

the bridge mp

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL 60185
November 2, 1990 Volume 20 Number 3

Teachers fight for contract

by Christine Miller

The fight is over.

On Tuesday, the Board of Education and the West Chicago High School Teachers Association ratified a new three-year contract.

The West Chicago High School Teachers' Association and the District 94 School Board have been negotiating since March 11. Though no settlement had been reached, the teachers returned to work in August in good faith that a contract would be established.

Five issues have caused friction between the teachers and the Board. The first is concerned with the teachers' salaries. According to LaVora Singleton, WCHSTA President, WCCHS is "richer per student than the Wheatons or the Naperville, yet we have lower teachers' salaries."

The Board has proposed a 24.4 percent increase in salary over three years. Teachers were not satisfied with this offer. The proposal contained inconsistencies which would result in a salary reduction for some teachers.

The second issue concerns the teachers' insurance. After the strike that took place six years ago at WCCHS, the School Board agreed to pay 90 percent of the teachers' insurance premiums. Now, the Board wants to stop paying for the insurance. According to Singleton, this issue is of greater concern to some teachers than the problems with the salaries.

The School Board's proposal also includes

a provision which would allow evaluators to go into a classroom, pick up any worksheet or test the teacher has made, and use that piece of paper to evaluate the teacher. Singleton believes this is unfair to the teachers and said it would be better "if they (the evaluators) came in, saw the teaching, then returned to evaluate the outcome."

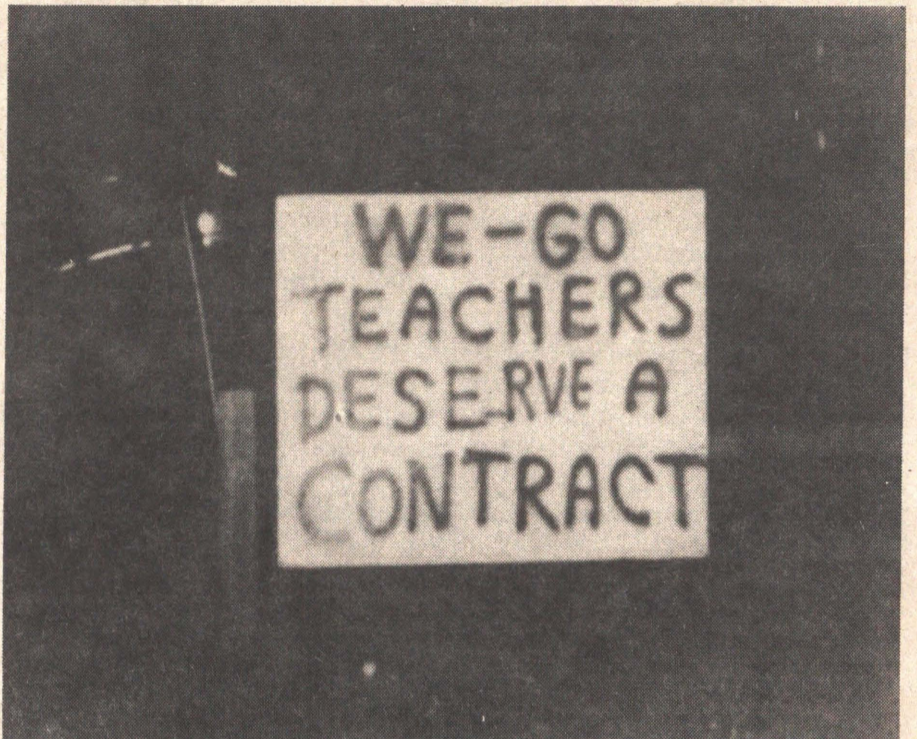
Another source of conflict has to do with WCCHS's five snow days. These days are scheduled every year to be used as make-up days when school is canceled. WCCHS is still in session during these five days even if they are not necessary to make-up.

According to Singleton, the teachers, who would under normal circumstances earn about \$1,000 for working five days, do not earn a penny. Furthermore, the school pays approximately \$1 million for bussing.

The final issue of concern deals with the WCHSTA itself. The union is legally obligated to provide certain services to all teachers. This includes negotiating contracts for everyone. Though the teachers are not legally obligated to join the union, the union is asking that teachers pay a percentage of the union dues which would cover the cost of the services they receive. This is called fair share.

Though these issues are not the only sources of controversy, they are the main ones.

Both Joseph Vavrek the School Board spokesman and Superintendent Richard Kamm said negotiations were going well, but declined to comment on the issues.



The West Chicago Community High School Board of Education and the West Chicago High School Teachers' Association have been negotiating for a teachers' contract since March 11. (photo by Gina Lipscomb).

Inkspots Craft show

Booster Club will be holding their 6th annual Holiday Art and Craft Show tomorrow.

The craft show will be in the cafeteria from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be over 100 crafters with exhibits from all over the area.

College visits

The following colleges will have representatives at WCCHS in November:

Monday, November 5: Milwaukee School of Engineering, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, November 6: Navy/Marine ROTC, 9 a.m.; Rosary College, 11 a.m.; Elmhurst College, 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 7: Knox College, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 8: Eureka College, 8 a.m.

See your counselor for more details or to make an appointment.

Miller to D.C.

Christine Miller will be representing the state of Illinois as a Congressional Youth Scholar in Washington D.C. from November 25 through December 2. She will meet with members of Congress and the Presidential Cabinet.

Club schedules

The following is a schedule of when the next club meetings will take place:

Art Club: Mondays thru Thursdays; Room 307; 3:45-5 p.m.

Bilingual Club: Thursdays; Room 230; 7:30 a.m.

In-Touch Clown Team: Wednesdays; Room 127; 3:45-4:30 p.m.

FBLA: Thursdays; Room 302; 7:30 a.m.

French Club: Wednesdays; Room 153; 7:30 a.m.

German Club: Tuesdays; Room 156; 7:30 a.m.

Pep Club: TBA; LRC Classroom; 7:30 a.m.

SADD: Wednesdays; LRC Classroom; 7:30 a.m.

SEAC: Tuesdays; LRC Classroom; 7:20 a.m.

Spanish Club: Thursdays; Room 150; 7:30 a.m.

Thesplans: Mondays; Room 228; 7:15 a.m.

Fall plays

The fall plays will be performed November 8, 9, and 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Weyrauch Auditorium. The play consists of four individual one-act plays: "Adams Apple," "If Men Played Cards as Women Do," "Diary of Adam and Eve," and "Taming of the Shrew."

Thorium is one step closer to being shipped out

by Margaret Walen

They have almost won.

After a 15 year battle, West Chicago and the State of Illinois have made it one-step closer to winning the fight against Kerr McGee.

On Wednesday, October 17, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission gave the state of Illinois control of the radioactive material found on the former Kerr-McGee factory site.

"It's been a long time coming, but will be very beneficial to the city. It puts a little more control in the city's and state's hands with what will happen with that material," said West Chicago Mayor Paul Netzel.

With the state in control, Kerr-McGee can not bury the thorium at the site unless they are able to obtain a permit from the state first.

To help West Chicago celebrate this victory, Governor James Thompson held a press conference at the Kerr-McGee site on Wednesday, after the decision was made.

"It was nice to see the Governor and other public officials come to West Chicago. I'm glad that they see this as an item of importance to come see us," said City Alderman Tom Merrion.

Thorium Action Group co-founder, Rich Kassinits said there is still three to five years of legal battles to be fought. Kerr-

McGee will be appealing the decision.

"I just don't know Kerr-McGee not to do something like that. They spend dollars to save dollars in the long run," Netzel said.

Although a set figure has not been established, \$100 million is a ball-park figure as to what it will cost to remove the radio-active material.

The next step in the long process is, a hearing will be set. At this hearing, the procedures the state will be going through will be identified. This process includes asking the citizens of West Chicago if they want the waste buried here.

Thorium is a low-level radio-active material. It is a gray, sand-like substance that gives off radon. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer.

Thorium is a by-product that was produced by Lindsay Light Chemical Co. (former owner of the Kerr-McGee site) 40 years ago. It was not until 1976 that the hazards this material causes became known.

TAG is a community organization that formed in January. Their primary goal is to keep the thorium from being buried permanently in West Chicago.

"TAG is made up of members who have been in various groups since the 70's. For 15 years, some people have been fighting Kerr-McGee - it's been a long fight," Kassinits said.

DAVEA teaches vocational trades

by Gina Lipscomb

What is the DuPage Area Vocational Education Authority?

DAVEA is designed to offer vocational programs not offered by West Chicago," says Media Technology teacher Rich Goff.

DAVEA has many courses to offer, ranging from cosmetology to aviation maintenance technology.

Students earn two and one-half credits at DAVEA each year. Juniors are required to take an English class, American History, and physical education along with DAVEA. Seniors must take American Government, Consumer Education, and physical education.

Those who choose to may also participate in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America. VICA allows students to apply their skills by competing in their field at

state.

Seniors Lori Olsen and Dawn Reiner placed third for the suitcase competition last year in the VICA Skill Olympics. Both are taking Travel and Tour at DAVEA. Reiner hopes to go into hotel management upon completion of DAVEA.

Seniors Jennifer Bowen and Tanya Marcellis are working towards licenses in cosmetology. To graduate from cosmetology,

1500 hours are required. The cosmetology students attend DAVEA for two years. This time period includes every school day, Saturdays, spring break and summer vacation.

The cosmetology students apply their skills by running the DAVEA beauty salon. Money they make while working at the salon, goes into the cosmetology program.

Students at DAVEA are allowed to work at their individual pace and are "treated like adults," said Reiner.

Strike that ends at We-go

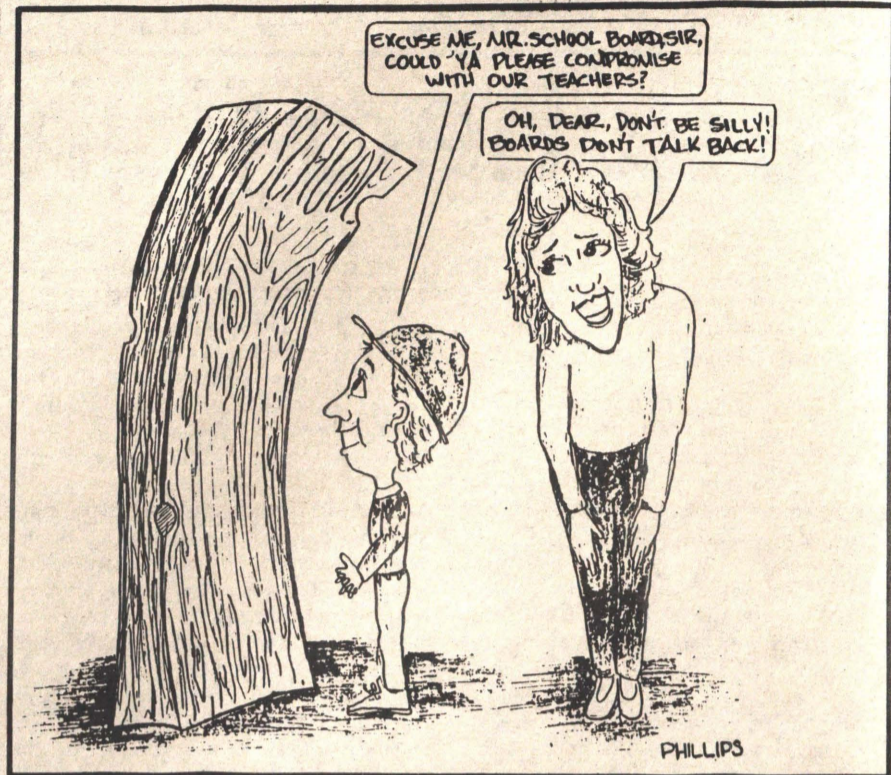
The threat of a strike which had afflicted West Chicago has left gaps between teachers and board members that may never be healed. A third strike in 10 years would have never been good for relations.

This strike had a different twist than others. In this one, it was a case of the School Board having the money and just being unwilling to release it. The teachers are asking for a 21.9 percent raise over 2 years, not far off the one granted to another set of Illinois teachers who were given a 19.1 percent raise earlier this year.

Our school is ranked above Naperville, above Wheaton and above the Glenbard districts in dollars per student. West Chicago also has the longest school day and the longest year of school in the DuPage area. The plan submitted to the teachers by the board asked some teachers to take a cut in pay. That is an insult.

We were last in pay to the teachers in the DuPage Valley, we are last in respect to teachers in the Dupage Valley, but we are first in dollars per student. We had \$100,000 in cash fund, the school is supposed to break even.

Over and over again the teachers at West Chicago Community High school have been honored and acknowledged as some of the best in their fields. The report the North Central visitors gave last year only emphasizes the point more. The Bridge editors felt that the teachers should have gotten what they deserved earlier. They should have gotten all they demanded, not to mention respect.



Letters to the editor

Editors screw up

Dear Editors,

I have found a major mistake in your paper. It has to do with an article that was written about the movie *Pump up the Volume*. Your quote says, "Sex is out, drugs are out, politics are out, all the good times have been turned into theme parks." The real quote from the movie is "Sex is out, drugs are out, politics are out, and all the good themes have been turned into theme parks." This is what the whole movie is about. When you get the phrase wrong, you mis-understand the movie. The movie says something, it makes you think. When you screw-up the main quote of the movie you make yourselves look foolish, plus the writer did not pay enough attention to the movie, so he should not have been writing about it at all. Or maybe the blame should be put on the proof readers. Next movie review you do, make sure your quotes are right, before you print it. You may start losing all of your rewards.

Chrissy Lipske

And a response...

Dear Chrissy,

No one is perfect, especially the editors of the Bridge on the second issue. The quote you refer to was a typo. The writer had the quote correct on his version of the story. It was an oversight by the proofreader and I apologize.

Maybe you should offer your services to the Bridge and join a group of writers who really work hard.

Dana Billick

A faculty member voices her opinion

To the editors of *The Bridge*:

Concerning the article written by Chris Seper in the 12 October edition of *The Bridge* about parents seated in the student section of the bleachers:

What Mr. Seper is requesting is the permission to be rude and unsportsman like, which is not a basic human right. The pa-

rents are not only within bounds asking students to stop obscene cheers, they are performing a basic role of any society: that the older members teach the younger members what is and is not acceptable behavior (for a case in point, see *Lord of the Flies*).

I can't imagine anyone objecting to 30 or 40 students cheering in favor of our team, especially not the players. Even shouts of derision ("Ref, you're blind!") are within the realm of appropriate behavior at a sporting event. Yet when cheers are in bad taste (or to quote the article, "nothing more than a few dirty cheers,") it doesn't matter how old one is nor where one is sitting. Last I checked, society-at-large did not have designated sections for the rude and/or obnoxious.

One more thing - the saying is, "if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." One would have to be completely without intelligence, and not just rude, to want to be in the oven.

Susan Junkroski

To: BRIDGE Editorial Staff

Since coming to WeGo in 1962, this is only the second time I have felt it necessary to respond to a BRIDGE article. In this case, I refer to Chris Seper's "Go stick your head in an oven" in the October 12, 1990 issue of the BRIDGE.

When Chris refers to our students as being rude and hurling a few dirty cheers and names at opposing players and officials, I take offense. How does this type of behavior promote the positive values of athletics that we sorely need in today's society? What kind of reputation is our school going to have in the minds of opponents and officials? I think Chris and anyone else who feels as he does, has been influenced by the unruly fans they see on television at professional and collegiate events. Let's hope that we can stop this idiotic behavior before it reaches the high school level.

When we play at home, our opponents and the officials are our guests and should be treated as we would guests in our own individual homes. When on the road, we are the guests. In both cases, rude and obnoxious behavior is inappropriate.

Years ago, I read an excellent letter dealing with this subject. Here it is, taken from Pennsylvania IAA's PA' ATHLETE.

More oven burning...

Dear Frantic Fan:

If someone were to ask you what represents the greatest peril to the survival of high school sports, you might say specialization, overemphasis, officials, coaches, or administrators. You would be wrong.

The greatest peril to the interscholastic athletics is you, my friend - you, the frantic fan.

Specialization and overemphasis can, and are being curbed: officials trained, coaches and administrators are guided, but you, Mr. Fan, you answer to no one - no one, that is, until a program has been ruined, students penalized, young images shattered, all because you didn't control yourself.

Perhaps it's not all your fault, perhaps you have never been exposed to proper spectator decorum. At any rate, a few definitive guile lines may serve to protect the program and, at the same time, enable you to better enjoy what ever contest you are viewing.

High school athletics were not developed as a sounding board for your immaturity, as a vehicle to "let off steam," rid yourself of "frustrations," etc. This may be all right in professional sports, where you pay a premium price to vent your antics.

It's different in interscholastic contests. Your ticket, often less than a dollar, entitles you to one thing - the privilege of watching the more talented students of two schools exhibit what they've learned in the athletic classroom.

You would not think of entering a math, history, or English classroom, flask on hip, and berate, often curse and physically abuse the math, history, or English teacher. Yet, all too frequently you think nothing of harassing players and coaches in their classroom - the field of play.

High school administrators have always given you the benefit of the doubt, Mr. Fan, sometimes because you were a player's parent or influential citizen. But you are being put on notice that administrators can no longer tolerate your childish, immature behavior, whether you are a recent graduate, a parent, or merely a resident of the community.

If, indeed, you are sincerely interested in the continuation of interscholastic athletics, then keep a few basic points in mind:

1. There is no such thing as a "right" to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Whereas most academic subjects are mandated by the proper authorities, and each student has a "right" to be exposed to them, interscholastic athletics are considered a "privilege" and the player or spectator who avails himself of it is expected to conduct himself of herself accordingly.

2. Your team does not belong to the community. It belongs to the school, and that school has voluntarily agreed to abide by a certain set of rules, so that all athletes may compete under the same standards. If these rules offend any special groups or individuals to the point where they cannot conduct themselves rationally, then, by all means, these persons should be encouraged to direct their energies elsewhere.

3. Accept the fact that all high school athletes make mistakes. They are not perfect, and never will be. There is a compensation, though, as these mistakes make high school athletics exciting and unpredictable.

4. Remember that your coach is a teacher first, and a coach second, and anytime you join any misguided souls in trying to reverse this order, you are taking the first step in destroying your program. Remember, no coach, player, or administrator wants to see a program fail. In most cases, failure can be attributed to the merciless pressure on you, the fan, who played little or no part in the building of the program. Small wonder that the high school coaching field has the highest turnover of any coaching level.

5. Make an attempt to learn the rules of the game and then leave the officials alone. Much time and effort is spent in the training of these officials. The spectator who constantly criticizes them is almost always ignorant of the rules.

6. Finally, keep in mind that you are a guest of the school, and that while winning is certainly an admirable goal, it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and just plain common sense.

A beloved president once said that the world would soon forget his words, but remember the actions of his soldiers.

As the years pass, the score of a contest becomes relatively unimportant, sometimes forgotten. But your conduct remains ingrained forever in the minds of those who are most affected.

Will they be proud or ashamed?. The choice is yours!!!

From south of the border

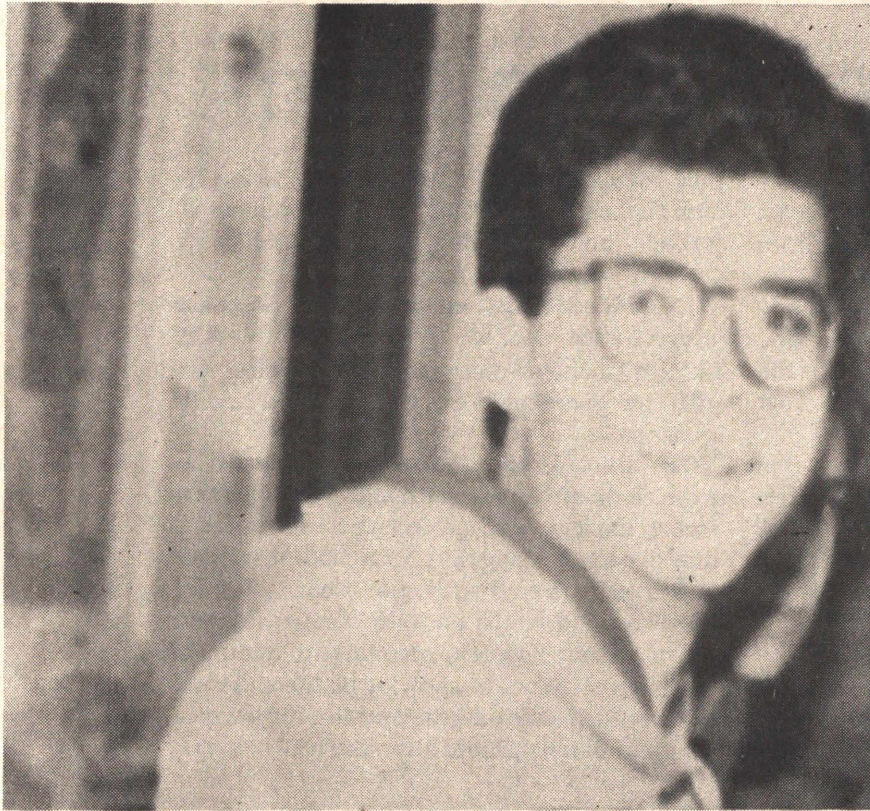
by John Prusko

"I try not to think in terms of missing my country. I try to avoid it. Here's where I am now. I enjoy it!" is how Luis Barros feels about his home country Brazil.

Barros is a senior at WCCHS and is part of Youth for Understanding, a program for exchange students. Barros is residing with sophomore Ned Miller and his family in West Chicago for the duration of his stay in the states. Barros will be here until July.

Barros is currently involved in madrigals, concert choir, swing choir, student council, and the soccer team. He also plans to go out for boy's swimming when the season arrives. Music, however is Barros' favorite subject. "When I came, I was interested in music." His host family also encourages his love for this art. Barros says, "I like music. Everything they (host family) find about music, they show to me."

"Brasilia is completely different," says Barros when he compared it to West Chicago. He went on to explain that his home town is in the shape of a plane. The wings are where the apartment buildings would be as well as a few stores, supermarkets, and barber shops. In the center, the congress, banks, and other buildings are located. There is also a large man-made lake, around which are a few private homes.



Luis Barros from Brazil loves the music program at W.C.H.S.

Back home, Barros belongs to a family of six. They include Genesio, his father, Lindalda, his mother, Marcos, his older brother, Carlos, his younger brother, and one sister, Gisele. In the U.S., Barros is very fond of his host family. "I like them very much. They are keeping me busy and they are very interested in showing me everything about the area and the country whenever possible. They try to do everything good for me," Barros said about the Miller family.

Barros has been to Chicago already, but said, "actually, I don't have an idea of the city. I just went to the Sears Tower. It was good to have a view of the city and see Lake Michigan. It's a very big city and it's interesting to see. It looks beautiful, it's just hard for me to explain my opinion about it." In comparing Chicago to Brazil, Barros said, "It looks different of course."

With all the political changes that have occurred in the recent past, Barros said, "I am curious about what is happening now because we have a new president as of the beginning of the year. I was there three or four months after he was elected. I know that there are a lot more changes since I left, and I want to know what's going on."

But until he goes back, Barros waits patiently every day for his favorite class-choir as he continues to pursue his love of music.

Romero earns honors

by Tony Standish

"Goooaal by..." Yes, the Wildcat booters have scored, the team gathers, the screaming crowd jumps to its feet and the announcer acknowledges the goal scorer.

Senior forward Richie Romero is the common name noticed when it comes to goal scoring, and goal assisting. Romero usually has 10 goals and leads in the assist department with 16.

Romero started playing soccer at age 5 with American Youth Soccer Organization. "My uncle played for the Wildcats, and I was ballboy when he played," the Wildcat captain said. "I got interested in soccer because they had a really good team, and it was fun to watch them."

During Romero's freshmen and sophomore years, he played on the junior varsity squad. As a sophomore, he was moved up to varsity for the regional tournament. Romero was a starter for varsity his junior year, and currently starts for this year's team.

"I play soccer because I like the idea of teamwork, not just an individual," Romero explains. "It is very fast moving and exciting. I enjoy goal scoring and smooth play set up."

Romero's leadership qualities have earned him a captains band all four years in high school. Along with this, Romero has played on select teams like the Bartlett Express and Sparta. During his junior year, Romero received honorable mention all-conference, and this year was unanimously selected to first team all-conference.

The biggest recognition, according to Romero, came in the off-season when he played on and won a tournament in Minnesota in 1989. "It was the biggest tournament in the U.S. There were a lot of foreign teams there and we took it from everybody. It was a good experience and great taking first."

Romero admits his success to his dad. "He praises me to be the best I can possibly be." Teammate Arias describes Romero as, "a good guy, and apart from being a good player, he is a good friend." Romero earned all conference as well as all state honors during the 1990 season.

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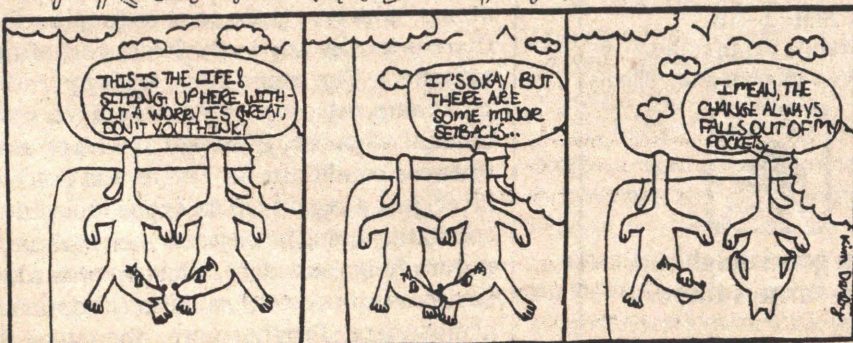
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FROM THE DRAWER



To strike or not to strike

by Tina McDermott

Okay, everyone is aware of the teacher strike situation. A few students view it as a crimp in their education, but many see it as simply a few days off. Some students are in between due to the fact of how our sport teams will be affected. Now let's take a trip inside the minds of each student with a different view.

First, the student who wants the the teachers to strike just so he/she can have a few days off. A few of these want to catch up on overdue work. The rest want to spend the days relaxing and hanging out with their friends. To them, it would just be another vacation. Do they know what this strike is really about?

Next, we approach a different kind of student. This one feels the pressure of

messing up our school year if we don't remain in classes. Everything we are supposed to learn during this time will be delayed and we will be attending school during the summer.

Many athletes want to stay in school in order not to miss regionals, sectionals, or even state events. A strike could ruin their chance of competing at state and having West Chicago recognized. Our athletes could lose scholarship chances which could greatly affect their futures.

Lastly, there are those students who are also working hard toward such things as academic scholarships. A disruption in the middle of the year could cause a setback in academics for all students.

We see several different arguments for or against the strike. Whatever the outcome, the students position should definitely be considered.

Help our environment

The path to less pollution

by John Kufer



The old abandoned Chicago, Elgin, and Aurora railroad lines are still being used today. The Illinois Prairie Path now allows bicycles, joggers, hikers, and equestrians to explore the Illinois countryside on the former railroad.

The 55 mile path takes you from Maywood to Wheaton then branches to Elgin and/or Aurora. Additional paths link you to West Chicago, Geneva, and/or Batavia. Forest Preserves, Museums, and Shops line part of the path making for easy access.

Cook, Kane, and DuPage Counties, The Illinois Department of Conservation, Fox Valley Park District, and a non profit corporation,

(The Illinois Prairie Path), upgrade and maintain the path by adding benches, removing garbage, and replanting areas of the Illinois prairie.

Only Wheaton, Glen Ellyn, and Lombard protect their section of the path. After The DuPage Counties discontinued patrolling the path by horseback due to cost and safety reasons.

The Illinois Prairie Path is a valuable asset to the community. The path allows people to exercise, explore, and protect the environment they live in. By using the path an individual can improve his/her health, use County Forest Preserves and/or city parks or businesses, and help the environment by reducing the amount of car exhaust in the air, allowing plants and trees to grow and make oxygen, and to keep parts of the great Illinois prairie alive and well.

Steps toward survival

by Jamee Taylor

How many of you get to take the garbage out daily? Then, once a week you get the honor of hauling the two big green garbage cans out to the end of the driveway, right? Next, it appears, that huge truck with a loud engine. One man is driving and the other hangs on the back and jumps off, empties your cans and then throws them down empty. Then after school, you come home and put the cans back where they belong and the cycle repeats itself. You probably can't wait until you have kids and they can do your dirty work, huh?

How about this fact, though? Possibly by the time our generation begins having families, the garbage men won't be coming around anymore.

What's the reason we might not be seeing these guys? Soon there will be no place to put our stinky, smelly garbage. On a typical day, New York City produces 27,000 tons of garbage (this is enough to fill eight barges or more). However, it is not too late to change our ways. If each one of us changes a little bit, by following some of the next eight steps, we can still take a huge step toward saving the planet.

1. This step deals with trash prevention. The surest way to dump less garbage, is to reduce the amount of garbage created. When buying certain items, buy them in bulk. This will help reduce the packaging. If you find yourself choosing between two equal products, choose the one with less packaging. Also, you could try not buying microwave ready food containers. They are not only more expensive but a lot of the packages are useless.

2. Try to recycle at home. If your family drinks a lot of pop take the time to collect the cans, you can even make some easy money. Don't buy styrofoam cups for drinks of water, they sell paper ones.

3. Try to recycle at school. Put your pop cans in the designated areas. While in class, throw your paper in the boxes for recyclable paper. Doing just this little bit can make an improvement.

4. Walk places instead of driving. You can reduce the air pollution problem if you use your feet. You also get good exercise, burn calories, and you tone your body.

5. When killing insects, try your own talent. Grab a fly swatter or a book and kill it, there is not need to grab for the spray, which not only kills the bugs, but also destroys the environment.

6. When cleaning the house, don't use the expensive cleaners or disinfectants. A good combination for an all-purpose cleaner is four tablespoons of baking soda and one quart of warm water.

7. Cut down on your families use of water. While brushing your teeth, turn the water off until you are ready to rinse. If you have a dishwasher use it, but only when it is full. Following these steps will allow that there will be water available during droughts and it will reduce the strain on the city's sewage-treatment plants.

8. Last of all, try to save energy. Don't leave your electric appliances on all day, if your not going to use them (like your electric blanket). Remember to shut the refrigerator's door. you can buy energy efficient light bulbs (even though they may cost more, in the long run they will make it worth it).

If everyone would work on one or more of these tips, the earth can have a chance to live even longer. The planet Earth is all we have right now, we have yet to put people on other planets to live.

Each day, more and more landfills are becoming extinct. They are becoming way too full and some will still start



Seeking a better

by John Prusko

What is SEAC?! Well for all you environmentalists out there, SEAC is for you!

SEAC is the Student Environmental Action Committee. It was founded last year as part of Earth Day by graduate Kelly Howard and Senior Matt Moran and is advised by Stephen Arnold. The basic purpose of SEAC is to make the student body, faculty, and public more aware of the problems in our environment and to urge them to recycle whenever they can.

The group has currently been doing a lot to help get a recycling program started at WCHS.

Destruction

by Chris Pomeroy

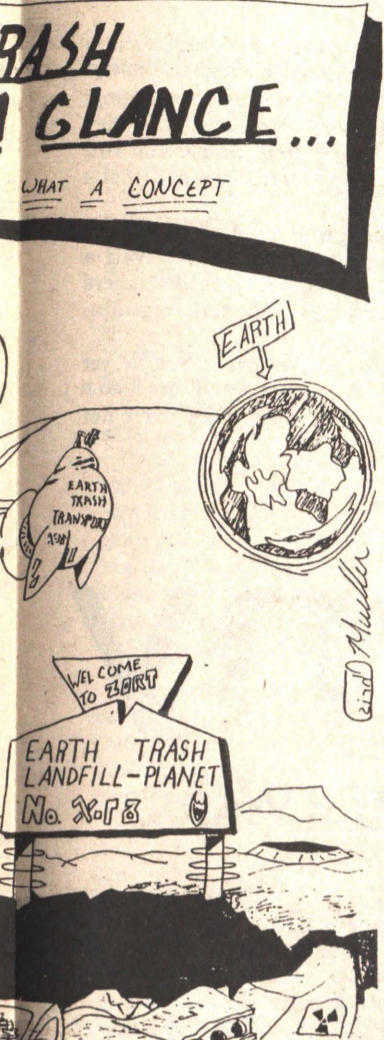
Global warming is affecting and destroying our environment by mankind's pollutants. Such pollutants diminish or alter the ozone layer, water, land formation, and the air we breathe.

The ozone layer is seven miles up in the atmosphere, and is a shield from the ultraviolet rays of the sun. It is being destroyed by man made chemicals that drift up into the atmosphere-mainly chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) that are used in air conditions, refrigerators, styrofoam, and industrial solvents.

The bluish gas, ozone, consists of oxygen atoms, which is poisonous to breathe in and there is hardly any in the lower part of the atmosphere. The ozone layer, high up in the atmosphere, also contains only a very small amount of ozone. Although the layer also influences conditions on Earth; it is not a solid layer, just a region where ozone molecules are constantly being formed and then broken down naturally by sun light. This process absorbs dangerous ultra violet radiation and warns the atmosphere. Furthermore, the ozone layer above, nine miles high in the atmosphere ab-

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... Save the Planet



Recycling on the rebound

by Dana Billick

Well, the nineties are here and recycling is in. Everywhere you look, you see some sort of initiative to recycle. Even the food in the cafeteria is recycled from day to day.

It appears that all the hype has come about from Earth Day, which was sponsored nationwide in April 1990. Major companies endorsed posters and special programs for Earth Day and it seems to have been a success.

The main products which can be recycled are plastic, paper and aluminum. Some glass materials are melted down and used again as well. Styrofoam is one that is definitely not reusable.

Many community businesses have also begun to participate in recycling projects. One such company is Jewel Food Stores. The supermarket's plastic bags are now recyclable and the store has large bins where customers can return these bags for recycling. Their paper bags are made from recycled paper as well. The

store now has nylon tote bags which can be purchased and reused to carry groceries.

Another company to sponsor a recycling program is McDonalds, who has initiated a program which deals heavily with all aspects of ecology. This fact seems somewhat ironic since McDonalds main substance for their containers (you know the Big Mac boxes, etc) is made of polyurethane. This substance is non-recyclable, non bio-degradable, and will exist forever. Yet the manufacturers for McDonalds keeps producing more and more.

West Chicago Community High School has also been motivated to recycle. There is a special garbage can located in commons for aluminum cans only and there are cardboard boxes in some classrooms designated for paper to be recycled. Most of this recycling money goes to clubs around the school to finance special projects. If all the students pitch in and take just a few seconds to separate their "garbage" they can have the satisfaction of knowing how much they are helping their environment as well as their school.

Clubs that care

by Claire Broido



The Earth Day "hype" was just hype wasn't it? People said they were upset about problems in the environment last April; many said they were willing to do what they could for the environment. Have they yet? It seems that there are many people who say recycling is a good thing to do. In a Gallup survey, more than 90% of consumers said they were willing to buy products from companies that are trying to protect the environment. If all Americans are really that enthusiastic about cleaning up the environment, why has so little been done since Earth Day?

I am not going to try to get all of you at WCCHS to become "environmental activists" overnight, but I would like to give you some information that I have learned from environmental clubs so that if you want to clean up a part of our world, you can do so more easily.

The Sierra Club does not send out constant surveys like Greenpeace does; it seems more like a silent organization that has been successful with environmental activism for almost 100 years. It was founded by John Muir in 1892 who wanted to "do something for wildness and make mountains glad." Muir and former President Theodore Roosevelt were both active environmental issue activists.

Since then, the Sierra club has grown to be one of the largest environmental organizations in the world. The club now has 500,000 members in 57 chapters and 355 groups that work on issues such as: Clean Air Act, Acid Rain, Toxic Air Pollutants, Hazardous Waste Management, Global Warming and Ozone Depletion, National Forests and Parks, and Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Protection.

The Sierra Club works through many facts in order to clean the environment. It works to influence political officials through lobbying and letters, it tries to educate the public on environmental issues, and uses its volunteer members to do as much as possible to reach the goal of "A world which allows all life forms to live and to prosper and in which we as people act

responsibly to respect the rights of all living things".

Members have the opportunity to go on outings as well as receive issues of **Sierra**, the club magazine and write letters to their representatives. The Sierra Club Committee on Political Education (SCOPE) is very involved in election campaigns of candidates with environmental records.

If you are interested, please write to the National Headquarters, Chapter Headquarters, or the Group Headquarters:

Sierra Club
730 Polk St.
San Francisco, CA 94109
Great Lakes Chapter
506 S. Wabash #525
Chicago, IL 60605
River Prairie Group
4946 Douglas #102
Downers Grove, IL 60515

There are several other environmental organizations around that would love to hear from interested possible environmentalists:

Earthwatch
Membership Services
P.O. Box 8037
Syracuse, NY 13217
or
Earthwatch
680 Mt. Auburn St.
Box 403
Watertown, MA 02272

EARTHWATCH "arranges expeditions throughout the U.S. and in 60 countries abroad for researchers involved in environmental and conservational studies..." it was founded in 1971. and is non-political, and non-for-profit.
Greenpeace
P.O. Box 3720
Washington D.C. 2007-7880

Greenpeace is a big group that tries to get the media involved with environmental issues such as the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

There is so much to be done to help our environment that it seems almost overwhelming. But, If we don't start somewhere, we will not even begin to solve worldwide problems. If you get a chance, please try one of these clubs!!

environment

Each member in the group is urged to pay a one time membership fee of \$5 to help fund the group.

Within SEAC itself there are many small committees: SEAC Newsletter, Contest, Publicity and a SEAC Bill committee which is currently drafting a bill to submit to State Legislature which would, if passed make recycling mandatory in all public schools.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of SEAC or just wants to listen in on a meeting are welcome. They are always looking for new members and meet every Tuesday at 7:20 in the RC classroom.

in effect

absorbs the ultra violet radiation from the Sun.

The "greenhouse effect" is a phrase popularly used to describe the increased warming of the Earth's surface and lower atmosphere due to increased levels of carbon dioxide (Co2) and other atmospheric gases.

The problem with the greenhouse effect is that it seems to be increasing. The gases (CFC's, Co2, Nitrogen oxides, and Methane) are increasing in quantity in the atmosphere mainly due to the actions of human beings. As the population of the world grows even larger, we release more of the greenhouse gases into the atmosphere by burning more fuels to supply energy, and forming more intensely to provide food. Man made gases in refrigerators and spray cans, are better at absorbing heat than natural gases, and they are also building up in the atmosphere. The result of all this is that the Earth is gradually getting hotter.

Summing it up, the greenhouse effect is caused when certain gases are reflected into the air, and remain there, blocking the escape of heat into the atmosphere. Indeed, without the greenhouse gases, the planet would be 54 degrees colder.

Goodfellas not so good

by Brian York



Recently, you may have seen women with faces of disgust rushing from movie theatres looking nauseated. They probably just saw *Goodfellas*.

I'm not saying that *Goodfellas* is a bad movie, it's not, just don't recommend it to your grandmother, those with weak stomachs, or fragile ears.

Young actor Ray Liotta plays Henry Hill. The movie takes us through the rise as well as the decline of Henry's life.

Along the way, we are introduced to two other main characters who equally "crash and burn" in their own ways. They are

Jimmy Connely, played by Robert DeNiro and Tommy, played by Joe Pesci. Both characters are enjoyable to watch.

DeNiro plays the leader of the three and always creates an aura of uncertainty in the air. "Never rat on your friends" he can be heard repeating to the novice and impressionable gangster Henry.

Tommy is just a plain crazy Italian. It seems as if he's always in envy of Jimmy Connely. The character of Tommy was, in my opinion, a refreshing change for actor Joe Pesci, who has seemingly forever characterized himself as the "OK, OK, OK, OK, OK, OK" guy in *Leathal Weapon II*. The movie *Goodfellas* definatly changed that notion.

There's a lot of suspense in this movie. Henry never drops his guard in fear of getting "knocked off" by one of his friends.. However gross, I do recommend *Goodfellas*.

by Tanida Suwaanath

If you're into violence and sick humor, go see *Goodfellas*. You'll like it. Trust me.

Ha! How many times have you heard that before? But, supringly, the movie is not that bad. It's a true story with a good cast of both old and new faces. Another plus is its direction under Martin Scorsese.

The movie begins like a *Wonder Years* episode. The main Character, Henry Hill (Ray Liotta) is the narrator of the story beginning with his childhood in Brooklyn, New York in 1955. Henry is a 13 year old boy who wants desperately to be a gangster. Instead of going to school, he runs errands for the head gangster Pauley, who is set up

across the street.

Henry grows up in the mafia society and is befriended by an older member, Jimmy Connely (Robert DeNiro). In the beginning, the characters are "goodfellas". Sure, they blackmail money from people and run gambling bets, but for the most part, that's the worst they do.

Enter Tommy (Joe Pesci) who is younger and a tad crazy. His method of solving a problem is by killing the person who bothers him. As Tommy gets wilder, the organization gets disrupted.

For the most part, I enjoyed the movie, yet I found it a little drawn out. Go see it on a Friday or Saturday night when you're not too busy.

Heere's Jonny

Jonny number one vs. Jonny number two

Editors note: The following are two conclusions to the article on the mysterious Jonny Mozetti which ran in the last issue. All writers wish to remain anonymous.

Mozetti, Mozetti... we were looking for the name everywhere when we decided to try the phone book and saw 40 different Mozetti's. Aie!Aie!Aie! Luckily, there were only five Jonny's.

We went to the address of the first Jonny, but were a bit scared about knocking on the door. The area was a bad neighborhood in Chicago. A few blocks away, at a stop light, four hoodlems had stolen our hubcaps and spray-painted "sucker" on the side of our car. When we asked a police officer to point us in the right direction, he informed us that we didn't have a prayer of getting there.

Anyway, we peeped through the keyhole of the mysterious Jonny's apartment and were blinded by gold chains around the neck of a huge Italian man. After straining our eyes for a while, a pizza man arrived. We

mugged him and took his clothes then rang the doorbell. As we handed the Italian his pizza, we took a look inside the apartment.

What we discovered was an enormous aquarium as long as the entire back wall of the little apartment. As the man went to get his money, we noticed gun holes along the walls in the room and we trembled in fear. They were even one through the aquarium which, strangely enough, held not water, but some weird noodles.

Gaining confidence, we boldly asked the man what was in the aquarium.

Actually, the guy was pretty nice. He explained that he was a retired gangster and that, at one time, he used to use the aquarium to drown people he didn't like. Now he puts it to better use holding his noodles. Apparently, he makes huge batches of the stuff at a time and stores it there until he can finish it.

He invited us to dinner and we feasted on these odd noodles. Truthfully, it wasn't that bad.

About 15 years ago, Jonny Mozetti and his mob came to We-Go and invaded the school. They took over the classrooms and all the students were allowed to learn was Italian, Intro to Guns 101, and Italian cooking. History classes taught students of all the mob greats.

Students loved it, but teachers were horrified. Somehow, Jonny had to be stopped. Robert Lemon, math teacher, put his black leather jacket on and jumped on his Harley. With the help of Frank Burzynski, another

math teacher, the two exhibited their Wildcat pride by storming down the doors of the school and running Jonny over with the Harley. The rest of the gang took off at the sight of the daring math teachers.

The school then had to find a way to keep Jonny's spirit from haunting the halls. Our dedicated lunch ladies came up with a meal that Jonny would detest. So, next time you eat Jonny Mozetti, remember you owe your life to Robert, Frank, and our wonderful lunch ladies.

Please, help those in need

by Michelle May



It became hard to read about the endless hardships homeless people have gone through. The loss of hope and desire became blurry behind my tears.

It makes me so angry that the richest county in Illinois could let 400 people (including 152 families) roam the streets in search of shelter and food. It has been said that DuPage is a great place to live if you are rich but awful if you are poor. The fact that there exist such a large amount of upper class individuals means there is only a small amount of affordable housing in this area for low income families.

Contrary to popular belief, most homeless people are not drunken bums who are too lazy to get a job. Most were middle class people who got themselves caught up in hard times. Losing their jobs, sickness, and many other factors contributed to their condition. Others grew up in poverty. Its hard to climb out of this rut once someone is in it. Most poverty level families pay 60-70 percent of their income on rent, leaving very little for other expenses.

There are an estimated 735,000 homeless people in America. This figure is often laughed at by homeless advocates. They say this number is not even close to reality.

The biggest victim of homelessness are children. There's an estimated 24,000 homeless under the age of 20 in Illinois alone. Fifty percent of homeless teens were once in foster care, most are runaways who left home to escape abuse. The rest are

"throwaways" who have been forced from their homes by parents who can't cope with their own marital, economic and emotional problems.

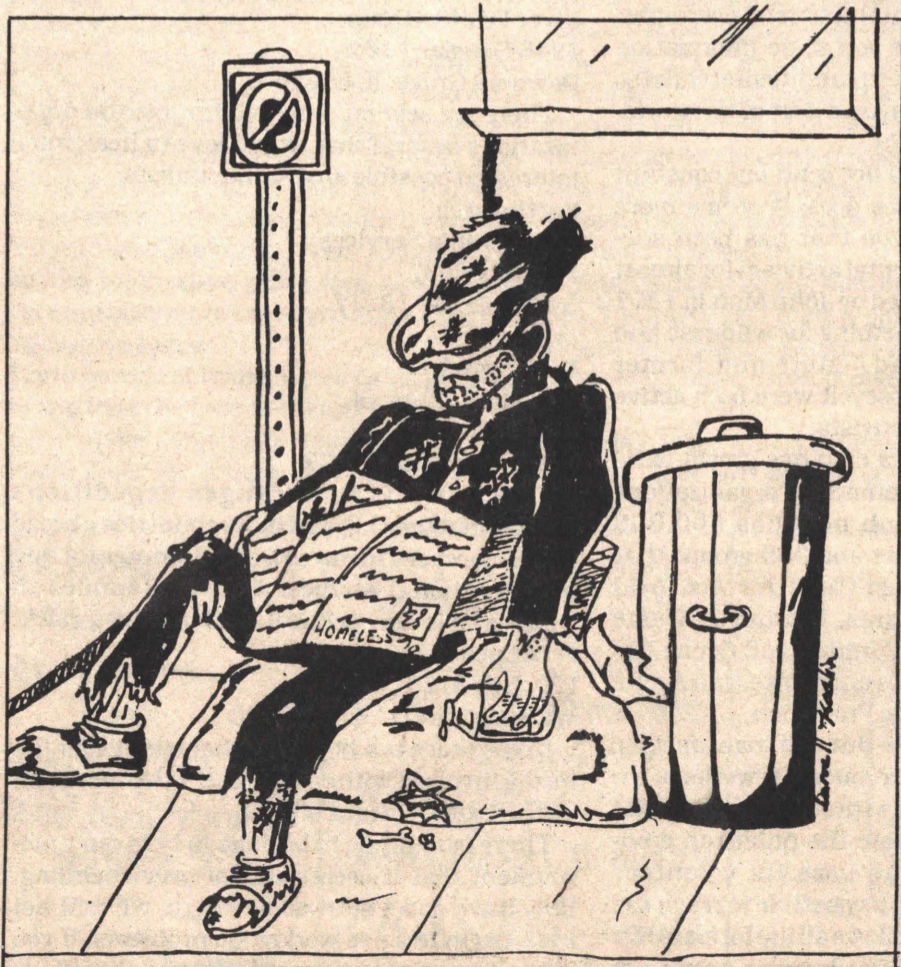
There is no typical description of a homeless child. They represent every racial and aconomic background. They are hard to recognize because they try to blend in with all the other kids from their area in fear of being caught and sent back to their abusive homes.

Three-fourths of the young people who remain on the streets for two weeks or longer become involved in prostitution, pornography, drugs, or other crimes in order to survive. In Illinois there are an estimated 9,000 homeless children who have been sexually exploited. Another 7,000 are pregnant, half of these being under 18. All of these are at a high risk of contractind the AIDS virus.

Not to be totally pessimistic, there is hope. The Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS) was formed in December of 1985. Their purpose is to provide a temporary solution to the lack of affordable housing. They provide seasonal shelter and food for homeless people. They are open between October 1 through April 30, and have 14 sites which are switched every night. With the help of 1,600 volunteers and 60 churches, they help 1,661 individuals.

West Chicago is involved in the fight to end homelessness. On Thursday nights, the First United Methodist Church serves as a site for PADS. They serve breakfast lunch and dinner. Viet-Now recently built a shower and bathroom in the basement of the shelter. Five other churches also help contribute to PADS.

To become involved contact PADS at 682-3846.



Football ends another hard season

Injuries, lack of depth main reasons for tough year

by Ed Bachner

Dreams do not always come true. "We had hoped to make it to the playoffs this year," Wildcat Coach Bruce Donash noted. "But having a small team with many injuries stopped us." The Wildcats finished eighth in the DuPage Valley Conference with an overall record of 1-8, 0-7 in the DVC.

"When Ed Gonzalez was injured, that hurt the team psychologically because he is a leader," Donash continued. "However, more team members became leaders." The Cats' senior halfback went out with a knee operation starting the kickoff of conference play.

Donash feels senior quarterback Shelby Dean's injury affected the team as a whole. "We could have won the Wheaton North game if Dean would have been healthy." Starters like senior long snapper Brian Phillips, senior fullback/linebacker/punter Matt Purdom and senior center Matt Zollner were forced to sit out games.

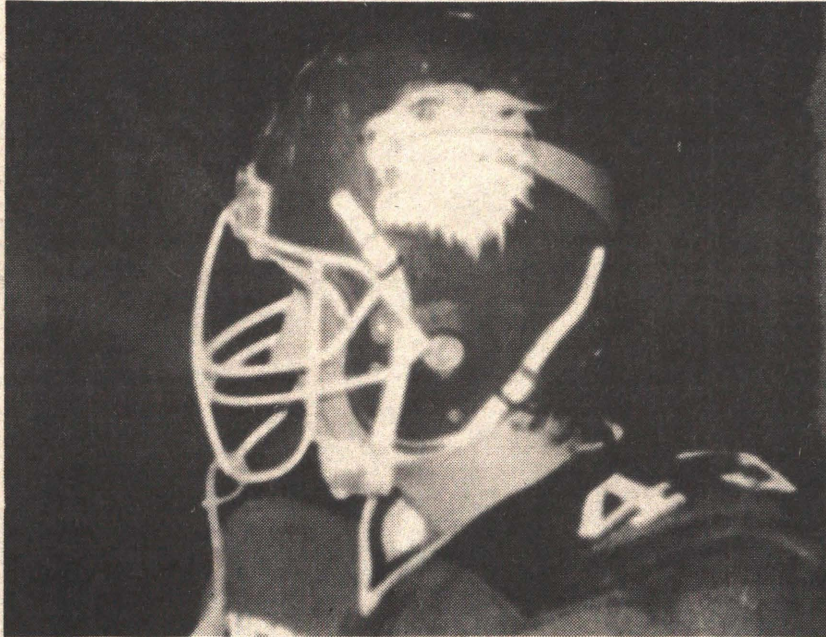
Many players have minor injuries that don't keep them from playing, but "they take their toll in the third and fourth quarters and make the players a step slower when they need to be a step faster," Donash said.

Fatigue has also hurt the team. Many of the DVC teams have separate offensive and defensive teams while the Cat players are playing on both the offensive and defensive

sides of the ball. That hurts the team's playing ability, according to Donash.

"Offense and defense are outstanding the first half. But both players on offense and defense tire out in the fourth quarter. We

"They're a good team right now," Donash added. "They are dedicated and have an outstanding attitude. I just wished for them that they'd have the opportunity to win more games."



Senior fullback Matt Purdom was one of several standouts that Coach Bruce Donash saw. (Photo by Gina Lipscomb).

have some great plays, but we're inconsistent."

Even though the team may not have played as well as they had hoped, Donash commended the team on its attitude. "It's easy to be enthusiastic when you're winning, but our team is enthusiastic even though they're losing. They won't quit no matter what happens."

Donash hopes that the players' off-season dedication improves because "we're in the best league in the state, but we're only a 5A team in a 6A league. If we expect to win, each player must be dedicated to playing football and willing to work at it."

"Many players stood out on the team this year," Donash commented. "Matt Purdom never leaves the field. He's on offense and defense, a kicker, the leading tackler and one of the leading receivers. He's done an outstanding job."

"Rick Ebberman and Mike Haugh have also done a great job and really stand out. But there really is no one 'star' player because a lot of players have worked hard this year."

Donash was optimistic about next year's team. "We will improve next year. Our sophomore team has 30 players and our junior group will come back with a lot of experience. If the number of players goes up, the team should do well."

Travels proved fruitful for swinger Turkot

by Chris Seper

The road to state qualification has taken Jon Turkot through two states and two very different teams.

"The team in Georgia won the state championship," explained the senior all-area golfer. "I was disappointed (coming to West Chicago) because they were a slop team."

Turkot moved to West Chicago at the start of his sophomore year, with the Wildcats finishing their season with three wins. This year, Turkot led the Wildcats to their first winning season ever, going 8-7.

"I was unhappy here," Turkot continued. "I didn't like the team and I didn't like the people." But with the change in years, so came a change in attitude as well as state qualification.

"I never thought I could win," Turkot admitted about his trip to Danville, home of this year's state tourney. "I only wanted to place in the top 10." The two-time all-area and all-conference selection seemed he might have the momentum to do so, shooting a fifth place 79 at the Burr Hill regional at St. Charles and a seventh place 80 at the Huntley sectional.

"This put the pressure on," Turkot said about regionals. "Last year I missed it (sectionals) by one stroke. It played with my mind." The round was just under his season average of 80.6 for 18 holes.

"Once I was there (at sectionals) I knew I could make it to state," Turkot continued. Turkot blistered the Huntley course, shooting an 80 in the wind and the cold.

At Danville, Turkot shot an 81 the first day, good enough for 11th place. But the next day, the senior linkster fell on troubled



The man and his swing: senior all-area golfer Jon Turkot.

times, shooting a 93.

"It felt good," Turkot said of the state experience. "It was an accomplishment. It made me feel that all my hard work and accomplishment paid off."

With Turkot's lone activity finished for the year, he now has turned his attention

toward the search for colleges. Although he jokes that he will go to "whoever will take me," he does hope to either be at Georgia Southern or Arizona State University to major in pre-med.

He also wants to join the PGA tour.

Strike outweighs high school playoff demands

by Chris Seper



Cross country had their shot at state, volleyball had their shot at a third straight regional crown and swimming will most likely have their shot at state.

The teachers did not strike.

Thankfully, the two events happening were only a coincidence.

As the tension of the strike grew more intense, more and more athletes complained that if the teachers struck, they would miss their regional, sectionals and state. The tension grew to "academic" proportions when athletes started to speak out against a strike, for the lone reason that they would miss their respective playoff.

Garbage. When you reach a certain level of anything, especially in sports, things become overemphasized. West Chicago athletics has reached state levels in a number of their sports. Most of our top stars are seniors and face their last shot at a regional, sectional and state championship.

But to hold off on a strike because these individuals will not be able to compete in regionals is one of the most unbelievably selfish things I have ever heard.

The teachers were getting gypped out of money, money that they earn for years of experience and hard work that they put into us. We were the lowest paid school in the DuPage Valley; the teachers deserve more. To say, "Wait until the playoffs end," is arrogant.

If the teachers do go on strike, they have to worry about putting food on the table, car payments, house payments and how they will be able to survive while a strike is on. Some teachers only have enough money to hold out for four or five weeks. No regional plaque would have been a comfort to them on the 36th day.

I am not strike crazy. I was glad there was no strike; but only because the teachers reached a fair agreement with the School Board. If the teachers continue to be mistreated by the board, they should strike, high school playoffs or no high school playoffs.

After all, it is only high school sports.

WILDCAT SPORTS TRIVIA ANSWER

Gail George has coached for a total of 21 years, eleven with the Lady Cats.

Home Sports Schedule and Playoffs

Soccer			
Nov. 2, 3	State Finals		TBA
Girls' Swimming			
Nov. 10	Sectionals		TBA
Nov. 16, 17	State Finals		TBA
Volleyball			
Nov. 3	Super Sectionals		TBA
Nov. 9	State		TBA

Boys, Horyn are off and running to state

Second-place team finish and Montalvo championship cap off sectional

by John Prusko

The Wildcat cross country team placed second at the East Aurora regional October 20. St. Charles won with 40 points.

The harriers were led by senior star Rick Montalvo who won the regional race with a time of 15:33, edging Mike O'Brien of Larkin by three seconds on the three mile course. Wildcat coach Bob Thompson said that he was relatively happy with their performance and that they run, "inconsistently, sometimes they're up and sometimes they're down."

In sectionals, the team placed second with 143 points, qualifying for state. Montalvo and junior Mike Callarman also qualified individually. Montalvo placed first at the race.

The varsity boy harriers had three of their runners in the top 10 in the regional. Montalvo was first followed by Callarman, who finished eighth with a time of 16:24 and sophomore Brett Siglin rounded out the top 10 placers with a 10th place finish, running the course in a time of 16:33.

Number four runner Oliver Koriath, who placed 16th, Thompson said, "He ran the best at regionals. He was the only one with a personal best." The number five runner was senior Mark Benja, who placed 24th.

The top five teams overall were St. Charles first, the Cats next, East Aurora was third, West Aurora was fourth, and Marmon was fifth. At sectionals, York again was the sectional team crown.



by John Prusko

"They surpassed all of my expectations" is what Wildcat cross country Coach Bob Thompson said about this year's harrier squad after they clinched the regional crown.

On October 20, the Lady Cat harriers won the East Aurora regional with a score of 42, just beating St. Charles by two points. Though winning regionals was not one of their original goals, Thompson feels, "ecstatic" about their accomplishment.

At sectionals, October 27, the Lady Cat team did not qualify for state, scoring 103 points and finishing fifth. Senior Nicole Horyn placed fifteenth. Senior Heather Jardis did not place.

Thompson said that the goals at the beginning of the year were to finish with the best conference record they ever had and qualify for sectionals.

The Lady harriers have an overall record of 112-10-1, a DuPage Valley Conference record of 4-3.

The top five teams in the regional were West Chicago first, and St. Charles second, Waubonsie Valley third, Larkin fourth and West Aurora fifth. At the sectional meet it was Naperville Central taking the sectional championship.

Swimmers hope to send eight to state

by James Smith

To say that the West Chicago Lady Wildcat swimming team is talented, would be making an understatement.

Coming into the sectional meet at Hoffman Estates, the 200-yard relay team of freshmen Corrie Gilgallon, junior Erin Myers, senior Carol Petusky and junior Jennifer Vavrek are ranked first in the state, and Wildcat coach Dan Johnson feels that the team has not even peeked yet.

"The sectionals we look at just to qualify the girls, I am looking for the girls to peek at the state competition. That's what really counts."

second in state in the 100-yard breast and is also ranked fifth in the 100-yard freestyle. She has set school records in these events with times of 54.06 and 1:08.06 in the 100 free and the 100 breast, respectively.

Along with the great times of this year, Johnson is very pleased with the outlook of the future. As the 200-yard freestyle relay is composed of three freshmen; Angie Lowell, Kate Ryan and Jenny Weigand along with junior Laura Bozidarevic.

"I am very happy with the progress that this team has made," Johnson said. "I expect them to qualify for state and expect good things from them in the future."



The Lady Cat Swim team will compete at the State meet in Evanston Nov. 16 and 17. (Photo by Gina Lipscomb)

The 200 medley relay has been simply splashing the competition out of the pool. With a time of 1:52.42, the team has set a new school record as well as becoming eligible to be the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association All-American.

Being a record breaker in the relay team has not slowed Petusky down one bit. She is also ranked first in the 100-yard backstroke and has broken the school record in the event four times. Her time of 59.23 in the 100 back has been her best all year and has also qualified her to be a NISCA All-American swimmer.

The same case can be made for the all-state breaststroker Myers, as she is ranked



The Lady Wildcat volleyball team, after being battered by state-ranked DuPage Valley Conference powers Wheaton Central and Glenbard East (above), were eliminated in the first round of their regional. The Lady Cats lost to St. Charles in two straight games, 15-3 and 15-5, to not win the regional plaque for the first time since 1987. The Lady Cats finished seventh in the DVC in front of Glenbard North. All but two of the Wildcat varsity players will be returning. The players leaving will be Cheryl Greenwalt, who was named to the all conference team. (Photo by Chris Seper)

WILDCAT SPORTS TRIVIA

How many years has Lady Cat volleyball coach Gail George been coaching?

(Answer on page 7)

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