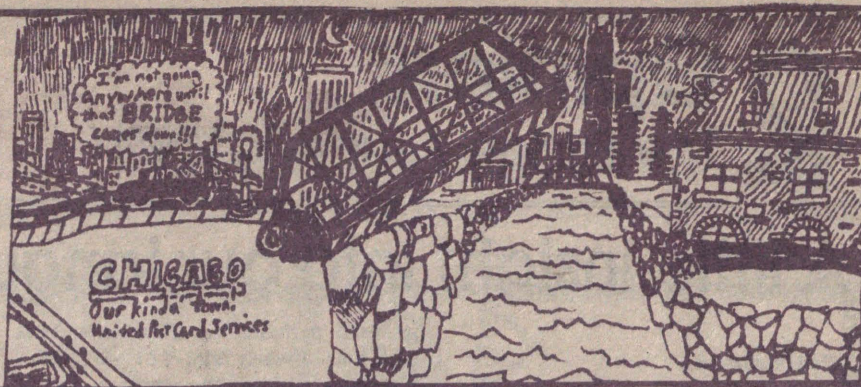


The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL 60185
June 1, 1990 Volume 19 Number 12



WCCHS bids farewell to three of its finest

by Christine Pomeroy

"Kids today have seen more changes; they are more private, and keep to themselves," said counselor Esther Nelson.

This marks the last year as members of WCCHS staff for Nelson, Vice Principal Richard Waterhouse, and Librarian Clerk Marion Zarate.

"This is my 23 and final year," said Nelson. She is taking an early retirement and plans to provide career development and counseling to adults in area businesses.

Nelson said that she has enjoyed building relationships with students; many of whom had kept in touch with her over the years, and has had the opportunity to get to know and care for many students.

In addition, she said that a major change taken place over the years is that, girls now take preparation more seriously about careers because of their mothers who are in the work force. "It's been a pleasure being part of the school; the hard-working staff has kept me here and they are very supportive," said Nelson.

A major accomplishment for her has been,

helping adults to understand adolescents. "Adult's sometimes forget how hard it is to be one," said Nelson.

"I'm old," said Waterhouse who is retiring after 16 years of working here. He has also worked for 30 years in education and said that there is a very strong teaching staff here and he has enjoyed them. "It's been fun working with kids," said Waterhouse and he plans to move to Arizona and go back into education. His major accomplishments have been the Educational Opportunity program, Special Education since 1976, and credit for the tutoring program.

Waterhouse said, "I'm proud of that."

"Time has gone to fast," said Zarate, whom is also retiring this year. She will have been here eight years in August, and plans to take it easy for a while. Zarate said that the staff is very cooperative and she has accomplished "making it through eight years, it's gone fast," said Zarate.

Furthermore, she has gained knowledge being a librarian clerk and has learned a lot with High School students, and has found library's to not be very quiet. "Work doesn't get boring," said Zarate. She hopes to do volunteer work with special kids because she has had no time.

Inkspots

by Tricia Blum, Debbie Caruso, Elma Garza, Kim Kosatka, Dave Smith, Jamee Taylor, and Margaret Walen

Bridge notes

The Bridge recently received 175 points out of a possible 200 points from the Northern Illinois School Press Association. The Bridge won the Golden Eagle Trophy which is the best newspaper in the class and the Silver Certificate for the overall newspaper.

The judges critiqued the entire paper. "The columns on the AIDS were great," the judges commented on the Opinions page. The judges said that the sports page has "good coverage, writing, headlines, and pictures."

This is the first time The Bridge has won the Golden Eagle and Silver Certificate.

The Bridge recently won first place in a contest sponsored by the American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA), for the third consecutive year. The paper received a total of 930 out of a possible 1,000 points.

The categories judged upon were: content, coverage, page design, general plan, art/advertising, editing, and creativity. Senior Features editor Jeremy Mains won "Best Cartoon in Features Department."

One judge commented, "You have an excellent publication which shows a great deal of time, energy, and talent by editors, staff members, and advisor."

The new Bridge editors for 1990-1991 have been chosen. The new staff consists of Eric Scholtzer and Gina Lipscomb, photo editors; Margaret Walen, news editor; Jamie McDole, opinion editor; Jamee Taylor, in-depth editor; Matt Phillips, art editor; Dana Billick, features editor; Chris Seper, sports editor; and Liza Lenertz, business manager.

Fifteen students submitted applications and were interviewed by senior editors and Adviser Tim Courtney. From this the current staff picked next year's editors.

Phantom appears

Gertrude Pendzialek, the missing board member, has made contact with the School Board of Education. She confirmed that she has been in Germany taking care of a sick relative. She will be back to attend the June meeting.

VICA at state

The West Chicago VICA chapter attended state competition in Springfield on April 26-28. Over 1,000 students from different schools competed at state level in the various categories.

The following VICA students placed at the competition. Sara Allen — first and Jennifer Bohnsack — third in Commercial Sewing; Peter Stamek — first in Job Interview; Chris Inciso — first in prepared speech; Jim Stuart — first in Extemporaneous Speaking; Martin Trejo — first, Louis Mosteller — second, and Luis Aguilar — third in Safety Presentation; Martin Trejo — third in Interview Competencies; and Ben Seaver — third in Creative Photography.

The end is near

There are only eight school days left for the graduating class of 1990. The following items may be of importance to the class.

June 4 through June 8 is the last full week for seniors. Exams will be given for periods 1, 2, and 3 on June 6, and for periods 4, 5, 6, and 7 on June 7.

Honors Night will take place at 8 p.m. in the Weyrauch Auditorium on June 7.

On June 9, graduation practice will take place at 9 o'clock in the morning. Attendance is mandatory. Seniors who do not participate in practice will not be allowed to graduate. The class picture, breakfast and check-out will run before the practice begins.

Commencement Exercise will be June 10 at 2 p.m. in the Bishop Gym. Additional tickets needed by parents may be obtained from the office. A maximum of six tickets per graduate is allowed.

Board notes

During the May 15 Board of Education meeting, several changes took place which will be effecting the school for the 1990-1991 school year.

Gregg E. Schrage was appointed to the position of Assistant Principal. Schrage is the current Dean of Students at Elgin High School.

Assistant Dean of Students, Carol Sweder, was appointed the position of the new Dean of Students.

The Board also accepted a request from Superintendent Richard M. Kamm that he be released from his contract June 30, 1991, in order for him to take his retirement.

Summer school

West Chicago Community High School is offering summer education classes.

The courses begin on June 22 through August 3. The average class time is two hours a day. The students will attend classes Monday through Friday. The following courses will be available: Driver's Education, U.S. History 1607-1877, U.S. History 1877-present, American Government, English I, II, or III, P.E., E.S.L.I., E.S.L. math, Davea-Cosmetology and Chapter I. Bilingual classes will be offered in American Government and Consumer Education classes.

All of the classes are offered with a half of a credit except for three classes. Driver Education offers fourth of a credit. Chapter I offers a full credit. Cosmetology at Davea list no credits.

Some of the courses must be approved by a counselor. The courses are only offered for students who have previously failed them. The English and P.E. courses are offered for make-up only. E.S.L. I and E.S.L. Math is only offered to students who have been in the United States for less than four years.

The tuition depends on the course. Some courses offering a grant included the Bilingual classes, English classes, E.S.L.I., E.S.L. Math, and Chapter I. The cost of the other classes range from \$70 to \$180.

Benner honored

Ronald Benner, WCCHS's Choir director, has been selected to the Illinois High School Association's Music Advisory Committee.

Benner was appointed by the board of directors, along with two other people. The criteria needed to obtain this job deals with responsibility, cooperation, experience, and knowledge. "This is the highest honor I've ever received. Only those from the state of Illinois were chosen," remarked Benner.

Benner's job will begin this summer and last for three years. Annual meetings will be held which will discuss new rules and changes. Since the advisory board will be working with other committees made up of athletic directors and principals, they will be able to avoid sporting and music event conflicts within the state school calendars.

Benner feels this is a nice way of representing WCCHS, and all the other schools in Illinois as well. Benner said, "I hope I can represent the high school well. I will sure try."

Early returns from North Central visit

by Margaret Walen

On April 25 and 26, the North Central Association sent 26 people to evaluate West Chicago Community High School; something all public schools receive every seven years. Schools must be credited and approved by this association.

The written results of the evaluation will not be available until early summer, but the school received some verbal comments from the association.

Superintendent, Dr. Kamm said the committee stressed how friendly the students were. "Some general comments they made because not everyone has them were the tutorial program and Mrs.

Dominguez with the Education Opportunities program," said Kamm.

According to Principal, Dr. Alan Jones, "they were very impressed with the teaching going on in the classrooms." They thought there was a strong focus on the quality of teaching and the importance of teaching to the people in the school.

An improvement they suggested was documenting the curriculum better. "We need to write down our goals and objectives better-update our book," said Kamm. It is difficult for the school to do this because teachers leave and the program slowly changes. They need to keep up with these changes according to the NCA. Another thing the committee commented on was the

shortage of outside land facilities for sports.

Besides sitting in on classes, the NCA met with a group of students. "We talked about extra-curricular groups, clubs and sport teams and what we thought what was good about them and how they needed to be improved," said junior, Doug Sawyer. One conflict that was discussed was that the administration does not allow groups to go anywhere because of money, yet fundraisers are not allowed. Other aspects touched on were uniforms and lack of participation in sports.

Junior, Dave Vish enjoyed the session because "she just listened and took notes. For once the adult was listening and we could do the talking."

Ovarian cancer fears for women

by Debbie Caruso

Ovarian cancer: What causes it? "Nobody knows," said Dr. Carlos Mock of the Glen Ellyn Clinic.

Symptoms: Sometimes causes pain early in the disease. Although it is not normally noticed until it is far advanced. In late stages, it gives off fluids that accumulate in the abdominal cavity, causing the stomach to swell in pseudo-pregnancy called ascites.

Treatment: Depending on how far the cancer has spread may result in removing both the ovaries, uterus, fallopian tubes, or the protective blanket of the intestine (the omentum). Commonly used is radiotherapy. This is because the ovarian tumors can't entirely be removed. Radiotherapy is used after surgery to destroy cancerous cells that remain in the body.

If the cancer is far advanced then chemotherapy is used as adjuvant treatment. After drugs have been administered for a year the doctor may perform exploratory surgery. If no tumor is found, the therapy may be stopped.

Prognosis: When a tumor is completely removed, that is confined to the ovary, 70 percent of patients are alive five years after treatment. When the cancer spreads beyond the ovary but not beyond the pelvic area 20 to 50 percent of the patients are alive after five years of treatment. When it has spread into the upper abdomen only 10 percent of the patients survive.

In these patients chemotherapy may help to give a cure but it usually eases the distress. This is caused by loss of weight by the accumulation of fluid in the abdomen.

Side effects of treatment: In premenopausal women, surgery causes loss of fertility. Chemotherapy is well tolerated but if the patient uses it for years the treatment may cause acute leukemia.

"Usually ovarian cancer is deadly. I have worked with two patients and both have died," said Mock. "Usually women who don't have children, and women who use birth control pills are in the low risk factors for getting ovarian cancer," said Mock.

Barbara Simkus's sister-in-law Rosanne Gallo has ovarian cancer. Gallo has had ovarian cancer for three years. Simkus said, "In March of '88 she went to the doctor and had a pap smear done, it came back irregular. The doctor told her to come back in six months. Five months later her stomach blew up and became bloated."

"In those five months Rosanne went to three different doctors and none thought she had ovarian cancer. They told her she had hypertension and should relax," said Simkus.

Gallo went through radiotherapy for two weeks straight. She has also been through two years and nine months of chemotherapy. On the first of May this year her doctor said she only had one month to live. Now her doctor has raised it up to two or three months left to live because her cancer is in remission.

A little insight into our languishing theatre department

by Peg Osterman



Only one class is offered in this subject. Only one faculty member is consistently involved with the running of this department. Three times a year, the student body remembers that the department even exists, if that. Actually, rarely is the word "theatre" used here, and in my four years here, I have never heard that word used in conjunction with "department."

I'd like to see a lot of changes made in this "department." Most of them are infinitely improbable considering the school's budget, but it'd be nice. I've been involved with nine shows here (five performances and four crew work) and have been a member of the Drama Club for four years. I'm just giving you a little background so you know I'm qualified to point out the evils of the existing system.

Those of you who have ever performed in the Weyrauch Memorial Barn know what an inadequate facility it is. Decades ago, it was the school gymnasium, and since then has been thwacked in half to become a stage and audience. The proportion of the stage in relation to the audience is ridiculous. Not only is it hard to work with, it just looks silly to have this gaping stage area dominating the entire structure. The acoustics are horrendous because all sound is absorbed into the velvet curtains, ornamented walls, and seats, most of which have the luxurious detachable armrests.

The stage area itself is in need of refinishing. No one has to look closely to see the gouges and paint splatters, even from the balcony. This is, of course, if you can see the stage. There are 18 lights on our stage, whereas the average theater has at least triple that number. Some areas on stage simply cannot be lit. For example, at the next performance, watch people sort of disappear as they walk downstage (toward the audience). The only way to fix the lighting situation is to rewire the auditorium so that a better system may be installed. One thing desperately needed is a dimmer board, which controls all light settings from off-stage. Mary Hafertepe has been trying for the last eight years to get the school to purchase one. Currently, the school rents a dimmer board and power packs (boxes backstage which allow the board to communicate with the lights)

for each performance. This costs \$556 each time, a yearly total of \$1,668, which is subtracted from the yearly budget of \$6,400. When first proposed, a dimmer board cost approximately \$10,000. Andrew Glowaty estimates the current cost to be \$14,500 to \$15,000. If one were bought eight years ago, it would have paid for itself by now, and one bought now would ultimately save money.

The room to the north of the auditorium used to belong to the theatre department. It was used as a dressing room and for storage of some props. Now it's Mary Ann Swanson's office, who runs a program for dropouts, and entire casts are changing their clothes backstage. This change was made over the last winter break. Swanson had an office in room 234, but somebody determined having it there disturbed classes, and she needed more space. She shares the auditorium side room with a speech therapist, and they've got more than enough room. I've seen it. They could do aerobics in there. Hafertepe was not consulted about the change, but notified with a note hoping it wouldn't inconvenience the theatre. I know personally that this is a royal pain in the theatrical posterior. Try putting on make-up in half darkness (lighting backstage is even worse than on stage), or making a quick costume change in the sweltering heat (the auditorium is directly over the boiler room, and hot water pipes run through the storage room in back). Inconvenienced? Just slightly.

When I'm a rich, successful journalist (don't hold your breath), I plan on donating an obscene amount of money so a new theater not unlike the Norris Center in St. Charles can be built. I don't know where it would go; maybe the fieldhouse will burn down in the meantime or someone will decide we really don't need the baseball/practice fields.

Until that mythical day, however, I suppose we'll suffer. But the department as a whole can be improved in the meantime. The best way to do this would be to add theatre to the curriculum. Concert Choir is always a state contender because there are three classes taught at varying degrees by capable directors. The Bridge wins many awards because there are classes dedicated solely to its production. Right now there is one class taught by Hafertepe who, though she has vast knowledge of the theatre field, is primarily an English teacher. The class attempts to cover theatre history, performance, costuming, set construction, and technical theatre in one

semester. Entire programs could be dedicated to each of those areas. Also, there is no progression of classes like beginner's acting, intermediate, advanced. More extensive classes taught by a full-time theatre teacher would do wonders to involve students and improve the quality of the productions. The best thing about the existing class is that it teaches students how to be mature audience members and encourages some interest in theatre.

Lack of student interest and commitment is what Hafertepe defines as the most frustrating thing about We-go theatre. I agree. Students don't take theatre seriously because there seems little to take seriously. Productions, for some, are merely a time to screw around in rehearsal until the performance. Everyone will come to see them. The Bridge will write a nice review and use their pictures, and they'll be famous. Few people realize the we're - all - one - happy - family - in - the - theatre idea is no myth. It's no matter if you're the musical star or running a spotlight, everyone's job ultima-

tely carries the same value, and works toward the common achievement of putting on a good show.

A change in curriculum would help so many more students to appreciate the many aspects of theatre. Another way to facilitate this would be to have audition requirements - each audition hopeful would have to have some technical experience. If people want to be on stage bad enough, they'll sew costumes or build flats. It's not important that anybody likes the work - there is no recognition in crew work - just that they realize the amount of effort that goes into a production, which is contributed by more people than the actors.

Of course, most of my complaints will probably never come to any kind of result. The administrators will read this and say, "We don't have the money." But hopefully someone will think about it. Our one-horse theatre department manages to turn out some pretty good shows, especially considering what we've got to work with, but it could be so much better. Break a leg, tiny department, break a leg.

Drinking and driving can ruin your prom

The hard core facts of drinking and driving have been sent through the United States for several years; drinking and driving took 23,351 American lives last year; and an average of 86 percent of WCCHS upperclassmen have experimented with alcohol.

"Every 27 minutes, a life ends, a void opens," Brent Johnson, a drivers-education teacher who lost his eight-year old daughter to a drunk driver told the Tribune. "Someone feels the pain of no touch, no love."

That is why it is continually spoken about. That is why we need TV commercials, posters, and groups like SADD, to remind us of what drinking and driving can do. Somewhere, a relative or friend of one of those 23,351 people has felt the crushing loss of a loved one.

With prom tonight, The Bridge editors would like to renew the same plea that has fallen upon 23,351 deaf ears: *Don't drink and drive.*

Join the recycling crowd

by Jennifer Ortyl



It's time to think of our future, to make people aware and to get involved. It's time to recycle! Recycling can not only help you, the individual, but can also benefit our planet.

To most the easiest solution is to bag the waste and put it on the curbside. From there it gets picked up and taken to a landfill where it's covered with several layers of soil. Ahhh, problem solved, right? Wrong! Though many don't realize it, our buried garbage is doing us more harm than good. Very slowly, it's taking up time and space. Our odorous trash mountains can rise only so high before they get too steep for trucks to climb. Then, time to relocate. While moving from area to area our monstrous garbage sites are contaminating the ground water.

Don't get too worried, there's still time to help. Recycle! The benefits are unlimited.

Reasons for recycling include less use of virgin materials, energy conservation, and a more sanitary environment.

Waste can be separated into several different categories: newspapers, scrap metals, glass bottles, aluminum and steel cans, used motor oil, and plastics. Every bit of these materials can be recycled and reused.

If clean and free of contaminants, industry can use recycled materials in place of their virgin counterparts.

Using recycled products also saves energy. Certain metals melt at lower temperatures than raw materials, saving wear and tear on the melting tanks, and using less energy.

Finally, and most importantly, the condition of our environment is a risk. Wouldn't you prefer a planet of fresh air and open land to a planet of constant odor and ugly mountains of waste? Choose the best and keep our Earth clean.

So, forget those plastics bags on the curbside every week and give back what our planet gives to you: life. Join the crowd and recycle.

Letter to the editor

Dear Editors:

We have become very aware of our environment because of the Student Environmental Action Committee (SEAC) program and Earth Day events.

However, we are very disturbed at the fact that our school uses styrofoam containers for soup and salad. It is true that they are non-biodegradable and the burning of the styrofoam effects Global Warning. Are there any alternatives to using styrofoam bowls? Would it be possible to purchase re-usable bowls, like the trays?

This would show a great deal that our school has taken an interest in saving our environment. Since SEAC has taken action recycling paper, it would be wise to solve other environmental problems leading to Green House Effect, because styrofoam is non-biodegradable.

Thus if some action could take place with alternatives to using styrofoam containers; our school would be saving money and it would help clean up our earth.

Chris Pomeroy
Sue Stajduhar

THE BRIDGE

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The Bridge is the student newspaper of West Chicago Community High School. The Bridge office is located in room 216.

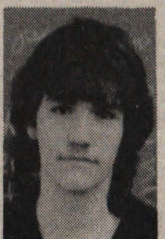
Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must be legibly signed, with a maximum of five names appearing in the paper. Letters will be printed as time and space permit. The editor reserves the right to edit, as necessary, for length and libelous material.

Unsigned editorials appearing in the newspaper are the opinions of The Bridge editorial board. Content and editorial policy are determined by the editors with concurrence of The Bridge editorial board. The 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.

Leave us home on lousy days

by Scott McCormick



School has been canceled for today. These words are very rarely said at this school.

The so called snow days we have at this school aren't truly snow days, they are officially termed emergency days.

Dr. Alan Jones, principal at We-go, said that in the five years he has worked here he can only remember using three. It is his and the school boards policy to use them only in a very true emergency.

I feel that we should have the days off sometime. There are times of the year when they would come in quite handy. On the days

when it is really crummy out, the buses may be able to run, but a lot of the students cars can't. Or they could be used to let us out of school a few days early.

Jones said that some of the schools in the district get the days off at the end of the year. We don't because he feels, "American students don't go to school enough." So he wants us to go to school the extra days. The school board also thinks that we should have the days saved in case of a true emergency.

I'm sure that if the school burned down, five days wouldn't be enough time to build a new school. The days should be given more freely, times I'm sure some of the people could get to school, but a noticeable amount would be gone.



Getting into government

by Melissa King

On May 16, 1990 eight students participated in a government-related field trip. Faculty member Steve Arnold took Elisha Carter, Trinette Co, Kelly Howard, Melissa King, Aaron Loftus, Matt Moran, Tom Niland and Amy Schwendeman to Springfield, Illinois where they were honorary pages for the day.

They served state representatives and senators by taking notes and papers to their secretaries, getting copies of amendments and other materials from different offices, and getting food and drinks. Pages are necessary because the legislators are not permitted to leave the floor at any time.

The students were able to experience the hectic schedule followed by the legislators and the process of either passing or failing bills and amendments.

Aaron Loftus said, "It made me feel important, like I had a part in the law making process." Matt Moran seconded the motion.

Amy Schwendeman added, "It was educational because it brought reality to the legislative process."

Arnold has been taking pages to Springfield for three years. He originally began

taking students down eight years ago only to observe in the gallery, attend committee meetings, and participate in seminars with the legislative supporting staff.

The idea for students to serve as pages originated when Representative Donald Hensel's legislative aid, Barb Laimis, suggested having students act as pages and be involved with the actual legislative process.

Matt Moran and Kelly Howard were able to serve in the Senate. "The Senate was a lot less casual than the House," Kelly observed. "It made me feel I was a part of such an important event that effects our lives so profoundly, yet these people were just like you and I."

In order to be allowed to walk freely in and out of the House, you must have special badges showing identification. "I felt important," said Trinette Co, "because all these people were outside wanting to get in, but I could walk in and out with no problem."

Paging jobs are normally taken on as summer jobs, but they can be full time as well. Some days a page may work two hours, and some days as long as ten. Everyday is a new experience.

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Senior editors speak

Ode to summer

by Jeremy Mains

-There's something about a summer sky that gives free rein to daydreaming
-Reclining amid the scent of a freshly mowed field I can just gaze upward
-And straight up lies a vast expanse of uninterrupted blue
-If I cup my hands around my eyes to block out my side-long vision, it's easy to forget Newton's laws ever applied
-The dirt between my toes and the fresh air tickling my lungs are the sole reminders of the Earth about me
-Somewhere, two hagglers bicker over Sinatra records at a garage sale
-And a parent hurls abuse at a junior high aged umpire for making a poor call
-Nothing much could go wrong on a day like this-tranquil and lazy
-The mosquitos haven't yet arrived and Tasee Freeze is in business
-On a day like this, it's easy to forget about guys like Khadafi
-Social security seems indestructible, Reaganomics might even work
-On a day like this who could worry about grades? About anything?
-Life's pretty cool when all you can see is a vast expanse of uninterrupted blue
-So there I lie perfectly at ease in my grassy bed,
-Until some stupid bird comes along and poops on my head.

Dave's helpful hints

by Dave Smith



Seven hundred and forty days. I wouldn't want to spend that much time in someplace I like.

Fortunately, for the class of 1990, those days have dwindled down to a mere eight days.

I don't know, maybe it hasn't been that bad. At least there have been activities to help pass the time quickly. Before I leave, I

would like to pass just a few of these tips on to the lower classmen.

- 1) If your teacher leaves you a substitute, try to convince her to play hide and seek. The class will count, and then go search for the sub. (Remember this forth hour marketing?)
- 2) Turn little sayings or phrases the teacher says during class into poetic verses. (Remember Love Is A Powerful Force Senior AP English?)
- 3) Draw characters of people in power. (Remember Rachel, Michele, and Lisa. "If you shut that door one more time...")
- 4) Finally, if your teacher squirts you with a water bottle to shut you up during the student announcements, turn it into a wet T-shirt contest! (Gayle and Annette?)

In addition to these helpful hints, I would like to make available these few points that every student at WCCHS should know to have a successful 1991 school year.

- 1) Ms. Barsema is a licensed professional. She can hurt you.
- 2) Para-pros are for the fun and entertainment of the students, but please refrain from feeding them!
- 3) The nutritional value in cafeteria food and Chris Seper's IQ are almost identical.
- 4) That rolling thing in the bottom of the pool is not a tumbleweed.
- 5) The Bridge editors are cool and should be worshiped. (Note: Chris Seper does not apply).
- 6) Students should be seen, not heard, and the administration is always right.
- 7) The bathrooms should be avoided when personal hygiene is concerned.

Hopefully these tips will help the underclassmen pass their time more smoothly in their school days to come. Freshman, you only have 563 school days, Sophomores 378, and Juniors 193.

Seniors, there are 56 school hours, or only 8 more school days. We can make it! In the words of the immortal (and graduated) Mike Moffat, "That's pretty darn close to zero!"

Of no interest to anyone The catcher in the high

by Peg Osterman



Okay, Julie. Due to the unbelievable pressure you and other Bridge brats have exerted on me, I am going to write this story.

I really have no advice of encouragement to offer to anyone remaining here next year. I could try and warn the underclassmen about how pathetic senior year really is, but they haven't be-

lieved me all year and I see no reason why they should start now. I'm just going to babble for a while. It's not very interesting. You don't even have to read it. It's just that rarely do I get to do this and have it printed 1,000 times over.

In *Candide* Voltaire suggests that people need to stop philosophizing on the nature of life and simply live. In the time we spend existentializing, we miss too many valuable experiences. "We must cultivate our garden", *Carpe Diem*, etc. Herman Hesse in *Siddhartha*, however, says we must take individual philosophical journeys to discover who we are before we can live fully. It is important, though, not to shut our minds to other experiences to concentrate on this search. This may be useful to some World Lit. students sometime, and only has a little to do with why I want to run away to New Orleans.

I want to know what happened to those notepads Liza Lenertz was supposed to make for all the editors. Why is Chris Seper the only one who got one and why did he put "Sports editor and bold leader of tomorrow" on them? Might make a nice graduation present for the senior editors, eh? Even though we won't be editors anymore..... (Boo Hoo)

Wait, I do have a bit of advice: Look like you know exactly what you're doing and no one will bother you. Not in this school anyway.

What is so special about the math classrooms

that nobody can walk by them after the bell rings? I've always wanted to wear really heavy shoes and run through there screaming sometime. I've also always wanted to have an English class outside - just once - and next year's AP senior class should keep trying because Thomas McCann's gotta break sometime.

Developmental Reading is a really cool class. Everybody should take it. There used to be a class here called Conservation of Natural Resources, but there were never enough people signed up for it to have a class (need at least 15). Matt Moran or somebody should look into it that next year.

You've seen all the Booster Club-type bumper stickers that say, "I am a We-go Athlete (musician, scholar, etc.)! Go We-go!" I want one that says "I am a We-go dropout! Blow We-go!"

Steve and Claire Broido, calm down. You'll be alright. This goes double for Kelly. I don't need to warn Darren because he's calm enough already.

Why does Dr. Kamm have his own private bathroom, and what does he keep in there? I think next year's In-depth editor should do a segment on that. That and socks. It would be a stunning issue. For this issue, everybody read Dave Smith's article. He says lots of neat stuff 'bout the sports editor. And everybody look out at prom tonight because Chris Seper has no idea what to do with himself in a tuxedo. Neither does Mark Carlberg, but he does it with style.

Anyway, that's it. I'm not going to count down the remaining days for everybody, including the freshmen. I've been doing that too long already. I'm not the first person to graduate from this hole, and I won't be the last. It's really no big deal. I just hope when I get to college people will open both doors instead of cramming through the same one.

Sleep tight, ya' morons.



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Be yourself

by Kelly Howard



To all underclassmen, future seniors; don't wait to stand up for your beliefs.

If I could do it all over again I would have began school with the spirit I seemed to have adopted over the course of my senior year. I remember hearing a senior from a previous year say that the best thing about being a

senior was that she could finally be herself. This is part of the myth that encourages underclassmen that they can't be themselves.

At the risk of sounding repetitive the power of individuality is incredible. By standing up for what you believe in and not compromising your beliefs, the possibilities are endless. When you have enough strength to do that you can do anything. Those of you who understand what I'm saying act now! Think about the future; will you fulfill your own expectations?

by Bill Hein



The other day I didn't have a dream. I wasn't doing anything worthwhile like watching t.v.- I was just thinking. The environment has always been a big concern of mine. Are we going to die gasping for air in a polluted land? Does dolphin-less tuna taste very good? Is there life for Sesame Street after Jim Henson? My mind was reeling. I am worried about the future of rock n' roll. Axl Rose got married. They probably got a tattoo to commemorate this once in a lifetime experience. The next Guns 'n Roses album won't be out for a long time, unless they have a recording studio at Betty Ford or the CA state pen. This really got me thinking. Will the state require freshman girls to wear blinking red lights on their hair to alert low-flying planes? Are Star Trex fanatics capable of leading otherwise normal lives? Will we ever find out who killed Laura Palmer? Who designs Subarus?- The Frank Llyod Wright Tibetan design studio? A Satanistically-inspired postal worker? A TROLL? Why do we males have an obsession with breasts? Why isn't Zsa Zsa in line for the electric chair? Is there life for District 94 after Dr. Kamm? How come I never get to see a really good drive-by shooting anymore? I wish I knew how Jeremy draws so damn good, and

Are there any answers?

wisdom

A case of writer's block

by Julie Mastro



I admit it. It was my idea to have all the senior editors write a story, so I guess I have to do my share.

When I thought up this brilliant idea my mind was filled with an endless array of topics to write about. As a matter of fact I had so many ideas that my mind was overflowing with them and

they started coming out of my ears. But I didn't know where to start. Since there's already a few stories written by seniors about the past four years I tried to stay away from that area. So, I decide I'd try the ol' creative writing bit and the results are as follows-

Prom 1990 was going to be a blast. There were certain seniors at Rich Valley High who planned on making their senior prom a night to remember. Unfortunately, it would be a night that nobody in the small community of Rich Valley would ever be able to forget.

The subject of prom had been the main topic of conversation for the past few weeks at the high school. When the day of prom arrived the excitement had almost reached the point of hysteria as the girls fussed to look their absolute best in a variety of dresses. Two girls, Beth and Linda, had chosen the contemporary short style and were applying the last minute touches to themselves while waiting for their dates to arrive.

"Gosh, I really cannot wait to just get this whole thing over with." Beth sighed.

I know what you mean," replied Linda, "but just think of how much fun we're going to have. That's so cool that Tim got his dad's Cadillac and they're bringing a cooler too. You'll forget how nervous you are after a few beers and by the time we get to the dance you'll be feeling good."

Enough of that. It was going to be a story about drinking and driving but it just wasn't working. Besides, hopefully everybody at WCCHS knows better than to drink and drive. I mean who wants to spend one of their last few days of school attending a funeral of their friend. The flow of ideas leaking out of my ears was starting

to cease so I decided to try something mellow - a little poetry.

Hickory, dickory, dock,
I knew this guy who was a jock
He ran all the time, and played baseball just fine,
but he never could find a matching sock.

No, no, no. Poetry definitely isn't my thing and I've already made a fool of myself by printing that much. So, I racked my brain for hours trying to find an idea that was worthwhile, but everything I tried was a failure. (Hey, I never said I was a writer or anything like that, so give me a break okay?) Then it struck me. I was almost bowled over by the magnitude of this terrific idea. I won't write at all. Maybe it is the easy way out, but I did try and it's the thought that counts.

The end of my high school writing career is finally here and I can't even squeeze one little itsy-bitsy story out. In the spirit of things I'd like to say good luck to everybody once we're in the "real" world. Hang in there juniors, sophmores, and freshmen you only have one, two, or three years to go. (HA!HA!) Maybe I can't write, but at least I have the last laugh. Bye-bye!



why people still wear Batman shirts, and if Kitchen Sink Press is eligible for a Pulitzer. Is the best cure for mentally ill murderers a 12-gauge lobotomy? What happened to Blake's 7? Why is the new "Nancy" allowed to desecrate the memory of Ernie Bushmiller's classic strip? Does anyone understand me? Don't stories made up entirely of questions really piss you off? Will I go to hell for it? To all of you Jap-crap lovers, the ZR-1 will kill anything from the land of the sun. M.L.- you're the best, and everyone please say a prayer for the new "Far Side". A word of advice to all you safety freaks: never hitch a ride from anyone who drives a '70 Barracuda. I hate how Dave Barry writes, breakfast sucks, and eventually the Talking Heads will come out with a greatest hits album. I really hope the Teamsters don't have anything against pretentious high school newspaper writers. This year has really been a blast...well, at least the last three weeks anyway. All of you underclassmen, I want to wish you all the best of luck next year in this wonderful, spiritually-invigorating, extra-cirricular activity-supporting, all-around fun high school.

An evening's worth of spellbinding entertainment

by Chris Seper



I was not sure what quite to expect when I went in to see the musical *Godspell*. Last year there was no musical, and I was hoping it wasn't due to lack of talent.

What I saw was a heart warming portrayal of the life of Jesus Christ that had emotional, energetic solos that were brimming full of talent.

Directed by Mary Hafertepe, the cast was compiled of 21 actors and actresses, but only two parts were truly defined. Junior Dave Vish held the role of Jesus, while junior Andy Runyan played both John the Baptist and Judas, with the rest of the cast serving as the company, an expanded version of the apostles.

Vish's portrayal of Christ was that of a hopeful, energetic one. With only one cameo performance as Percy in the *The Miracle Worker* in his in-school repertoire, Vish's upbeat performance of *God Save the People* and then the enraged explosion during *Alas for You* showed Vish's versatility.

"It's difficult to play Christ," Vish commented. "But I tried to play an honest, enlightening, all-loving character." He was definitely all three of those.

Runyan was a perfect choice to play off Vish. The pair teamed up for a vaudevillian-like performance in *All for the Best*. Runyan went it alone for the opening number, *Prepare Ye*. While acting, Runyan showed his prowess by playing the alter ego of Vish by usurping a cynical "voice of doom" that chilled the soul.

Both Runyan and Vish were able to parlay each others' energy, giving the audience a double dose of entertainment.

Despite the fine singing of both Runyan and Vish, the solo of the night had to go to junior Kim Labelle when she sang *Bless the Lord*. Energy pulsed through Labelle as she smoothly moved through the stage. Labelle's body language and movements

were outstanding as well. As most of the cast had to stand still during their solos, Labelle had the freedom to slide all around the stage, adding that much more excitement to the performance.

The rest of the company tapped into the energy as well, with an uplifting chorus and



the fast paced choreography by Margaret Bleritz and Arlene Hawks.

The choreography of the whole play was spectacular; not only on stage, but off as well. In one scene the whole company went off to tell audience members about problems they had. I had an in-depth talk with senior Mark Carlberg about how a girl turned him down for a date because she had to wash her hair.

In the opening of the second act, senior Nicole Yoder slinked through the audience and flirted with male members of the audience during her portrayal of a prostitute.

Yoder's performance of *Turn Back, Old Man* was wonderful. In this her final performance, Yoder played the seductress perfectly as she paraded throughout the audience with kind of a sinful bliss. At one point she even taunted Jesus saying, "Come here Jesus, I've got something to show ya!"

Although he had no solos, senior John Jakubowski had one of the most memorable roles in the play. Playing the ham through-

out the show, Jakubowski had memorable scenes like kissing Rachel Lacour and then, with a disappointing whimper, giving her up.

In a later scene, Jakubowski did a hilarious impression of a four-year old who was way over due for a bathroom break. In an-

auditorium showed people going for their kleenex.

"When I was being carried out, I could hear people crying," Vish said.

"I bawled from the second act on," Labelle admitted. "I couldn't handle doing musicals all the time." The performance of *By the Willows* by juniors Christine Miller and Matt Moran and musical director Lori Pemberton added to the emotion of the moment.

Lacour and freshman Dayna Yoder had one of the emotional songs of the night as they sang *By my Side*. The duo's tender and innocent sounding voices floated through the air and brought back memories of *Simon and Garfunkel* ballads from days past.

Another memorable solo was given by senior Jeremy Mains. *All Good Gifts* was the first of the serious heart-tuggers, and Mains performed it beautifully. With the help of senior LeAnn Jones on recorder, Mains streamed his character's love of Christ from every pore of his body.

Other solos were sung by Carlberg when he led the company in *We Beseech Thee* and then teamed up with LaBelle, Mains, and Yoder in *Light of the World*. Junior Gayle Hofman played Abraham with a Brooklyn accent before she sang her upbeat *Learn Your Lessons Well*, a song that Mains would later sing. Juniors Bonnie Croyl and Lori Schuermann did a beautiful version of *Day by Day*, with Croyl rendering the song in sign language.

Proving there were no small parts, senior Kelly Amour, junior Chelly Arroyo, sophomores Jessica Bridge and Brian Gall, freshman Eric Heerwagen, senior Lisa Reigert, junior Amy Shultze and freshman Betty Staniels added their vocal talents to complete the company.

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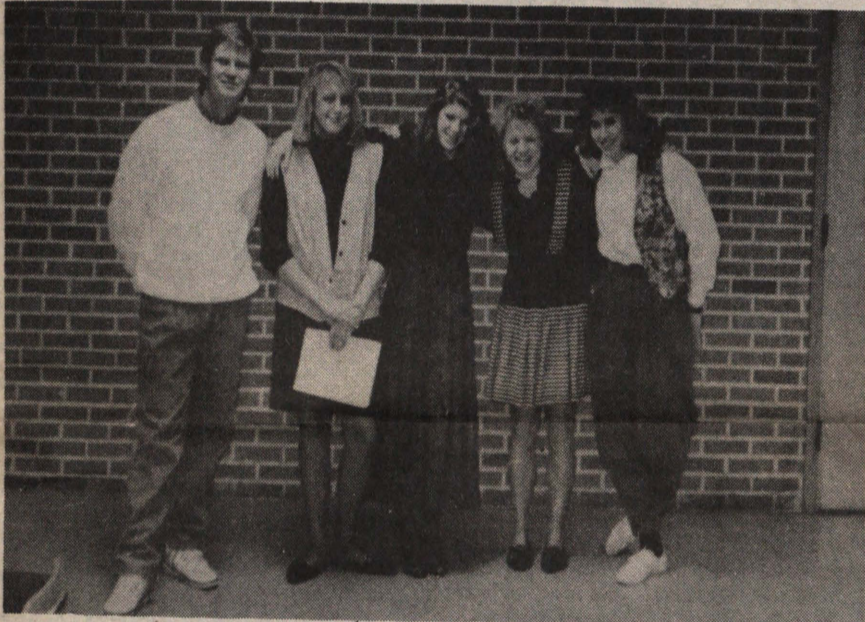
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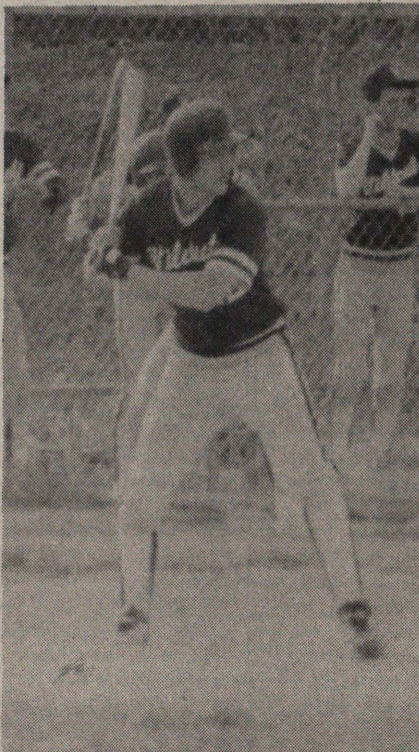
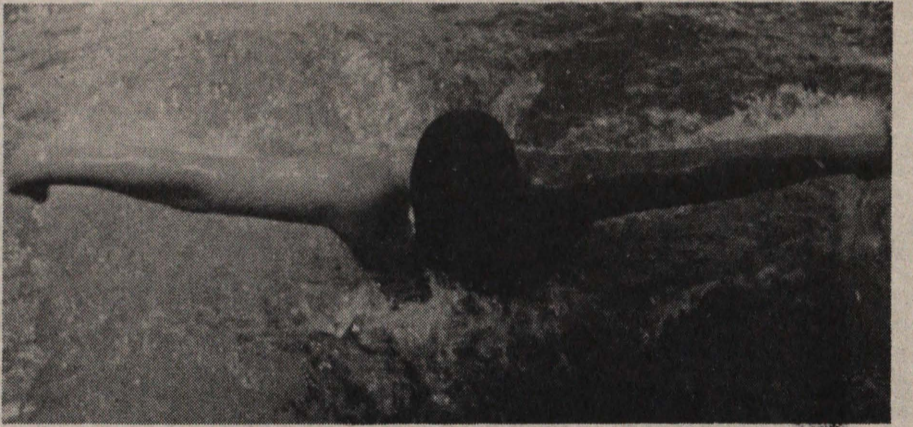
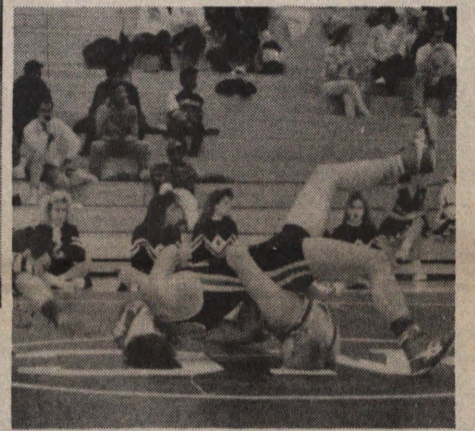
Memories of a sports year past



Fans go wild at a home basketball game. (above) Chad Busse and Derek Schoepf give their best impersonations of a monkey. (right) Awesome girls swimmers make state (below) CJ Madden in action (far right.)



Photos by Kelly Howard, John Kufer, Gina Lipscomb, Joe Oliver, Rachel Sedlacek, Chris Seper. Page design by Kelly Howard.



Girls volleyball regional champions (top left) EVON TSZAMBAZIS Flies through the water (above) Fans in their war paint (left) Shelby Dean up for bat (above left) Tennis players replenish their dehydrated bodies. Goodbye, farewell to All. Thank you for a memorable year.

The WILD Cat fans win 'Memories of the year'

by Chris Seper

It was their year, their time, their place; it was the year of the fan. In gross over-voting, the WILD Cat-fans won the memories of the year with 27,936 votes.

The fans were warily welcomed by the administration, even though the administration had previously been encouraging fan attendance and support; saying that they encouraged the support, but they hoped for moderation.

In the beginning, it was only continually loud cheering, dancing along with the cheerleaders and singing along with the band.

But the fans quickly added to their arsenal by bringing confetti, air horns, neckties, newspapers, obscene chants and even... bread.

Counting the dribbles in different languages when opponents were at the free-throw line and doing a premature countdown at halftime and the end of the game became the trademarks of the fans. While angering and disrupting the players on the court became their own personal vendetta.

At regional competition for the Lady Cat basketball squad, the fans' madness was at one of its' peaks, along with the friction with

the administration. During the Lady Cats loss to Wheaton North, the fans tossed confetti along with a few chants that the administration deemed "obscene and distasteful". Threats of losing the privilege to attend the rest of the boys' games and one suspension from a game was given out for

the actions at the game.

The rest of the DuPage Valley Conference began to be aware of the West Chicago fanatics when they began travelling to the home courts of the opposition and insulting them there.

The first game they were sighted was at

the Waubonsie Valley Tournament when the Cats played Waubonsie Valley. Taunts of "miss," "your fat" and "Satan" rang out during the game. During Glenbard Souths' Senior Parents Night, the fans chucked the confetti and made light of the Souths' players nicknames; Banana and Night Stalker were two of their favorites.

The fans were not without their problems, however. During a Cat loss to Wheaton North at home, some fans went down and danced with the cheerleaders while wearing bags! Both Coach Lee Maciejewski and the players were hurt by the incident, and Jones spoke to some of the fans, who said they would not do that again.

In the final game of the season, the seniors took a care free attitude towards the administration's warnings. The fans were wilder than ever; wearing face paint, bringing two garbage bags full of confetti, tearing clothes off fans, creating new chants like "A rope, a tree, hand the referee" and bringing sign like "Skinny V means victory" and "Barnes knows three pointers" referring to juniors guards Vashon Hayes and Gary Barnes. Signs also taunted players like Wheaton Central's Jeff Thorne that said, "Thorne, give it up!"

See the fans in pictures along with all the rest of this years' memorable pictures on page seven!



The chairmen of the board, junior Brian York and Senior Chris Wicklund led the Wildcat cheers during basketball games. (Photo by John Kufer.)

Boys' tennis nets improved season

by Candi Sabol

The Wildcat boys' tennis team is finished with a record of 9-6-1.

Varsity Head Coach John Moeaki said, "I am very happy with the way the team performed this year, a big improvement from last year." The Cats are an underclassmen dominated team, having only two seniors, Steve Encinas and Chris Wicklund.

"All of these players (that) are on varsity can play at a varsity level," Moeaki said.

The varsity line up changed numerous times for the Cats. First singles changed twice, with the team of Encinas and sophomore Clay Turner changing to Encinas and freshmen Pete Gadraba. Third singles was changed from junior Craig Baldwin to junior Brian York to Gadraba to Turner. In all, 10 different moves were made in the varsity line up.

The two top players for the Cats are first singles Kai Martin and second singles Jon Martin. Kai Martin has had a tougher season due to an injury early on in the season. He only played ten matches, posting a record of 5-5.

On the other hand, Moeaki is most pleased with Kai's brother, Jon Martin. He is 20-2

and placed second as an individual in the DVC tournament.

"Jon has had a great year and has a good future," Moeaki said.

Moeaki expects a better season next year, having such a young and pleasing team this year.

As most teams, the Cats will have to improve on weaknesses seen this year. The main thing Moeaki was disappointed with this season was their habits at practice.

"They sometimes weren't serious enough at practice," Moeaki said. "I would always tell them that it would effect their match. They need to put 100 percent out to have a good match."

In the DVC tournament the Cats took 7th with 16 points. Four of the five players finished fifth. Kai Martin finished fifth in first singles, York finished fifth in third singles, Encinas and Gadraba finished fifth at first singles and Baldwin and Wicklund finished fifth at second singles.



Senior Steve Encinas rushes the net in a match. (Photo by Chris Seper)

Girls' track ends at state

by Tricia Blum

With a record of 6-3 indoor and 0-7 in the DuPage Valley Conference outdoor season, the girls' track team did "well above expected" according to Varsity Coach Wilbert Walters.

Seven varsity track members went to the DVC meet and placed seventh out of eight teams. They brought home a second-place finish in the 1600-meter run, a third place in the 3200-meter relay and a fifth place in the 800-meter run.

The sectional and state qualifiers were the 3200-meter relay and the one-mile run. The relay team consists of junior Heather Jardis, junior Nicole Horyn, freshman Adrienne Yule and freshman Sarah Meyers. The two girls who qualified for sectionals and state in the mile are Horyn and Meyers.

"It's the first time we've qualified for state in six years," said Walters.

"They were a young inexperienced group," said Walters, "and they ran very well." The team broke nine records this year. Horyn broke the Varsity 1600 meter run. Sophomore Erin Meyers broke the freshman/sophomore 200 meter and 400 meter record. Meyers broke the freshman/sophomore 400 meter and 800 meter and varsity 1600-meter run. Yule broke the freshman/sophomore 800 meter run. Sophomore Dawn Zylinski broke the freshman/sophomore high jump and freshman/sophomore and varsity 100-meter hurdles.

"All year long the team performed above my expectations," said Walters, "they take to hard work like a duck takes to water."

"This year was a turn around from last year," says Walters. The team scored no points last year and this year they scored points along with winning events.

The power to perform

by Danielle Caferello

Tribune Athlete of the week, Chad Landis has been playing baseball since third grade.

Landis is involved in baseball because "it's an all American sport, and I've always loved to play." Landis has a batting average of .400 and has had five home runs so far this season, that ties the school record for homers in one season.

When asked what the best advice he's ever received was he replied "hit the ball and run. Everyone and their brother has advice on hitting, but if you hit it hard, good things are bound to happen."

"My main goal was to be the DVC champion," Landis says. "But we've taken ourselves out of the hunt, so a good goal is to win the rest of our games and finish 15-6 in conference." Landis's goal fell short as the Cats finished 9-11 in the DuPage Valley Conference. But Landis has several goals along with the first.

"Another goal was to win our regional," Landis says. "My personal goals would be to get the school records in home runs, career doubles and batting average. I'd also like to make the all-conference team." Landis did make the all-conference team by a unanimous decision.

Landis said that his motivation to perform well in baseball is to try and prove that he is better than the opponent. "I hate to lose," says Landis. Landis says that his best memory so far is beating Naperville Central, that was ranked number one in state.

"It was the greatest game I've ever been in," Landis says. "We were pumped up for the game and the fans were rowdy. It was incredible. We won 10-9 and it still sends a chill up my spine when I think about it." On

the other hand, he says "my worst memory so far was getting seven stitches from being spiked in the leg."

When asked if there was anyone he looked up to Landis replied "my dad has always been supportive. Whenever I was discour-



Senior Chad Landis all conference second baseman prepares to rip one at the plate. (Photo by Joe Oliver.)

aged he would help me bounce back. After I get a hit, I always like to look into the stands and see him give me thumbs up."

Landis's future plans are to attend the University of Pennsylvania to study business and engineering, and plans to try out for the baseball team.

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