

The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
May 8, 1992
Volume 21, Issue 11

Inkspots

by Elisa Biancalana, Jennee Caligiuri, and Julianne Graczyk

English teacher published

English teacher Ann G. MacDonald has recently had an essay published in the Illinois English Bulletin by the Illinois Association of Teachers of English. The essay was titled, "I Finally Listened to My Students: Taking Another Look at the Introduction to My Antontia."

Booster club to hold plant and flower sale

The Wildcat Booster Club is holding an Outdoor Flowering Plant Truckload Sale on Saturday, May 9. It will be held in the West Chicago High School parking lot from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. They will be selling an assortment of bedded flowers at various prices.

'87 graduate mourned

West Chicago recently mourned the loss of police officer and 1987 graduate of West Chicago High School Michael A. Browning. Browning died Monday, April 20 after being hit by a car while on duty. The car which struck Browning was allegedly driven by Ronald Alvine who had attempted to steal it from Crossroads Chevrolet on Roosevelt Road.



In high school Browning was involved in VICA (Vocational Industrial Cooperative of America), IRO (Industrial Relations Organization) and manager of the varsity football team. While in the police academy he finished in the top of his class. Browning was West Chicago's youngest police officer.

Funeral services were held April 23 at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. Browning is survived by his mother Marilyn Browning, father Robert Browning, brother Robert Browning Jr., and sister Bonnie Lee Browning. He was to be married to Kim Zeyen.

New mathematical concepts introduced at We-go

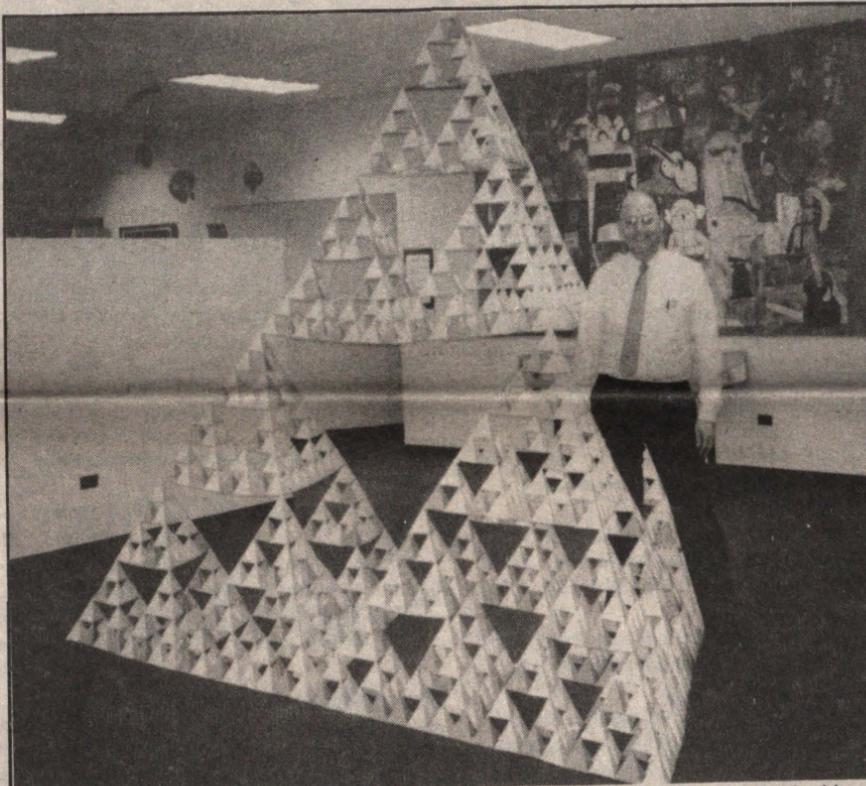
by Kristin Bedow

The Math Department has begun to introduce a new concept of mathematics to the students here at WCCHS.

The concept is Fractals, Chaos, and Dynamics. Math Department Chairman Lee Yunker is one of the few people in West Chicago who have had the opportunity to work with fractals. Fractals are shapes which have repeating shapes within themselves. A pyramid or the leaf of a fern plant are examples of fractals. One example of a fractal was constructed right in the LRC. The model of the pyramid is called The Sierpinski Triangle. There are other shapes and problems which are also fractals. These include coastal lines, population changes, weather changes, and mountain ranges. "We deal with fractals all the time," said Yunker. "Some people aren't fully aware of that."

Fractals are fairly new to the world of mathematics. Last year math teacher John Carter taught his Pre-Calculus Enriched students a little bit about fractals. Yunker thinks that fractals will be more widely used in Geometry because they are based on shapes.

The chaos in Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics is more science related. Scientists have found that diseases such as Muscular Dystrophy and heart disease which ultimately result in heart attack are chaotic problems. This enables scientists to put to use the theory of Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics. Senior Astrophysicist Rocky Kolb and colleagues at Fermi Lab are convinced that the galaxy make-up



Math Department Chairman Lee E. Yunker poses in front of a Sierpinski tetrahedron in the LRC (photo courtesy of the Math Department).

(the stars and planets) are fractal. However they have not been able to figure out what equation or relationship makes this structure possible.

Fermi Lab is holding a conference on Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics during the week of July 20 - 24 to introduce and make teachers more familiar with Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics. This conference is open to 100 teachers from North America. The program will be taught by scientists Heinz-Otto Peitgen of the Institute of Dynamical Systems, University of Bremen, Germany & Mathematics Department, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida; and Benoit B. Mandelbrot, Physics Department, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York. Mandelbrot is also known as the "Father of Fractals" due to his research and discoveries in this area. Additional speakers for this conference are Richard F. Voss of Physics Department, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York; Hartmut Jurgens and Dietmar Saupe of the Institute for Dynamical Systems, University of Bremen, Germany, and Lee Yunker of West Chicago Community High School, West Chicago, Illinois.

The theory of Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics is new and is a growing interest for mathematical study all over the world. Said Yunker, "Fractals, Chaos and Dynamics are so new that it is not known by many people yet. It is so exciting and possibilities are endless."

Illinois authors recognized during Read Illinois Week

by Elisa Biancalana and Jennee Caligiuri

This year West Chicago will participate in Read Illinois Week.

According to English Department Chairman Thomas McCann, "Members of the Midwest Writers Conference have invited schools throughout the state to participate in the celebration of the works of Illinois writers." This will take place the week of May 18 through May 22.

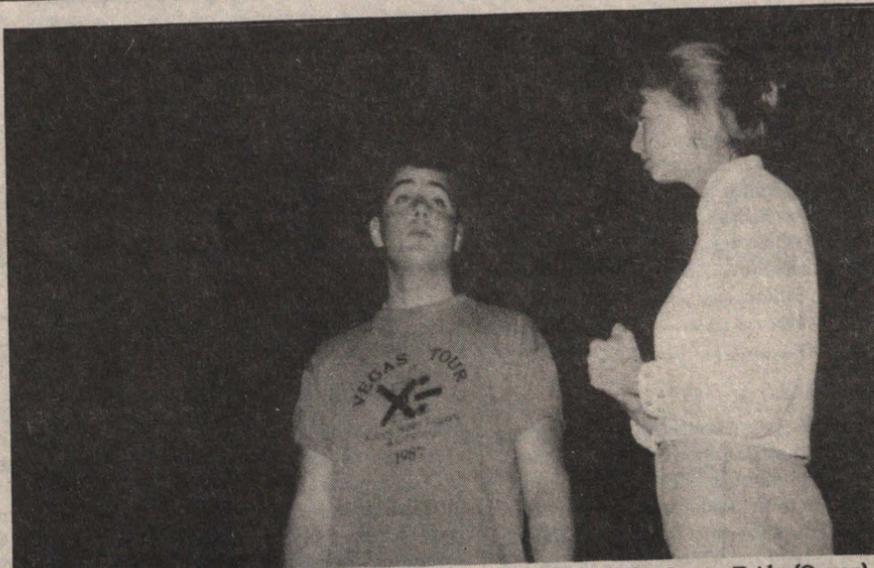
This is the first year West Chicago will be participating in the program. McCann said, "Some teachers and students saw this as a worthwhile endeavor. As students shared information with other teachers and faculty members, there seemed to be great enthusiasm."

McCann hopes this week will benefit the students' awareness of Illinois authors. "Stu-

dents will realize the wealth of literature produced by native Illinoisans," replied McCann. Illinois authors include Nelson Algren, Gwendolyn Brooks, John Dos Passos, Edna Ferber, Ernest Hemingway, John Powers, and Ole Rynning. McCann said, "Students will also realize that being a writer is a profession open to them. They can see the people from their own region have produced some important works of literature."

Senior Sarah Bant believes this is important for Illinoisans. "I feel it is important for people who live in the area to know about well known authors. They are from our area and we should be proud about this." Bant hopes to contribute to this week by "encouraging and influencing our English class to contribute to this week."

McCann said, "Students are involved in encouraging faculty members and teachers to become involved in Read Illinois Week."



by Gina Lipscomb

The following people will be performing in the spring musical Cinderella. The play is to be held on May 15 at 7:30 p.m., May 16 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and May 17 at 2:00 p.m.

The cast includes Jessica Bridge (Queen), Eric Heerwagen (Herald), Chris Leck (Steward), Jenny Little (Portia), John Mazzola (Prince), Rachel Owens (Joy), Rob Scott (King), Karla Sosulski (Cinderella), Vanessa Talbott (Stepmother), and Dayna Yoder (Godmother).

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softball p. 8



Could AIDS Awareness Week be in the future?

The frightening thought of AIDS is here and Student Council would like to address the problem.

The possibility of an AIDS Awareness Week is being discussed and considered at We-go.

Student Council members would pass out literature on how to avoid contracting AIDS, what AIDS is, and also what AIDS can do to you.

The hope Student Council has in creating this week is to make students aware of what AIDS can do, and to educate them on how to avoid it.

In 1990, more than 1,000,000 cases of AIDS were reported worldwide, and this number is suspected to double within three years. One third of all deaths in the United States last year were caused by AIDS.

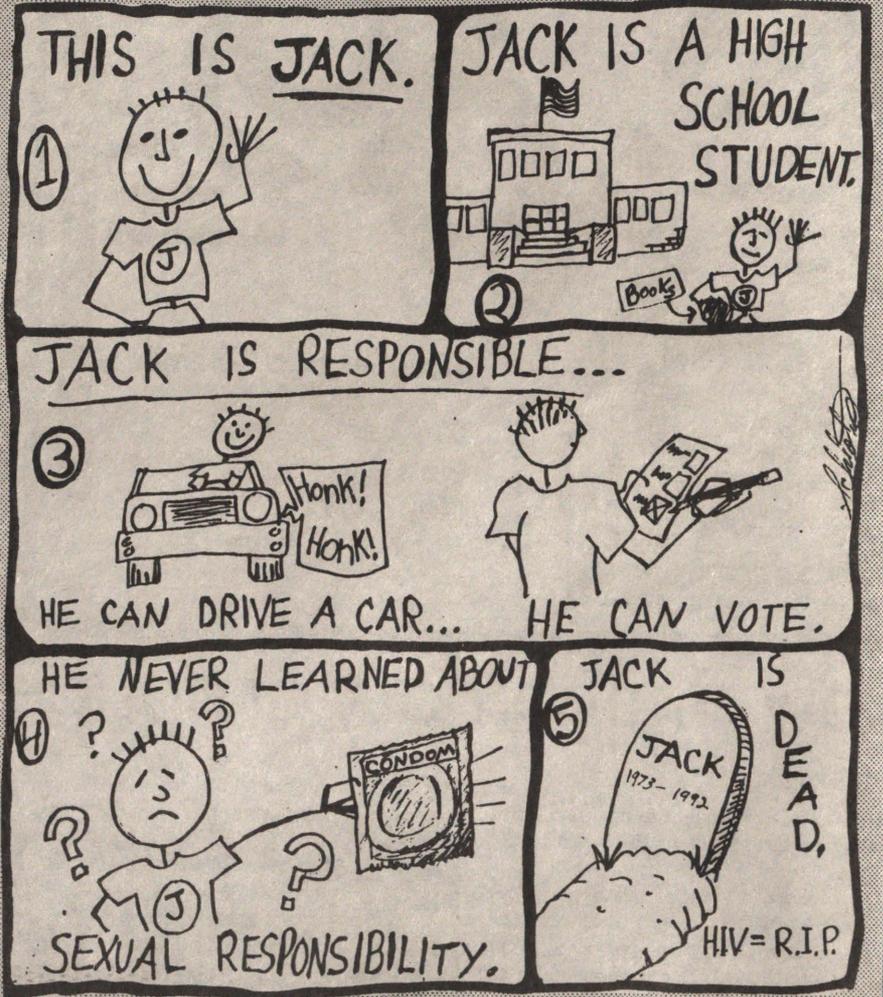
Then there are the 78 percent of the population of the United States that feel there is no chance that they will ever contract AIDS, with at least half of the population thinking AIDS is only a homosexual disease. What these people don't know, is that 60 percent of people who have contracted AIDS got it through heterosexual contact.

The **Bridge** feels that AIDS is a disease that needs to be talked about in schools to make students aware of what AIDS is and how they can avoid it. The students need to know the truth not the rumors.

The **Bridge** also feels that AIDS Awareness Week is a great idea and hopes that this will take place. Educating the students about AIDS is one of the best ideas that Student Council has thought of.

If the students get informed about what AIDS is and know how to avoid it, it may cut down on the number of people who contract the HIV virus and, consequently, die.

We encourage the administration to support the Student Council in their efforts in educating the students of WCCHS about the grave dangers of AIDS.



Pow!!!



by Jamie McDole

What Counts

As I sit and wonder about those universal questions in life, there are some questions that were answered for me in a book called **What Counts**.

It is those interesting facts no one ever

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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.

cares to mention, but yet are fascinating, funny, and shocking.

One of them that just pops to mind, there are four states where cockfighting is legal. I have always assumed that it is illegal, but no, it's legal in some places. I'll just go get my chicken now and get into a cockfight. Just kidding.

Here are a few others in this book.

There are two Americans that have been killed by robots on the job.

What a way to go!

Thirty-five hundred people in the world belong to the International Flat Earth Research Society. That's right, they think the earth is flat.

The average number of frogs eaten each year by the French is 200 million.

Bon Appetite!

Estimated amount of glucose used by an adult human brain each day expressed in M&M's: 250.

I wonder if Peanut M&M's would work too.

Forty percent of Iowans say that they have a hard time singing the Star Spangled Banner.

My country tis' of thee...?

You burn an average of 26 calories during an extremely passionate one-minute kiss.

All right, losing weight doing something fun, finally.

Eight percent of students at the Dunkin' Donuts Training Center do not pass the six-week training course.

I wouldn't pass either if I had to get up in the middle of the night because "it's time to make the donuts."

The average fine in Bavaria, Germany for calling a traffic officer a Stinkstiefel (smelly boot) is \$1710.

Germany would be rich if Zsa Zsa Gabor lived there.

A Jane Fonda workout videocassette on the black market in Moscow costs \$372.

The average fine in Bavaria, Germany for calling a traffic officer a Stinkstiefel (smelly boot) is \$1710.

Where did they come up with \$372?
An American eats 28 pigs in a lifetime.
Why?

Robin Weir, Nancy Reagan's former

hairdresser, charges \$150 for a haircut.

Isn't Borics cheaper?

A Pennsylvania chapter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars sent 5040 packets of Kool-Aid to American soldiers in the Persian Gulf in 1990.

Those poor soldiers were going around fighting with Kool-Aid smiley faces. No wonder the people from Iraq thought we were weird.

Eight percent of the childhood population in the U.S. say that Pee-Wee Herman is highly qualified to be president.

Children, they just don't know.

This book even has more though. I laughed for hours reading this book. There are subjects ranging from sex and politics to pop culture and sports.

This is a great book just to sit around and read for the heck of it. It is also good if you are wondering what percent of Iowans said the death of Sid Vicious affected them personally.

Top 10 reasons pop machine prices have gone up

by Jason Mummert

10. There is 10 percent more pop, right?
9. So the staff could get that well deserved pay-raise.
8. They know we 'Gotta Have It' anyway.
7. For the greater enjoyment of the studentns.
6. So eventually, school will be more like Great America.
5. Doctors always charge too much.
4. Coca-Cola is having financial problems.
3. Things were starting to get too sane since the door locking.
2. During a recession, the prices of pop and gas mysteriously link.
1. Everyone carries extra nickels, so hey!

Letter to the editor Bridge staff applauded

I would like to applaud the **Bridge** staff for their "In-depth articles on interracial dating, racism and especially, cultural diversity.

Throughout the year, we have been using the **Bridge** in our ESL classroom as part of our reading program. Not only does this provide students the opportunity to read something meaningful and relevant in English, it also gives some insight into the lives of American high school students - some cultural (for better or worse) exchange, if you will.

While we have always found the **Bridge** articles informative and, usually interesting, this last set hit especially close to home for us. I look forward to some interesting discussions this week as students share their ideas for cultural exchange in our own school community. While Ms. Aviles and the International Club have been working very hard to promote this all year, they could always use some help. And why stop with the student body? What about a staff International Night? Exploring

your own culture can be a real learning experience and a lot of fun! (Just ask the Adult ESL staff! Right, Manny?)

My six years as an ESL teacher have brought me into contact with many cultures, including Mexican, Puerto Rican, Polish, Indonesian, Yugoslavian, Danish, Colombian and more. Not only have I been enriched by this experience, but it has also prompted me to take a closer look at my own German-Irish heritage. Even in classrooms where students spoke virtually no English, the universal "languages" of music, dance and food enable us to share our cultures without saying a word.

Again, I commend the **Bridge** for touching on this very timely issue and hope this is a starting point for future articles and activities. With our changing demographics, both locally and nationally, this is a topic which will eventually touch all of us.

Mary McCarter

4th year philosophy-let us praise Benoit

by Brian Levake



David Benoit wants you to burn all your records. (photos by Brian Levake)



David Benoit. The king of mind control. A few eventful months ago, I stumbled onto a video tape at a friend's house. It was titled *Glory Videos present: David Benoit reveals the truth about Rock and Roll and Satanism*.

I couldn't pass this one up. I mean, in general, I am all for religion and am a Christian, but this guy is just a nut. The guy comes out on this small stage and begins to point out all the groups that have Satanic album covers, like Earth, Wind, and Fire, and Duran Duran. "What a crock," I kept saying to myself. Then he starts telling me about how teenagers just like me have gone out and bought machine guns and blown away their family and friends because Earth, Wind, and Fire told them to. Yeah, right.

Then he starts getting all creative and tells us a story about how he was at a youth camp in Pennsylvania. He goes on to say how he swears he saw a little girl being possessed by Satan, supposedly because of that bad, bad, rock and roll music. Then the tiny, tiny, little girl was freaking out so bad, two enormous football players sat on both of her arms to keep her from running around and beating other people.

Thank heavens Benoit was there. He tells us he jumped onto the little girl and put his hands on her head and said "What is your name, demon?"

"Maljfhloithgb;osghybv;sdvs;dvhsd;y," said the demon.

"Well, you, gosh, you come right out of there this instant," said David Benoit. And sure enough the evil demon came right out and went back to hell. Really. I believe this

guy. This is also the same guy who on the videotape admits that he was arrested several times for possession of acid and such. Sure he

saw a little girl beat up football players. I bet he met Jesus too. And Satan. And he had them over for cream of mushroom soup. This guy's entire life has been a big fat acid flashback.

And sure, maybe he doesn't use any Biblical support for what he says, except for one or two very general verses that say little more than "be good."

If any of you can give at least one good reason why I should believe this fat, balding, ex-con, acid-taking, money-stealing freak of nature, I'll be more than glad to lend you an ear. But come on, even if I wasn't your average teenager, I still wouldn't believe this guy. The only reason he has followers is because people are so gullible and confused, that they'll give money to TV freaks like Benoit and Jimmy Swaggart, and Jim Baker. I wonder how many people see the clown in themselves when their favorite superstar preacher gets canned for misappropriation of millions of poor stupid people's money.

A couple of years ago, Eric Schlotzer wrote a song that deals with this topic. It's called *Door to Door Jesus* and goes something like this:

"Well looky here. You're a fine looking young man. Me, and my wife and little Joey here, we've been going around your neighborhood. And we've been noticing a lot of evil in the world, and we think the Bible is the answer."

"Door to Door Jesus, welcome mat Messiah, God is low on cash this week, won't you take a flyer?"

"Well, now that I'm here, I think I'll step in. 'I got lots to show you,' he said with a grin. His briefcase popped open, propaganda spilled out. 'I'm affire with the love of Jesus!', I heard him shout.

Take home your briefcase, take home your slut, make no mistakes, my door'll stay shut. You may call it blasphemy, or whatever you call it, but God's from my heart, and not my wallet."

Swing it baby, and may God bless you.

Restaurant wars-Wag's vs Denny's

by Brian Levake and Aaron Owens

Wag's-

There is only really one purpose to this place: a haven for people who are out at all hours of the night and want coffee.

If you go there before 12 am, you are subject to actually having to order and eat some of their less than gourmet food. Don't make the mistake and order food, and if you do, be sure it's jello or toast or something they can't easily screw up. Not to mention that the prices are very high.

But after 12 o'clock, it's coffee/freakshow/caffeine rush time. On any given visit, it shouldn't shock you to see drug addicts, ex-cons, evil clowns, hallucinations, or even a group of worthwhile people out for a light night cup of coffee, which by the way, is quite good. Lots and lots of good healthy caffeine to keep you awake for the rest of your natural born life.

Overall, Wag's has the qualities that an all-night place should have, like dark, earth tone interior, odd and interesting people, and a never ending goblet of coffee.

Scoreboard

	W	D
Food		☐
Price	☐	
Coffee	☐	☐
Value	☐	☐

Denny's-

Good guys always finish last is what they say. That doesn't exactly hold true here.

Denny's can easily be described as the "nice guy" version of Wag's. They have a nice clean establishment, a limit on freaks, and a fine, colorfully laid out menu. They even offer all-you-can-drink soda for those who are too young or weak to drink coffee. How nice.

Meals seem to be the main focus of their establishment, with their large line of "Grand Slam" meals, which offer a wide variety and amount of food for reasonable prices. In fact the only thing Denny's lacks is atmosphere.

Who wants a shiny, happy waiter/waitress at two o'clock in the morning?

Who can handle that? Who can handle their bright shiny interior when in a half asleep haze? It could be enough to make someone go on a psycho rampage through Wheaton.

In the big picture however, the time to hit Denny's would be in the afternoon or early evening. A perfect lunch place in case the line at Taco Bell is too long.

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Women's rights progress

by Julianne Graczyk

"A woman had little alternative but to marry and fulfill her child-bearing and homemaking destiny," said Professor Edmund Kephart, speaking of society prior to the 19th century. Women were not permitted to vote, nor was their education taken very seriously.

There were no real changes in the status of American women until late in the 19th century. As late as 1850, a wife had no legal control over her own personal property; all her belongings were legally in the hands of her husband, to dispose of as he saw fit. Her services also belonged to him and she had no legal rights even to the custody of her own children.

The rights of women were gradually broadened after the women's rights movement in 1848. Eventually women won the right to vote, to negotiate contracts, run their own businesses, keep their own earnings, and attend higher schools of learning. Women also began to enter the work force in higher numbers.

Newsweek wrote that young men and women in the United States today have equal access to high schools and colleges. As ideas about women's equality have become more accepted, education has given girls the same opportunities as boys. But some parents and teachers discourage females to study certain subjects.

In 1937, 31 percent of America said they would vote for a suitable woman president.

The further up the educational ladder you go, the fewer women you meet. Kephart stated, "In an industrialized country like ours, women are found in a much narrower range of occupations than men."

The National Women's Suffrage Committee was founded in 1870 to defend the fact that the Declaration of Independence said "these truths to

be self-evident; that all men and women are created equal." The resolution calling for women's suffrage fought to attain the right to equality. On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment declared women's right to vote.

Women may be able to vote, but the number of women in legislatures is very low. The representation of women in United States legislatures is only about 5 percent. According to Charles H. Percy in **The Oregonian**, women are better represented at the local government level. However, attitudes towards women have changed. In 1937, 31 percent of America said they would vote for a suitable woman president. Since then this number has risen over 40 percent.

In America, the women's movement has succeeded in legalizing abortion and getting legislation passed to outlaw discrimination. In 1973, the Supreme Court created the constitutional right to an abortion. Women can also control their fertility with the use of birth control pills. Fifty four million women use the Pill worldwide. Females now have the freedom to enjoy sex without fear of pregnancy.

Women have helped bring the peace movement to the public eye. The most significant movement has been the women's liberation movement, which emerged in the 1960s and which has forced governments to change laws and people to change attitudes. Mandy Wharton, the author of **Rights of Women**, said, "It has helped many individual women in their difficult lives."

Arranged marriages are illegal in many states. Wharton explained that women have a more equal role in their marriages, and they are no longer confined to the kitchen. The freedom of divorce has caused our divorce rate to accelerate. According to Dr. Herbert Hendlin, 40 percent of all marriages end in divorce. He also found that the majority of divorces are initiated by women.

Women have achieved better education, the right to vote, and the right to an abortion. After these accomplishments, women of the future can overcome new obstacles.

How about some dessert before I go with the girls



Abortion sparks controversy

by Raven Moore

Roe vs. Wade was one of the most controversial court cases ever brought before the Supreme Court.

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision stated that except under certain conditions, states may not prohibit a woman's right to have an abortion during the first six months of pregnancy.

In 1970, a Texas waitress calling herself "Jane Roe" challenged the law which stated that abortion was a criminal offense. Roe was raped and refused to have a child that was not by her own choice. Her abortion was denied by the Texas state law, so her only choice was to sue. She sued the Dallas County District Attorney Henry Wade. It was ruled that the Texas state law violated a woman's right to privacy stated in the Fourteenth Amendment. The court decided that an unborn fetus was not a living person, consequently it was not under constitutional protection.

This decision has sparked debate on both sides of the spectrum. The side of Pro-Choice believes that a woman should have the right to choose whether she wants to keep the child or not. The other side of the issue, Pro-Life, believes the unborn fetus has the right to live

and the woman should not have the choice to terminate the pregnancy. The issue isn't clear-cut.

Just recently this issue has become so hot that the reversal of this decision might be coming. This reversal could take away the woman's right to decide whether or not to give birth. If the law is changed women's rights will be constitutionally hindered. Many pro-choice advocates believe that if abortions are made illegal women who want an abortion will find a way-even if that means in a back alley with a coat hanger.

Besides total abolition of abortions, other restrictions concerning abortions are looming in the future. In one of these restrictions, a woman will be required to tell her spouse that she is pregnant and wants an abortion. This is called spousal consent. If this happens women's rights will be constitutionally hindered because this restriction goes against the Fourteenth Amendment which gives people the freedom of speech. In addition, only one percent of women getting abortions are married.

Another restriction proposed is employees of clinics for pregnant women will not be allowed to discuss all the options. They will be able to tell the girls their options are either to give the baby up for adoption or keep it-leaving out the option of abortion. This is known as the Gag Rule.

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Motherhood and a career Can it work?

by Karina Bite

As women progress into the 90's, many opportunities will become available to them, and the power of the female will be more and more influential in society.

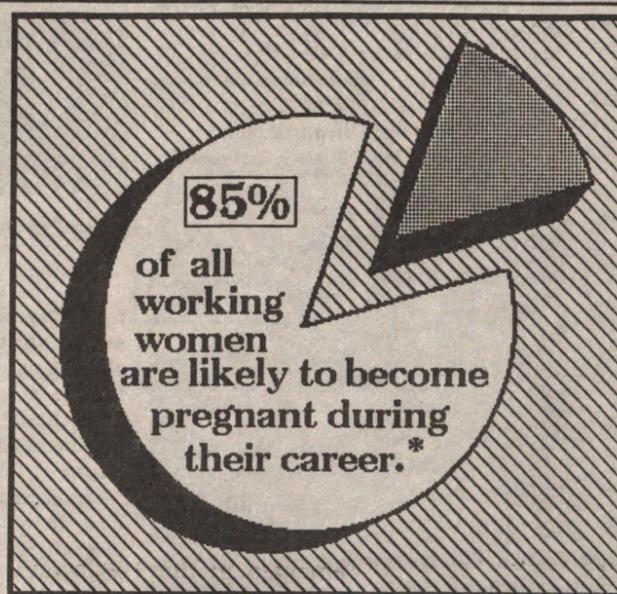
So why does a little rotundity around the belly have to stop them? They're only bringing a new life into this corporate infrastructure we call the workplace. Sadly enough, career-minded women who want families find

many companies to handle employee maternity leave individually, which can be a hassle for both parties involved. Many states have made laws that would ensure the woman her job, or one of comparable merit. These laws also provide for a leave ranging from six to 16 weeks, depending on the state.

Since there are no federal laws mandating a

that balancing the two worlds is still a big obstacle.

"Maternity leave is one of the hardest of all workplace negotiations because you're forcing a woman to give answers she can't possibly know until she's had the baby," says Dana E. Friedman, co-President of the Families and Work Institute. It is a large problem, especially in today's society, where 75 percent of all working women are of childbearing age, and 85 percent are prone to



Graph by: Eric Schlotzer

*-source: Working Woman Magazine

woman's pregnancy leave, many employers offer little or no guarantees that women will have jobs to come back to. This uncertainty could lead some women to postpone their return, and hurt their chances of getting their job back even more. When they do return to work, how are their children affected?

Lois Hoffman, psychologist at the University of Michigan, found that children from two-income families don't suffer

from negative effects as much as once thought. Conversely, these children grow up with a less stereotyped view of society because they see both parents for an equal amount, rather than seeing the father rarely and the mother throughout the day. Also, two-income families tend to spend more time with their children than single-income families do. When only the father works, couples sometimes spend more personal time together than family time. Sometimes the problem isn't whether the mother works at all. Is she a good mother? Whether she is employed or not is only a sideline and rarely comes into play.

Just because this problem is a reality in the lives of many women, doesn't mean they have to shut down their careers and become addicted to soap operas and peanut butter and mayonnaise sandwiches. There are ways of negotiating time off, such as informing an employer soon enough so he/she can plan around the absence and schedule the woman's return. Sometimes, however there is not guarantee of job stability.

The United States is one of the few industrialized countries to that has failed to pass a law mandating parental absence, reports Working Woman. This leaves

from negative effects as much as once thought. Conversely, these children grow up with a less stereotyped view of society because they see both parents for an equal amount, rather than seeing the father rarely and the mother throughout the day. Also, two-income families tend to spend more time with their children than single-income families do. When only the father works, couples sometimes spend more personal time together than family time. Sometimes the problem isn't whether the mother works at all. Is she a good mother? Whether she is employed or not is only a sideline and rarely comes into play.



Adams inspired a nation

by Alicia Garceau

In 1889 Jane Adams, a crusader for social justice, came to Chicago in search of a way to start social reform.

Charles J. Hull built an estate on what was then the edge of the city in 1856. But, by 1889, this house had been absorbed into rapidly growing Chicago and Hull decided to donate the house to two women, Jane Adams and Ellen Gates Starr.

On September 18, 1889, Adams and Starr started what was to become one of the greatest social experiments in this country's history. Located on the corner of Polk and Halsted streets, Adams' Hull House became the first social settlement in the city of Chicago.

In her young adulthood, Adams searched for a way to help society, and after visiting London, she came to Chicago and established Hull House. The goal of this housing settlement was to provide education, finance and social reform to the people of the Hull House neighborhood, which in 1889 housed 20,000 people. Sixty percent of these people were believed to be immigrants.

Adams believed that social ills were caused by problems in the society, not by individuals. Her ideals and sense of social awareness brought people of 19 different nationalities together and inspired a new sense of civic duties. Hull House became the community center and by 1893,

A list of firsts for Hull House

- * First public play ground
- * First public gymnasium
- * First factory laws in Illinois
- * First tenant/landlord codes
- * First domestic violence court in Chicago
- * First private venture capital fund in U.S. for neighborhood business development
- * First investigations resulting in legislation/laws relating to truancy, sanitation, child labor, public school curriculum

source: Hull House Association

1,900 people a week sought help there and used the day nursery, the Labor Museum, a music school, a gymnasium, a cooperative boarding house for working women, and many other activities.

Adams devoted her life to obtaining legislative reforms. These reforms have included child labor laws, the first factory inspection and the nation's first Domestic Violence Court for women. According to Patrick O'Leary, Hull House board member, "Jane Adams was a real hell-cat when it came to shaking up big business and government and getting them to do the right thing." But he also acknowledge that she could not have accomplished everything herself. O'Leary said, "It was an amazing group of women and Jane Adams was the head of it."

For her efforts, Adams became the first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. She won this prestigious award in 1931, just three years before she died.

Hull House still exists and functions today under the same principles and ideals that Adams believed in over 100 years ago.

Today Adams' name and Hull House are synonymous with social reform

The bizarre world of the St. Charles "Bomb Man"

by Brian Levake

The myth lives on.

The myth of the "Bomb Man" in St. Charles was one that brought several neighbors and a city officials to attention. Supposedly, this "Bomb Man" was an insane man that was building a air and radiation tight fortress around his already existing house, rarely talking to anyone and generally scaring everyone.

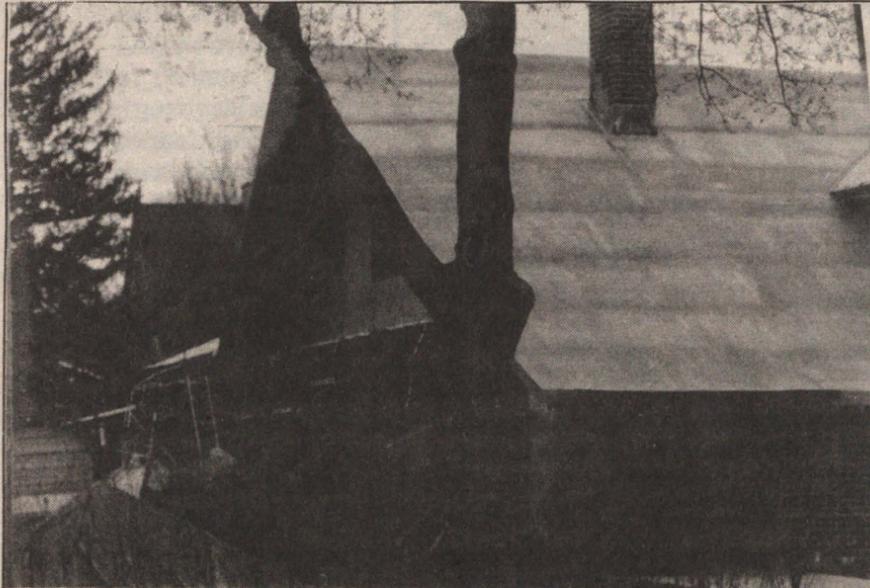
One neighbor who asked to be unidentified, claimed, "He's a real wierdo." This neighbor claims that the man, who's real name is Cliff McIlvaine, has had several run-ins with city officials over building permits and such. Ironically, McIlvaine has worked for the city of St. Charles, installing security. According to the unidentified neighbor, McIlvaine raised his mammoth house as a memorial to his late father, who was a free-lance scientist and inventor. According to one neighbor,

full time helper in his laboratory.

Apparently the recipient of a large inheritance, McIlvaine owns several Mercedes and vans, as well as buying out a complaining neighbor's house.

The Neighbor on the opposite side of the McIlvaine house had a strikingly different story. "As far as a neighbor, you couldn't ask for a nicer guy," claimed the St. Charles resident, who also asked to be unidentified. He also said he has "nearly photographic memory," and is a "genius." As his story goes, McIlvaine does have a bomb shelter in his basement, as well as a laboratory and several secret rooms. "I could get lost in his basement," claimed the neighbor. According to him, McIlvaine is about 45 years old and has been working on his house for about 15 years. Instead of building a giant bomb shelter, as many people claim, he says he is simply creating a new form of insulation.

Upon talking to McIlvaine, this reporter



McIlvaine's roof is a state of the art concept. (photo by Rob Rivan)

his father invented several important things, such as the "electric eye," that is used in many video games and burglar alarm systems. He was so hung up in science and inventing that he employed a

was quite surprised to find what seemed to be several thousands of dollars of building equipment just laying all over the porch and yard. McIlvaine answered the door without saying a word. He seemed to



Here are two of Cliff McIlvaine's many automobiles. (photo by Rob Rivan)

be in his middle 40's, wearing dress pants and a t-shirt. He had a very nervous aura about him. Maybe because he isn't used to visitors or people inquiring about his life or house.

When asked what was special about his house, he simply muttered "polyurethane." He said he is building a new form of insulated roof, using polerethane foam, steel, more foam, and a fiberglass layer.

He provided quite a scare when asked about the disadvantages about the insulation.

"If it caught fire, it would give off cyanide gas, and people would die," he laughed. His nervous apperance all but sealed the fact that this man's place was not in society.

Perhaps he just wants privacy. After more than fifteen years of battles with city officials, property officials, and angry neighbors, maybe he deserves a break. The misunderstood are here and now.

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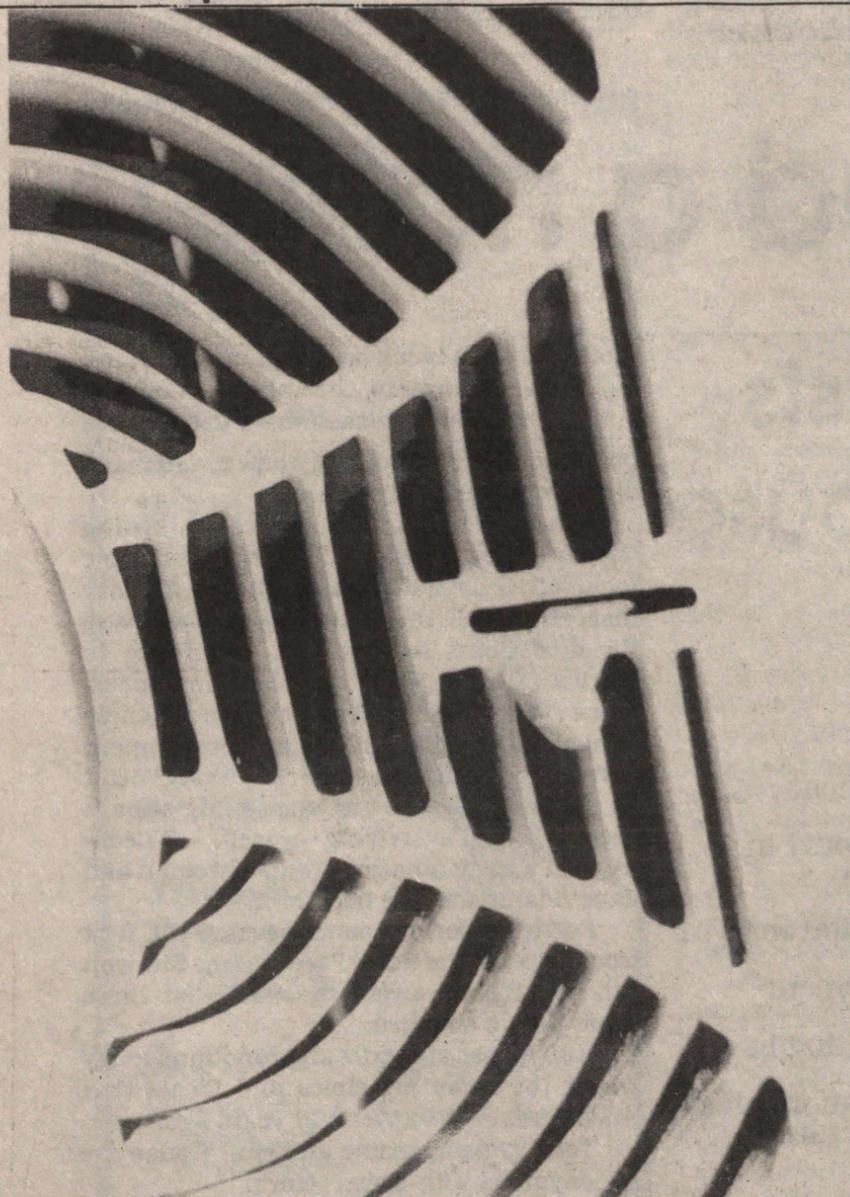
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Weird photo of the month



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The Kitty Litter



by Aaron Owens

Cub's Woes and Sox's Fans

The Cubs win, the Cubs have won the World Series. Ha, Ha.

I for one am sick of Chicago Cub baseball, after lofty predictions, arguably the best talent in the league, and a new manager; the Cubs seem to be in the same position as they have been in for the last few years. Their so called powerful hitting has not been too powerful lately. Their outstanding early season defense, that did not commit an error in their first four games, has made up for it in two games after. Pitching, (except for Greg Maddux) has been a laugh since I remember. But the best part of the Cubs is their outstanding skill to make "great trades." Great for the other teams, maybe. Some of the marquee names that weren't good enough to be Cubs are former or current stars George Bell, Mike Bielecki, Joe Carter, Dennis Eckersley, Dave Martinez, Rafael Palmeiro, Lee Smith, not to mention Rick Sutcliffe, Bruce Sutter, and Mitch Williams.

And who have the Cubs gotten in return? How about Paul Kilgus? What about Ken Patterson. Last time I checked, his ERA was around 38.

Senior Jamie McDole gave me his insights on the Cubs. "The Cubs couldn't even win the DVC," said McDole. "Our pitching is better." Did someone say pitching? Oakland's Dennis Eckersley who now is the premier reliever in the American League was traded by the Cubs. Former star Sutcliffe, who was given away,

pitched a shutout in his first outing for the Baltimore Orioles. Rick Reuschel who is now retired, had many outstanding years Pirates and the Giants. But Steve Stone is still here; too bad he's an announcer.

I predict the Cubs to finish in the bottom half of their division this year despite their high expectations at the season's outset. But no matter how many bad trades the Cubs make, or how low they will finish in their division, I will always be a fan. I like every other Cub fan, love the ivy of Wrigley, love Harry and his cow, and most of all love the people that make up the real team of Chicago.

Fan? Fans? Sox? The Chicago White Sox are "the hottest team in town" according to WGN. But are the mass group of people that attend New Comiskey Park really true fans? Were these fans around five years ago, when the White Sox were the laughing stock of the American League? I don't think so. Will these fans be here when the Sox have an off year, and are not as successful as they are now. Or will these fans still be here when the Sox finish second in their division for the 100th consecutive year. What happens if Frank Thomas turns out like Bo, or Carlton Fisk finally retires? And what happens if Ozzie Guillen gets hurt? Oops.

Will these numerous fans be there for the Chicago White Sox?

Even though I love the Cubs, I think I am through with Chicago baseball. Go, Cougars.

Spring Sports Season Records

	WINS	LOSSES	TIES
Badminton	9	5	
Boys' Baseball	11	4	
Soccer	1	8	1
Softball	15	2	
Girls' Track	1	7	In DVC
Boys' Track	19	22	

Records current as of Tuesday, May 5.

Ladycat Soccer led by tough defense

by Brett Siglin

Julio Del Real, an all-state soccer player for We-go in '82 and '83, and Monica Cousins are both coaching the girls' soccer team for their first time. Both are very optimistic about the team.

So far Del Real has coached the varsity girls to 1-3-1 while Cousins has the JV squad at 1-2. According to Del Real, the varsity squad didn't play some of its games to its fullest potential but "they are improving each game." A problem has been the offense. Both teams have been struggling, but Del Real hopes one-on-one drills in practice will improve the Cats' ability to score.

According to Cousins, the teams communicate

graduation are Yvette Alfaro, Caroline Cinquegrani, Tonya Kotajarvi, Oskerka, Nunez, Jorie Peterson, and Jenny Rose. Although these losses will hurt the team, many underclassmen look promising as well. Two freshmen are starting on varsity as well as six sophomores and a few juniors. On JV, most of the players are new to the team this year. The team has been strong on defense like the varsity squad. Patti Para has been playing goalie and will probably play next year on varsity.

Conference games will prove to be the most



Porsche Willenbring moves the ball up-field against Wheaton Central.

well in games which is important in soccer. The key has been the defense. With all-state goalkeeper Cherie Oskerka, the Ladycats can keep the score low and never lose touch in a game. She is the key to the defense. Another star defender is sweeper Luz Nunez. She is the team's workhorse and can be depended on in tough games. A surprise on defense has been Dana McKenzie who played key games versus Wheaton Central and Waubonsie Valley.

According to Del Real, the seniors are a key in spicing up the team and have a great impact on the younger players. Girls that the team will lose to

crucial for both squads. There are a few conference teams ranked in the Chicago-area top 10 so the Ladycats have a lot of competition. Del Real stated that the girls play a little tougher in conference games. So far, key games were a tie against Glenbard North and a loss to Wheaton Central.

This week will be a challenge for the team; playing Naperville North, St. Charles and Bollingbrook. Neither coach is as concerned about winning but hope the team will concentrate and improve their play.

Siglin, Sullivan pace track team

by Jason Mummert

This year's We-go Boys' track team is paced by the talents of Brett Siglin and Wallace Sullivan. Siglin took a first and four seconds in the two mile indoor races this year. "He hasn't finished lower than second in the two miler (as of 4/24/92) all year," said Coach Paul McLeland. Siglin's 1992 best is 9:45, only seconds off his all time best of 9:42 last year.

Sullivan is the only Wildcat to break a school record so far this year. At Oswego on April 18, he ran a time of 50.34 seconds in the 400 meter dash. Sullivan's new mark broke the old Wildcat record of 50.7 seconds, set by Rick Eberman (now a senior at Wheaton North) last year. Both Siglin and Sullivan are juniors.



Track star Brett Siglin

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Hardball, Softball; Wildcats top spring sports

by Dan Ventrelle

Although recently enduring a heartbreaking loss to Naperville North, the West Chicago Wildcats Girl's Softball Team has retained their grand expectations for a successful season.

While the first loss of the season did put a blemish on a previously perfect record and signified the end of the Wildcats eight game winning streak, it certainly did not dampen the team's enthusiasm. Last year's conference championship was the catalyst for confident feelings about a repeat title, and murmurs of a perfect season could be constantly surrounded the team.

Last year's championship team did manage to hold on to its perfect record longer than this team did. In fact, their first loss was suffered considerably later in the season, after the team had established its hold on the front runner position. However, both teams have comparable talent, many members of this year's team are Seniors who were a part to the 1991 champions. Given this basis, and this team's success in 1992, there is no reason to doubt the coaches consistent statements that the second consecutive championship is a real possibility.

The Naperville North loss did not signify a deviation from the typical Wildcat contest. There were no glaring errors of mistakes which the fan could point to and certainly no reason to think that the level of play is any less intense. Coach Lee Maciejewski attributed the defeat to an absence of timely hits

which stranded numerous base runners in key situations.

Coach Maciejewski was more concerned with the havoc played by the weather upon the team's schedule that the Naperville North result. "We were more affected by not being able to play for a week and a half because of the weather than we were by the unexpected loss", said Maciejewski. The Coach then discounted the cliché that usually surrounds a team's first setback. "some people say that you can always learn something from losing, I'm not like that. I think we have to play well and win consistently to contend in our conference."

However, Maciejewski did feel that the loss "galvanized" the team for future competition, and vowed there would be no significant alterations in the Wildcats next meeting with Naperville North.

In Maciejewski's words, "We are not going to change anything. We hit their pitching well and we didn't commit stupid errors, we just couldn't win. Next time, I plan to do the same things and hope the ball can fall our way, and we can bring home victory."

The Wildcats now look to the future and refuse to dwell on their sole defeat of the season. With seven games, five of them conference games, facing the Wildcats during the week of April 27, the staff feels that the team can do little more than approach the schedule with a confident eye to future success, realizing that the only way to compensate for the defeat is with consistent victory.

The outlook for consistent victory is the upcoming scheduled is bolstered by the talent evidenced by the team's individual statistics.

These numbers are outstanding, both in the offensive and pitching categories.

The pitchers are led by Gretchen Austgen, whose 4-1 record leads the staff, and Kristle Spielman (3-0). Together these two Seniors provide a formidable one-two punch. Complimenting their efforts is the performance shown by Senior relief pitcher Gina Lipscomb (1-0). Maciejewski assesses Lipscomb's performance as "superb".

Offensively, the statistics are equally impressive. Returning All Conference infielder Liz Germand leads a formidable array of hitters. Germand's thirteen runs batted in, coming from the third spot in Maciejewski's batting order, have been welcomed as both opportune and essential. Team batting average leader Fiona Quane is second in runs batted in with 12. Catcher, Kate Lootens, has been a pleasant surprise for Wildcat



Shanon Mason eyes the ball, and Joe Wagenaar winds up for the two standout teams of the West Chicago Spring sports season. (Baseball photo: Matt Haverty / Softball photo: Rob Rivan)

by Liz Germand

The Wildcat baseball team started off the season posting a 8-2 record.

According to Coach Tim Courtney the key to the early success is the Wildcat pitching staff. Courtney said they are the key because, "they throw a lot of strikes which puts hitters at a disadvantage." After eight games the pitching staff recorded an earned run average (ERA) of 2.11.

The pitching staff is lead by seniors Greg Juarez and Jamie Mackert. Juarez has pitched 31 innings and has posted an ERA of 2.94 and Mackert has pitched 19 innings and leads the pitching staff with an ERA of 1.11. Senior Joe Wagenaar got his first start against Glenbard East and pitched six innings in the Wildcats slaughter rule win allowing just one run.

Courtney also said, "I think we've been doing the right things." Another thing Courtney has seen is hard work and good team leaders. Senior third basemen Jamie McDole said, "Our ability to score runs is one of our best assets," and, "Also our team defense has been excellent as of late."

He said that next to good pitching is the good defense. McDole said, "We are the best team physically in the DVC." After 10 games the team's fielding percentage was .928. In the field Catcher Jim Cabrera and outfielders Ken Hodgen and Scott Westman lead the team with an average of 1.000. Cabrera said the key to the team's success was that, "We pick each other up when mistakes are made and not one person takes all the blame."

To continue the team's success Courtney thinks that they need to be in the game from the beginning and that they can't "be scared of anyone and don't

take anyone lightly." He also believes that the team needs to maintain their good play and not let down mentally. Cabrera said that the key to continued success would be to, "play as a team and play fundamental baseball..." he added, "we should place very high because I don't think there is a team, that can beat us if we play at our best." McDole said to continue the team's success, "We need to believe in ourselves and our ability to be successful in the DVC."

Cabrera has helped the both the pitchers and defense. Courtney said that Cabrera is "like a human backstop" because he stops everything that comes his way. He explained that this helps pitchers' confidence. Cabrera has also done well at the bat, posting a .364 average.

The Wildcat hitting has been led by Rich Fikis who is now batted over .400 in the first six games and currently is batting .364. Courtney said he has that well because he "goes with the pitch." He also said that Fikis is a "quality high percentage hitter." Along with Fikis is pitcher Jamie Mackert. Courtney described him as a powerful hitter who can also hit for average (.294) and has a slugging percentage of .529. Ken Hodgen has led the team in runs batted in (RBI) which Courtney said was "unusual for a lead-off hitter." Jamie McDole came out of his pre-season slump to have three RBI's against Glenbard South and is now posting an average of .353.

At the beginning of the season Courtney knew that Derek Nelson would compete for one of the spots open on the varsity.

Courtney said that he also knew that Ed Cortez was a, "terrific fielder and baserunner," but he has been a better hitter because "he is not striking out."

Courtney had four goals for his team this year. Number one he said, "I want us to play hard all the time." He also wants

'Don't be scared of anyone, and don't take anyone lightly.'

Tim Courtney

the team to have fun this season. The third and the fourth goals are "to compete for the conference title," and, "to break the school record for wins in a season," respectively. The school record for wins in a season is 19 wins. Cabrera's goal for the team is, "to be physically and mentally alert at every moment of the game and season."

Up to date the baseball team has seen all the conference has to offer. The Cats had poor performances against conference favorite Naperville Central, rival Glenbard North, and Wheaton North. The Cats have yet to play Naperville Central, and Wheaton North for the second time; but did play Glenbard North. The Cats beat the panthers 6-3 for the first time in 5 years. The team survived an early defensive mishap, and came back to

win the game. "I'm proud of our guys because they did not get down on each other," said Cabrera. "That is the difference between our team and teams of the past." Westman

has contributed much more than anticipated as an injury replacement, and currently boasts a .400 Batting Average. Amy Barnes, a converted basketball standout and Shannon Mason, a starter on the team for the past three years, headline the rest of Maciejewski's powerful line up.

Coach Maciejewski articulated the team's ambitions as to win as many games as possible and enjoy themselves while doing so, "These kids really believe they can win, and with the hard work and dedication that they have put into it, I believe they can too." The Wildcats season thus far has certainly given credence to Maciejewski's position.

'To be physically and mentally alert at every moment of the game and season.'

Jim Cabrera

pitched the victory, and added a two run shot to help his cause.

'Our ability to score runs is one of our best assets. Also our team defense has been excellent as of late.'

Jamie McDole

In recent play against Glenbard South, Mackert showed he is not only a force on the mound, but also at the plate. Mackert hit two homeruns in the second game of a double header, after he pitched for a victory in the first game. His two homeruns gave him the career homerun record at West Chicago High School. His homeruns were a special present, Happy birthday Jamie.