

Wildcats Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL 60185
October 2, 1992 Volume 22, Issue 1

Bill Signed to Move Thorium Out

By Damon Carlson

Governor Jim Edgar signed a bill that guaranties the state will be able to remove the thorium mill tailings from the Kerr-McGee sight in West Chicago.

On Sept. 6th Governor Edgar signed Senate Bill 1529 that gives the state the authority to fine Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. the sum of \$2 per cubic foot for storing the thorium in West Chicago.

Because there is an estimated 13 million cubic feet of thorium on the property, fines could reach a total of \$26 million a year.

Fines will not go into effect if an agreement is made to remove the thorium mill tailings before January 1, 1994.

A By-Product Material Fund would be set up for this money. This money would then be used to clean and monitor the factory site. Removing the thorium would also be covered by these fines.

Another reason the thorium mill tailings should be removed is because the



Governor Edgar signs the Thorium bill at Kerr McGee while prominent state and local officials look on. (photo by Damon Carlson)

sight is located in West Chicago, a residential neighborhood, and above a major ground water supply.

Edgar stated, "This community has fought this hazardous situation for more than a decade. Today we mark another step in the state's long-running efforts to

ensure the safe and proper disposal of this contaminated radioactive residue."

Overall the crowd seemed very pleased that the governor was there to give the community some legal help. As one man said, "This bill starts the clock ticking for Kerr-McGee to move the materials out."

Stomping out Cigarettes

By Molly Statz

Students can no longer stand across the street from the school and smoke cigarettes unless they are 18. West Chicago Community High School has made an agreement with the Police Department on the tobacco law.

This law is not new, it has been in effect since June 2, 1990. The law is newly enforced because of numerous complaints from the community.

Residents of West Chicago are tired of seeing children smoke and neighborhood stores selling tobacco to minors. Complaints are also directed at large numbers of kids standing around and cigarette butts all over yards across from the school.

According to Mr. Highland, the School Board sates West Chicago High School is a smoke free environment. This includes

no student or teacher smoking in school or on the grounds.

W.C.C.H.S will not permit a minor to be holding or using tobacco products within 100 feet of school. If a student is caught breaking this law, parents will be called and detentions or suspensions will be given.

The Police Department asked West Chicago to inform them of any student caught breaking the law. According to Police Cadet Julie Hess, a minor may be given a fine from fifty to a hundred dollars, or a phone call to the parents. Hess also said the exemption to the law is, "smoking in the privacy of your own home."

Senior Sheila Boudac said, "It's [the tobacco law] stupid. What's going to keep kids from smoking at home? Are the cops going to knock on your door?" Another senior, Heather Fritz, also thinks the tobacco law is pointless.

We-Go Puts

"New" Back in Newspaper

By Paul Abella

A Bridge has collapsed. A new school paper has started from scratch at West Chicago Community High School.

A drastic change from last year's paper, this year's edition will feature such niceties as an advice column and a bilingual section, as well as enlarged sports and features sections.

New personnel can be held accountable for the changes. A bunch of people will be helping on advice columns, including Cheri Winkler and Molly Statz. Maria Mendoza will be translating articles into Spanish for our Hispanic students, and business manager Derek Barton will be accepting classifieds for two dollars per inch.

Why the New Parking Policy at We-Go?

By Vicki Thomas

West Chicago started a new parking system this year. One-hundred IRO students and seniors with off-campus were given parking stickers and numbered spaces which are guaranteed till eleven a.m.

Why the change? Why don't people in extra-curricular activities get stickers and why are they so expensive?

Mr. Kimmery explained the fifteen dollar sticker price increase was due to money given out to the addition of new rooms in the school and the increase in personnel. Although the prices have gone up students now have a personal, guaranteed space.

Parking spaces weren't given to people in extra-curricular activities because the limited amount of spaces and the large amount of students in these activities. In past years school policy said people with seventh hour off-campus would get stickers, assuming they were leaving for work.

Kimmery suggested a solution for students in after school activities. His idea was to give people passes during lunch to move their cars into empty spaces, so they don't have to walk to Kerr McGee at night.

For future seniors, don't expect more parking. As Kimmery explained, "The school board feels they are in the education business and not the parking business." Also, he can't see a place for more parking around the school besides Kerr McGee, which is city property.

For anyone thinking of parking in the school lots without a sticker, a warning will be given for the first offense. However, the second time Kimmery said they will take unscheduled privileges away and if it becomes too much of a problem, will tow cars.

Homecoming has new toon

By Dina Bascharon

Tweetie Bird, Bugs Bunny, Snoopy, Papa Smurf, Fred, Wilma and Dino... what do all these characters have in common? They're all part of this years homecoming theme... the World of Animation.

Homecoming this year has taken a different route than in the past. For the first time the parade, football games and dance are on the same day.

Although this is a major change in Homecoming, other traditions have remained the same. There will still be the coronation of a king and queen, pep rally, morning competitions, and early dismissal on Friday.

A reason for some of the changes in this years homecoming was "to involve the whole school as well as the community," said Mr. Highland.

In order to do so, the four class windows, and other school club windows are being displayed in downtown We-Go. The town has also been decorated with streamers and banners to boost the community's spirit.

Although Homecoming week is already under way, there are still some important events to come.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

1. Wildcat Pride day (blue and white dress up)
2. Human Bozo Bucket Grape Toss Competition 7:30 am cafeteria
5 people from each class
3. 1:00 p.m. dismissal

4. 1:15 Pep Assembly

- Coronation King/Queen
- Tug o' War (Equal amount of boys and girls with total weight equaling 1500 pounds.)
- Homecoming Picnic

5. Buses depart at 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

1. Homecoming Parade 9:00 a.m.
2. Sophomore Football 11:30 a.m.
3. Varsity Football 1:30 p.m.
4. Homecoming Dance 7:00-10:00 p.m.

Hurricane Andrew Tears Through South

By Skye Studabaker

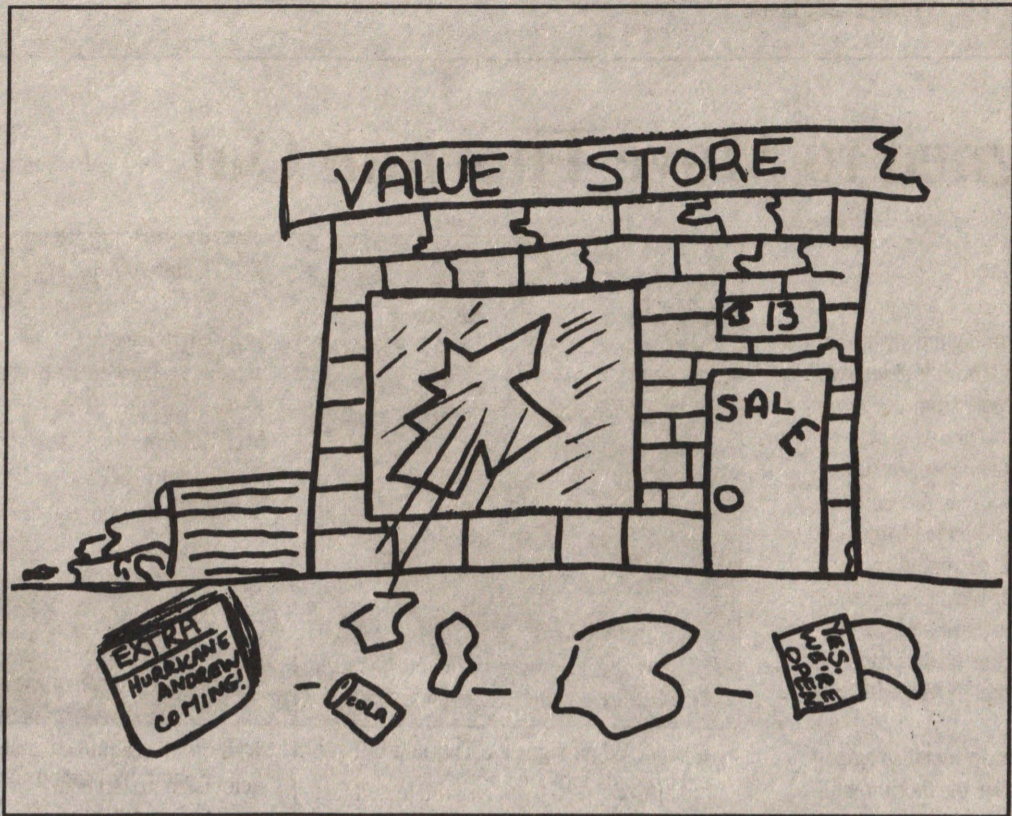
People and government came together to help victims of the recent Hurricane Andrew in the Gulf of Mexico, the most destructive hurricane to hit the U.S. mainland since Hurricane Camille in 1969.

Late in August a swirling sea storm blew up from the Atlantic Ocean. It leveled the tip of southern Florida, built up speed in the Gulf of Mexico, then ravaged the Louisiana Cajun country. Winds traveled up to 164 mph, clearing out a path 35 miles wide in southern Florida. The storm left 33 people dead and 300,000 people homeless.

Although President Bush arrived in Florida and Louisiana hours after the hurricane hit to announce that houses and jobs would soon be available, the federal and state governments were slow to respond to his claims. Food, supplies, and field hospitals arrived at the hurricane sites after four days had already passed since the disaster.

When help did arrive, however, it came in bundles. The federal task force stationed 19,000 men and women in Miami to protect the citizens against looters, search for lost or trapped people, and begin the gigantic clean-up task.

They also set up an AM radio station, Radio Recovery, and passed out free ra-



It was supposed to be a blow-out sale, but this was ridiculous.

dios to residents to help them locate assistance.

Twelve tent cities with a total capacity of 36,000 people and facilities such as Port-o-Potties, hot and cold running water, and entertainment for children were coordinated. Because the response to the tent cities was low, local government officials campaigned the neighborhoods, coaxing families out of their dilapidated homes.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency created 18 neighborhood disaster centers.

Many precautions have also been made regarding future natural disasters in the area.

Florida state codes say that all homes near the coast must be built to withstand winds up to 120 mph. Unfortunately, many hurricane winds exceed 150 mph, and construction companies do not want

to waste money designing houses for forces that large.

Many people are criticizing the slow action that the government took responding to the disaster. The public is hoping this emergency will encourage the government to react more quickly the next time.

For information on how to send money to the hurricane victims, call the local Red Cross at.....

Freshmen Provided with a New Outlook

By Laura Rapinchuk

A new program consisting of 110 freshmen called C-3 (common core connections) began at West Chicago this year.

It is designed as a pilot program in which the required freshmen classes, Biology, Math, English, and World Geography (taught by Mrs. Burke, Mr. Carter, Mrs. Pennel, and Mr. Sayner, respectively) are integrated. Their goal is to show that life isn't approached as a series of separate subjects but as a combination of skills.

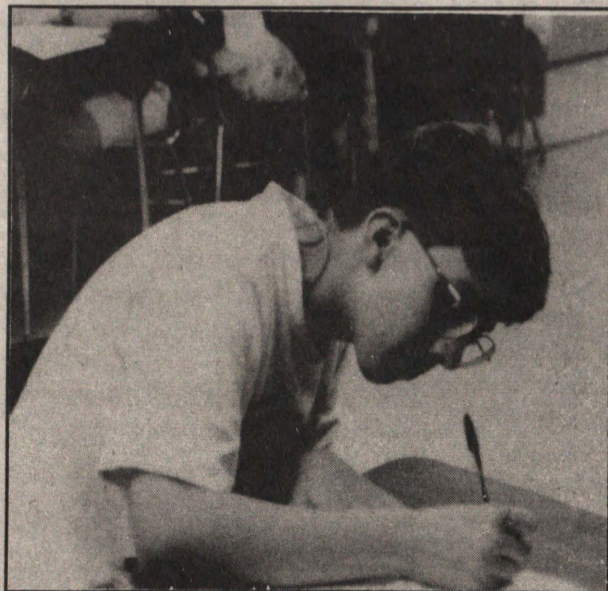
The class is similar to a college setting because students' schedules vary. They may focus on Math and Biology one day and English and World Geography the next. Stephan Grob (C-3 member) commented on the schedule changes by saying, "It's not too bad." He felt the best part of the program is the interaction with other students.

The teachers haven't had problems combining the courses because as Mrs. Burke stated, "In the real world that's how you approach life." They are excited about C-3 and believe it will benefit students.

Parents have also been supportive of the program. It provides a new approach to teaching required classes and still allows students to take electives.

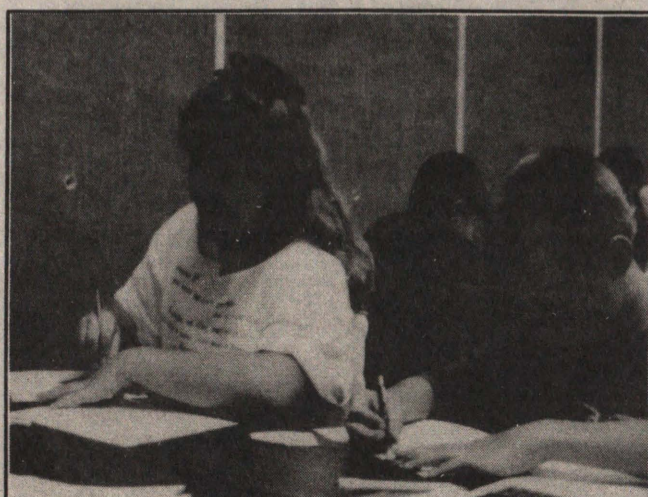
Lisa Coleman concentrates on her work in the Freshman C-3 program.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



Freshmen Colleen Horjin and Luke Netzel study together during their C-3 math class.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



Seatbelt-Free and Sorry

by Kristin Bedow

Have you ever heard the phrase "This is the time of your life. Have fun and enjoy yourself while you're still young;" Of course this is the time of our lives. We are teenagers. Young, free of worries, surrounded by friends and fun, and we are going to live forever. Wrong.

Thumbing through the Sept. 5 issue of *The Beacon News*, I came across the *Dear Abby* section containing a letter written from the grandmother of a 16-year old highschool senior who was killed in a car accident.

The girl and her friend were driving along an abandoned road when one of the tires on the vehicle blew out, skidding the car out of control, and flipping it several times.

The driver lived, however all that remained of the passenger was her hand. The reason: She was not wearing a seatbelt.

Before reading this article, I was one of those teenagers who did not wear a seatbelt. I thought they were pointless, and most importantly, I would not look cool wearing one.

Sure my parents warned me of the dangers of driving without them; there's even a law in Illinois requiring all drivers and passengers to wear seat belts.

After reading this article, I felt terrible for the girl who lost her life in that car crash, but I felt even worse for the family who had to live with the pain and sorrow of losing a loved one to a tragic death that could have been prevented with the use of a seat belt.

It scares me to know that most of my friends and a majority of the people I attend high school with don't wear seatbelts. I try to remember to wear my seatbelt now, and although some of you will read this article and snicker, I hope you will think about the consequences involved in driving without a seatbelt.

Although I am not able to print the letter, I hope reading this article has as much an affect on you as it did me. It just might save your life.

CHANGE NECESSARY IN PARKING POLICY

By Carolyn Mertz

There is always a policy at We-go that causes controversy, and this year is no exception. The rules regarding parking permits appear to be in question. The problem? There are too many students and not enough parking spaces. Perhaps this is the year to make significant changes in the "traditional system" that will benefit the student body.

The student handbook states that students in the work-study program are required by law to receive permits, but that accounts for less than one-fifth of the permits. The students with second priority are those with first or seventh hour off-campus. There is no logical reason behind this rule, it is simply how the permits have always been distributed. This policy definitely needs to be changed.

It's unbelievable that seniors who choose to take on the demands of a full class load are not even considered for permits. It is ironic, for being an "institution of learning," that the administration's policy rewards the students who take fewer classes and penalizes those who take full advantage of their educational opportunities.

I'm not against seniors having an unscheduled hour, but those students who only take three or four classes to fulfill the minimum graduation requirements so they can leave school early, shouldn't be given priority. They have the extra time so they should have to walk to their cars; besides, if they receive permits then their parking

spaces will be empty for the rest of the day.

I also do not understand why extracurricular activities are not taken into account. There are far too many students who are involved in activities and have to provide their own transportation, for the school to give out permits to people who don't have to drive in the first place. Driving is necessary for many because the school does not provide an activity bus and most students' parents work and cannot serve as a chauffeur.

There are almost 1600 students at We-go this year, and Mr. Kimery says that if every student in an activity was given a permit, then we would need 200 more parking spaces. I think that if permits were limited to seniors taking at least six classes a day who were involved in extracurricular activities, that number would be greatly reduced.

Unfortunately, there are only about 100 spaces available. I agree with Mr. Kimery that you can't give certain activities predominance over other activities nor can you be sure students will participate in the activities they said they would. Therefore, if more than 100 students fit the criteria above, there should be a lottery for the parking spaces within that group of students. It's the only fair way to resolve the issue and give the students who actively participate in school a chance at a permit. If students don't follow through on the activities they planned to, another

Murphy Brown vs. Dan Quayle

By Raven Moore

Dan Quayle's goal as vice president of our country is to see how many times he can put his foot in his mouth. Well, Dan made a huge mistake when he included Murphy Brown in his nonsense ridicule.

It all started May 14 of this year when Dan was speaking to a small alumni group and he happened to be talking about family values. He went on to criticize the T.V. show "Murphy Brown" saying such a well known show should not promote homes with single mothers because they lead to the deterioration of family values. He also said the show mocked fatherhood.

Dan, I'm sorry to say, but people would not have even realized whether what she was doing was right or wrong, or even that they cared- it's a T.V. show. I'm glad to know our vice president watches enough television to start being a critic. Maybe he should spend his T.V. time brushing up on the English language (potatoe). Marilyn

has got to cut his T.V. time in half, he's becoming too attached to fictional characters. Whether or not Brown, who is a fictional character, had the baby without a choice, or it happened to be a "lifestyle" choice, it was her choice, not Dan's.

Earlier this month on September 21, Murphy got her revenge. During primetime, one Monday night in front of millions, including Quayle, Brown basically tore Quayle apart. Here's just a sample of the show's hour long constant ridiculing of Dan and his Republican party: "Perhaps it's time for the vice president to expand his definition and recognize that whether by choice or circumstance, families come in all shapes and sizes. And ultimately, what really defines a family is commitment, caring, and love."

You may have been wondering throughout this article why our country is making such a huge deal out of this, but when the vice president criticizes a fictional character, how could we let him live it down?

Much Needed and Appreciated Support

By Richie Fikis

An Overwhelming crowd at We-go.

On September 18 there wasn't just the normal crowd of socializers, but a crowd of people who really cared.

They were football fans who actually knew when to cheer and when not to. They weren't just there for the first half, they were behind the team every step of the way. They weren't even there to see how bad of a loss it would be. They were actually there to help us win. Yes, win.

The Wildcats weren't victorious, but they fought till the end. The energy they used throughout the game was put into them by the crowd.

The crowd did help enormously during the game, however, as a player I would say the best thing about this crowd was their tremendous support even after a loss. While walking off the field dejected, with many in tears, the team was congratulated by many supporting parents, students, and other members of the community.

As a member of the team I would like to say thanks for the support. If this support continues, you will continue to see better and better performances from the team.

student should be awarded their permit. I don't think that this would be a problem. Most students have been involved in certain activities all four years, and it's likely that they will participate.

Another suggestion is giving the students who carpool a permit that could be set on the dashboard and moved from car to car. This way more students could use a single space by taking turns driving and reducing the need for several cars to be driven. This policy would free more parking spaces, not to mention that it's better for the environment. There are too many cars being driven to school and there is not enough available parking, permit or not. The administration should encourage students to take the bus or ride together. It is ridiculous for kids from the same neighborhood with the same schedule to drive separate cars to school, when they could easily drive together.

The School Board and the administration need to rethink the parking policy. With so many drivers and a growing student population, a more effective way of distributing permits is needed.

The school must discourage driving if it's unnecessary because there isn't enough room in the town of West Chicago for every junior and senior to drive to school.

It may take extra time to look at the applications, but it's worth it in the long run. By developing a new system, the school could encourage kids to take more classes and participate more in school

4 Features October 2, 1992

WE'RE WEST CHICAGO, BRAVE AND BOLD....

By Cory Christiansen

The second pep assembly of this year was on Friday, September 18. It was quite different from any assembly in the past. Pep club decided that since last year's assemblies were banned due to lack of school spirit, they would schedule a mandatory pep assembly which was held during fifth hour. Co-president of pep club, Veronica Chavez said that the assembly was a success. "School spirit should be a lot better this year since Freshmen are now involved. In the past, Freshmen never decorated lockers for pep pals."

One of the changes occurring this year are the mandatory assemblies. Not only was the second assembly mandatory, but so is the one scheduled for October 2, the Homecoming assembly. Pep Club Advisor, Mr. Hein gave his opinion about the

future assemblies. "The mandatory assemblies may get people involved who never were before. It should generate more school spirit and enthusiasm. We have special events coming up, so hopefully students, especially freshmen, will get involved."

The second assembly of this year had some events that surprised many people. First there was the "mystery" singer, Mr. Highland, who sang "Pretty Woman" to the crowd as the football and soccer players did a dance while dressed as girls. Also, the "pie in the face" event was meant for only one teacher's face, instead all five got whipped cream in their faces!

Two Freshmen, Amber Warrington, and Jessica Wilkening gave their opinions on the assemblies. Amber did not attend the first one. "I had a volleyball tournament, but I would have gone. I plan to attend in the future."

Jessica said, "I did attend the assembly because all my friends were there. I had a lot of fun and I hope to attend all of them because I like all of the school spirit."

Pep assembly tradition lives on as five faculty member wipe pie off their faces.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



Soccer player Eddie Cortez transforms into a "pretty woman" for last week's pep assembly.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



Poms Kristin Martin and Trina Chalupa pump it up to a routine at the mandatory pep assembly.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



Eight courageous football and soccer players perform their well coordinated kick line (photo by Skye Studabaker)

Mandatory Pep Assembly "Rocks" We-Go

By Kristin Bedow

Friday, September 18, 1992 marked the date of the very first mandatory pep assembly in the history of West Chicago Community High School.

The 1991-92 school year was a bad year for pep assemblies here at We-Go. The faculty and cheerleaders were about the only people attendance. So much for school spirit. Then the Pep Club created the "Spirit Stick" in hopes of getting the crowds to be more involved in the assemblies. That was a flop. The "Spirit Stick" was criticized, and didn't seem to help boost school spirit.

But after all the disappointment of last year, Pep Club and the faculty had not lost all hope. The pep assembly on Friday, September 18, proved to be just what this school needed.

From the "unknown" singer (John Highland) and his band playing "Pretty Woman" to the routine of the male athletes dressing as cheerleaders, to the enthusiastic and well-organized routines of the cheerleaders and Pom-Poms, West

Chicago's first "mandatory" pep assembly was a hit.

The crowd was loud, full of yes, I believe that word is "pep", and really having a good time. According to Poms member Veronica Chavez, "It went really well. The crowd was excited and it really showed."

Football cheerleader Dana Sabol agreed. "It was really great to be able to do our spirit cheers and have the crowd really responding. I think this is one of the best pep assemblies we have had in a long time." And Journalism/English teacher Carrie Mocarski said she enjoyed herself and knew the rest of the crowd was enjoying themselves by the way they got involved.

Agreed. This was the first time in a long time I really felt like I belonged here. It gave me a sense of pride to see all my classmates singing, clapping and cheering to the routines and activities. I enjoyed myself as I know many others did.

The changing of pep assemblies from optional to mandatory is a great idea. After all, if pep assemblies are intended to boost school spirit, shouldn't they be a part of school?



Homecoming Traditions

By Leslie Rogers

Homecoming has been a traditional week for many years. The activities of the student body haven't changed much since 1965.

1965 was Terry Treudt's senior year. He said that Thursday night they had a snake dance and a bon fire with a strawman of the opposite team on top. In the snake dance, everyone ran from the high school to Main Street through downtown and back to the high school while holding hands. Friday consisted of the parade, the pep rally, and the game with the dance on Saturday night.

Brand new convertibles were borrowed from what is now Crossroads Chevrolet, to drive around the track with the king and queen.

Terry said that school spirit ran high. Meeting students from other schools was

the best part of homecoming week and, "Everyone had a good time."

Burt Rogers graduated in 1980, and the student body still did basically the same activities with one exception, they had a tricycle race. A few students from each class raced around the track on small tricycles. Burt stated that the best thing about homecoming was getting out of school early.

Mr. Zabelin, a teacher here since 1977, says, "Homecoming is an event based on tradition and it's the greatest spirited moment of the year." He also stated that the changes in homecoming will be better porportioned out, but, "Saturday will be one heck of a day and we should try it for an experiment."

We hope that everyone participates in the homecoming activities and has as much school spirit as they did in 1965.

By Veronica Chavez

Are the students at We-Go High losing their spirit? Teachers and involved students are worried about all of the school spirit that has been lost in the past.

Last year's pep assemblies were cancelled because of the small amount of people that attended. Last year's Pep Club brought in the spirit stick. This brought a lot of conflict during the assemblies. It also caused problems between the students and some teachers. This year pep assemblies are mandatory and hopefully the spirit stick will be a success.

According to senior, captain of the football team, Derek Nelson said, "It doesn't matter because it's the people and the sport that counts."

Amy Mastro and Vicki Thomas also said, "It makes me want to run to their stands and pretend I'm one of them."

These students are concerned about the small amounts of school spirit there is at We-Go High. Christy Murphy, senior, thinks, "I feel it would help a lot knowing that we have more support, also people want to perform better for our school."

As advisor of the Pep Club, Mr. Hein is very happy of the amount of freshman that got involved with Pep Club this year. Mr. Hein doesn't think that the spirit stick will cause any problems this year. He thinks it's another way to promote and get kids going at the Pep Assemblies.

These three students and teacher, are not the only ones who are concerned about the school spirit that has been lost the past couple of years. Teachers and involved students are hoping that this year things will change. Pep Club is hoping that not only Freshman but upper classmen also will attend the pep assemblies this year.

A Time for Silliness

By Paul Abella

Homecoming 1992 - a time for classes to get together and have a good time. A time for silly contests, sillier clothes, and even sillier window pictures. A time for everyone to get a chance to see the football team. A time for everyone to have a good time.

For those of you who don't know, the homecoming schedule has been changed. Now, instead of the parade and game being on Friday, and the dance being on Saturday, now everything has been changed to Saturday, and people are upset.

I don't see why, though. The school had logical, if not well thought out ideas behind the switch. As Dr. Jones said, "There was a feeling that the community should be more involved." He continued, "As it was, nobody could see the parade, and people were usually tired after work to go see the game, and Homecoming ended up being just another football game."

Homecoming should be a lot more than just a football game. It should be a time to represent the school, and lose your mind while doing it. This year we have that chance. DON'T WASTE IT!!! Put the WILD back in Wildcats this week. Freshmen, this is a new experience for you, so make the best of it. Sophomores and Juniors, this is a bridge between things old and new, and Seniors, this is our last chance take it all at homecoming, So do it!

Homecoming King & Queen Candidates

King Candidates

Ed Cortez
Rich Fikis
Raul Serrato
Wallace Sullivan
Steve Walski

Queen Candidates

Dina Bascharon
Candi Kairys
Stacy Matthews
Amy Mastro
Dana Sabol



"People come to me for good rates... they stay for my Good Neighbor service."

CALL ME.

AGENT
WILLIE G. SWIMS
145 W. Roosevelt Rd.

West Chicago • 231-7610
State Farm
Insurance Companies
Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois



Like a good neighbor,
State Farm is there.

U2

By Paul Abella

"EVERYBODY IS A RACIST EXCEPT YOU." This is just one of the thousands of phrases flashed before the eyes of the 30,000 fans gathered to see the outside broadcast of U2's Zoo TV tour. It might have been more aptly titled "the sensory overload" tour.

U2 also dragged Big Audio Dynamite 2 and Public Enemy along on the tour and it made for a complete evening.

BAD 2 was fantastic, and they were overwhelmed by the crowd's positive response.

Public Enemy, on the other hand, was a lip-synched, loud, and basically horrible 35 minutes. Besides the music (for a lack of better word) being horrible, Chuck D's ranting on about how he wants peace between races was completely transparent after he and his fellow rapping cohorts supported the L.A. riots.

This was still a great show, though. A wise old sage once told me that a great concert comes about because of great fans

with good background music, and not just a band playing great music. This was proved true beyond my wildest beliefs. This is a show that would have been completely different without the high amount of audience participation, from the Zoo TV video confessional to the high jinx of the fans on the lawn. This was a great show even before U2 got on stage.

U2 hit the stage with an introduction by George Bush. George, in wildly doctored footage, started singing Queen's "We will rock you." As soon as U2 started playing Zoo Station the wonders of the Zoo TV Station began. The best moments included a distorted, slowed down, 50-foot Bono singing "Even Better Than The Real Thing," and a moving version of "Pride (In The Name Of Love)," complete with a speech by Martin Luther King Jr. himself.

Even when ZOO TV wasn't the star of the show the band could kick some serious butt. Songs like "New Year's Day," "With or Without You," and "When Love Comes To Town," were given a whole new dimension live. The 30,000 fans who came to see the band were very appreciative.

Crowded Hallways

By Amy Turkot

Rring! The bell just rang, and I'm late to class again. If they would only open the arcade doors I would not be late to class all the time.

The crowded hallways are causing West Chicago students problems like being late to class. There are a total of 1573 students in the school. There are 415 new freshman. The biggest class is the sophomores with 428 students.

When asked about the hallways, Dr. Jones replied, "I don't think it is a problem." He also said that if it becomes a real problem we could create an up and down stairway.

The arcade doors are locked to deter strangers. The arcade doors cannot be open because there aren't enough staff members to monitor the doors. Dr. Jones stood outside the arcade doors during

passing periods and he said that not very many people used them.

Mr. Walters said, "The halls are extremely crowded, we have a lot of students." However, the hallways do not cause any problems. The arcade doors cannot be opened during passing periods for security reasons.

Many students say that the stairwell by the bookstore is extremely crowded, and it would help if the arcade doors were open again. Dave Vingren said, "people showing inapporiate display of affection in the halls should be stopped."

According to Adrienne Yule, "It seems like their are more freshman in the hallway, and some stairs are impossible." She also agrees with Dave that people block the hallways kissing good-bye when they will see each other in 55 minutes.

With 388 seniors, 342 juniors, 428 sophomores, and 415 freshman, the hallways are definitely seeing more students than in the past.

Mr. Zaffino to Direct Fall Play

By Adrienne Yule

Mr. Zaffino is more than a guidance counselor. This fall he is directing the play Rumors by Neil Simon.

For the past seven years Ms. Hafertepe has directed all of the West Chicago High School plays. Before this, Ms. Hafertepe and Mr. Zaffino shared the responsibility.

Mr. Zaffino decided to spend time with his children so Ms. Hafertepe handled directing alone. Now, Ms. Hafertepe is again sharing the responsibility with Mr. Zaffino because she has

graduate work to complete and other priorities she can't neglect.

Mr. Zaffino and Ms. Hafertepe both said they direct the plays similarly. Ms. Hafertepe will still direct the winter play and spring musical. She said that Mr. Zaffino directing would be a positive experience for students in the sense that they will have the opportunity to work with more than one director.

Rumors will be performed November 6 and 7 at 7:30 P.M. The cast includes: Steve Broido, J.J. Schwan, Rob Scott, Chris Leck, Eric Heerwagon, Skye Studabaker, Melissa Pagnozzi, Nichole Cordin, Sara Watson, and Rachel Owens.

Do You Like Bass....What is It?

By Mike Aigner

Bass is a non-directional form of sound waves that are at a low frequency, usually between 20hz and 1200hz. I can tell you how to get maximum bass response. Use the information in this article to achieve a very clean-sounding, heart-starting bass note.

Have you ever looked through a car stereo magazine and seen all the speakers (woofers) facing all different ways? That is for a reason, to get a long bass wave. The longer the bass wave, the deeper sounding the bass will be. It will be heard from further away.

The best way to get a long bass wave is to face the speakers toward the back of a car. The speakers shouldn't face toward the windshield because the bass wave won't be as long and it just won't hit as hard. It will also be a very high bass note that won't shake much. The more you shake, the better it will be.

But on the other hand, if the speakers are in the trunk and face toward the tail lights, you will have a bass wave that will be almost twice as long.

Facing woofers backwards has many advantages. One of them is for show. If the trunk is open and two fifteen inch speakers are facing you, you won't have anything bad to say. Plus the bass inside the car will be earthshaking.

There is an old definition that is true. That is for every surface that the bass hits off of it will be a 6db gain. There are some drawbacks to hitting bass off many surfaces. That drawback is called rattles. Rattles are hard to fix but once they are, the bass will seem louder and clearer.

Facing woofers face to face is called isobaric. This is a very effective way to save space. For two 15" woofers you only need

two cubic feet of air space. With a normal box it should be about six to seven cubic feet.

Isobaric enclosures can handle more power but they won't have the pounding bass that you want. By putting woofers in isobaric you will only get bass from one speaker. The reason is that the woofers are hitting into each other (also known as a push-pull technique).

If you build your own boxes you must know what you are doing. For instance the type of wood, how you put it together and how well you seal it are important.

The enclosure type is the most critical point of your car audio system. I recommend using pressed board with dry wall screws and some good caulk. Try not to have a perfectly square box because you won't get a lot bass out of it. There should be at least one surface that is not parallel. Also consider getting carpet to put on the outside of the box, it will make it much more appealing.

Always remember that if there is a 500 watt speaker and a 70 watt amplifier (a power source) there won't be nearly enough power to push the woofer.

If you are going to put a port in your box, you shouldn't do it yourself you should take it to a professional, because it can throw off the sound of the speaker and I assure you that you will not be happy.

Good luck on building your system, and if you have any questions feel free to ask me and I will try my best to answer it. Look for next month's article on amplifiers.

The International Club

By Maria Mendoza

"We would like to promote cultural trends among students and faculty members because it is necessary for the growth of our club." said Mrs. Aviles, advisor of the International Club.

This club is now in its second year and is growing tremendously. In the last two meetings, room 234 was full of integrated people. They are still recruiting members.

Two years ago, the International Club was named the bilingual club. Mrs. Aviles said, "I don't believe in the bilingual club, I believe in the international cultures unifying

Amaro Cortez, a senior said, "The reason I am involved in the international

club was because I want my culture to be recognized by others."

This club is where cultural diversity is not a game.

A freshman, Alex Palacios, went to the second meeting and said, "It's a place where I really fit in."

Blanca Gonzalez, Vice President of the International Club would like to invite everyone to a cultural dance to raise money for people who can't afford their gowns for graduation and for needy people.

The International Club officers
 President : Dee Dee Judson
 Vice President : Blanca Gonzalez
 Secretary : Amparo Cortez, Leilani Garcia
 Treasure : Chau Truong



Mrs. Aviles and the 1992-1993 International Club smile for a picture.
 (photo by Skye Studabaker)



Junior Bill Tuma helps stop Bolingbrook offenses with quick plays like this. (photo by Richie Fikis)

A New Breed of Wildcats

By Richie Fikis

After losing nine of eleven starters from last year's squad, the Wildcat soccer team is looking to win with some new faces.

The young team lost some tough games early; however, Coach Owens is very optimistic. He sees the team's potential and realizes they just need some more experience.

Owens commented on the tough early games with optimism, by saying, "All our games are situations where they must learn."

Captains Bill Tuna, Denis Osis, Lalo Arias, and Scott Klowsowski will be helping the younger players learn throughout the season.

Competing in a very tough conference, which had six defending regional champions, the Wildcats are depending greatly on how soon they can mature as a team.

Kickin' to the Top

By Laura Rapinchuk

The 1992-93 cheerleading and pom-pom squads began the school year by participating in camps and competitions this summer to improve and practice their routines and skills.

The varsity and sophomore cheerleading squads attended the I.C.F. (International Cheerleading Foundation) camp at Eastern Illinois University August 4-7.

The day consisted of training for cheers, mounts, gymnastics, and dance during the morning and afternoon, while the evenings were left open to evaluations of home cheers and ones learned at camp.

Although they did not place in competition, the varsity football/basketball cheerleaders received one of two "outstanding" blue ribbons.

The poms had an equally impressive performance at Aurora University's Badgerette Camp held from July 27-31 where they placed first out of fifteen squads and qualified for the Midwest Competition.

The Midwest proved to be difficult for the girls as they faced fifty other schools. They were proud, however, to be one of three squads in West Chicago history to advance to this level.

Both the cheerleaders and poms benefitted from the competitions and will continue to practice what they learned until the end of their seasons this spring.

An Extended Season

By Richie Fikis

The term "season" has brought on new meaning here at We-Go.

Wildcat athletes have extended their seasons from nine weeks to fifty-two.

Competing in the Dupage Valley Conference, it has become crucial for our athletes to keep up physically with the other schools during the off-season.

This will be easier in the future with the addition of much needed new equipment in the weight room. The "new" weight

room will increase the strength and speed of Wildcat athletes of the future.

Many of the teams rely on summer league, spring leagues, and club sports during the off-season.

Both the girls and boys basketball teams competed in a Spring League.

Open gym has also helped the players keep their shooting touch, while the weight room helped to maintain strength.

The football team used the weight room more than ever, while getting a taste of competition in their different passing league.

No Men's Volleyball?

By Derek Barton

He bumps....he sets....he has to wait a couple more years before he can spike it. For the past several years, the demand for a men's volleyball has increased, yet once again the School Board has denied the request to expand our athletic program.

Many argue that there is no excuse for the lack of a men's team. One reason is that no additional equipment would have to be purchased. Another is that the turnout would be overwhelming, and it would promote school spirit. Although these may be true, the Board's decision wasn't based on them. Instead, they looked at problems that could occur in the future.

When asked about why men's volleyball had been turned down, Mr. Hansen commented on the school's limited budget. He said that the school has to pay a new 5% tax increase, and that has a lot to do with it. The school is spending enough money on improvements, such as better equipment and uniforms for already existing teams, and men's volleyball would prevent the improvements from continuing. Coaching was another issue. First you have to find someone who's qualified, then you have to pay them for their time. Also, and probably the most influential argument is that only four of the remaining teams in our conference, the Wheaton schools and the Naperville schools, offer men's volleyball.

But who knows. Maybe in the near future the School board will see it worthwhile expanding our athletic department. After hearing all the talking in the halls on whether or not there would be men's volleyball, there's no doubt that it would be a sure school spirit booster.

Baseball and softball players also competed in summer leagues, with many players competing on tournament teams as well.

Swimmers maintain strength by joining the Sharks swim team, where they get involved in strength training workouts.

Girls soccer, boys soccer, and girls tennis have yet to form organized off-season squads; however, many players attend camps or join club-teams.

What about the cross-country runners? I think everyone knows how hard they run, seeing them running constantly all over town.

WE-GO Golf Tees Off

By Mike Campbell

New faces for the cats who are looking forward to a "hole" new season.

Last year the Wildcat golf team had leaders like Jamie McDole and Joe Waggener. Now we are depending on returning seniors Shawn Mulligan and Jon Martin to do the same.

The cats are also depending on Juniors Tim Murphy and Bob O'Donell to help pick up the slack.

The team has a tough schedule this year, especially competing with the Naperville, and Weaton North.

Coming off a 4 and 10 record last year the cats are going to have their hands full.

Shawn Mulligan describes the high point in the season as the 18th hole, at Settlers Hill Golf Course where he got a hole-in-one on a 155 yard, par 3 shot.

The cats should have a good year if they keep getting production from Mulligan and Martin.

The Wildcats had a good start this season, with the play of Doug Berry and Mike Smith as lower class golfers. Tim Murphy will be the top golfer for the school next year, and with the talent he has now, he will be a contender for #1 in the conference.

These golfers will be crucial in the wildcat future.

Bumpy Start For Wildcats

By Richie Fikis

The Wildcat girls' tennis team, coached by John Moeaki and newcomer assistant coach Lehman, started off the season with ups and downs.

The biggest downfall was the first conference match versus Dupage Valley rival Wheaton-Warrenville South. Tiina Martin, first singles, was the only Wildcat to post a victory.

There were also many positives to start the season. They went on to defeat Glenbard South 5-0 in their second conference match. They also went undefeated, 15-0, in a home quadrangular with Bollingbrook, Lisle, and Driscoll.

Some of the Wildcats responsible for the victories were Martin, second singles Adrienne Yule, and third singles (captain) Laura Rapinchuk. The first doubles team consists of Sarah Meyers and Carey Netzel, while the second doubles positions are switched frequently.

Future success for the team will depend greatly on consistency with more ups than downs.

West Chicago Looking for a Renaissance

By David Vingren

West Chicago has a new threatening look on offense that is opening eyes around the Dupage Valley Conference.

Fullback Ken Hodgen and Tailback Alphonso Medina are giving West Chicago more offensive options than they've had in years.

"We can run the ball more effectively," said head coach Bruce Donash. "We have ball control and it forces other teams to throw."

The Wild Cats are controlling the score board as well. They opened 2-0 for the first time in over a decade and gave number four ranked Wheaton Warrenville South a scare.

Hodgen and Medina have scored all of West Chicago's first nine offensive touchdowns, two of them in the air from quarterback Richie Fikis.

Hodgen was named West Chicago High School Athlete of the Week after the opening Marmion game. He rushed for 111 yards with two touchdowns. His quality punts also contributed to the award.

The senior's performance is hardly unexpected, though. He was ranked as one of the top five players in the DVC in the Chicago Tribune's preseason out-

look. "I didn't even know I was in there," says a low key Hodgen.

"He has great speed and strength," said Donash. "He has the ability to run over people."

Medina isn't running over people, he's running away from them.

He also picked up Athlete of the Week for his 145-yard rushing performance and two touchdowns at St. Francis.

Medina's had defenses chasing him throughout high school. He rushed for over 1000 yards at the sophomore level as a Wild Cat.

Some wondered if Medina would perform as well at the varsity level. They didn't wonder long.

"I didn't expect to be so successful right away," said the junior.

"He has great speed to the outside," said Donash.

Since this is his first year on varsity, Medina will have to have more outstanding performances before he will get the recognition that Hodgen does.

"It depends on what we do in conference," said Donash about when he thinks Medina will be regarded as one of the DVC's best, "Probably not til next year."

Hodgen and Medina's early success has much to do with the offensive line.

"The line is a lot better this year," said Hodgen. "They open up a lot of holes."

"They have experienced gained from last year," said Donash, "They're more mature."

West Chicago's first conference game resulted in a heart breaking 13-0 loss to Wheaton South.

"They were a very good team," said Donash. "We have to try to cut down on minor mistakes. Were going to get better."

But, that score is a big turn around for this school. The Tigers have been known to usually beat the Wild Cats into the ground by 30 or 40 points. This year, that changed.

It may not get much easier for West Chicago as the DVC is rated as one of the toughest conferences in the state.

With the return of five varsity players, and six newcomers, the team is relatively young and inexperienced.

The team has shown steady improvement over the first several conference games. After losses to Glenbard South and Naperville Central, the team held off Wheaton North for a close three-game match until they were defeated in the final game. The Wildcats rebounded from this setback with a crushing win over Glenbard North 15-0 and 15-7.

Kim Wallner, in her first year as head coach, cites their lack of consistency and experience, not talent, as the source of

their difficulties in the first few DVC games. "I think we're capable of beating any team in the conference," Wallner said, and proved in their trouncing of Glenbard North.

The team's goal is to improve on last year's record of ten victories and they are on their way with a current record of 3-3 in the DVC.

Wallner's goal is for the whole program to take on a more consistent approach, and for the players to do some practicing and playing together during the off-season.

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL IS PICKING UP SPEED

By Carolyn Mertz

In spite of their slow start and lack of experience, the Lady Wildcat volleyball team may be a strong force in the DVC this year.

Wildcats Welcome New School of Fish

By Cheri Winkler and Heidi Herold

Well, it's another season of girl's swimming, but this year is different. The team went from nine senior girls, the largest class of the team last season, to six senior girls. But, the team is not worried because they were replaced by seventeen freshman swimmers.

Eleven of the seventeen swimmers came in with swimming experience. Coach Johnson states, "Sharks swim team is a strong feeder program for the high school team."

Many of the new swimmers are more advanced than previous swimmers who have come in with no experience. Four of the freshman swam in varsity events in the first meet of the season.

Assistant Coach Marybeth Eaton stated, "Yes, we lost our biggest senior class, but it is well replaced by the freshman class." She also said she is very excited about the new swimmers and that they have come in to carry on the tradition of the swim team.

When asked about state and how the team will place, Johnson replied, "I don't make predictions about winning meets, just about practices. It's too early to tell, but anything is possible."

When Marybeth was asked the same question she answered, "I'm not really sure how the other teams are doing. I think that we have enough determination and if we want it bad enough we could do it again."

Johnson said he was very pleased with the level of dedication all swimmers have given. He says the team has a good work ethic and are a very close group. Training has gone well so we wish them the best!

Diving Into Another Great Season

By: Heidi Herold and Cheri Winkler

Senior Carrie Vandercreek was injured while diving at the West Chicago Invitational. She was performing a back flip, and didn't clear the board. She lost concentration and scraped her thighs, ripped her suit, and caught her chin on the edge of the board.

Len Penkela, diving coach, took her to the hospital where she got five stitches in the chin and was told she had broken seven of her teeth. Amazingly she will be back on the board as soon as she gets her stitches out. There were no other divers in that meet.

Lady Wildcat Divers are just starting, but are hoping to make a big mark in the records. Second year diver, Carrie Vandercreek is the only experienced diver and the other five are beginners.

The divers are making great progress considering they need six basic dives to participate, which is difficult because most have started from scratch. Eleven dives are needed to compete in sectionals, Carrie is the only one able to meet the requirements so far.

State is a challenge to make, but Len Penkela remarks, "If Carrie has great practices and trainings she will make it to state." Last season the most successful diver was Carrie who went to sectionals.

Len says it is tough on the divers and they need to gain control. He feels senior Heather Fishbein has made great improvement, and freshman Julie Vavrek has the most potential. The other divers, senior Debby Devorak and freshman Jamie Llorens are working hard to meet the requirements.

1992 Lady Wildcat Swimming and Diving Teams

FRESHMEN

Kate Beutjer
Carrie Bunge
Marison Cortez
Rebekah Dassion
Marissa Filippo
Nicki Fitzenreider
Megan Hadzima
Angel Hernandez
Jessica Hitchcock
Colleen Horgan
Katie Jones
Natalie Kalck
James Llorens (Diver)
Tawney Larm
Jonna Peterson
Julie Vavrek (Swimmer and Diver)
Karina Villa

SOPHOMORES

Hallie Grant
Becky Manning
Andrea Ohins
Amy Turket

JUNIORS

Stephanie Combs
Heidi Herold
Beth Keeley
Angela Lowell
Kate Ryan
Lorena Villa
Jenny Weigand
Cheri Winkler

SENIORS

Beth Cinert
Debby Devorak (Swimmer and Diver)
Heather Fishbein (Diver)
Amy Garceau
Corrie Gilgallon
Megan Korbel
Carrie Peterson
Carrie Vandercreek (Diver)