

The Bridge

West Chicago Community
High School
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
February 14, 1992
Volume 21, Issue 7

New policies at We-go for ditching and tardies

by Tina McDermott

WCCHS has a new disciplinary policy for ditching and tardies.

Both ditching and tardies have called for new policies. These policies, decided on by all the deans and Principal Alan Jones, are more effective and really crack down on students, according to Dean Carol Sweder

These policies...are more effective and really crack down on students.

Parents of frequent ditchers receive a weekly attendance report in the mail. This report displays every apparent absence. Sweder says that many parents are extremely appreciative how quickly and efficiently the school deals with their child's absence.

The deans hope this change will cut down on the number of students ditching and being tardy.

The tardy policy was changed so that every teacher follows the same rules. The new procedure for the policy is the first tardy the teacher is to speak with the student, the second tardy is the teacher is to call the parents, the third tardy the teacher must assign a consequence, and any tardies after that, the student is referred to the dean.

The deans hope this change will cut down on the number of students ditching and being tardy.

The new ditching policy is for every absence, whether it be one hour or all day. The absence is called home to the parents and the parents are asked to have their child report to the dean's office the next morning to speak with the dean about why they were absent. If a student ditches during the morning hours their parents will be notified that afternoon. If a student ditches in the afternoon their parents will be notified the next morning.

Students face the pressures of college

by Jennee Caligiuri

Second semester is here, and for many of the seniors at WCCHS, this can mean time to worry about their pending future.

College of DuPage (COD) is a popular choice for many seniors. Dee Calderini plans to attend COD for one semester, but then hopes to transfer to a larger university. Calderini feels some pressure when faced with the of college. "Trying to figure out what I want to major in and getting money are some of the pressures I face going into college."

Senior Mark Giesler plans on attending COD and is feeling pressure because "I need to make a lot of money."

Giesler is not the only student who worries about money. Senior Nancy Eaton, who plans on attending St. Norbert's College said, "I have to worry about money! I only have the first year paid for."

Some seniors have already made all their college plans. Senior Samantha Newby plans

to attend Drake University in Iowa as a biology major with an emphasis on pre-law.

For Newby, who plans on running track and cross-country, college brings many questions, "How can I afford college? Can I get enough financial aid? Will I do as well in cross-country and academically as I did in high school?"

For senior Sean Odell affording college and "doing as well in college [Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh] as I've done in high school." remains a question.

Sarah Bant, who wants to major in business management has other worries, "How will I fit everything into my dorm?"

According to counselor Eugene Peterson, "For some students just graduating causes pressure."

Peterson also believes that the pressures originate junior year. "If a student starts planning during his junior year, it can lessen

anxiety senior year." Peterson believes there are many students who don't know what they want to do in their futures, while some know exactly what they want. According to Peterson, "Most of the students feel pressures regarding their futures."

Peterson believes that if a student plans early then the pressure is less later. Peterson suggests to students to take courses that are college-bound courses. This way the student can realistically look at college choices, and begin choosing the school that suits the student. Peterson also suggests taking the ACT's and SAT's during the spring of junior year, and applying to college October 1 to December 1. "That way they have plenty of time to decide what college they want to attend."

Peterson also believes, "The pressure they face their freshman year at college is more than most expect."

Fashion show and lip sync contest a success

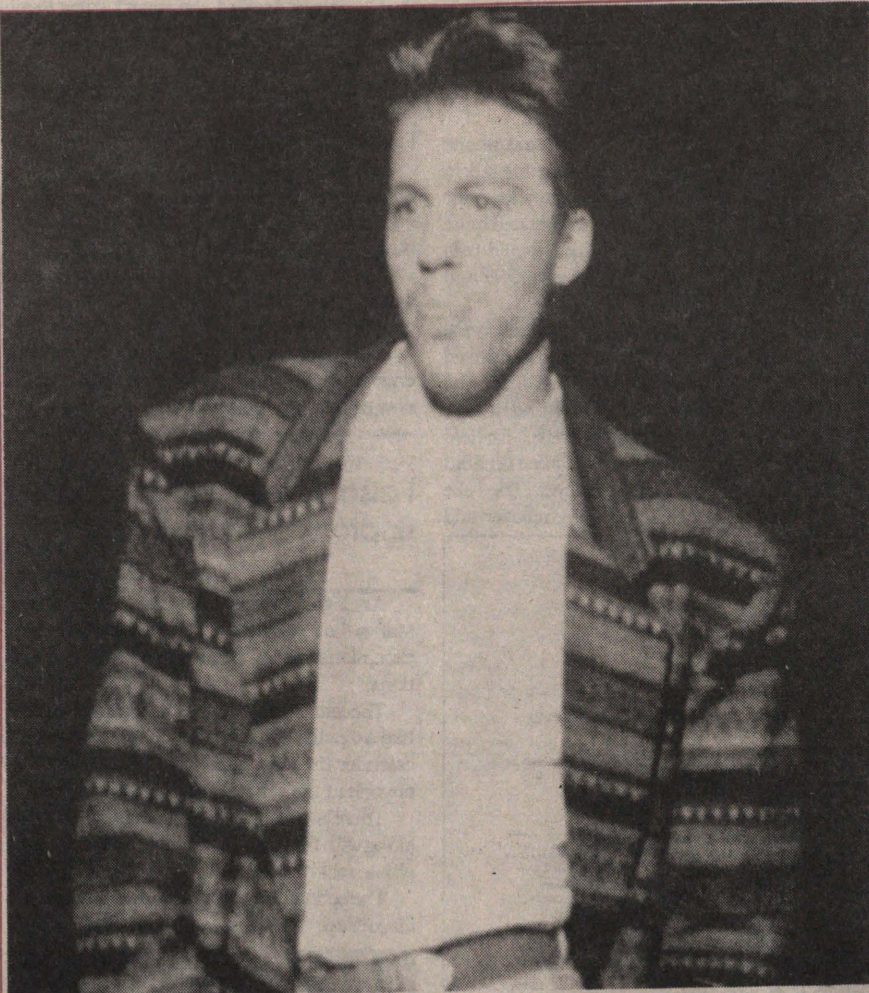
by Elisa Biancalana and Gina Lipscomb

On February 5 Student Council put on a fashion show and lip sync contest to help promote the new Charlestowne Mall in St. Charles and raise money for Student Council at the same time.

Clothes were supplied by County Seat, Champs, Gap, 5-7-9, Merry-Go-Round, Contempo Casuals, Dejaz, Structure, Express, and Casual Corner. Students who wanted to model the clothes entered their names into a drawing and were chosen at random.

Senior Sandy Dawson came up with the idea of having the fashion show and lip sync contest as a fundraiser. She was responsible for organizing both events.

There were 4 acts for the lip sync contest including performances of "You Don't Own Me", by Leslie Gore performed by Dina Bascharon, Denise Nance, and Vicki Thomas. "Black or White" by Michael Jackson won the lip Sync Contest and was performed by Monique Cleminson, Betsy Co, and Tina Martin. "Roxanne" by Sting was performed by Jon Martin and "Good Enough" by Van Halen was performed by Brandon McCauley, Rick Palma, Josh Urban, and Steve Walski.



Senior Jeremy Mayhorn models clothes from Dejaz at the Fashion Show and lip sync contest held on February 5. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

Inkspots

by Elisa Biancalana, Gina Lipscomb, and Dan Yonan

Winter Formal

Winter Formal will be held on February 22 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$5 (stag) and \$10 (couple) before the dance and \$6 (stag) and \$12 (couple) at the door. Proceeds will go to support prom.

Variety Show

FBLA will be sponsoring their annual Variety Show on Thursday, February 22. It will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Weyrauch Auditorium. Tickets will be \$2 for students and \$3 for adults at the door.

Winter play

The winter play Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl, will be presented on February 13, 14, and 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Weyrauch Auditorium. Tickets will be \$2 for students and \$3 for adults.

Orchestra concert

The orchestra will be performing Monday, February 24 in Weyrauch Auditorium. Both the junior high and high school students will be performing.

Student remembered



Senior Jennifer Ortyl and her mother Dorothy were killed Friday, February 7 in a car accident on Route 38 and Garys Mill Road.

The driver, Jennifer was headed east on Route 38 and was waiting to make a left hand turn onto Garys Mill Road, when a car hit them from behind and pushed them into oncoming traffic. Their car was then hit by a truck headed west on Route 38. The truck hit the passenger's side of the car. Mrs. Ortyl was killed instantly and Jennifer was taken to Central Dupage Hospital where she was pronounced dead three hours later.

Jennifer is survived by her father George, brother Chris, and sister Heather. The wake was held at Williams-Woodward funeral home. The funeral was held at St. John the Baptist's Church in Winfield.

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P.E. and G.P.A. don't mix at We-go

Physical Education isn't just another class.

Every day students attend a required physical education class and participate in different sports and activities as part of their curriculum. At the end of every quarter students are often tested on the material taught. A grade then appears on a student's report card along with all their other academic grades. The only difference between these grades are that a student's physical education grade does not count in the GPA.

Although the grade a student receives in their gym class will not affect their GPA, it will determine whether or not a student will be on the high honor roll or honor roll.

This was determined by a policy in 1986 which was decided on by the School Board. According to Principal Alan Jones, the reason behind the change was because certain colleges and universities do not count the P.E. grade while considering whether or not to accept the student. Jones feels that counting the gym grade in the GPA "does not give an indication of how a student will perform in college. Colleges judge on academics and not just on P.E."

Lori Jordan, Head of the Physical Education Department, holds different views on the 1986 policy. She replied, "I think anything important in the curriculum should count in the student's grade."

Jordan feels that not counting the gym grade in the GPA "affects a few students' performances in class." Superintendent Joel Morris replied, "Many kids know it's not counted so they may not perform at the same level."

As for changing this policy in the future, Jones said, "I wouldn't support putting the P.E. grade on the GPA."

The Bridge editors feel that the grade a student receives in gym classes should count towards their GPA. If this grade is important enough to count for honor roll it should also count for the GPA. Many students work just as hard in a gym class as in any of their other classes and we feel that it should count in the GPA and not be ignored.



Pow!!!



by Jamie McDole

Schedules

High school.

It is suppose to get you ready for college in today's day and age, isn't it?

According to Principal Alan Jones, a letter was sent home to all the students with their second semester schedule saying that all schedule changes were to be made by December 1.

Actually, according to Jones, a lot of parents have told him that they have not received the letter but, he "just can't believe that."

Here's my situation.

I wanted to get my schedule changed at the beginning of the semester to switch my seventh hour P.E. class with my fifth hour unscheduled so I could work after school to earn money for college. So I took a stroll down to my counselor, Gayle McDaniels. She told me right away that there would be no schedule changes this semester, they all had to be made before December 1 (D-day).

"Oh, yeah, that's going to do me a lot of good now," I thought.

So that day, I was in P.E. and started talking to my teacher Dan Johnson. I told him the trouble I was having with my schedule. He then proceeded to tell me that Lori Jordan was looking to take people out of seventh hour P.E. because the class was too big.

"That's groovy," I thought as I went to Jordan's office.

While I was there, she looked at the class sizes and told me she would give my counselor the change and we would see what would happen. She gave me a permission slip for bowling, fifth hour, and told me to get it signed. Jordan said that it wasn't definite but it looked good for the change.

So, the next day I went to see Jordan again during lunch. This time she told me that because of the new policy, my counselor would

not change my schedule.

Agh! This was getting ridiculous. I was stuck in seventh hour P.E.

I wasn't going to stop there though. I was going higher to see what was going on. Assistant Principal George Schrage was the next step on my way up the ladder.

I went into Schrage's office and told him that I needed \$3,000 more to pay for my first year of college. Usually I worked from 3 to 9 on weekdays and with seventh hour P.E. there was no way I could get to work before 4. So I told him that I needed my schedule changed in order to pay for my first year of college.

He told me he would look into it and to see him the next day. So I did.

I got the same response from him as everyone else. Due to policy change my schedule could not be switched. I told him that I was going to go Principal Alan Jones with this.

I went to Jones's office and told him my problem and asked him to change my schedule. He told me, "I'm not going to change your schedule." He didn't even take time to think about it. He just kept saying, "I'm not going to change your schedule." It was like a tape recorder.

So I told him that I thought high school was a stepping stone to college and high school was to promote higher education. I also asked him if I couldn't afford college what good was high school

doing for me?

Again he responded with, "I'm not going to change your schedule."

I said, "So what your telling me is that I can't go to college."

Once again he responded with, "I'm not going to change your schedule."

I was shocked. I felt like he was telling me that he didn't care if I went to college or not. He wasn't going to change my schedule.

Finally after staring at each other for what seemed to be six hours and 37 minutes, he spoke, and didn't say he wasn't switching my schedule.

He said to give me the name and phone number of my employer. He was going talk to my employer to see if I could start an hour later. He said employer were influenced quite a bit by schools. I didn't think it would help but I gave him the name of my employer and the phone number.

I called my mom and told her to call Jones.

I called her back a second time and asked her how it went and she told me that Jones and herself had got into a yelling match and he said, "I'm not going to change his schedule." She told me that he also said that he had taken time out of his schedule to call my employer. Then she told me that Jones called my employer and

talked to him for a long period of time, and that my employer had agreed to let me start work an hour later.

I was still upset though. I figured out that I was losing between \$300 and \$400 by not working that extra hour until baseball started. I also thought it was very unprofessional of Jones to get in a yelling match with my mom.

What made me laugh though, was the fact that my mom decided she wasn't going to sit there and listen to him anymore. She hung up on him.

That Monday, I went to get an appointment with Superintendent Joel Morris. I was hoping I could get some different results.

I made an appointment for that Wednesday after school.

When I got there we started talking about my schedule and it seemed to go well.

About two weeks later I went into see Morris again. He told me that they would possibly change my schedule after third quarter.

Okay I'm missing something. What difference does it make if my schedule is changed now or after third quarter?

I also thought it was very unprofessional of Jones...

A rule without exceptions is like Dan Quayle. Morris did say though, "It is a rule with very few exceptions" so I guess I can't say "no exceptions."

The letter everyone got, according to Jones, had a deadline of December 1. According to the calendar this date falls on a Sunday. Is there anyone at the school on Sunday?

There are just too many problems that go along with this new policy. Students should be able to mold their schedules around their needs.

The school should be here to encourage, not discourage education.

Letter to the editor

To Mr. "Pow",

In a time when the winter winds are hard to take, I thoroughly enjoyed reading your (Jamie McDole's) article. Thank you for taking me away from it all, even if it was only for a few minutes.

Hawaiian Dreamer,
Mrs. Patti Kozlowski



4th year philosophy

by Brian Levake



Last issue marked the halfway mark for the Bridge this year. I've got to be honest with you, I'm a little bit tired of writing about ultra-serious topics.

That's right. No more social spankings, spirit sticks, or world war. No more scorching and getting scorched for scorching. No more subjects that will bring hundreds upon thousands upon millions of kill letters. No more. At least not this issue, anyhow.

I thought I'd just sit and write about some of my greatest all time fears. One of these fears that I've come to terms with is the fear of clowns, on a serious and philosophical standpoint.

For one thing, clowns wear tons and tons of make-up. Lots of the clowns I've seen look like really bad grandmothers. Honest to God, clowns are so ugly.

Granted, the original intent for clowns (I think) was to amuse people and make them feel good about themselves because they're not like this pitiful thing (sort of like Pep Club and the Spirit Stick). Just kidding. But anyway, about 36 clowns come tumbling out of a polka-dot Yugo and proceed to squirt little kids in the faces. Why?

Then they go through the typical clown routine of squirting water down their own pants, running around and being evil. Not only that, but can you imagine all the little kids in Alabama that wouldn't starve to death

if clowns would throw just one less pie?

Accordingly, many clowns are being stereotyped as evil these days (thank God). There are evil clowns in books like *It* by Stephen King. There are evil clowns in movies such as *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*, *Poltergeist* and *Killer Clowns from Outer Space*. A clown in *FX2* beats up people. Clowns are even on *Saturday Night Live*. If you remember, Jack Handey devoted one of his "Deep Thoughts" segments to how a clown killed his father or something psychotic like that.

It is also my personal belief that Bozo is evil. Sure, he comes off like your nice friendly clown with his own TV show, but there is something much deeper.

His hair is red and is shaped like horns (Satan). He controls the minds of small children with his "Grand Prize Game" and "Grand March" (Satan). He promises bikes and money and treats if they throw little balls into buckets, only to laugh inside when the kids miss miserably (Satan). Senior Aaron Owens, who was on the "Grand Prize Game," said he couldn't remember the experience because he was "hypnotized by Bozo."

Not only does mistreat his audience, but also his co-host, Cookie. I believe Cookie is one of the true, sincere clowns in North America. Show after show, Cookie is chastised and insulted by the media evil clown ruler. Often Bozo will team up with the wicked sorcerer Wizzo and will spray or pie Cookie till near-death. Go, go, evil clowns!

Yes, I realize that there are plenty of righteous clowns out there, like our very own In-Touch Clowns, yet I still have nightmares at night about clowns. Like one where I had an evil clown math teacher and every time I got a problem wrong, this evil monstrosity would kick me with its extra big shoe or it would squirt water down my pants. Or another where I was at the circus and this evil clown picked me out of all these freaky people to jump off a 500 foot tower into a glass of water and if I didn't do it he would turn me into an evil clown.

Man, I hate clowns.



I hate you, evil clowns! (cartoon by Eric Schlotzer)

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The Bridge is the student newspaper at the 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 on 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.

Next issue quiz
The next issue of the Bridge comes out:

- A) On leapyear.
- B) Never.
- C) Friday March 6.
- D) When we're darn well ready.

Metal history in 350 words

by Paul Abella



Next time that you go to your local Flipside, before buying the latest Tesla or Polson CD, check out some of the bands that got them there.

Heavy metal is actually a product of the 60's, though it's much more popular in the 90's. Strands of acid rock and blues purism from the "summer of love" came together, and with the right amount of distortion, feedback and crudeness, some pretty good results came about.

Bands like Blue Cheer, the Who, Led Zepelin, and the Rolling Stones all had hits with this brand of music. Today's bands like the Black Crowes, The Four Horsemen, Guns n' Roses, L.A. Guns, and Slaughter are referring back to them today. So look in your Mom or Dad's box of old records for some of the albums that really got heavy metal going, like:

Led Zepelin, who most metal heads claim started the whole genre. Their first album is a great place to start. If you like that album, you'll probably like everything else they put out, but avoid *Led Zepppelin III*, *Presence*, and *Coda*, because they're real bummers.

Blue Cheer, whose records are next to impossible to find, are a treat. If you can scrounge up a greatest hits collection, you won't be sorry. They make Motley Crue sound like Michael Jackson.

Then there was the Sex Pistols. The band that would put down Led Zepelin, then steal their riffs and slowed them down. *Never Mind the Bullocks*, *Here's the Sex Pistols* is a good grungy metal album without an R and B edge. These guys led the way for bands like Motley Crue, Skid Row, and Whitesnake. And they had the most covered song in metal history-Anarchy in the UK.

The Rolling Stones had the metal attitude before anyone knew what it was. They lived sex, drugs, and rock and roll and would've rather seen all authoritative figures dead. Pick up their greatest hits album *Hot Rocks*, it's got all the tunes you would expect (*Satisfaction*, *Get Off My Cloud*), and some other awesome tunes like *Under my Thumb* and *Gimme Shelter*.

Top 15 things we should expect to see in the remaining months of 1992

by Brian Levake

15. The Mike Tyson farewell tour.
14. A precession and a postcession.
13. More honest answers from our national government.
12. A top ten single by Spinal Tap and/or Tiffany.
11. Dan Quayle win at Pebble Beach by 20 strokes.
10. The triumphant return of Morton Downey Jr. and the downfall of Maury Povich.
9. 6,439 more movies dealing with he same theme as *Boys in the Hood*.
8. The Chicago Cubs will go on a 67 game win streak, only to lose the division to the Mets on the next to last day of the season.
7. *The Bulls*.
6. Sugar Ray Leonard will not make a come-back.
5. People who spend their time trying to prove that Elvis is still alive will all get lives of their own.
4. The Detroit Pistons will make a national statement that simply reads "Gee, we're sorry."
3. The Bears will trade every single player they have and Mike Ditka will insist on playing every position himself.
2. Donald Trump will admit he's broke.
1. Another warm, snuggly year in West Chicago politics.

**Sane Larry?
At the Baker?
Saturday?**

6:30 p.m.?

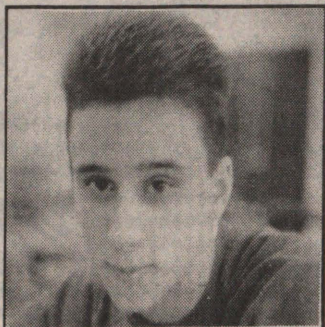
Yes, yes, it's all true. The Baker is right off rt. 64 in St. Charles. Also playing are local bands Limpspark and T.D.F.

Happy Valentine's

Valentine's Day Photopion

by Gina Lipscomb

Freshman, Nunzio Castellano said the best gift he ever received was "a stuffed animal and candy."



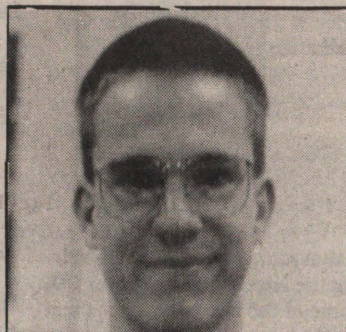
Kelly MacAdams, a junior, said, "My brother surprised me when I was feeling down with one dozen roses."



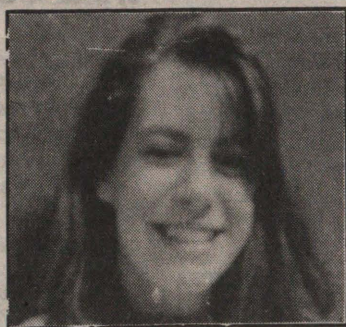
Brandy Harris, a Freshman, stated her favorite Valentine gift was "a red rose."



Junior Brian Metcalf received his favorite Valentine's Day gift when he was 13 years old. "I got a teddy bear that says 'I luv you' from some admirer."



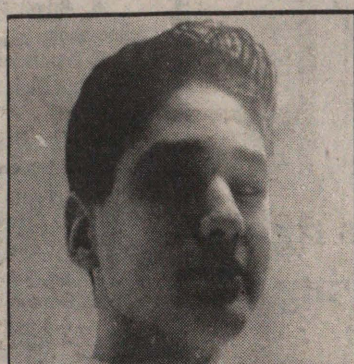
Sophomore, Nicole Cordin said, "When I was 10 years old, I was really sick. My dad brought me flowers."



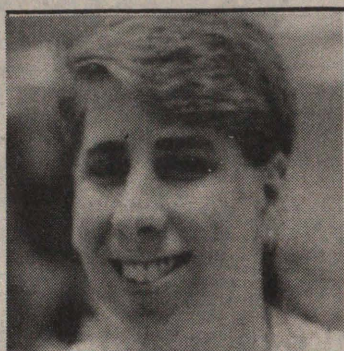
Tanya Brooks, a senior, said, "Last year I got two dozen roses. One dozen was pink and one dozen were red. It was very romantic."



Rene Castillo, a sophomore, said that his favorite gifts were "balloons and flowers from my mom."



Brandon McCauley said that "Going to a Skid Row concert with a good friend who has never been to a concert before" would be his favorite Valentine's Day.



The history of heart day

by Alicia Garceau

When Valentine's Day approaches, many people think of hearts, love, romance, and wolves. Wolves?!

Odd, but true the celebration of Valentine's Day began because of wolves. Before Christianity became accepted, it was said that wolves roamed the Roman countryside threatening people and killing sheep.

The Romans had a god to protect them from each evil. The god that protected the Roman farmers was called Luperus, the wolf killer. Around February 14 of each year the people would hold a festival, called Lupercalia, to celebrate Luperus.

Odd, but true the celebration of Valentine's Day began because of wolves.

As time went on, wolves became respected creatures. Legend dictates that a she-wolf named Lupa saved two abandoned infants. The infants, Romulus and Remus, would later be the founders of Rome.

Romans began to practice Christianity, but the Christian leaders believed it would be unwise to abolish the celebration of Lupercalia. Instead the name of the holiday was changed to Valentine's Day to honor a Christian martyr who was beheaded on February 14 in the year 270 A.D.

It has been said the Valentine, a Christian, performed secret marriages against the wishes of the Emperor Claudius. He was jailed and fell in love with the jailer's daughter. He wrote her letters to her and signed them "From your Valentine". He is called the patron saint of Love for all of these reasons.



Valentine's Day West Chicago

Celebrate the holiday the retail way

by Julianne Graczyk

Saying, "Happy Valentine's Day," just isn't enough any more. The purpose of Valentine's Day, is to send a gift, or greeting, to compliment your sweetheart. As you get older, valentines expect more than just a complimentary card in their mailbox.

Some people have gotten the idea that the more expensive the present, the more you care. Most teenagers do not have the money to demonstrate this concept. Results prove that high school students are less important to costly businesses.

A limited number of high school students buy jewelry for their valentines. "People buy things ranging from charms to engagement rings," stated a Lustig Jewelers (Charlestowne Mall) employee. Jewelry stores anticipate that their business will pick up for this holiday.

Most flower shops are very busy on Valentine's Day. The manager of Jacobsen's Flowers (West Chicago) claimed, "It's the single most hectic day of the year." Both Senne (West Chicago) and Winfield Flower Shop agree that Valentine's Day is their busiest holiday. Teenagers, however, occupy only a small percent of their business. The Winfield Flower Shop suggested that a majority of their business from teenagers comes from proms and dances. All interviewed flower shops sell mostly fresh flowers for Valentine's Day, with the most popular flower being roses.

Roses and jewelry have become more extravagant gifts. The younger generation feels the need to find more reasonable tokens of the Valentine season.

While Christmas is the largest season for greeting cards at Hallmark, Valentine season is the second largest. A great number of younger

people shop at Hallmark because they spend time at the malls. Other than cards, stuffed animals are also popular gifts with young shoppers. About one fourth of their business comes from teenagers on Valentine's Day.

Teens take up about thirty percent of the candy business during Valentine season. People between their late twenties and forties are the most important buyers. Fannie May (Stratford Square) believes, "Valentine's Day is a big part of our yearly profit." The manager said that the one pound red satin heart is a favorite gift because it is the "in between heart." It sells for \$13.95. An employee from another Fannie May (Carol Stream) said that trinitads are also frequently purchased for Valentine's day.

Helium balloons are the newest addition to Valentine's gifts. It's My Party (Winfield) said, "The day of Valentine's Day is the busiest day of the season." The large, mylar "I love you" balloon will most likely be seen leaving balloon stores on this day. High school students are the leading balloon buyers on Valentine's Day. Forty to 50 percent of their business from teens.

At West Chicago High School, Valentine's Day has not changed much. Receptionist, Ruth Mosson could describe the office in just one word, "busy." Flowers are the most typical gift to be sent into the office. The most memorable gift was a clear balloon filled with "teddy bears and all sorts of stuff."

Expect Valentine's Day to be full of gifts and greetings again this year. Everyone interviewed said that their business percentages, on Valentine's Day, have not changed much over the years. Although teenagers buy a greater percentage of low-priced presents, they must recall the true spirit of Valentine's Day. It is not how special the present is, but how special the person is.

The top ten nifty things to get him or her for Valentine's Day

by Brian Levake

10. Nestle's new "Tub o' Calories" candy treat.
9. The Jeffrey Dahmer "I Luv You" Heart.
8. A great big package o' underwear.
7. A loaf of bread to spread all the cheeziness on.
6. Sausage.
5. Taco Bell gift certificates.
4. A Barry Manilow record.
3. Not.
2. The "Nude, zucchini twirling, singing, mutated cupid-like man."
1. A big fat wet juicy smooch.

What to do on Valentine's Day

by Ann Shim

Valentine's Day is the special occasion to let your boy friend or girl friend know your feelings for them. If you are at a loss for ideas, here are some suggestions to express how much you care.

If you would like to take your date out to dinner, there are many restaurants in the area. The Mill Race Inn in Geneva is a possibility, as is the Old Church Inn of St. Charles. Both of these places require reservations. Another less expensive restaurant is Copperfield's in Downers Grove. If you are the sentimental type, you could take your date to the first place you two had dinner together.

Of course, some of us might be broke after buying our Valentines' gifts. If this is the situation, try inviting your date over for dinner. At your house, you can cook a special dinner for two. This might especially impress your date because it will let them know that you cared enough to put your own time into it.

If the dinner idea isn't enough, an evening

in Chicago can always be fun. You might see a play or catch a concert. Really impress your date and take him or her on a carriage ride through the city. The cost for one half hour is \$30. They are located on the corner of Pierceson and Michigan near Watertower.

If the dinner idea isn't enough, an evening in Chicago can always be fun.

In a creative mood? Set up a treasure hunt for your date. Hide the clues around town along with little gifts, such as roses or candy. At the end of the hunt he or she will find the treasure. That is where you will be and where your date together will begin.

Sometimes it is difficult to think of ideas for Valentine's Day, but it is important to make sure everything is perfect. These are just a few suggestions, the final idea is always up to you.

THIS VALENTINE'S DAY
tell your someone special
you care with flowers

from

Jacobsen's
Flowers
and Gifts



Stop in or call
Today!

115 Main St 293-1338
West Chicago

Teachers Exner and Wiggen weren't always here at We-go

by Eric Schlotzer

Mr. Wiggen can often be found in his classroom, the science office, or keeping an eye on students in the hallway during passing periods. Although many students recognize him solely as a Physics teacher, Wiggen has held other jobs to make a buck.

Wiggen spends his summers working at Fermilab, but he admits that it doesn't pay well, especially when compared to his old summer job. It's possible that you may have even run into Wiggen while dining at a highway side "Big Steer" restaurant in Texas, or any part of the country.

Wiggen used to spend his summers on the road, hauling furniture coast to coast for Allied Vanlines.

Wiggen was an irregular route driver, which he describes as a, "Long, generally boring, and relatively difficult job." Trucking also has a positive side.

"It paid more than teaching school", explained Wiggen, "I could make more money per month hauling furniture."

What's the most interesting thing about trucking? "The people that you meet working out of truck stops."

Mr. Exner is in charge of our school's art

department, in fact he is the art department. Besides teaching at We-go, he does free-lance artwork and is painting professionally. Exner's latest is a series of paintings that he hopes to get into an art gallery when finished.

Through the years he has worked several jobs that are not related to art instruction. His list of occupations includes: Garbage man (during college), assistant to a professional sign maker, caracaturist for a Twin Cities nightclub, department store display designer, and Peace Corps worker.

Exner was in the Corps from 1977 to 1980. His three years of service were spent on the island of Montserrat in the British West Indies.

"That's spelled M-O-N-T-S-E-R-R-A-T." Exner explained as he scurried around his room. "People tend to misspell it and it comes out as 'monster rat'."

Exner recalled the time when his little brother came to visit him on the island and the near death experience that they shared.

"He came over for Christmas and one day when we were walking through town, we just decided to go swimming. I don't know where we came up with the idea, because nobody over there goes swimming in December because the currents are so strong." Then he

said that the waves were cresting at 10 feet coming in and about five feet going back out to sea. In minutes they had been towed about a mile away from the coast.

"When I realized how far out we were, I didn't want to tell my brother that we probably wouldn't be able to make it to shore again so I just told him that we should start heading back."

Exner and his brother turned around and struggled back towards shore. "I was just praying for my brother to make it. I didn't care if I didn't make it back, I just didn't want my brother to drown."

Eventually, Exner's brother was thrown ashore by a wave. Relieved, now that his brother was safe, Exner didn't notice a wave coming for him. When he turned around, "...all I saw was a wall of water and I just kept looking up, and further up... and then I remembered! What they teach you in body-surfing is to dive under the really big waves."

Exner went under what he referred to as "the big kahuna" and ended up thirty yards down the beach from his brother.

Another tale of jobs past was set in the Minneapolis department store of Dalton & Hudson's. Exner was hired as a display

designer and had begun work on his first "big job". He was to make a display for belts.

"You have to understand that these weren't cheap belts, they were leather and the cheapest was about \$40." His first attempt was weaving the belts together on an iron frame. His manager told him that it was nice, but the belts would be bent permanently and ruined.

The second attempt consisted of a dismembered mannequin, bent around a corner and suspended high along the wall. The result looked like a woman had been unusually contorted and strapped to the store's walls by many leather belts. The display proved to be a bit much for the people of Minneapolis and Exner was fired. "She (his manager) told me that 'it might be all right if this was New York, but it wasn't OK for them' More recently, "Mr. X" worked as a substitute teacher before landing a job as an art teacher at a junior high school in Wisconsin.

Exner has held various jobs and worked in foreign lands. Now he teaches art to high school students. Mr. Wiggen has gone coast to coast hundreds of times in a "big rig", but teaching physics is his main interest. Both of these individuals have had their share of travels, but We-go is the place they call home.

Vegetarians speak out

by Brian Levake

Vegetarianism. Gotta have it.

Students at We-go have taken the "meatless" way of life and cut animal flesh out of their lives. Such reasons for going vegetarian are cutting saturated fats for health purposes, and/or against animal cruelty.

"I hate the way it chews, said senior Alicia Garceau. She continued "it snap crackles and pops."

Michelle May has been a vegetarian for over four years, she decided to go vegetarian after she fond herself "soaking the blood off her steak plate." "I started to question my morals, I was always against hunting but by eating meat I was forcing someone else to do the killing for me," she said.

Vegetarianism varies in degrees, some people cut out the red meat in their diet, while others don't eat any meat or wear leather. The more extremists are dedicated animal rights activists. Garceau and May once demonstrated at the DuPage County Fair against rodeos. They handed out leaflets and as May put it, "Most people looked at us like we were crazy, but we did get a few people to change their minds and not enter the rodeo, one pamphlet even got into the hands of the fairs organizer. At least we let them know that their was opposition to their in-humane 'family' activity." May was even thrown out of Stratford Square Mall for putting tags into the pockets

of fur coats at Arctic Dream. "I think it made them mad because it made them think about

what they were actually selling and buying." Most animals that are used for fur are factory farmed and killed by having an electric rod shoved up their hind quarters. In order to electricute them and save the fur from being damaged.

With this new awareness into animal cruelty three out of the top five furrriers have filled for bankruptcy in the past two years.

As far as what vegetarians eat, some of their top picks are Olive Gardens Eggplant Parmasign, The Main's Cheese Enchiladas, Sbarro Pasta Salad, Al's Ice Creamery Veggie Melt (and chocolate-peanut butter malts) in St. Charles, and Chopstick's Vegetable Chow Mein in Naperville.

One of the best vegetarian restaurant overall is Cabaret Voltaire off of Belmont. They also have cool performance artists downstairs.

For those who don't wear leather, a good place for man-made shoes is "Shoe Works," where they have a large selection and they are cheap.

The Body Shop in Woodfield is dedicated to fight animal cruelty. All of their cosmetics are natural and not tested on animals.

As senior Gina Lipscomb put it, vegetarianism is "more than just soy and tofu."

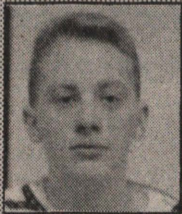


Could this one day be the vegetarian symbol? (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

Concert corner

"The world's greatest rap show ever"

by Brian Levake



My new years resolution was to see a lot more rap shows in '92. I started the year off right by seeing a giant bundle of rap acts at the Rosemont Horizon.

We missed DJ Quick and MC Lyte, and by the time we found our seats, A Tribe Called Quest was on.

Then came Queen Latifah. The only surprise with her is that she swore a whole lot more than anyone else. If I had some fruit I'd have flung it when she did *Lady's First*. It got better when Naughty by Nature came on. The Queen also sang with them on the second verse of *OPP*.

They got the crowd ready for DJ Jazzy Jeff & the Fresh Prince, who sang more than their share. Then the hosts of the show, Kid n' Play, introduced the Geto Boys.

DJ Ready Red introduced them one by one, as Scarface sang *Horny don't Play That*, Willie D, "the gangster of love" did his

rap, and Bushwick Bill did *Chuckie*. My *Mind is Playing Tricks on Me*, a Top 10 hit, was their finale.

Then came Public Enemy, what everyone was waiting for. Out came a man clad in a KKK uniform, who was lynched after a speech by Flavor Flav and Chuck D. They stressed that whites aren't the only racists, and that drugs are the worst enemy of man.

PE performed for almost a full hour, featuring the raps *Lost at Birth*, *Can't Truss It*, and *I Don't Wanna be Called Yo Niga* off their new album *Apocalypse '91 (The Enemy Strikes Black)*, and *911 is a Joke*, *Fight the Power*, and *Welcome to the Terrordome*, off their 1989 smash *Fear of a Black Planet*, among others. It seemed pointless that they did *Bring the Noise* without *Anthrax*, but they did anyway.

Clad in mostly Public Enemy clothing, the highlight of the show was when Flav, Chuck D and Bushwick were all on top of the speakers.

By now the hearing in my right ear was long gone, and the left was going in the same direction.

With little doubt, this is the best concert I have ever attended, and although we white fans were outnumbered some 50-1, I was surprised how well we were accepted.

Day of the "Dead"

by Paul Abella

This year, some great concerts are hitting the Chicagoland area. Guns 'n' Roses, U2, Nivana, and as always, the Grateful Dead.

The Dead concert is easily the most important, exciting, fun and amazing concert in the bunch. Not because of the drugs, but because of the music and the people around you enjoying the music.

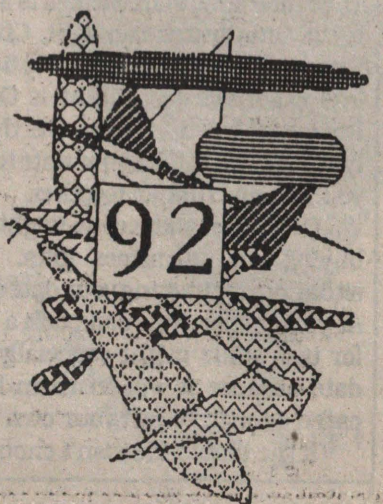
Most people see the Dead and their fans as pot-smoking, acid-dropping freaks from the 60's. This is only true for some of the fans of this long-standing American institution. Of the concerts I've been to the fans at Dead concerts are the most generous, kind, and interesting people you can ever meet. It's sort of like having 50,000 of your friends together for a party with a cool band.

The music is what really sets these guys apart from everyone else. The music is much more mellow than, say, Gun's and Roses, and much more artistic and sensible than, say, Michael Jackson. And the songs all seem to blend in together in a loose way that makes a Dead concert a unique one, from the all time favorites like *Friend of the Devil*, to the applause raising *Terrapin Station*, Dead concerts are always cool. The people around you make it an easily enjoyable and memorable concert, and while the Dead are on tour, the concert season won't be a waste.

"92
A YEAR FOR
CHANGE"

Variety Show

February 27 at 7:30
in the Weyrauch Auditorium
adults \$3
students \$2



February 14-29

Feb. 14

Wrestling-Sectionals
(Downers Grove North)

Feb. 15

Wrestling-Sectionals (Cont.)

Feb. 18

Girls B-Ball-Naperville North

Feb. 20

Track-East Aurora, Larkin

Feb. 21

Boys B-Ball- Naperville North

Feb. 22

Swimming- Sectionals
(Home)

Feb. 27

Track- Glenbard North,
Geneva, Rolling Meadows.

Feb. 28

Boys B-Ball-Wheaton North
(Home)

Editors note: Sectionals,
only have Wildcat partici-
pants if qualified

Eaton, swimmers dive into sectionals

by Liz Gernand

The boys swim team is looking past their season record toward state competition.

To this point the team has won one duel meet and lost three. In triangular meets they have taken second in one and first in

tion to make it to state competition. If a relay qualifies for state it will be a first ever for the team.

At this point Eaton says her top four swimmers are senior Brian Levake who swims breaststroke and the 200 individual



Senior Brian Levake speeds through the water in practice. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)



Junior Dave Flatter shows his freestyle form in practice. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

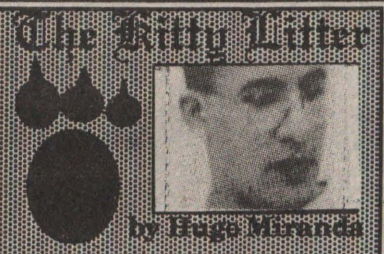
another. Swim Coach Mary Beth Eaton said the team's record does not really reflect the way her team has performed. She said, "We lose a lot of meets because of size, we swim well, but we don't fill all the spots."

This year the team would like to send a relay to state. Eaton said, "We're about six seconds off (state time) in both the medley (relay) and the 200 freestyle (relay)." She said there is a lot of competition to make the relays; which will hopefully make the times of both relays better and in conten-

tion to make it to state competition. If a relay qualifies for state it will be a first ever for the team. At this point Eaton says her top four swimmers are senior Brian Levake who swims breaststroke and the 200 individual

medley (IM), Junior Dave Flatter in the butterfly, and two freshman, Cory Johnson in the breaststroke and IM and Steve Petusky in the 50 and 100 freestyle.

Of the six divers on this year's team Eaton is hoping that top diver, senior Dave Vaillancourt, has a good sectional meet and qualifies for state. First year swimmer, senior Brian Stewart, has been a great surprise to Eaton. She says, "He will swim about anything I ask him." She also said he would probably be a member of the sectional team.



by Hugo Miranda

SENIOR POWER?

For as long as athletics have existed, seniors have been a crucial part of teams. Even though team efforts lead to victories, seniors are usually looked to for leadership and sometimes motivation. The lack of seniors in sports this year has been an issue of discussion.

During the fall season only 53 out of the 157 varsity athletes were seniors. The most successful team was the soccer team which contained the most seniors, 15 out of 28 players. Each of the seven fall teams had an average of eight seniors. According to other schools rosters this is a considerably low amount of seniors.

During the winter season numbers got even lower. The senior average per team dropped to five. Wrestling seemed to get the worst of the "senior drought" with only two seniors out of 52 wrestlers.

This brings up the question, "Could this have contributed, for the better or worse, to the teams?"

A big key to successful seasons is the experience the athletes have when they go out into the "arena." From this they get confidence, and from that comes the desire to win. For the most part, varsity athletics are very different from freshman and sophomore athletes, making junior year a stepping stone into varsity sports. When athletes are put up against other schools as a junior, sometimes the athletes aren't mentally ready.

The fact that varsity sports are made up of juniors and seniors has a lot more importance than some people think. When a senior dominated team has been together for two, three, and sometimes four years, there is a vital element called unity amongst the team. Once in a while a junior dominated team will exceed all expectations, but statistics and past history has proven this senior theory correct.

Could it be the fault of the Senior class or mere coincidence that there are so few athletes among the Class of '92? As bad as this is sounding there is a very good thing that comes out of all this. Juniors, sophomores, and even some freshman are getting some valuable varsity experience that may pay off. That is, if they remain in that sport until their senior year. This could turn into an endless cycle that will prove to be the decline of West Chicago sports. Moral of the story: stick with it.

Wrestlers gear up for state competition

by Dan Ventrelle

With the state tournament looming in their very near future, Wildcat wrestlers and coaches have begun their preparations as well as looking to the future.

The winter sports season of 91-92 has been one of much dedication and diligence for the Wildcats. The coaches have pushed these young athletes hoping that they would eventually reach their full potentials. Head wrestling coach Robert French feels that this is now near. French stated, "We're beginning to reap the benefits of a lot of hard work." French feels that the cats are beginning to utilize some basic techniques of the sport which could lift the team out of the realm of the ordinary.

The most important of these tactics which the Cats have begun to utilize as a part of their general strategies is aggression. French felt that the team's use of this aggression was extremely profitable. "We're starting to go after them, were not letting them come to us anymore, the kids have gotten more aggressive," he said.

The team as a whole has had numerous

underclassmen contribute to the team's cause. These contributions have been making a difference in the ranks of the varsity competition. Mike Genovisi, at the 125 pound rank has been one of these underclassmen. Genovisi, a freshman has been very successful in French's estimation. While not posting an exactly stellar win-loss record, Genovisi has dedicated himself all year to becoming a good varsity wrestler. Similar comments can be made towards the contributions of sophomore Tom Hysey. Hysey, who has wrestled at the 130 pound class thus far this season according to coach French has had his ups and downs. French said that, while Hysey has had his difficulties, he is finally beginning to come into his own as a wrestler. French believes, "We have a tough schedule and for a freshman or sophomore to come up and do as well as Genovisi and Hysey have is extraordinary."

Along with the early success of the underclassmen presently wrestling at the varsity level of competition, many other underclassmen have showed great potential for their future in varsity wrestling. One of the most

prominent and promising of these rising stars is sophomore Greg Yourek. Yourek has demonstrated great determination, confidence and patience in awaiting his turn to compete at the varsity level. Yourek has not focused his season on becoming a varsity wrestler, rather on helping the team at any level he is asked to compete at. Other upcoming young competitors are John Breen, Brian Carlson, and Dave McShane.

Unfortunately, coupled with the success of the underclassmen has come distressful happenings with Israel Castro. Castro, previously undefeated, was defeated in a closely fought match. It was anticipated that Castro's most difficult match of the year would come against fellow lightweight Mike Renella. Unfortunately, this was the case as Castro was defeated by a one point margin and consequently was stripped of his undefeated status. This loss was a heartbreaking one for both Castro and Wildcat coaches. The one point margin of victory occurred on a point given to Renella in the last period of wrestling. At the beginning of the period Castro was granted an advantage on Renella which he

gave up, therefore, Renella was given a point. This action was taken because of Castro's immense skill on take down maneuvers. The coaching staff felt that Castro's points for a takedown would more than cover for the single point given up for succeeding the advantage at the beginning of the period. However, this was not to be and Castro's dreams of an undefeated season were shattered.

Looking beyond this season, Coach French feels that the outlook for the future of Wildcat wrestling is extremely bright.

The Cats anticipate losing only two of their varsity competitors to graduation in 1992. Aaron Owens and Hugo Miranda are the only senior wrestlers slated for graduation with the upcoming class after the conclusion of this year. This benefits the team in that the varsity squad will generally remain in tact.

With the present varsity participants whom will return next winter and young dedicated athletes such as Yourek, French feels that the power base is there for the Wildcats to become a true "force to be reckoned with" in the future.

Aaron's Top Athletes
Swimming

Basketball

Wrestling
February 14, 1992

B. Basketball

Eric Heinz

Eric is known as one of the most exciting players in DuPage County, with his explosive slam dunks, and 26 points per game average. He is currently leading the Cats, the DVC, and all of DuPage County in scoring, and also hails in 16 rebounds per game.

Wrestling

Tate Knutson

Tate has been a consistent winner for the Wildcats wrestling at 160 pounds this season. He finished 5th in the conference, avenging a loss to a Wheaton Central wrestler in the fifth place match-up with a pin. Tate has shown his dedication and hard work ethic, pushing himself in practice as well as competition. He is currently rated 7th in DuPage County by the Daily Herald.

G. Basketball

Amy Barnes

Junior shooting guard Amy Barnes has been the main contributor for the fourth place Lady Cats. She averages 14.8 points a game. She is also the top rebounder on the team averaging 8.1 rebounds per game. This all around player also excels on the defensive side of the floor, blocking twelve shots this season.

B. Swimming

Corey Johnson

Johnson has shown he can be a good swimmer on the varsity level as well as a standout on the freshman level. A consistent top three finisher in the 200 individual Medley, and Breaststroke on the varsity level, Corey has helped his team contributing many points. On the freshman level Johnson has broken and helped break 3 freshman records. Johnson broke the freshman I.M. record and also was a swimmer on the record breaking 400 free and 200 free relays.

Next issue.

State results
from Winter
Sports.

A Lack of Love, dedication in athletics

by Jason Mummert

"The (Wildcat) sports teams are not exactly the most fun thing to do with your time."

These are the words of a Wildcat athlete who stated he was so upset with his coach that he didn't even try out for the football team he had stared on for three years. If that is any incranation of the relationships between athletes and coaches, don't expect to see the poms' delivering many carnations to coaches on this day when love and friendship should prosper. "I think that he (the wrestling coach) is an idiot... I can't stand him." said a junior wrestler.

Coach Owens, (wrestling and soccer) who is more commonly known as Bruno, says that when he first meets the team, he wants them to understand that he is going to not just encourage them, but also yell and scream at them, yet not to take it personally. "...it's because I care" he explains. Owens says that he would like to talk to someone who is feeling like quitting. This statement is agreed with by Football and Freshmen Basketball Coach Bruce Donash. Donash, who has seen the freshmen teams roster go from 31 players to 26, says he wants them to "quit like a man." A word stressed as important by both Owens and Donash, as

well as Golf/Baseball Coach Tim Courtney is "communication." Their reasons for this common belief are that if you don't understand each other, or at least want to understand and get along with other, than athletes will feel outspoken and angry for almost nothing.

On the varsity level, according to Owens, not everyone gets to play all the time, and although most of the players give an excuse such as getting a job, that may not be the real reason for quitting. "I feel the ones who quit (referring to wrestling and soccer this year) did (so) because they weren't playing on varsity. I don't like people to start and not finish.", added Owens. Senior soccer and wrestling standout Aaron Owens feels that "They quit because the work is too hard for them. They think that it's going to be an easy thing to do and not have to go to practice and then they find out that they do."

Basketball has also had it's share of troubles this year, with players quitting and some coming close to it. The relationship between players and the coach (from an outsiders point of view) is anything but loving. "I didn't like the coach, I thought he could have done a

lot better job." said a former player.

Athletic Director Bob Hansen thinks that the problems are a result of people blowing small arguments out of proportion. "You could go to any school across the country and you'd find problems. Everyone has bad days. If you look at a family, who are supposed to love one another, do you think that any one family never has fights? No. When you have people working together hours on end you are bound to have minor conflicts."

On a final note, coaches have the opinion that the scuffles take place in teams occur during practice, because of the fact that those on the team are working hard, and want to win. They have to have communication, and an open relationship. An example of this is Coach Owens open relationship policy. "If someone has suggestions on things to do, or a problem with something, they should come to me and we will discuss it like men. But they have to understand that once we make a decision, that decision is final."

Is there a lack of love between the coaches and players at We-Go? Hansen says "No, I think that all coaches love their kids and want them to love one another." But ask the kids if they agree with that.

To my valentine, sports

by Aaron Owens

Blood, sweat, and tears.

There is no doubt that sports are hard work, so why are people so dedicated and tolerant of the sport they love.

"I don't know (why I love swimming)," said swimmer Brian Levake. "I think chlorine has addicting qualities." Levake has been swimming for more than ten years and he believes it's more of a habit than

'Golf is a state of mind, nothing compares to it.'

Jamie McDole

the sport itself.

"After ten years you get to the point where you can't live without it," said Levake. "It's (swimming) torture, but I'm into grousome torture."

Senior Jamie McDole has lost his bout with Cupid to the sport of golf. "God, I love golf," said McDole. "Golf is a state of mind, nothing compares to it." Jamie believes his love for golf stems from the age old struggle of man versus nature. "All there is out there is you, the club, the ball, and the golf course. It is beyond fun."

'I like it mostly because it is fun to win.'

Fiona Quane

Fiona Quane is one of the few athletes who can put their finger on the reason for the love of the sport. "I like it mostly because it's fun to win," said Quane. "but it's not just the success, I would still play if we were losing. But it wouldn't be as much fun."

Baseball seems to be a sport which not only captures the athletes involved but also a great number of fans. Baseball is so popular in America, that it holds the title of "America's pasttime." One of the athletes captured in this web, is senior Andy Johnson. "Baseball gives me a warm fuzzy," said Johnson. "It gives you a feeling no other sport can."

Football, also grips people in its tight claws. "It's just fun," said Hugo Miranda. "I can take out my aggressions-legally." Tate Knutson believes football is a sport that has grown on him. Knutson said, "I just started playing and never stopped."

The love of sports is so great it exceeds

the love of one's physical well being in many cases. Stories of football players playing on torn ligaments and broken bones while injected with pain killers, are common knowledge to anybody associated with Dan Hampton and the Chicago Bears. In the struggle to be successful, people risk their lives in taking steroids. Some people believe that success is worth the risk. Wrestlers go days without eating, and football players walk crippled from the results of playing many years in the rough game.

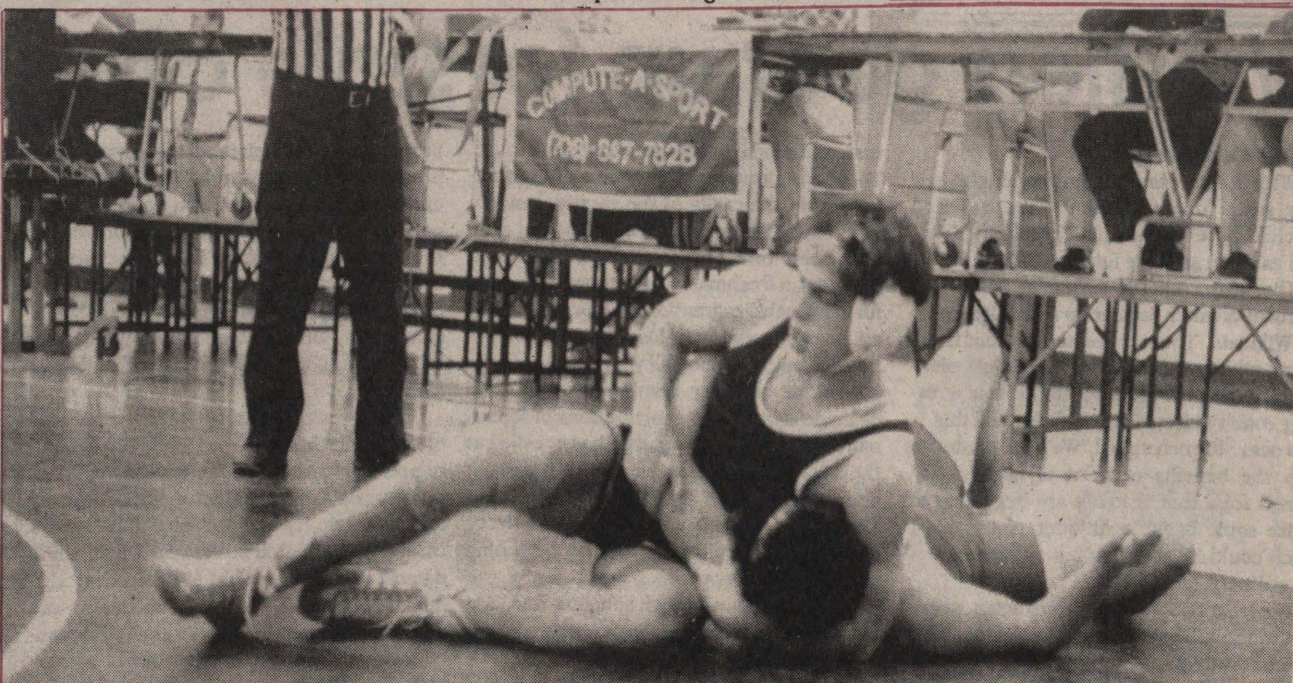
'People love sports and sports thrive off the people that love them.'

Brian Levake

'People love sports, and sports thrive off the people that love them,' said Levake. No pain no gain.

'No pain No gain.'

Anonymous



Senior Aaron Owens puts the clamps on his Wheaton North opponent. Wrestling on pg. 7. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)