

The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
April 20, 1992
Volume 21, Issue 10

Inkspots

by Elisa Biancalana, Jennee Caligiuri, and Jullanne Graczyk

School doors locked

The south parking lot doors located by the commons, and the north entrance located by the pool and tennis courts will be the only doors that can be used to enter WCCHS.

Assistant Principal John Highland stated, "We are simply attempting to channel all the traffic through two convenient entrances and in doing so limit access to the inside of our building to those attending Community High School."

Competition results

Business manager Jeanine Murphy competed in advertising in Colorado along with 1500 other students from around the United States. Although she didn't place, the majority of the scores were above average.

Turnabout a success

Student Council held their annual Turnabout dance on Sat, April 11. The Disco Inferno theme raised 700 dollars for the Student Council. According to their advisor, Mr. Robert Hein, explained that their profit was higher because they did not spend much money on decorations and music.

Blood drive results

Student Council held their Spring Blood Drive in the small gym on Thursday, April 9. Seventy-eight pints of blood were collected, and eight were deferred. The Student Council advisor, Mr. Robert Hein said, "This was particularly low for the Spring Drive. The donations usually hit over 100, and our record is 148."

Student Council in favor of representation at board meeting

On Wednesday, March 18, Student Council took a unanimous vote that a student should be a non-voting member at School Board meetings. They are now looking to pursue the matter.

West Chicago student enrollment on the rise

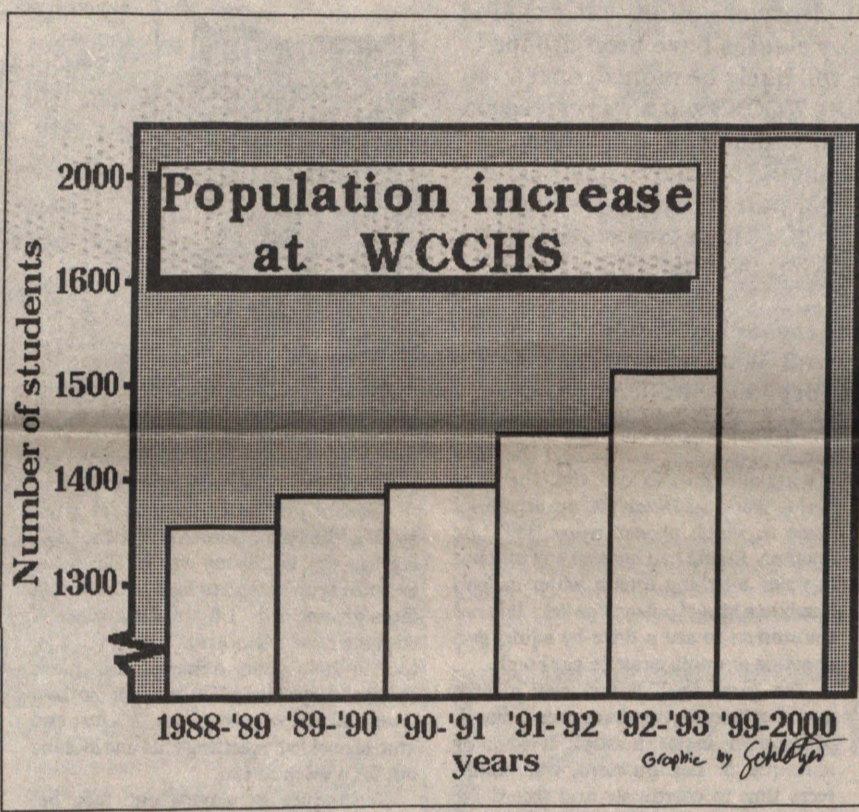
by Jennee Caligiuri

West Chicago Community High School population is on the rise.

According to Joel Morris, since the 1988-89 school year the population has increased 106 students, and the increase was expected to rise to 1,516 students for next year. But according to Morris 1,550 students have already registered for next year. Morris feels the reason for the increase is "because West Chicago is experiencing more transfer students that are not taken in account for during the projection."

According to Principal Alan Jones, "West Chicago is large enough to accommodate 2,100 students, but that would mean it would be very crowded." Morris said that "by about the year 2,000 there is projected to be about 2,000 students."

Jones and Morris agree that the increase will not affect the students learning. Jones said, "The classrooms would be full, but decent. WCCHS would be more like an institution rather than the small town atmosphere that we now have. The students would become numbers, not names. I like the atmosphere now,



where the administrators know all the students."

According to Morris, the school will need to make changes to accommodate the increase. "All classrooms will need to be used every day, during all periods. All the P.E. facilities will be used throughout the day, and the new five lunch periods will go in effect." Morris added that already remodeling has taken place to accommodate the increase. "The two new computer labs have been added, and we will need to add more computers to accommodate the students."

Jones said that next year there would be five lunch periods, instead of the usual three. Morris said, "There would be a reasonable amount of students in the cafeteria, and enough time for students to go through the lunch lines and still have time to eat." Morris said there would be the same amount of time to eat.

According to Jones, "We will have to enlarge the teaching staff, but WCCHS is large enough to accommodate the increase." Morris said that an additional teacher is added for every 50 students.

The student enrollment is rising here at WCCHS, but, according to Jones, "Our school is able to accommodate the increase."

We-go cuts classes for 1992-1993 school year

by Kristin Bedow

The administration has recently made some cuts in the classes offered at WCCHS.

On March 10, a board meeting was held to determine the cuts needed to be made for next year's classes. The decision resulted in the cancellation of Basic Typing, Record Keeping, Developmental Reading, Clothing 1 and 2, Introduction to Technology, Advanced Electronics, Pascal, AP Computer Science 1 and 2, and Economics.

Journalism Production was on the list to be dropped, but the administration changed its minds. The decision was made by Principal Alan Jones and Superintendent Joel Morris. The decision to drop these courses was based on the number of students enrolled in these classes. The school guideline states that any class with less than 15 students be considered for dropping. "If there are sequence classes such as a foreign language class where the student has taken maybe three years of a language and would like to continue, we won't drop the course. It's not fair to let the students go that far in a certain area and then cut them off. In a

case like that, we do everything we can to keep the course," said Jones. Clothing teacher Patti Kozlowski feels that some of the classes could have been combined. "There are other things in life. Science and math are very important, but kids should have the opportunity to get some hands on experience. Not everyone can become a doctor or a lawyer," said Kozlowski. Clothing 1 student Kristie Goldbach said, "I was planning on taking Clothing 2 next year and now I can't."

Clothing 2 student Leticia Vargas said, "I at least got to take both courses, but there are kids who haven't and would like to. I think it is unfair to them."

According to Morris and Jones, WCCHS is not having as hard a time with the cancellation of classes or letting go of teachers as other schools. "Out of the 333 courses offered here at WCCHS only 11 were dropped," replied Jones. Schools such as Glenbard North have had to cut as many as 14 to 20 teachers plus some classes because there just isn't enough money. The cutbacks on funding have caused WCCHS to drop these

classes and not be able to renew the contract of typing teacher and FBLA Adviser Nancy Blume.

Some students are upset about the non-renewal of Blume's contract since it could mean the possibility of no FBLA next year. FBLA member Lisa Grey replied, "If this school does not continue FBLA next year, they are getting rid of one of the best clubs this school has to offer." Dina Bascharon, an FBLA area representative said, "I have a responsibility in FBLA, and not having a sponsor makes me and the school look bad." FBLA member Scott Kozowski replied, "I don't think the administration should have decided to let Ms. Blume go. She has so many important responsibilities in this school, and I don't know how they can say that there just isn't a job for her any more."

Jones commented, "I am sorry to see Ms. Blume go, she is a good teacher and a wonderful addition to our school." Jones and Morris are confident that there will be an FBLA next year. "We may have a struggle on our hands, but I have good feelings about

finding an advisor for FBLA," said Morris.

Morris and Jones both said they are not happy to make the cuts, but it is necessary due to the lack in education funding. According to Morris, "Most of the courses not being offered are not being cut. They were not offered last year and are not being offered next year either." There have been new courses added. The courses include Interdisciplinary-Common Core Connections, offered for English, Math, Science, and Social Science. These courses will be open to freshmen during the 1992-93 school year. A new course called American Studies will also be available for juniors next year. This is a course combining English with American History.

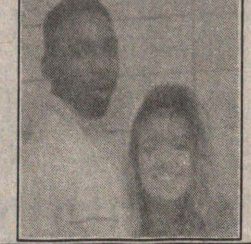
Morris hopes summer school can be expanded with more enrichment programs such as the ones that have been cancelled. "This way the kids who wanted to take these courses will still have the opportunity to take them," said Morris. He hopes to be able to add more classes along with the new courses being offered next year so students may still have a variety of courses to take.

Inside this issue

Fourth year: The treasures of We-go p.3



Interracial dating pp. 4 & 5



Track p.7



Classes cut, FBLA questionable for next year

The recent cuts made by the administration concerning classes for next year have sparked some anger in some of the students in WCCHS.

Classes that have been offered in the past will not be on the registration list next year. These classes include Basic Typing, Record Keeping, Developmental Reading, Clothing 1 and 2, Introduction to Technology, Advanced Electronics, Pascal, AP Computer Science 1 and 2, and Economics. This is in addition to the already cancelled Pep Club and Pep Assemblies (due to lack of school spirit of course). In fact there hasn't been a Pep Assembly since the Sharks swim team made state in February. And there is also the possibility of FBLA not being offered next year due to the absence of current adviser, Nancy Blume.

Blume said that she did not know what was going to happen to FBLA next year but there are a lot of juniors who have potential to make FBLA great next year.

Superintendent Joel Morris and Principle Alan C. Jones say that these cancellations are not permanent. These classes that have been cut will likely be added back to the registration list in the future. In order to come back, these classes need to have more students signing up for them.

Morris and Jones are both sorry about the changes that have to be made, but feel that there are still plenty of options. It doesn't appear that way to the students. Many classes have been dropped from the schedule already, and there will likely be more dropped in years to come. Perhaps by the year 2000, WCCHS will have regressed to the one room "school house" days of reading and arithmetic.

The **Bridge** feels that these classes should be offered to students in the future. These classes play a big part in helping students decide what they would like to do later in life. These courses also give the students a broader perspective on what life has to offer besides the basic college preparatory courses.

Perhaps there is not a big interest in these classes right now, but what about Freshmen enrolling next year? When will they have the chance to take any of these classes if they are not offered?

It's too bad they had to cut out all the art and language classes last year...
But now I only have **TWO CLASSES!**

West Chicago Community High School Course Offerings 1999-2000	
Mathematics	Sciences
Basic math.....1	Biology.....1
Geometry.....1	Basic Science.....1
Advanced math.....1	Social Sciences
English	Geography.....1
English.....1	U.S. History.....1
	Electives
	Off Campus.....0
	Unscheduled.....0

Have a great year!

Pow!!!



Guest starring:
Bryan Gall

-Organized crime has hit West Chicago. *The Wonderful World of Death* is on. What fiendish game is this. What type of person could be involved?

This mob, or killer game, is run and

played students. Based on the high paced action of gangster movies and the days playing with guns as kids, the "The Wonderful World of Death" is an organized game in which players must "kill" one another. Killing can happen any number of ways, anything from a water balloon bomb to a kiss of poison lipstick. It is not uncommon to see a drive-by squirt gun shooting or audio cassette car bomb.

The game itself is run over a large period of time, two weeks or even a month of game play is not unusual. It is run by a referee, or headquarters, who volunteers time to coordinate and record the action. He hands out rules, newsletters, and acts as a judge for disputes in the game. Players must survive the day with-

out any run-ins, while hunting for the perfect kill. Quick wit and pure adrenaline are often the only means of survival.

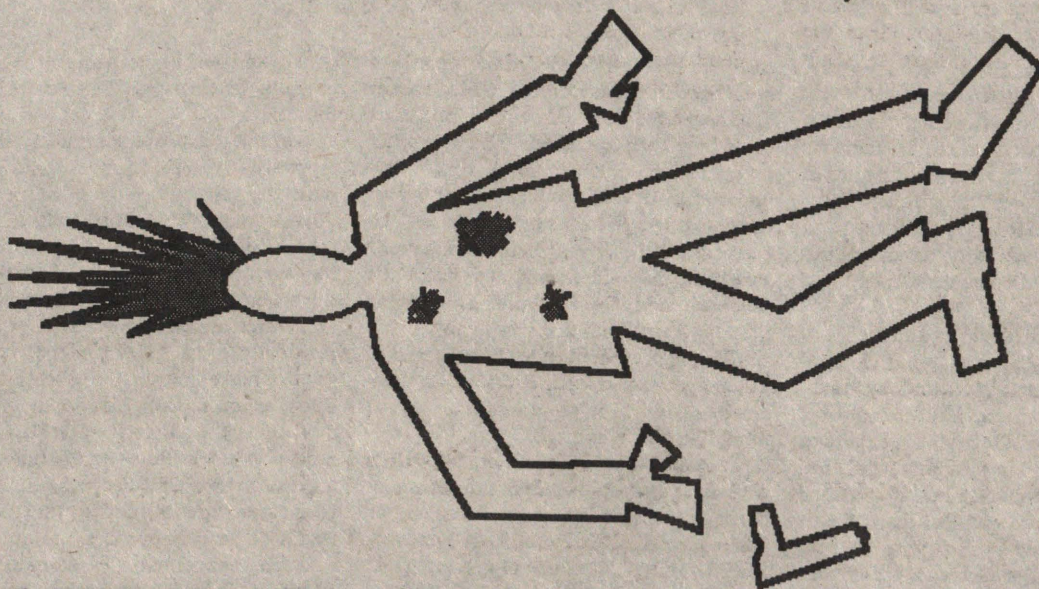
Reasons for playing the game as given by Dan 'the Razor Gambino' Yonan, "Killing is... is... is... is my way of life. I kill because I can't stand to look at the stupid faces around me. I figure their place is with the dead fishes and I see myself as a tool to help them achieve their place sooner." Says Aaron "I killed your mother" Owens about why he plays, "It's fun and kind of cool to be plotting kills and looking out for a week or two."

Techniques at playing can vary between either starting your own crime syndicate to make money, or simply going on a one man mass killing spree. Often

elaborate plans are needed to get a single shot at another player.

This takes time and thinking, and is not as simple as it seems. But who else has heard of it? The game itself is not exclusive to We-go. Collage campuses are often the background for large games of this sort. Such campuses as Wheaton Collage, University of Illinois, and Northwestern have similar games. It is seen as a fun pastime that is both challenging and exciting. In summary the "The Wonderful World of Death" is not just a silly kid's game. It involves thinking, honesty, and excitement.

So the next time you see someone totting a water gun, look the other way and pretend you're not involved; it may just save your life.



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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.

Seniors-
32 days
left of
school

Letter to the editor

A note from Mr. Hein

Dear **Bridge** editors,

I think the March 27, 1992 staff editorial in the **Bridge** was exceptionally well done. I think you did an excellent job of gathering information to support your statements. Liz Gernand interviewed me and I was very impressed with the professional manner of the

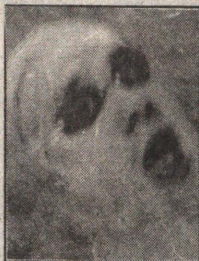
interview. Thanks for clarifying the misconceptions and also communicating some of our problems and needs for the future.

Sincerely,

Robert Hein

4th year philosophy

by Brian Levake



office with a problem unsolved. Our administration is always ready to shove you in the right direction, no matter your want or need. Our administration is ready to lead this school's ever growing population into the year 2000 and beyond.

Let it also be known that our faculty and administration boast a fine group of athletic talent. A squad of teachers and office-dwellers recently beat up on a group from the Chicago Bears in a game of roundball. Quite an upset, or was it? This victory surely built on the tremendous amount of spirit that We-go already possesses.

As far as facilities, we have classrooms with stable temperatures, a well equipped music department, and a seemingly endless stock of Macintosh computers, not to mention all the things that we take for granted, like a swimming pool, a horticulture department, and tampon dispensers.

Lunches are also a treat at We-go, featuring many new and exciting dishes this year, such as the Pizza Bagel and Fish Sub. And thanks to our state government, we aren't exposed to un-

We-go, the bad rap capital of the world.

Is the splattering that We-go takes justified? It's my personal belief that We-go students have plenty of reasons to enjoy school.

In the last few months, this institution has caught more criticism than ever in its long and illustrious history. Not that it has anything to do with scandals in local affiliated politics or an imaginary schedule of people who have a little to much fun after school or anything. No no no. The hip, fun, and easy thing to do these days is to rip and shred poor We-go into oblivion, something the **Bridge** is awfully guilty of.

Few people, if any, really dig deeply and look at the wonderful life that can be had at We-go, the local institution



Kids really do love We-go! (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

dedicated to education and self-improvement. After all, high school is the "best time of your life."

One of the most tremendous things about our school is the building itself. Built primarily with brick and mortar, this building has housed the proud tradition that We-go stands for in the minds of all who have come in touch with it's rich heritage. It's a truly beautiful sight, even more enhanced by the multi-million dollar renovation. Tax dollars well spent in my book.

Once inside the building, you'll come in contact with many of the fine, fine administrators, faculty, and lastly yet most abundantly, student population. These people are always ready to give you a firm handshake and a warm, friendly smile. Never have I left our

healthy pop at lunchtime. Due to government subsidized lunch programs, we get good wholesome milk.

Our school is also well protected by the staff of knowledgeable paraprofessionals. Not only are the halls secure from truant kids (who are most likely up to no good), but they also remind people who are wearing hats that is against school policy. They are then politely asked to remove their hats.

Our Richard Kamm library is also a fine place to "hang out" with your friends, listen to tapes, and learn the Dewey Decimal system.

This school has oh so much to offer, and it seems that all people do is complain about it and rip on it. How? Why?!? Let's put the ripping to rest and enjoy these days that are the best.

Brand new noise

by Brian Levake



King's X-King's X

The new album from this Houston based power trio crowns them the "kings" of alternative metal while defending their title of most compelling power trio in rock.

More like their first album, **Out of the Silent Planet**, (notice the eponymous title) the album strays from concept format and back into the evened out album chock full of both rockers and smoothed out, psychedelic numbers.

Highlights on the album include *The Big Picture*, *Lost in Germany*, *Not Just For the Dead*, *Black Flag*, and *Silent Wind*. The album is a party album at some points, and sarcastic look at life at others, and a tongue in cheek look at ourselves at others.

Not for the first time King's X listener,

the album can turn off some listeners with its sky-high harmonies and dense arrangements, but with patience, the album can surely find a place of normal rotation on anyone's CD pile.

Badmotorfinger-Soundgarden

With this recording, Soundgarden finally reached a level of comfort with the average alternative rock listener, a groove filled album with just enough commercial sense to knock down the walls of classification. In other words, Soundgarden has arrived.

New bass player Ben Shepard has added a new dimension to the bands already full, rich sound with his melodic yet grungy playing. Singer Chris Cornell has never sounded better, while guitarist Kim Thayill and drummer Matt Cameron enthrall the listener with the break-neck pace of their odd rhythms. Recommended cuts include *Outshined*, *Rusty Cage*, *Face Pollution*, and *Searching with my Good Eye*. There has never been a better time or album to get into Soundgarden, with the Seattle music scene booming and all. The album can appeal to just about anyone who has an open mind about music.

Restaraunt wars: Taco Bell vs Naugles

by Brian Levake and Aaron Owens

Taco Bell

For the uninformed, Taco Bell was set up to be a poor man's paradise. Price/amount of food rations extremely good, plus they offer free refills on all sort drinks. For about \$5, one can get an insane amount of food. Granted, we're not talking authentic quality or anything, but at that price, who cares?

Besides the value thing, Taco Bell is just a pleasing place seemingly Mexican decor, the music which is fun to eat to, and most or all, sporks (spoon+fork). Another fun trick to play is the "clean the penny trick." If you put a dirty penny in a puddle of Hot sauce, by the end of your meal, it will be like brand new. You can pretend you're eating tarn-X or something.

Naugles

This place is Taco Bell's evil cousin. It seems that Naugles stands for everything Taco Bell is against. At Naugles, you will find slow service, cramped eating area, expensive prices, hamburgers, one-who drink deals, and to be honest, pretty decent food. A couple of their items blow Taco Bells' counterpart out of the water, such as their Chicken Fajita, which comes with its own special sauce as opposed to Taco Bell's all-purpose hot sauce. Yet then again, Naugles is just a meal, while Taco Bell is an experience. Plus at Naugles, you don't get as much food for the price, and at times like these, that's all that matters.

Restaraunt scoreboard

	Taco Bell	Naugles
Prices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atmosphere	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
:Winner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Is interracial dating accepted?

by Alicia Garceau

For teenagers, dating can be a traumatic experience. The peer pressure and insecurity are enough to give anyone a headache. But, add to these worries racial prejudice and you have more than a migraine.

In the early 60's, before the civil rights movement, interracial relationships were still seen as scandalous and forbidden. These relationships have become more common to this generation, but have they become more accepted?

One senior, who wishes to remain anonymous, began dating a guy of a different ethnic background. When asked if race played a role in their relationship, she said, "No. (I) never even thought about it. It never even crossed my mind."

But race played a great role in the mind of one of her relatives. The relative did not object to the idea of the two teens dating, but the idea of a lasting relationship was unthinkable.

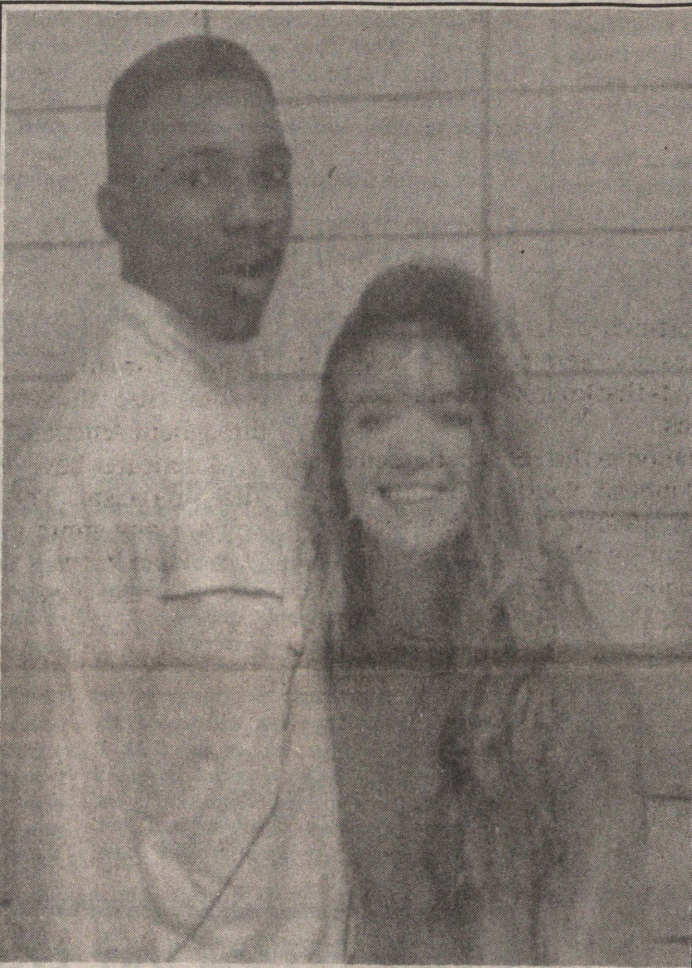
When asked if she believed this relative was prejudiced, the senior responded, "I've thought it and said it to other people." But she has not confronted her relative.

This senior also explained that if your family, the people who love and support you, does not approve of a relationship, it can make things difficult. She said, "If it wasn't supported, the relationship couldn't become anything more (than dating)."

Seniors Trista Chalupa and Travaris Sullivan have been dating for approximately four months according to Chalupa. In that time Chalupa has not told her parents she is dating Sullivan. Chulupa said the reason she has not told her mother is because, "She was

brought up that it (interracial dating) wasn't right." After thinking for a minute Chulupa said, "My mom would give him a chance" but, what concerned her was the rest of her family. She explained, "My grandmother wouldn't like it at all and my father wouldn't like it...No way!"

When asked how she thought Sullivan felt about the situation she replied, "He never says he feels bad, but he thinks I should tell my mom." Although Chulupa said that she



Seniors Trista Chulupa and Travaris Sullivan

sees nothing wrong with it (interracial dating), she has yet to bring Sullivan to her home. He explained that he has talked with Chulupa about her parents and he is aware of the situation. He said, "That's the reason why I can't come over to her house. That bugs me!" Sullivan said that it sometimes makes him feel that she is hiding something.

Though Sullivan's grandparent don't agree with interracial dating, he dismissed that because, "They're old and stuff." Sullivan introduced Chulupa to his mom and he has told his dad. They

both have no objections to the relationship.

According to the Declaration of Independence all people are "created equal." Everyone is also "endowed...with certain inalienable rights." One of those rights is the pursuit of happiness. Why, over 200 years after the Declaration of Independence was written, do people still have difficulty accepting interracial relationships? As Chulupa said, "Its a shame (when) people...won't give us a chance."

NOT



Cultural diversity

By Skye Studebaker

All over America there is a diversity of ethnic backgrounds. West Chicago is no exception. It harbors students with cultures ranging from Hispanic to Oriental to Middle Eastern. And it is certainly a good source of face to face knowledge.

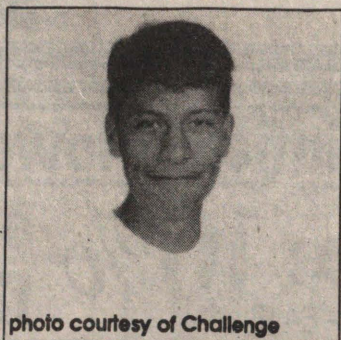
Bhavini Shah, sophomore, whose family is from India, says she has experienced a different language and different

But how well do students feel exposed to the range of cultures? Bhavini Shah, sophomore, whose family is from India, says her friends get to "experience a different language and different foods when they come to my house."

Sophomore Darcy McLeod feels that having friends of different ethnic background has made her more accepting of people different from herself and "less sheltered from the world."

Photopinion: Do you believe inter racial dating is accepted? Would you date someone of a different race?

by Gina Lipscomb



Senior Roberto Cuiriz photo courtesy of Challenge

"Yes, all humans are humans. All people were created equal."

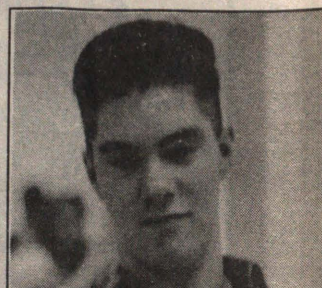
"Yes. I date all kinds of people. Their race is what I least look at."



Junior Stacey Matthews

"Yes I do. There is no difference, white and different races, they are all equal."

"Yes. I'm dating someone who is a different race than I'm. I don't think of them any different than any other guy."



Sophomore Grant Speros

"Yes. I got friends that do it. I don't think there should be any prejudice against it."

"Yes. If their hot looking, nice, and have a good personality, it doesn't matter what their race is."

JUST

Racism abound in American history

by Julianne Graczyk

Racism is the belief that one or more races are superior to others. Prejudice is prejudging others, according to Susan Lang's book **Extremists in America**.

Racism and prejudice based on differences—different skin colors, different religions, or different political belief—are nothing new. Susan Lang said that even the history of this nation, the freest and longest-living democracy in the world, is filled with blind hate and violence against minorities. People of various religions and cultures have frequently been exploited, dominated, or hunted.

By the time of the Civil War, many whites had already joined secret terrorist groups to hurt or even lynch Southern whites who were thought to oppose slavery or secession from the Union. In 1866, just after the war, a secret club named themselves the Ku Klux Klan and vowed to assert what they claimed was the "superiority of the Southern white man."

As the West was "civilized," Native Americans were scorned and slaughtered; their honor and life-styles were destroyed. And the Chinese, who had come to the US with high hopes for bright economic opportunities, faced the disgust of American whites and were paid poor wages to build the railroads that improved the life-styles of American whites.

The Skin Nation in the US is patterned after the British Skinhead Youth subculture that surfaced in the 1960s. These teenagers are extremely violent in their hatred of African Americans, Asians, and Hispanics. They are direct and to the point about their goal: white power. As the number of skinheads has increased

over the past few years, so has racial violence at a time when the Ku Klux Klan is suffering from a decreasing membership.

In the 1960s, the violence and rioting of Southerners resisting racial desegregation and civil rights for minorities were extreme. Peaceful African American marchers led by Dr. Martin Luther King were stormed. In reaction, the extreme left black nationalist movement was formed. Black Muslims claimed that white men were evil and that African Americans should break all contact with them. Another part of the movement, led by Malcolm X, urged minorities to protect themselves against racial attacks.

King agreed with much of what the Black Muslims expressed. He believed in racial pride, and he believed that African Americans had the right to "freedom now."

In 1964 the Civil Rights Bill that King had pushed for was finally passed, and signed into law by President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

The Voting Rights Bill was passed into law in August, 1965. As a result of King, this combined with the 1964 Civil Rights Act represented the advance of minority rights. Patricia Baker's biography **Martin Luther King** said, "King will be known for his movement which was to revolutionize African American/white relations throughout America."

Americans have many different views and ideas on racism. The Bill of Rights protects the rights of any group to express their ideas. The First Amendment granted freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition. In other words, all Americans have the right to express their ideas, and have their ideas be heard.



iversity at We-go

Other people, however, view it from a different level. "If you don't have friends from another culture, then you don't get to experience it," says junior Kurt Hesterman. He feels there is more our school could do to promote the benefit of distinct cultures.

ily is from India, says her friends get to "experient foods when they come to my house."

Senior Doug Campbell agrees. "I would like to know more about other people's cultures," he said. "Our school just doesn't provide the chance."

Many students at West Chicago enjoy the fact that we have such diverse cultural backgrounds. Some of them would like to be part of the cultural "blending," but simply feel they don't get the opportunity.

dating is o.k.? ace?

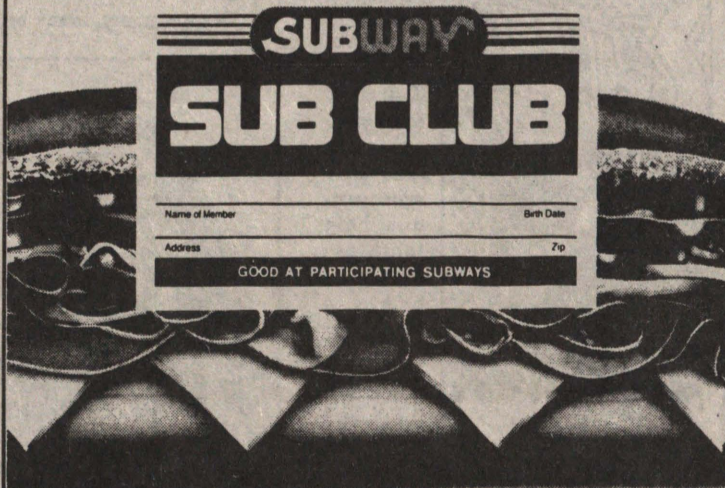


Freshman
Noelle Giammanco

"Yes. I don't think there's anything wrong with it. Color doesn't matter."

"Yes. Right now I'm dating someone who's Mexican."

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Elgin high school, junior high on steroids

by Aaron Owens



High school life, high school students, and high school teachers. They're not all the same.

Elgin High, a school with the enrollment of approximately 3,000 students, and a lot of things to do and see (mostly girls). Me and my friend Eric, (Eric and I if you are a English teacher) got to Elgin High at 1700 hours (7:45 am).

After parking in the "staff" parking lot, we noticed a peculiar sight. Elgin is blessed with a stream that runs through it's grounds. At the same time and as we noticed the stream, we also noticed people playing in it.

After dismissing this sight as lost freshmen who had nothing else to do in the morning, we made our way to the school.

Upon entering the school, I could feel eyes from all around focus on me. At first I wanted to keep some pride, and try to find the office on my own. After what seemed like a few hours of endless wandering, I swal-

lowed my pride and decided to ask. I felt like a freshman all over again. "Where is the office," I asked the advisor of unscheduled in a voice barely above a whisper. I heard him snicker, as he replied, "Down the hall and on the right."

After entering three other offices, I finally found the "Deans office." I promptly asked the secretary were Mr. Weaver's office was and she led us to a small secluded hole in the left wall. The man we met was a nice guy, who looked like a tall version of Mr. Hein. He welcomed us to the school, and told us what we would be doing all in the same monotonous voice. "Welcome to Elgin High," said the tall man. "You will be escorted around the school by assistant deans. "Assistant deans?," I wondered. Just then a small lady walked in with a big walkie talkie. At that point I realized "assistant dean" is a ten dollar word for "para-pro." We were to be escorted along our travels by a smaller version of a West Chicago para-professional. I soon realized this was not any ordinary woman, for the second we met her she offered us food. Eric and I were both truly flattered.

Now my vacation begins. This nice lady led us to the gym section of Elgin High. U-

40, U-40, U-40 appeared on every t-shirt. "Uniforms," said the assistant dean who was also apparently psychic. We saw the shop, woods, and art.

Time for passing period. If I learned anything on this trip I learned that passing periods are the same; where ever you are. The hallways resembled down town Chicago, times two. As Eric and I got caught up in all the people, we ended up wondering and found all the different halls, and with the different hall came the different people. You know, the nerds, jocks and neat guys.

Third hour, what do Elgin kids do third hour? How about host a fashion show. The fashion show was held in the auditorium, for classes that their teachers requested to see. I was really impressed with the talent of the designers. The show was highlighted by Afro-American corduroy outfits on 18 year old boys, and a corduroy hat on a little 1 year old (how cute). This part of the show not only got my attention, but the attention of the rest of the auditorium who responded in "Ohs" and "Ahs".

On to lunch. I was impressed with the food selection but hated the rules. Not rules like don't throw food, but rules like don't stand up and don't talk loud. I felt like I was

in junior high again. The highlight of lunch was the Hush Puppy slushys at the ala-carte line. Mmm, great stuff.

During lunch I met a couple of neat people. The main of which was Ian Culley, president of student council and school stud. Ian explained how the teachers at Elgin seemed to care about their kids but didn't always show it in the right ways.

"It's their job," he said. "You can't knock 'em for that." Ian also invited us to student government, which is the student council that meets every day.

Eric and I were introduced to the student council class, and soon were participating in a name game. You had to think of an animal that began with the same letter as your name. Luckily we were near the beginning of the line, second and third to be exact, so we didn't have to remember everyones names. By the way, Eric was an eagle and I was an ant-eater.

We realized after government that it was time to leave, because we learned a lot.

West Chicago and Elgin are in a lot of ways different, but actually are more the same. The people that go there are there to learn, especially seniors, ha-ha.

Concert Corner- Mr. Bungle and Grotus at Cabaret Metro

by Rob Rivan



"Who is Mr. Bungle?" may be the question on many of your lips after seeing Mr. Bungle t-shirts around We-go the last few weeks.

Originally, Mr. Bungle was the subject of a series of informational 50's films designed to teach elementary kids the

finer points of popular grooming techniques (Ex. clean hands, combed hair and tucked in shirt).

Currently however, Mr. Bungle has taken on a special new meaning, as it is the name of an (for the lack of a better word) interesting band that's touring this country of ours. I caught this act as it came to the Cabaret Metro in Chicago.

Opening up for Mr. Bungle was a hard, fairly symmetrical, wooly band affectionately called Grotus. A slim bald-headed vocalist graced center stage, accompanied by sheep-skinned bearded clones on guitar and bass on opposite sides of the stage. Also, there was a third

sheep-endowed clone behind the drums.

Every song was hard and most of them featured the singer on a floor tom duct taped to the stage floor, a smoke machine, and best of all, Grotusvision. Grotusvision is an odd combination of slaughterhouse footage, Happymeal commercials, and drug inspired cartoons.

Grotus finished an energetic set and packed up their instruments to go sell their t-shirts in the lobby.

It was time for Bungle. Six men walked on stage in masks and blue gas station attendant jumpsuits, opening with a song appropriately called *Slowly Growing*

well deserved round of applause, we began to shuffle out. This was fine with me as I had been pinned against the stage for the better part of three hours; needless to say I was more than ready to hit Taco Bell and go home.

Listening to the album, which contains countless rythm changes and a lot of voice samples, I thought it would be nearly impossible to duplicate, but despite the pair of saxophones and three keyboards (one of which Vlad Drac destroyed) they sounded really tight.

Some key Bungle moments which I won't easily forget are the 30 second slowed down cover of Nirvana's *Territorial Pissings*, Vlad Drac giving the audience three microphone stands, being crushed up against the stage for two and a half hours, blowing grey smoke machine residue out of our noses after the show, and Scummy, the guitarist, dropping his guitar and diving into the pit, which he missed unfortunately, causing him to land on the hard, sticky, Metro floor. And of course, all of the people who put on clown make-up just for the occasion.

Despite many, many bruises, I loved 'em.

Death. The singer, Vlad Drac, wore a black leather mask with a zip-open mouth and attachable blinders. On guitar was a man named Scummy in a Robocop mask and there were various bald toothless masks at bass (Trevor Roy Dunn), drums (Heifetz), tenor saxophone (Bar), and alto saxophone (Theobald Brooks Lengyel). They

then went on to play almost all the songs off their album (*Travolta*, *Dead Goon*, *Squeeze Me Macaroni*, *Carousel*, *Girls of Porn*, and *My Ass is on Fire*), cumulating with Vlad Drac's back flip off the eight to ten foot tall drum monitor onto the awaiting drum set. Everyone seemed to realize that they were done playing and after a

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Next issue: an interview with Bomb-man!!!!

Girls' track looks to standouts to carry team.

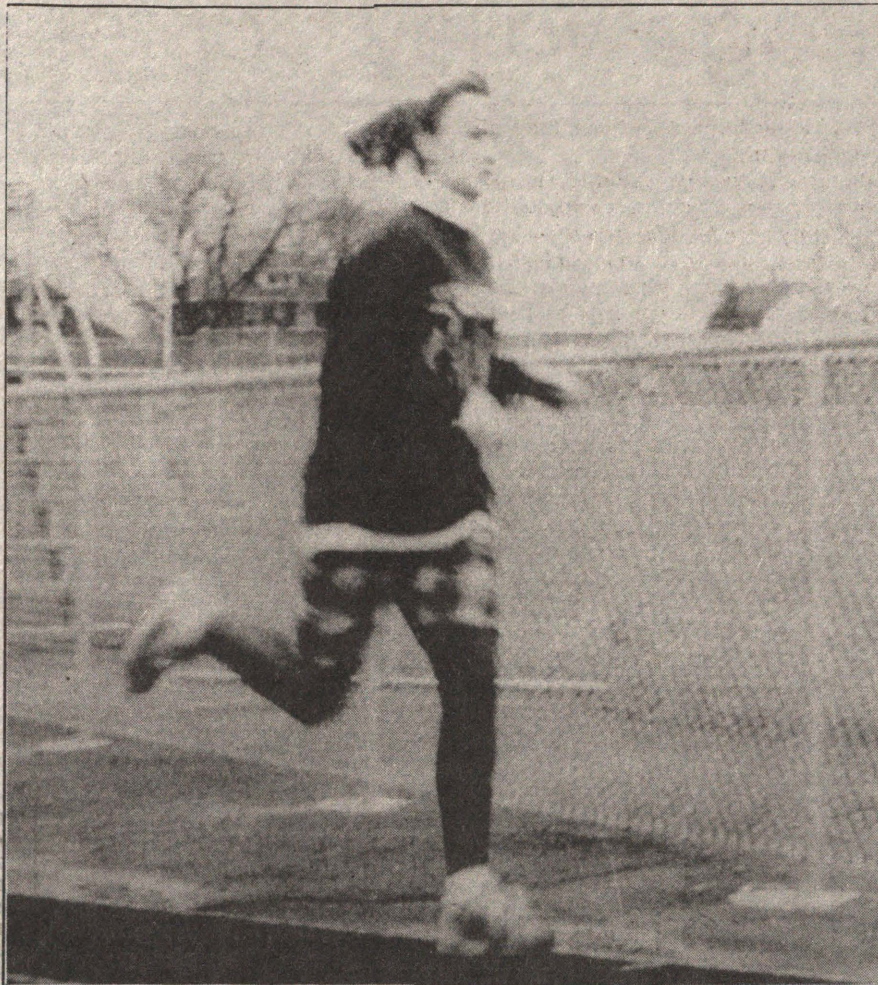
By Dan Ventrelle

Anticipation has grown and spirits are high as the Wildcat spring sports season quickly approaches.

One such group of individuals displaying the aforementioned mentioned emotions are those of the 1992 Wildcat Girls' track team. With the season well underway at this point and time the Wildcats have begun to look ahead towards their futures, particularly towards goals for the 1992 season. Coach Wilbert Walters has employed a realistic view to the team's possible accomplishments this year.

Walters feels that the schedule with which the Cats must content is definitely not one to be underestimated. He feels that the conference in which the Wildcats compete, the DVC, is "the toughest conference in the state" regarding their measure of talent in the area of Girls Track and Field. This, however, has not discouraged Walters that the realization that a "high" finish in the conference is not very likely. Thus, the focus and general goal of the season has become that of a realistic goal as opposed to an unobtainable one. Walters feels that the season could be deemed a successful one if the Cats were to remain competitive throughout the season.

Involved, this season, with the girls track program are a great number of outstanding individual competitors. Although as a cohesive unit, the Wildcat must accept their position as one of the less powerful team in the conference, high expectations are dominant among numerous individual competitors. Walters feels that athletes such as Catilina Garcia, Sarah Meyers, and Dawn Zylinski have shown great promise and should be



Girls track turning on the jets for this season. (photo by Steve Broido)

expected to fair well throughout the season. Combined with this, Walters feels that there are a number of talented distance runners who have yet to experience their full potential. Among these are Monique Cleminson, Samantha Newby, and Ann Zimmer. With these outstanding

individual performers, the Wildcats have specific has for state competition qualification; however, have not applied this to their particular season goals. "We may have some state qualifiers, but that's a little down the road for us now," said Walters on the subject. Walters feels that

setting specific goals as opposed to hopes is inappropriate at this juncture. Rather, he feels the focus of the season at its now immature stage should remain at keeping competitive while simultaneously avoid-

'We may have some state qualifiers, but that's a little down the road for us now.'

Wilbert Walters

ing and injuries which could be detrimental to the overall performance of the team.

While the team as a unit has experienced their share of success in this newly launched DVC campaign, there have been numerous star-studded individual performances. The medley relay team of Elisa Biancalana, Catalina Garcia, Carey Netzle, and Dawn Zylinski have broken a school record with one of their performances. Zylinski coupled this by another performance which broke a school hurdle record. The team's success has been similarly aided by the previously mentioned gifted distance runners.

Contributing to this success in distance competition has been sophomore Monique Cleminson. Cleminson set her indoor personal best, running a 6.08 mile in Oswego on Saturday March 7. This achievement was further exemplified by a second place finish in the race. Cleminson's efforts have been coupled by the return of senior Yvette Contreras. Expectations are high that Contreras can return to form and further aid in the Cats' campaign.

In 1992 the Wildcats both hope for and expect a season filled with accomplishments on both individual and team levels. With the likes of Cleminson and Zylinski the coaching staff, as well as the athletes are optimistic on the concept of producing a season which can be deemed successful by all.

Badminton on a roll

by Liz Gerand

In pre-season play the badminton team has fared extremely well.

According to Coach LaVora Singleton, "We have a lot of kids who just have raw talent." She is excited because, as she said, "We're winning splits." She said that in the past the team would win the first game, lose the second and then go on to lose the third game, but this year they are winning the last game. She explained this change, "Mentally they are in the competition more than in the past."

'We have a lot of kids who just have raw talent.'

Coach Singleton

'Mentally they are in the competition more than in the past.'

Singleton also said the team, "knows what they have to do" to improve their game. She explained that it is great that the players can see what they need to improve on.

In early season play Pam Toner won all of her singles matches while the doubles team of Heather Adams and Corrie Gilgallon have won all of their matches. Not only has Gilgallon won all of her doubles matches, but also all of her singles matches. As a team the varsity finished their pre-season with a record of 4-1.

Junior varsity has had a good start also. They are undefeated with a record

of 5-0 for the pre-season. Jennie Woods and Amy Woodward are undefeated in singles matches. The team of Molly Stutz and Dani Dvorak and the team of Leigh Taylor and Ashley Towater have won all of their doubles matches. Dani Dvorak and Debbi Dvorak have individually won all of their doubles and singles matches.

'I'd like both teams to finish in the top half of conference.'

Coach Singleton

Singleton said, "I'd like both teams to finish in the top half of" of the conference. She said it would be "a big jump" from the last six years' finishes in the conference.

Next game:

Sat. vs Streamwood
Tues. (21) vs. Wheaton North
Thurs. (23) Glenbard South

Your favorite (sports?)

by Jason Mummert

I find sports a trivialization of culture. Too much time is spent in this distraction of reality that could be used for the betterment of society.

-Bryan Gall

(Every school has one, he is ours.)

I failed. My greatest hope in conducting this survey was that Michael Jordan would not be the most popular athlete in the minds of students. However, he was far and away the highest vote getter, with 23 (cool number, huh) votes, six ahead of Scottie Pippen, who had 17. Ryne Sandberg finished third with nine. Forty of fifty surveys were returned to me, each consisting of students answering questions on their favorite sporting goods, sports, and athletes. **The results:**

In the favorite brand name section, Wilson was far and away the most popular, receiving 26 out of 40 votes. Spalding had eight, Rawlings four, and Mizuno received a pair of write-in votes. In athletic shoes, Nike won handsily, as expected, with 27 votes, far ahead of Reebok (six) write-in Adidas (three) Converse (two), and a vote apiece for unknowns Kaepa and Asics. Frankly, I am surprised Nike didn't sweep. Looks like advertising really does pay off. This is backed up in the apparel (clothes, hats) and sport cards sections, where Starter and Upper Deck both received 23 to win their respective sections, 13 ahead of Champion and Topps-O'pee-chee, who each got ten. In the apparel section, The Game finished third with five and Umbro had two write-ins. In the sport card section, Fleer managed five with two write-ins for Donruss. It seems if you want to get to basics, if Michael Jordan don't endorse it, then it won't win. Did you eat your Wheaties, or your corn flakes?

Another thing noticed is that Illinois based athletes, no matter what level, are very popular, showing a strong regional prejudice. Local athletes such as the CBA star Stephen Bardo from U of Illinois, and Chicago-born Isaiah Thomas of the Pistons, and Mike Tomzak of the Packers received a vote, as did former Illini QB Jeff George, now of the Indianapolis Colts. Charlotte Homet star Kendall Gill from the University of Illinois, who is hailed as the next Jordan, got five votes to lead all area born players. As a matter of fact, two We-go athletes, Tom Suess and David Siers got a vote from some admirer. Other Illinois players who

managed a vote were Tom Waddle, Mike Singletary, Neal Anderson, and the late Fred Washington of the Bears. Greg Maddux of the Cubs, former Cub Ron Cey, and Troy Murray of the Blackhawks also had votes. Ed Belfour of the Hawks got two votes, Sox first baseman Frank Thomas got four, and Cubs counterpart Mark Grace two. As expected, Da'Bulls had the most players get into this survey. B.J. Armstrong and John Paxson rounding up four, Horace Grant with three, and Bill Cartright with a duce.

Other top athletes in the eyes of the student body are Walter Payton, who finished in a fourth place tie (seven votes) with David Robinson. Sixth place consisted of future NBA hall of famer Larry Bird, NHL All-stars Wayne Gretzky and Jeremy Roenick, and Atlanta's Dominique Wilkins, who each had six votes. Tenth place with five votes, 1992 Olympic Gold Medalist in Womens figure skating Kristie Yamaguchi, Gill, and former two sport standout Bo Jackson all tied. Other popular athletes who are not from this area and didn't make the top 10 are baseball players Jose Canseco, Roger Clemens, and Darryl Strawberry. NFL players Dan Marino and Barry Sanders, Soccer legend Pele', Golfer Payne Stewart, and Tennis pros Steffi Graf and Arthur Ashe. Hoopsters Manute Bol, and the late Hank Gathers were other popular athletes, "wrestler The Ultimate Warrior" and "Neon Deion Prime Time Live" Sanders.

Sports such as tennis, wrestling, gymnastics, Mummert beating, billiards, womens bodybuilding, naked full contact co-ed wrestling, and volleyball were among the least common here. The favorite concensus sport to play is baseball/softball, with basketball, football and soccer close behind.

As far as being a spectator, basketball won far and away, thanks in part to Jordan, of course, doubling the nearest vote-getter, baseball/softball. Football and hockey were close behind, and one person voted for golf.

Gernand, & Wildcats look for three straight DuPage Valley Conference titles.

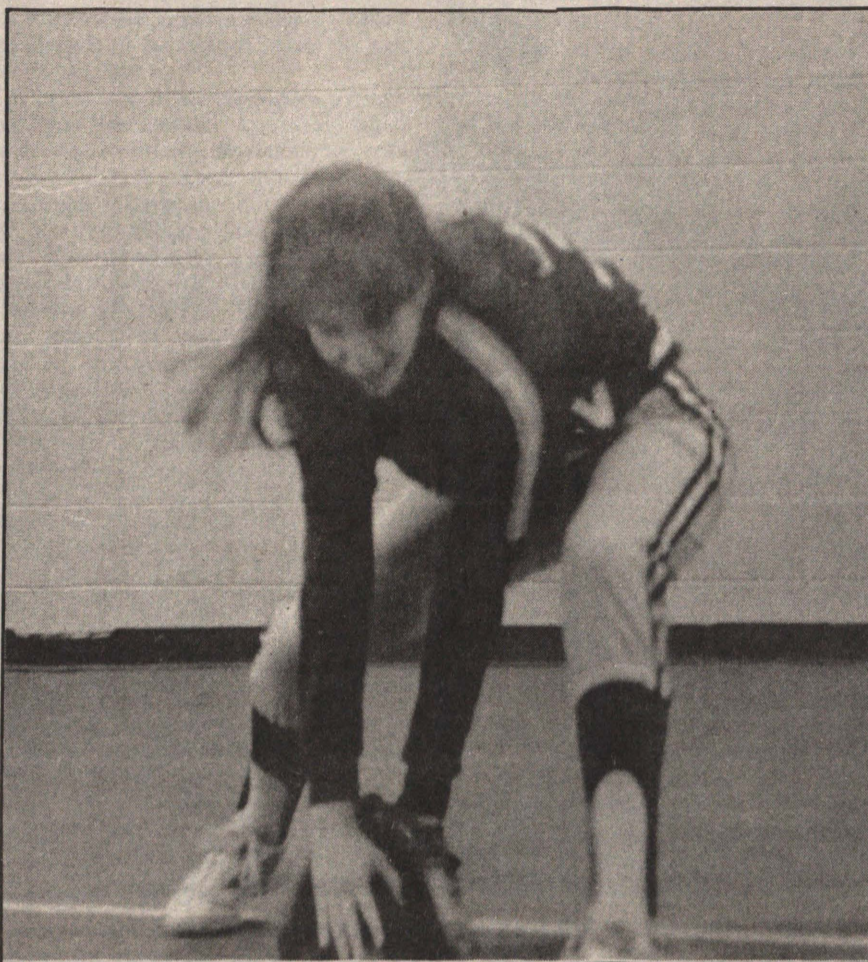
by Aaron Owens

West Chicago has recently begun a great tradition of softball, and senior second baseman Liz Gernand is a big part of it.

"It is exciting because not everybody wins a conference championship," said Gernand about her team's success. "Not everybody wins so many times." She also hopes to add another conference championship to her string. "I want to help my team win another conference championship," said Gernand. "I think we have a chance to do this, everyday we improve, that helps." Gernand feels the teams to beat are Glenbard North and Naperville Central. "Glenbard North is supposed to be good," said Gernand. "And I have heard Naperville Central has a good pitcher." She feels the strength of the team is defensive, but the offense is not far behind. "Our defense is real good, but so is our hitting," said Gernand. "We are pretty good all around."

Gernand hopes to improve on her hitting this year. "I want to hit better than last year," said Gernand. "I also want more RBIs this year." She wants to hit more RBIs because she knows it helps the team and the pitchers out. "It makes it easier on the pitchers." She also hopes to improve in the field. "I want to get better at going to the right," said Gernand. "I love playing in the field," said Gernand. "I like working on making less errors, it is good to improve." On improving, the second baseman feels she has improved by playing a lot of ball. "Playing in the summer, batting in the cage, and my coaches have made me better," said the senior. "Practice, practice, practice."

"I got started in t-ball, playing with the guys in Wheaton," said Gernand about her start in the sport. "I moved here and played in the athletic association." Gernand said she always loved baseball and softball.



Liz Gernand showing her second base stuff, fielding a ground ball. (photo by Gina Lipscomb)

Gernand's love of the sport has paid off. She is a three year varsity letter winner at second base, and played a brief stint with the varsity team in her freshman year. "I was scared to death starting on varsity as

a sophomore," said Gernand. "But now I am more relaxed, and can concentrate more." Last year, Gernand was first team all-conference, honorable mention all-

area, and most improved on her team. The most improved award was her second one, as she also won it as a sophomore. In her sophomore season she was also honorable mention all-conference. Gernand also hopes to be all-area this year. "I want to be all-area this year," said Gernand.

The senior believes a big reason she was scared was her view of Coach Lee Maciejewski. "I didn't understand his way of coaching," said Gernand. "I didn't understand he was trying to make me better." Now she feels Maciejewski has been a great influence on her. "He's a great coach, I love the way he coaches," said Gernand. "He's the best coach I could have had."

Destiny was in favor of the Wildcats and Gernand, by putting her in the second base position. "I was put there because of the need for a second baseman," said Gernand. "I hoped to play short but Angle Webb was already there. Now I'm glad she was."

Another big influence on the Wildcat standout's career has been her parents. "My dad played baseball in college, he wouldn't force me to play, but he did influence me," said Gernand. "My mom watches me play. I think she enjoys it." The senior says her dad is her biggest role model. "I looked up to my dad," said Gernand. "He has taught me a lot about second base and hitting. He picks me up when I'm down, and tells me what I could have done better." She also looks up to Cubs second baseman Ryne Sandberg. "He rarely makes errors, and he has great composure," said Gernand. "He plays in Chicago, and he plays the same position."

Next year, the senior second baseman hopes to play in college. "I would like to play Division I, but I'll play wherever I am wanted. I want to play softball."

Gernand and the rest of the Cats could be on their way to their fourth consecutive DVC crown. They are currently 6-0.

Boys' track look to old and new stars

by Dan Ventrelle

With their season under way, the Wildcat boys' track team has begun pondering their immediate future.

While examining the upcoming season on a team basis, coach Paul McLeland feels it necessary to remain realistic. For the team as a whole, McLeland expects accomplishments which he thinks are within the grasp of the team rather than higher expectations which they could not fulfill. "We'd really like to finish in the top four at the conference meet," said McLeland. "It would be nice to end up in the top half of the DVC at year's end."

The track season, at this point, is well under way; however, the larger, more important meets which McLeland has outlined as key for the performance of his team are slowly approaching. April 25's Kaneland meet and the Crystal Lake May 1 competition coupled with the Lisle 50 team meet on May 9 will dictate performance of the team. McLeland stresses the importance of these meets and understands that they will either provide tremendous momentum and confidence for the conference championships or dictate were improvements are necessary for DVC success.

The 1992 Wildcats have been blessed with extraordinary amounts of this individual talent so essential to the sport. In McLeland's opinion not only will this talent bring success to the club as a cohesive unit, it may also aid in reading individual awards such as invitations for state competition. He hopes for roughly three or four state qualifiers and that of at least one relay team.

Although only outlining three or four

state qualification hopes McLeland stated that numerous athletes have possibilities for state success. These include, Mike Callerman in the one mile, Shaun Cronin in the shot put, Elliot Papadakis in the 800 meter, and Bret Slight in the two mile. Another athlete with hopes of state qualification is Wallace Sullivan. He is currently running the 200 meter; however, his coach feels that whichever event he participates in, with appropriate effort state qualification is within his reach. Possible high jumper Eric Heinz is another potential success story for the team. While yet to become an official participant in the West Chicago track program coaches and athletes alike foresee success for Heinz as a high jumper. "He's come out just after basketball games and easily cleared the state qualifying height and that's without day in and day out practice and instruction," said McLeland.

We'd really like to finish in the top four at the conference meet."

Paul McLeland

While expressing high hopes for state qualification, the Cats are not expecting to break many school records in 1992. McLeland feels that Heinz has a defining shot at breaking the high jump

record and Sullivan's talent may be enough to conquer records in the 200 meter or another running event; however, this is where the hopes end. He said that the records in most all or the other events have high and long standing records and will not be broken easily.

"He's come out just after basketball games and easily cleared the state qualifying height and that's without day in and day out practice and instruction."

McLeland about Eric Heinz

A side of personal accomplishments and fallen records, McLeland has established three goals which he could mark the success of the team by. He both desires and aspects "each kid at all levels to improve, for the team to get along, and to be good citizens and exhibit responsibility as a team and as individuals." McLeland feels that these points far outweigh individual records, and any accomplishments which the team may achieve, for records fall and victories fade into memories, but lessons in cooperation and responsibility preserve indefinitely.

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