

Wildcat Chronicles

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL 60185
Volume 22, Issue 4



Magic Moments at We-Go

PHOTOS BY SKYE STUDABAKER



By Dina Bascharon
The Sixth Annual Home Economics Night was held on Thursday, December 3rd.

The night began with a slide presentation of fall events. Slides included pictures of Homecoming, football games, Consumer Ed. classes and other special moments.

After the slide presentation, Director, Mrs. Kozlowski, welcomed the audience and set the tone for the evenings events.

Some events included three dances by the Dance Production members.

"Dream on Little Dreamer" featured production members in nightgowns and pajamas, simulating a slumber party where they shared their dreams of special guys.

Another number done was "Rich's Girls," an upbeat, heated dance. Eight girls danced, with Rich Geroulis, one of the grooms, as the center of their attention.

Although "Rich's Girls" raised a few eyebrows, the "Scarf Dance" was a soft, elegant and graceful dance.

Other events included a skit called "The First Break-up", performed by Drama Production members.

Students from Contemporary Life classes also performed skits, depicting a typical bridal shower and bachelor party.

The surprise of the evening came when Kozlowski and Choir Director, Ron Benner, did a duet to "Catch a Falling Star."

The evening was full of entertainment, however, it was educational as well.

Seniors Scott Westman and Erin Hennesy gave a Wedding Cost presentation including price ranges for wedding dresses, reception halls, flower arrangements and the least and most expensive weddings.

The highlight and focus of the evening was the Mock Wedding.

A combined wedding ceremony to unite Rich Geroulis and Stephanie Combs and Cesar Silva and Angela Lowell was performed.

During the Unity Candles, Sophomore Lori Billick sang "Eternal Flame." As the couples were being introduced, Sophomore Aleia Anderson sang "The Greatest Love of All."

Along with the ceremony, the wedding party also showed the audience a little of their reception.

Reception music was provided by Senior Mimi Mejia and her back-up singers, lip-syncing to "Givin' Him Something." Amy Mastro thought, "Mimi was the best En Vouger, wearing the coolest dress."

After the wedding ceremony, real receptions were held for the wedding party and guests (audience).

Mrs. Malone's Food's classes provided refreshments for the reception by making cookies and punch.

Mrs. Walksler's Horticulture classes also helped by providing the flower arrangements and bouquets for the weddings.



The Married Life of Mrs. Kostro

By: Mike Aigner

Miss. MocarSKI took a big step on November 6, 1992. She married Michael Kostro at St. Alexander in Villa Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Kostro decided to take their honeymoon at Banff National

Park Alberta, Canada. She said, "It was a winter wonderland. The scenes were beautiful and everything was great."

Mrs. Kostro attended and graduated from Montini High School in Lombard. After high school she continued her education at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst.

Mrs. Kostro spent last fall at West Chicago High School as a student

teacher. She taught freshman and junior English. Mrs. Kostro did her student teaching with Mr. Leitner for 10 weeks last year.

This year Mrs. Kostro teaches Sophomore English as well as Journalism. If it wasn't for her the Wildcat Chronicle would never get in your hands.

And on behalf of the Journalism class we wish her a happy marriage.



INK SPOTS

IN SPORTS!
Girls basketball looking to conquer DVC with familiar faces. pg. 12

AMERICA'S GUN CONTROL: OUT OF CONTROL? pg. 4

2 NEWS

Seniors to Springfield

By Vicki Thomas

On December 3rd and 4th Ms. Daneels, a Government and American Studies teacher, took seven seniors to a mock legislative session in Springfield, IL.

Students from different schools across Illinois participated in amending a bill concerning parental consent on abortion for teenagers.

After a three hour trip with "Wheels Daneels" everyone sat in on informational meetings with lobbyists and legislatures. Thursday night ended in a "pool party" and pizza.

Friday consisted of a breakfast feast. Then everyone broke into committees and proposed amendments to the bill.

After lunch the bill was presented in both the house and the senate.

The mock senators discussed the pro-life and the pro-choice sides of the issue.

After listening to all the amendments the bill was voted on in Congress and died.

When asked about the best part of the trip, Derek Barton said, "While Byron's moments were touching, Metal-licka was very aborting."

If anyone is interested in going to Springfield, Ms. Daneels will take eight more seniors second semester.

What Does Student Council Do?

By Dina Bascharon

Many people often wonder, "What exactly does Student Council do?"

Since the beginning of the year, Student Council has been involved in a numerous amount of activities.

The first two months of the school year started with Homecoming events. Each class worked diligently on their window, float and class participation.

The Council as a whole worked together to organize and plan the weeks morning activities and parade.

Senior class made arrangements for the Homecoming dance which was a success. The dance raised over \$2000, with attendance well over 600 students.

The Homecoming dance was the biggest and best turn-out We-Go has seen in years.

Executive Board Treasurer, Ann Shim, also organized the fall Blood Drive on October 28th. Around 80 pints of blood was donated that day.

More recently however, on November 6th, Student Council was involved in setting off We-Go's first Market Day. This fundraiser raised approximately \$300.

The Council was also asked to donate \$50.00 to the Youth Correctional Home by Mrs. Rash. The money was used to buy supplies needed to make gingerbread houses to sell for the Holidays.

Student Council is currently sponsoring the Toys For Tots Drive. Senior Amy Garceau, chairperson, hopes the Drive will bring in many toys to be donated to less fortunate children.

On December 16, after school, the Council will make its annual Holiday trip to the West Chicago Terrace.

Members will help decorate the Terrace by hanging up wreaths and painting the windows.

They will also converse with the elderly while serving cookies made the previous day in the Home Ec. kitchens.

The individual classes have also been active this year.

Senior class, along with the Booster Club purchased Sports Murals for the gym walls as Senior class gift.

A donation of over \$1600 was paid by the senior class to help Booster Club purchase the murals.

The murals are scheduled to arrive within a couple of months, so seniors will be able to see their gift before graduating.

Junior class has been preparing and saving for this years Prom since the beginning of the summer.

Class president, Zora Slapak said, "The downpayment has already been paid to the Alta Villa in Addison for Prom on May 21st."

Juniors next fundraiser is the "Winter Formal" dance scheduled for Saturday, January 30.

Mike Garceau, Sophomore president said, "We've been doing fundraisers, and are planning more, to prepare for our prom expenses next year."

Some fundraisers done have been the "Crazy Legs and Best Chest" contest and working concession stands.

Freshmen class has been actively participating in Student Council meetings and activities.

We-Go Student Council has done many things to help the school and community.

If you have any ideas or comments relay them to your class officers and representatives.

Remember, Student Council is here to represent you and your ideas.

IS PARKING SAFE AT KERR MCGEE?

BY: CORY CHRISTIANSEN

So far this year, the parking at Kerr McGee has caused many problems and inconvenience for students who park there.

On December 3, a number of cars got their tires slashed and many other times car stereos have been ripped off.

The people who unfortunately did not get a parking sticker this year have really no other choice than to park at Kerr McGee.

The parking stickers for the student lot were given out by applying and chosen by off campus hours and extra curricular activities.

Does this mean that the students who can't get off-campus and aren't in any activities should have to park their cars where they can easily be damaged?

Our student lot is watched by paraprofessionals every hour to make sure students parking there have stickers.

Kerr McGee has no one out there to patrol cars and see what's going on.

Anyone can easily get away with things such as slashing tires, stealing radios, etc.

Does the school plan on doing anything about this? Should students have to sit through every class wondering what may be happening to their cars at Kerr McGee?

Senior Adrienne Yule last year had her car broken into when parked at Kerr McGee.

She says, "I didn't get a parking sticker and I had to drive to school because of my after school activities and I needed my own transportation. I hated walking to my car at night in the winter by myself- there's no lights around. One day my car was broken into, but luckily a concerned neighbor called the police and the thief was caught. Somebody definitely needs to watch Kerr McGee."

Also, senior Molly Statz drove her mom's Oldsmobile on December 3 and parked at Kerr McGee only to find out it was "keyed". Molly says, "cops should patrol Kerr McGee- especially during lunch hours."

The SADD facts

By Raven Moore

Driving while Drunk. It occurs all year round, but it's brought up the most during the holiday season.

Drunk driving is one of the leading causes of death during Christmas and New Year's time.

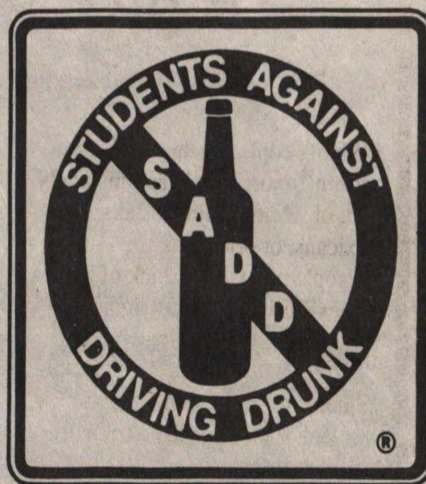
Before you drive drunk this season look at these statistics-they might save your life.

Almost 50% of all accidents are alcohol related. 62 people a day die in alcohol-related crashes.

Last year 22,415 persons died in alcohol-related accidents. And finally 2 out of 5 of people will be in an alcohol-related crash in their lifetime.

We at the Wildcat Chronicle hope you all have a happy, safe Christmas Break! Make the right choice-don't drink and drive.

If you are interested in getting involved with the SADD program at our school contact president Jenny Johnson or SADD advisor Mr. Hein in the Guidance office.



TOYS FOR TOTS HAS BEGUN! PLEASE DONATE TOYS FOR LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN. THERE IS A BOX FOR DONATIONS IN THE LRC. PLEASE DROP THEM OFF BY DECEMBER 18TH.

EDITORIALS 3



Kristin Bedow

Educating or Cloning America's Children

Have you ever thought about our education system? It doesn't seem to make much sense.

Everyday parents send their kids off to school with the intention of getting them an education. But what do kids really learn in school?

It seems that over the years, more and more students are becoming the products of their teachers.

Instead of kids learning, they are being cloned. Yes, cloned. They are taught to think exactly like the teacher.

It's scary to think that we are actually being graded on what the teacher's believe to be right and wrong.

Take for example the essay you were asked to write for an English class. Were you ever graded lower because you were "missing the point"? Did you ever wonder whose point you were missing?

It probably wasn't the author's, since half the material read in high school is centuries old.

Wayne Dyer, a psychologist and lecturer firmly believes that kids are cloned rather than taught how to think for themselves.

During his senior year of highschool, Dyer was instructed to write his interpretation of a poem read in class. When he received the graded product, he had gotten a F on it. Why? Because he was "missing the point" according to the teacher.

Dyer wrote a letter to that same poet and included his graded essay. The poet wrote back, responding that no one had been able to capture the feeling behind the poem better than Dyer did.

Next time you are asked to give your interpretation or view of something in class, don't stand for that lower grade. It might not be your work that's bad, but your opinion. After all, you were asked for your interpretation. Or were you?

Letters To The Editor:

Dear Editor,
We are writing in response to all the special assemblies for the swim team. We are very proud of our swim team for making it down state, and that they will probably place, but why do they get special treatment? We've had other state qualifiers and places but they get no assembly - no recognition whatsoever. We think these assemblies are good, just unfair. For example, last year Heather Adams made it to state for badminton; she got no assembly. Israel Castro went to state his sophomore and junior year (placing 6th & 4th) for wrestling; he got no assembly. Brett Signlin made it to state this year for cross country placing 10th; he also got no assembly. We believe that if the swim team gets these assemblies, so should these individuals. We want to know the swim team is better than these individuals - seeing as how they get assemblies and no one else does.

Sincerely,
Carrie VanBuskirk
Heather Adams
Nicki Thomas

Dear Editor:

We the students of Mrs. Koslowski's second hour class are extremely upset about the administration not letting certain people into the annual Home Ec./ Mock Wedding. Dr. Jones did not allow some of the people with student I.D.'s or invitations in. This included current students, and family members of the participants in the Mock Wedding and Home Ec. Night. Furthermore, he let in former students with no graduate I.D. card or invitation.

The administration at this school is getting paranoid about the so called "gang problem". They are so busy worrying about the troublemakers that they aren't concentrating on the productive people in the community. They are directing their energies toward the wrong people.

A school function like this is trying to get the community involved, and when certain people aren't let in, including family members, it reflects unfavorably on the school. If the school is worried about gangs in our schools, it can do a lot better than putting unreasonable, unnecessary, and ineffective restrictions on the students. The schools need to teach their students that they don't need gangs, and that school is not just an academic education, but a social one as well. Locking the doors and keeping "certain" people out of school functions only alienates students more. Why should students show up for class if they only get more restrictions put on them? And why should students or the people of West Chicago show up for school functions if they only get turned away?

Sincerely,
Angela Horvath and Mrs. K's second hour class

Responses

Carrie, Heather, and Nicki,

The key word in this situation is **team**. The swim team is composed of several members who can be recognized. How can you possibly expect a half hour to be taken out of class for each individual? Yes, these individuals have accomplished a lot, but how much could be said about one person? I recall seeing Brett recognized at assemblies and I'm sure Israel will be recognized at the next assembly along with other wrestlers. Unfortunately Heather, along with all spring athletes, don't usually get any Spring assemblies. I think you're getting carried away. You can't expect to take away from the time of over one thousand students for one, no matter who it is!

Richie Fikis, Sports Editor

Dear Upset,

There is certainly need for concern. Perhaps the people in the community and the students of West Chicago should take action. There is no reason for turning people away from a social event such as this where the whole community is encouraged to attend. Keeping certain people out of school during classes is understandable and acceptable; however, turning people away from an event which we invited them to is not. Wildcat Chronicles invites the administration to defend their behavior.

Kristin Bedow, Opinions Editor

REVERSE RACISM

by Cory Christiansen

When people say the word "racism", most people automatically think of whites against blacks, Mexicans, or orientals.

People often don't think of blacks or Mexicans being racist against whites, but it does definitely exist.

I don't understand why people are prejudice to begin with. I mean, everyone should be treated equally despite their race.

Brenda Trejo, a junior who is Mexican, gave her opinion about reverse racism. "I don't like when Mexicans question me about talking to white people because I talk to everyone. Why can't they see that everyone's alike? Just cuz they have lighter skin and don't have a second language doesn't mean they're different. I hate racism and it hurts me to see someone of a different race be made fun of."

Reverse racism occurs everywhere and in every school. There are

fights that occur everyday at different schools and a lot of times it is between two people of different races and nationalities. This is how a lot of gangs are started.

Obviously fights are going to occur no matter where you go, but people shouldn't be fighting because of racism.

It's just not right, and as soon as people realize that it's not right and it's totally SAD, that's when our country will finally come together and help each other out.

Maybe in the next century reverse racism and plain racism will finally be wiped out and the world will be a better place for peace.

Happy Holidays from the Wildcat Chronicles Staff!!!

The holidays are one of the most dangerous times of the year. Please have a safe and happy holiday. Don't drink and drive. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See ya in 1993!!!

4 EDITORIALS

Legalizing Marijuana: Yes or No?

by Paul Abella and Laura Rapinchuk

Marijuana is many things to many people. It is a herbal medicine, The plant producing the world's strongest fiber, and of course, it is a relaxational drug.

Now, think of legalizing marijuana. Besides its flowering capabilities, the hemp plant (The plant from which we get the marijuana flower) could also be an asset during these troubled times, because the advantages of marijuana clearly outweigh the disadvantages, as private companies, occasional users and even the almighty U.S. government have known for years.

Environmentally speaking, hemp is a superplant. Four acres of trees that would be used for paper milling, logging or oxygen replenation could be replaced with just one acre of hemp. From that one acre, we would get hemp fiber, which is many times stronger than its cotton or polyester counterparts, hemp paper, which is many times stronger, much less wasteful, and easier to produce than wood pulp paper, and hemp seed oil. Not only did Sherwin-Williams use hemp oil in its paints prior to 1937 (The year marijuana was put under prohibition), but now, hemp oil is showing usefulness as an alternative fuel source.

The Wall Street Journal even endorsed a plan to legalize marijuana. Under their plan, the government would tax the marijuana flower at \$100 per pound, which could give the government 10 billion dollars annually.

In this country, over 56,000 "criminals" are sent to jail due to drug related crimes. 80% of these are due to marijuana. If marijuana were legalized, over 44,000 jail cells could be provided to incarcerate murderers and rapists, not the perpetrators of victimless crimes. I'll bet you never thought pot could keep killers off the street, did you?

Marijuana can also intoxicate when ingested. It is safer than either tobacco or alcohol, yet it is marijuana that remains illegal. Even Scientific American complained that "Never has a government tried so hard to find wrong doing with a harmless plant."

The marijuana flower also has medical uses, too. It can be used to treat glaucoma, hypertension, and often painful chemotherapy.

Marijuana could be an answer in a political sea of questions. People want a change in the way they look at the economy, the environment, and drug abuse. Here it is.

The question of legalizing marijuana has become a hot topic in recent years. Although it is harmful when smoked, many people argue we could make money by taxing it or using the hemp plant (plant which marijuana originates) for environmental and medical reasons.

The bottom line, however, is that marijuana is a drug. It has been rated four on a five point scale of addictivity, slows sensory nerves,

lung cancer, emphysema, and deadens brain cells after extended use.

Now the question has risen: Should it be legalized? After all, some people argue the it can be used for certain medical treatments, it can help the environment, the drug war is a loss, and we could make money by taxing the drug.

Although these reasons may seem valid, there are problems with them.

First of all, by legalizing marijuana the country would be launching a "Just Say Maybe" campaign rather than a "Just Say No" campaign. I thought the purpose of this was to discourage drug use. If children see the government changing their mind on issues like this, they're not likely to listen to anything else they promote.

I can understand why people would like to see the drug used to treat diseases like glaucoma, but there are other medications being used to treat the illness. If, however, they find marijuana is the only way to cure it, why can't it be legalized with a prescription instead of being put on the free market?

I also have a problem with environmentalists who claim the hemp plant should be used for clothing fibers in an effort to reduce the amount of trees cut down for the same type of fibers. I understand

that their job is to protect the environment, but aren't people a part of it? Why should people be allowed to harm themselves for the sake of trees? Trees can be replanted, people can't.

I think perhaps, the argument that bothers me most is that people are going to use marijuana anyway, so why don't we make money off it? People do a lot of things they aren't supposed and just because it's difficult to control doesn't give us the authority to legalize them. Murder is illegal but it still occurs. Should we say that since we can't stop it we should legalize it and then fire police who help fight it in order to save money?

By legalizing marijuana our country would be saying we don't care about people. We realize drugs are harmful, but why fight it when we can make money.

Government officials can find any cop out argument in the book for legalization, but we all know the true driving force of our government: money. If we allow that to overtake our world then we'll have a lot more problems without worrying about the legalization of marijuana.

AMERICA'S GUN CONTROL: OUT OF CONTROL?

by Dana Sabol

The way things are turning out in this society, an average gift for Christmas will be a 9 millimeter handgun.

Gun control in this country is not stressed enough. There are too many people (especially children and teens) that are getting a hold of these powerful weapons.

Yes, I understand people carry them just for protection but is that even right? Maybe if our society wasn't so into having control and power, we wouldn't be in this situation.

Our government is not paying any attention to this problem and the lives that are being lost. Many teenagers and small children are being killed

and injured because of their ignorance.

The steps in Illinois to own a handgun are as follows: You have to be 21, no record of being a convicted felon, and have not been checked into a mental institution. Is that enough?

Do you actually think that everyone with a handgun have fit all those standards? My main concern is teenagers running around with guns every night, trying to see who they can injure or kill first. It's a scary thought that schools now have to put in metal detectors. Kids under the age of 10 have gotten a hold of a guns also. Too many people with no idea how to work these weapons have access to them.

I'm not saying we should ban them all together, I know it would either have to be "you have 'em or you don't". I just feel that the expression Gun Control should be put into effect. I don't personally like watching people I know get shot and even killed.

The more people given the right to own handguns for their protection, the more problems and accidents we will have. This means more access to getting your hands on a gun and more lives lost in the end.

BE A DROP IN NOT A DROP OUT

By Amy Turkot and Damon Carlson

Have you ever felt like you were all alone with no one to talk to? If so the teen drop in center may be the place for you.

The teen drop in center will offer counseling, referral information, health assessments, and support groups, with weekly raffle drawings.

The facility, which is run by the DuPage County Health Department, is located in The Depot at 306 Main Street, West Chicago.

Counselors will be on hand Monday through Friday 3:30 to 5:30 P.M., except on school holidays, and half days. Any discussion with counselors are free, safe, and confidential.

All high school students 12-19 years of age can attend the teen drop in center.

In past years teen drop in centers have been shown to give support to teens. Some have worked so well that they have become hangouts for teens.

Students for an advisory board are needed to aid in planning. For information about the teen drop in center or the advisory board contact Nedra Kavicky or Carlene Hamrin at 231-8868 between 3:30 and 5:30, Monday through Thursday.

Pamphlets are available in the Guidance office or at the drop in center. Drop by the teen drop in center to see what it is like.

We think that the teen drop in center will make a difference for teens that are seeking help. Many people have put a lot of time into doing this, and they are hoping that it will be successful.

Wildcat Chronicles
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, Il. 60185
231-0880

Business Manager..... Derek Barton
News Editor.....Dina Bascharon
Paul Abella
Editorials Editor.....Kristin Bedow
Features Editor.....Molly Statz
In-Depth Editor.....Leslie Rogers
Sports Editor.....Richie Fikis
Photo/Art Editor....Skye Studabaker
Adviser.....Carrie Kostro

The Wildcat Chronicle is the student newspaper at Community High School. The views and opinions of the Wildcat Chronicle do not necessarily represent the majority of the staff or student body.

We would like to hear any comments or suggestions you might have concerning the paper and its contents. Please make letters to the editor no longer than 200 words, and deliver them to Advisor Carrie Kastroi in room 320 or editor Kristin Bedow..

CLASSIFIEDS

5

Derek,
Hope you have a Happy
18th Birthday. I can't
wait to visit the red roof.
Love, Vicki

Rachel, Amanda, and
Heather-
"Are you gonna eat this?"
Love, you know
who!!!

Aimee 36,
Hey girl party on New
Years' at 624 Ridgeview
in We-Go! Ha! Oh yeah,
Real Love baby!
Love, Cory

To: Mike
From: Veronica
To bad we aren't together
anymore. Merry Christmas
Buddy!

Merry Christmas to
Caroline, Carol, Vicki, and
Dave. Love ya guys!
Leslie

**ROCK ROCK ROCK
ROCK ROCK ROCKI**

Thank you everybody that
listened to my Jim prob-
lem. I love you all!
Love, Adrienne

SWM looking for loving
woman must have heart-
beat.

Call Paul
900-231-PAUL

Brian-
Only 2 months and 3 days
Love, Me

Hey RT
Next time let's get a table

To: Dan, Ray, and Ed
Wendy's is red
My pool table's blue
When are you coming over
We want to talk to you!
Love,
Double
Trouble

Hey Chris A.- Good luck
on your presidential cam-
paign.
P.S. I know Ryan is go-
ing to be my campaign
manager!! (Hint, hint)

-Skye

Hey Chris A.-I think you
owe someone an apology!
Like NOW!
-Derek

Racheal who's are these?
Are you having -?
Cheri

Merry Christmas Liz, Sam,
y Mari De Panchita.

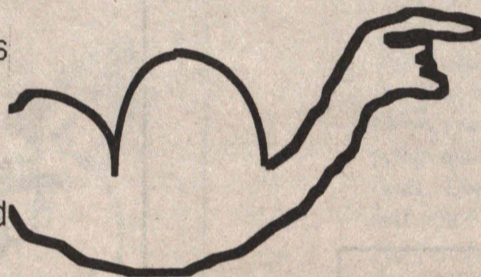
It's brand new! It's a
portfolio filled with many
wonderful things. It
comes with a 3-yr calen-
dar, address book, pen, and
a memo pad. It's perfect
for a Christmas gift! It's
from Portfolio Plus! The
cost is \$8.00. Contact Mr.
Zabelin, room 302.

Hey Gina Clifford all I
want for Christmas is a
"D.D.S."

Love, Molly

Vicki-
Have yourself a merry
little Christmas. May
your days be bright.....IN
FLORIDA!

Love Derek



THE BEACH IS THAT WAY!

PLEASE!!!!
I need ads. I'll put
in ANYTHING!
Give them to Derek
Barton or Mrs. Kostro.


Ambassador Animal Hospital, Ltd.
2501 ARMY TRAIL RD., HANOVER PARK (708) 830-9555

DR. A. BASCHARON - DIRECTOR
MEMBER AMERICAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

A Full Service Hospital.
Superior Quality, Preventive Health
Care for Dogs & Cats, Birds, Reptiles,
Ferrets/Rabbits, and other Exotic Pets.

- Outpatient care to in-hospital treatment
- Major and minor surgery
- Dentistry
- Diagnostic Laboratory
- Supervised boarding facility
- Grooming

10% Senior Citizen Discount and Multiple Pet Discount

Location:

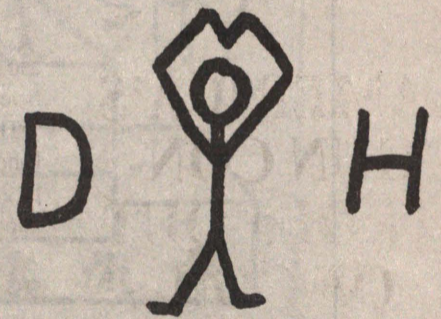
Between Jefferson/County Farm and Fair Oaks
Drop off service available

METAL-LICKA

Campagna's 231-4403
Pizza Pub 145 W. Washington
WEST CHICAGO

FREE
PITCHER OF POP
WITH ANY LARGE
18" PIZZA
DINE-IN ONLY.
Campagna's 231-4403
Not valid with any other offer
Dine-in Only
EXP. 1-20-93

OPEN
TUES - SUN
4:00 til close
CLOSED MON



"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.

MANE ATTRACTIONS
117 MAIN ST.
WEST CHICAGO
231-5237

MANE ATTRACTIONS

FEATURING

EACH WEDNESDAY

TEEN DAY
\$2 TO \$3.00 OFF

231-FILM
SPELMAN STUDIOS
Photo Processing Special
108 GALENA ST.
WEST CHICAGO
IL 60185

2 FOR 1 ON TUESDAY'S ONLY

	REG.	*10% OFF
12 exp. (24 prints)	\$2.29	\$2.06
24 exp. (48 prints)	4.59	4.13
36 exp. (72 prints)	6.79	6.11

*Keep one-give one to a friend.

*10% off film and processing with student I.D.

6 IN-DEPTH

CHRISTMAS

by Veronica Chavez

Have you ever wondered the true meaning of Christmas and why red and green remind people of Christmas?

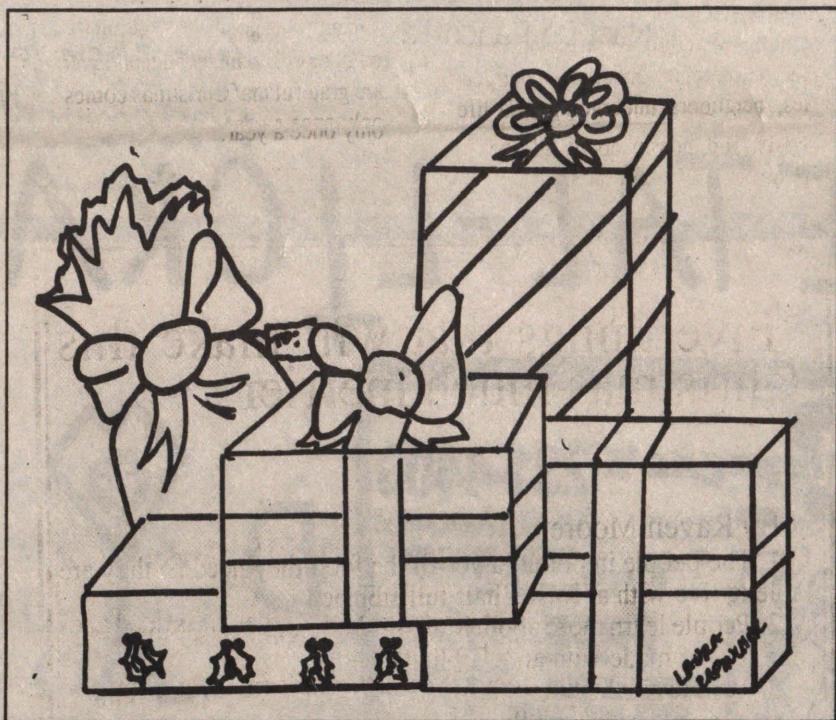
According to the book *A Celebration of Christmas*, by Gillian Cooke, many of the practices and rituals of the Christmas season are so old that their true significance can only be guessed at. Their origins date from long before the birth of Jesus, to the dark days when demons and devils threatened and gods demanded sacrifice. Early Christians, finding that the pagans were more ready to accept a new god than new customs, adopted many heathen practices and adopted them to the new religion.

Why is red picked as one of the colors to represent Christmas? The red of toyshops on a dark winter's

afternoon, of Father Christmas and the robin's breast. And why green? Green of holly and spruce and mistletoe in the house, dark shadow of summer in leafless winter.

Many people say that the significant color of Christmas is gold, gold of fire and treasure, of light in the winter dark, and this gets closer. The true color of Christmas is black. Black of winter, black of night, black of frost and of the east wind, black of dangerous shadows beyond the fire light.

Dana Sabol said, "Christmas is a time for families to get together and show appreciation by giving gifts." Mike Aigner said, "Christmas is a time when you sit back with the family and exchange gifts and enjoy the holidays."



Happy No



Mall Santas: What A Wonderful Life

By: Cheri Winkler

Imagine sitting in a big chair in the middle of the mall with a hot and heavy suit on and listening to thousands of kids screaming each day to make a little extra cash.

This may not sound like a great job and it sounds like not many people would want to have a job like this,

but Tom Como, a "mall Santa" at Charlestowne Mall feels differently.

Every day of the holiday season Como comes to work at about 5:45 P.M. and gets dressed in his dressing room. He stays until the mall closes, visiting with 50-300 children who wait in line for hours to see Santa Claus.

The malls don't close until about 10:00 or 11:00 P.M. because a lot of stores want to stay open for Christmas shopping.

Como says there that can be attended of the location. The make-up and what children if they ask qu awkward.

Como said, "I do cheer. You have to job and you can't hugs and take for a is very important fo big hurry to leave.

He also says, "what you do if you the children. You l

According to Co lieve that he is Sant very smart and kno is. One of my as boot covers on and wasn't Santa becau boots," says Como

Como always leather boots and because that's what

Como has been years now and its reasons. He does i the holiday season

Dear Santa,
There are a few things I'd really like for Christmas.

The bestest thing would be for all the starving people in the whole wide world to have lots and lots of food. whenever I don't finish my meal, Daddy keeps telling me there are children starveing in China, but the post-man will not send brussels sprouts in the mail.

Also, i want one of those babies that really wet their pants. My mommy doesn't like the poopie ones because she's afraid it will stain the carpet.

I also want one of those monster dols with the scary faces that you can make slime pour out of. I have a little sister and it scares her when I stick things like that in her face.

for my daddy, I want him to like mommy. They're always moaning and grooaning at each other at night and it keeps me up.

Mommy wants a new kitchan, but I don't know why because dady says she can't cook anyway.

For my sister, i want boxing gloves so I can knock the hell out of her, that little b@#%\$!!!

Thank you verry, verry, verry much santa. I'll leave you cookies and milk, and daddy says you'd like a shot of brandy too.

Merry Chrystmas with luv,

Derek
Raven
Laura

IN-DEPTH 7

New Year!



ays there is a "Santa School" attended, but he is not sure. They teach how to do and what to say to the children. They ask questions that can be answered. "I do this to spread good. You have to love kids to do this. You can't be afraid to give them a little bit. Sincerity is important for this job. Be in no hurry to leave."

Como says, "You have to love kids if you want to convince them. You have to show love." Como says to some kids, "You are Santa Claus. They are not and know what a real Santa is. My assistants had black hair and one child knew he was Santa because Santa wears real black boots and a holly in his hat. It's what Santa used to wear. I have been a Santa for nine years and it's not for financial reasons. He does it because he loves the holiday season. The pays vary

from mall to mall. He personally gets paid by the hour. Although he has no children of his own he does have great nieces and nephews who never suspect a thing that he is a Santa. When asked about girl Santas, Como said, "Of course there are, but it doesn't happen very often. Although I do know of one and she is wonderful."

There are no specific qualifications for this job, but Como says that maturity and personality are very important. "When you are a Santa you must never make promises, because you never know what the financial situation is at the child's home. I ask, 'What do you wish for at Christmas', because Santa brings surprises at Christmas time," stated Como.

John Sullivan is the man in charge of hiring the Santas at Charlestowne. He said, "Tom Como is the best Santa that we have."

HOLIDAYS WITH YOUR FAMILY: THE ULTIMATE HORROR

by Carolyn Mertz

It's time for one of the most dreaded events in a teenager's life: the family get-together.

Nothing fills you with the joy of Christmas like hugging people you only see once a year, who still can't tell you and your sister apart.

While figuring out how these people are related to you, you fend off the inevitable college questions from well-meaning relatives who don't know what else to say to you. It is guaranteed that you cannot be in a room for over five minutes without being attacked with questions about what you plan to do for the rest of your existence.

Christmas dinner is another high point in the day when you're a seventeen-year-old who has to sit at the cobweb-covered card table that's pulled out of the basement for the "kids." Every year you sit there in a huff (after a few unprintable words you grumble at your parents), and strain to listen to the conversation at the "adult table" about recent surgeries, neighbors undergoing mid-life crisis, and gossip about all the relatives who aren't there.

The kids at your table, displaying that ever-present Christmas spirit, complain for the entire meal that they want to open their presents. You resist the urge to tell them there is no Santa Claus.

Soon you are forced to endure the torture of opening gifts from people who don't know what teenagers are, and are still trapped in your long-passed sticker album and Barbie doll years.

You open your gifts (displaying that long-practiced I-really-can't-believe-you-got-me-this smile and controlling the urge to break into hysterical laughter) and are forced by your parents to proudly show off your new sparkly unicorn pajamas with feet or set of Hardy Boys books to a room full of relatives. There is always that one annoying uncle with the video camera who captures the great moment on film forever, which you are forced to watch next Christmas.

Finally yet another holiday gathering has come and gone, and you are grateful that Christmas comes only once a year.

Five things that will make this Christmas much merrier

By Raven Moore

1. The people in Somalia get all the food they need so they are able to live with at least a half full stomach.
2. People learn more about Malcolm X other than he is dead and clothes are made with an X from his name.
3. People reach out to their loved ones and remember giving is far more better than receiving.
4. Every child gets a gift under the tree from a jolly old man they call Santa Claus.
5. All across the country people can live together in racial harmony.

IS THERE SUCH THING AS HOLIDAY SPIRIT ALL YEAR'ROUND?

By Paul Abella

The Holiday Spirit. The undeniable urge to brownnose, spend money, act stupid, spend more money, and harbor goodwill towards all people. What a crock.

Sorry to be so cynical, but how many people actually mean it when they butter up friends and foes alike between November 26 and December 25? I asked.

Raven Moore admitted she's nice because "I want good presents," and Cory Christiansen went off the deep

end, saying, "Everyone gets in a good mood cause we're off school for two weeks and everyone's gonna majorly party- especially the SENIORS!!!! GET HAMMERED!!!!!!!!!"

Some people were a little more down to earth, like Molly Statz, who said, "I try to be nice to people all year 'round, but it doesn't always work."

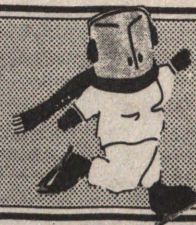
Journalism advisor, Carrie Kostro, said, "I think people are generally nice, they just need a holiday to bring it out."

Skye Studabaker stated, "I think it's because they've had too much egg nog."

Peace on Earth, good will towards men, Merry Christmas, Happy Hannakkuh, Happy New Year, Ho Ho Ho!!

WHAT A JOKE!!!!!!!!!!!!

8 FEATURES



VOTE FOR YOUR SANTA TEACHER!!

by Maria Mendoza

Yes! There is a contest and you get to choose your "Santa Teacher". The whole faculty are all nominees. The International Club is sponsoring the contest. The winner gets a wonderful Christmas dinner for two.

The International Club are also needing people to donate any food, toys or warm clothes for the needy families who reside in West Chicago. For Thanksgiving the International Club donated 4 turkeys and a groceries gift certificate, given by Jewel. Anyone interested in donating do so soon. Remember, Christmas is a holiday for many gifts.

There is a possibility of a Christmas dance for everyone interested in attending. Check out the bulletin board for information posted on upcoming events.

Congratulations to Carlos Efrain Rodriguez for being named the "Turkey Teacher" of 1992.

As you can see The International Club is full of excitement and fun, and you can still join. New members are welcome.

VOTA POR EL "SANTA MAESTRO"!!

By Maria Mendoza

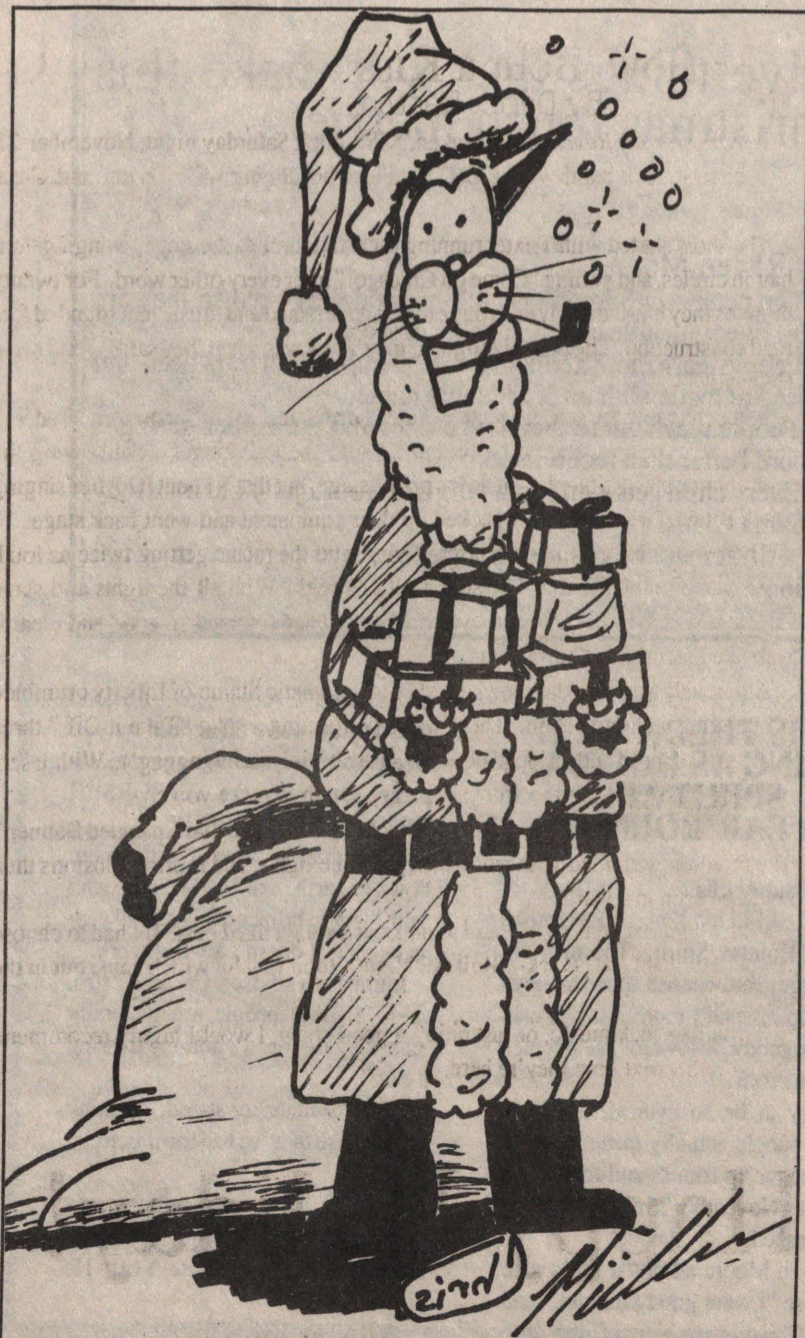
Si! Hay un concurso y tu puedes escoger a tu "Santa Maestro(a)" y todos los maestros son nominados. El ganador recibira una gran cena Navidena para dos.

El Club Internacional necesita personas que donen comida, jugetes o ropa calentita para familias neseditadas que viven en West Chicago. Por cierto el dia de dar gracias, el Club dono 4 pavos y un certificado de compras obsequiado por Jewel. Cualquier persona interesada in donar porfavor haganlo pronto. Recureda, Navidad es el dia de muchos regalos.

Hay una posibilidad de un baile Navideno para todos los intesados en atender. Informense con Mrs. Aviles o miembro.

Felizidades a Carlos Efrain Rodriguez por ser nombrado "El Maestro Pavo" del ano 1992.

Como ven, El Club Internacional esta lleno de diversion y tu puedes ser miembro tambien. Nuevos miembros son bien recibidos!



MORE THAN A JOB...

By Scott Weihofen

Students see them everyday and yet do not fully understand who they are and what they do. They are not the deans, but instead the para-pros.

First off what is a para-pro, well they are just like us students except with more power in a way. The para-pros are here for the safety and well being of the students, and they enforce the rules of the student handbook. Like with our society, there can not be rules if there is no one to enforce them.

The para-pros all have different responsibilities depending on their post. Theres different posts throughout the school, one by the south lot, fieldhouse, second floor, main hall, ISS, and commons. They switch posts during the day, so no one para-pro stays in the same spot for to long except for Mr. Meoeaki who monitors ISS.

Meoeaki spends a good amount of the day making sure there is no trouble in ISS. This doesn't mean that he sits there and watches the students work. He has to make sure they have something to do, and he gets assignments from their teachers for them.

Then theres the para-pros by the fieldhouse and south lot. What their main responsibility is, is to monitor who enters and leaves the school. They make sure that no one from another school enters, and they send visitors around to the office. Also the para-pros make sure that the students have hall passes for where they're going.

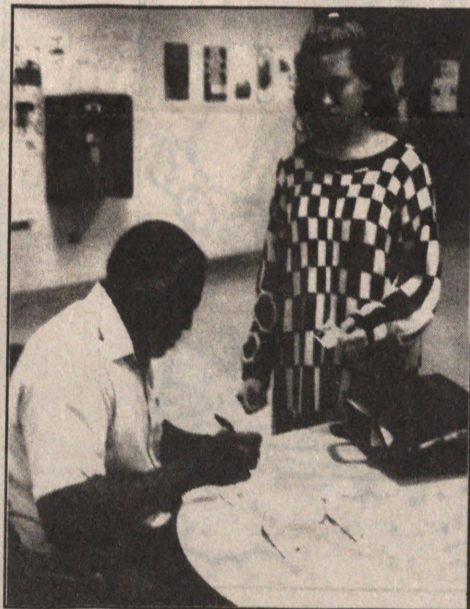
The para-pro by the south lot also has to check the parking lot in the morning, to make sure that cars are parked where they should be. If a car is parked in the wrong space though they either give the student a referral or they notify the dean who then will ask the student to move their car.

Para-pros in the main hall and second floor monitor the students who use it by checking them for passes and making sure they go where they belong. They also make sure that a student doesn't spend too long at their locker or washroom.

Finally theres the para-pro in commons who basically makes sure that there are no problems, and that the students who belong there are there.

As with any job, at times it could be a little dull. That is why students often see para-pros with reading material, or something to study. But mostly their busy watching over the students.

The para-pros all seem to enjoy their job, and they enjoy working with the students. Para-pro Mr. Walters said, "Overall para-pros care about kids." Which is true, cause otherwise they wouldn't be here.



Para-pro waiters checks sophomore Jackie Robie's id during unscheduled.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)

Thespians Stage Fundraisers

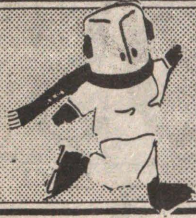
Thespians are on a roll; earning oodles of dough. Because the children's show Magic Theater got chosen to be performed at the Illinois State Theater Festival, the thespians need to earn money to send the players to state. They sponsored market

day last Thursday and held their first annual theater night on Tuesday, December 8 at 7pm. Attendees got to meet the three student directors for the Winter One-Acts; Skye Studabaker, Steve Broido, and Eric Heerwagon.



Thespians Rachel Owens and Jessica Shinofeld proudly display their Market Day orders.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



FEATURES 9

Starting the Scholastic Season

by Skye Studabaker

Whip out your pencils and paper, slap on your thinking caps- it's that time of year again. Scholastic Bowl fever is rushing through the halls.

Ok, maybe I shouldn't call it a fever, but twelve West Chicago students are dedicating their Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to study to represent our school in academic competition.

Scholastic Bowl is a speed competition, played like Jeopardy, with five person teams answering intellectual questions about everything from geography to trigonometry to current sports events.

Although the team lost six valuable senior members this year, they also gained many underclassmen.

Carol Sweder and Monica Cousins are advising the group for the second year in a row.

Varsity captain Abigail Hutchins and the rest of the varsity and junior varsity teams will be competing against area schools each Monday, beginning in January, until the season ends with the regional play-offs in March.

A Helpful Hint for the Holiday Season.

Everyone has the right to their opinion, however; no one has the right to force their opinion onto someone else.



Skiing Sensation

By: Laura Rapinchuk

The ski club at West Chicago is now entering its third year. This park district sponsored program ventures on various ski trips to nearby runs throughout the winter.

The club's goal this year is to take about three trips per month to various locations. As soon as it snows they plan to go to Devil's Head.

Students of all levels are welcome to join. Past skiers have ranged from first time beginners to advanced.

Prices for skiing differ from place to place but there are usually packages available to fit all needs. Skiing lessons are also available.

Last year the club averaged about two trips per month and felt it went well. J.J. Schwan, a three year member and current club president, likes it because, "You got a group of people who all want to have fun doing the same thing." He also thinks it's a great way to meet people and describes skiing as a sport which is "out of control with control."

The club usually meets on Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in the L.R.C. classroom. Listen to announcements for the next meeting in which they'll be discussing the first trip of the season.

Junior Varsity Scholastic ball members work hard at practice.

(photo by Skye Studabaker)



A Christmas Story

By Mike Campbell

What else is there to do on Christmas day besides open gifts. You could always pop in the best Christmas movie ever made. A Christmas Story!

This is the funniest Christmas movie made. It shows little Ralphie growing up wanting a Red Rider b-b gun. The story is set a couple of weeks before Christmas. It shows how determined Ralphie is to get this gun for Christmas. All of the while the people that he is asking to have the gun are telling him that he will shoot his eye out. But it doesn't bother Ralphie.

This movie is reality! Little kids getting bullied around, getting their tongues stuck to telephone poles, and swearing in front of your parents for the first time. Ralphie goes crazy about the gift that his father gets from a contest he won. A lamp shaped like a leg! His father wants the lamp stuck in front of his house so everyone in the neighborhood could see it. Everyone was proud of it but the mother she was embarrassed.

The neighbors have these dogs that are left uncared-for for and they end up eating Ralphie's family turkey, the father a turkey lover tried to hold it in decided to go to a Chinese restaurant to eat cooked duck.

When it comes to Christmas morning he ends up getting the gun from his father and the first shot from the gun hit him in the eye and breaks his glasses. He knows that he is in trouble so he fakes like an ice cycle falling from the garage and got away with it.

How 'Bout a Kiss

By Derek Barton

If there was any *Revenge* to be taken, KISS got it Saturday night, November 21. The historic rock band was at UIC Pavilion, headlining with Trixter and Great White.

The show started with Trixter running back and forth on the stage, swinging their hair in circles, and yelling "Come on Chicago!" after every other word. For twenty minutes they blasted out lyrics you couldn't understand and music that sounded like road construction. The only highlight of their show was when they said "Good night Chicago!"

After changing the stage around, Great White came out. They sounded good, but they didn't put on a show. Once and a while the lead singer would swing the microphone stand around or sit down on the stage, but that's about it. After singing *Once Bitten Twice Shy*, they packed up their equipment and went back stage.

Then with a huge explosion, lasers flying, and the music getting twice as loud, KISS came running out and blasted a set of songs. With all the lights and stage effects it was hard to keep your eyes on them. They sounded so good and clear it was like listening to their albums.

About half way into the show, the skin of a gigantic Statue of Liberty crumbled off revealing a chrome skull. Then, while performing a song "Take it Off," three busty girls danced and stripped down to string bikinis (schwingggg!). With lasers beaming with every hit the drum solo was enough to make you cry.

After coming out for their encore, KISS ended with "The Star Spangled Banner." The Pavilion was filled with red, white, and blue lights, and more explosions then could be seen in a war!

With all the excitement it's hard to pick out a song I liked best. If I had to choose it would probably be "Rock-n-Roll All Night," their first hit which came out in the early 70's.

If you like rock music, or just enjoy a good show, I would highly recommend seeing KISS next time they're here.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!



Rudolph's Antlers*

Stir up these confection cookies in a jiffy—they require no baking. To be sure the cherries (representing Rudolph's you-know-what) stay attached, press them securely onto the antlers.

- 1 6-ounce package semisweet chocolate pieces
- 1/2 of a 6-ounce package (1/2 cup) butterscotch pieces
- 1 3-ounce can chow mein noodles
- 12 maraschino cherries, halved

■ **Melt** chocolate and butterscotch pieces together in a medium saucepan over low heat, stirring occasionally. Remove the pan from the heat. Stir in chow mein noodles.

■ **Using** two teaspoons, on a waxed-paper-lined cookie sheet, shape about 1 tablespoon of the mixture into a V-shape cookie about 2 inches wide to resemble antlers. Press a cherry half in the center of each. Repeat for remaining cookies.

■ **Chill** cookies on the cookie sheet in the refrigerator for 1 to 2 hours or till cookies are firm. Store the antlers in the refrigerator in a covered container up to 5 days. Makes 24.

* TAKEN FROM BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS



¡FELIZ NAVIDAD!

See ya in 93!

CHRISTMAS PUNCH

Ingredients: 3/4 c. orange juice 1qt. club soda
 1/4 c. lemon juice 1 6or 8 oz. can
 1 c. strong tea mandarin
 1/2 c. sugar orange
 1qt. ginger ale ice cubes

Preparation: Pour orange juice, lemon juice, tea, and sugar into pitcher. Stir. Refrigerate at least two hours. Also, refrigerate ginger ale and club soda.

Open mandarin oranges when ready to serve punch. Pour contents of can into punch bowl. Stir well.

Add chilled ginger ale, club soda, and ice cubes. Serve in punch cups or tall glasses. Serves eight.

HERRY CHRISTMAS!

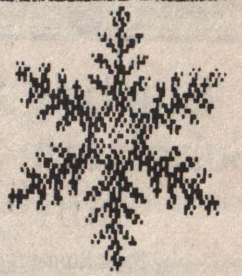
Wordsearch

Words go up, down, diagonal, across, and backwards.

Santa Noel Snow Candy Cane Sleigh
 Christmas Egg Nog Mistletoe New Years Presents

```

e w i y r w q t r h o a i a f k h w o i
g o i r n g o i t r n m x n v p o r i q
g q u y r s c n v l w i r o o h e g x c
n i t r h s a m t s i r h c p e r q g s
o u w q r g b n n k a r p l g j l d m t
g q r g g s f e t r y u b f k w o r t n
t r t c b w q i n a y t q v b b n p p e
q u t r g s b c w a p e r h g i e l s s
u r t q w f b e i n c w u v g h w t r e
r y u f s j f g o u u y u y e g y k j r
w y r i y w f b w f y w d t w h e k q p
w y t r w o f x i s s a t n t y a o y u
k f u q h n e i k t o w y g a s r e k r
w r i m i s t l e t o e q f d c s w i r
e w y t r f b c e r t i o t r t g e b u
    
```



Snow-Topped Chocolate Mountains*

- 1/3 cup margarine or butter
- 2/3 cup sifted powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 ounces (2 squares) semisweet chocolate, melted and cooled
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 24 pastel cream mint kisses or milk chocolate kisses
- Fluffy Frosting

■ **Beat** butter in a small mixer bowl for 30 seconds to soften. Gradually beat in powdered sugar; blend in vanilla and melted chocolate. Beat or stir in flour and milk. Shape a well-rounded teaspoon of dough around each kiss; place cookies pointed side up on a greased cookie sheet.

■ **Bake** in a 350° oven for 10 to 12 minutes or till bottoms are lightly browned. Cool on wire rack.

■ **Frost** peaks of cookies with Fluffy Frosting. Makes 24.

Fluffy Frosting: In a small mixing bowl beat 2 tablespoons shortening till softened. Gradually add 1/2 cup powdered sugar, mixing well. Add 1 tablespoon milk and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Stir in more powdered sugar (about 3/4 cup) to make a fluffy consistency.



COACH'S CORNER

- More than a candy store!!
- *Treats for a Pep Pal,
 - *Sweets for a special guy or gal.
 - *Special gifts for Mom or Dad,
 - *Peace offering after you're mad.



A special place to go before a date, before a game, or to treat yourself.

CHOCOLATES, jelly bellies, PENNY CANDIES, CARAMEL CORN, POP CORN, CHEESE CORN OR A COKE. WE'RE A UNIQUE AND FUN PLACE TO VISIT!

COME AND CHECK OUT THE COACH'S CORNER STUDENT/ATHLETE OF THE WEEK BULLETIN BOARD-- IF YOU'RE NAMED RECEIVE \$1 WORTH OF FREE CANDY.

222 Main Street
 West Chicago
 293-7400

O R F E C T J O R A R Y

Girls Basketball

West Chicago Shows Same Faces; New Style

by: Dave Vingren

Four of the five starters are the same as last year. Last year, those starters got West Chicago to fifth place in conference.

So what makes West Chicago a contender?

"We have a lot more experience," said senior Cristy Murphy. "We all know our roles."

Amy Barnes, Shannon Mason, and Tiffany Smith are the other three starting seniors.

"They've (the four seniors) been very influential in what we've done this year," said head coach Kim Wallner. "They're really the core of our team. The other players have fit in

very nicely and it's worked out very well."

Wallner installed a more up tempo style into West Chicago's game this season.

Frequent full court pressure is helping to create a fast paced game.

Although West Chicago is 4-1 (as of December 9), they are still breaking in the new style.

"We're working on being a little more consistent in our play," said Wallner.

"We're a very spurty team. We have a tendency to give up a lot of points and score a lot of points in spurts. The consistency of our team will be the key."

Now that the early season tournament and non-conference games are out of the way, West Chicago is looking to make a run in the DuPage Valley Conference.

West Chicago begins conference play against Glenbard East on December 10.

"This is the heart of the season," said Wallner.

"The team is really excited to get started (with conference play). We're looking to be in the top two or three and possibly first."

The only goal for the players is to top the DVC.

"We're looking to win it all," said Barnes.

To win it all, West Chicago will have to dethrone last years champion Naperville Central, the most physical team in the conference, which could give the Wildcats problems.

Lack of bigger players is a slight concern, but shouldn't be a problem for West Chicago if they keep games at an up tempo pace.

Come support the team tonight versus Glenbard East.

"We're looking to be in the top two or three and possibly first."

Girls Indoor Soccer Team

by: Veronica Chavez

This is the first year that West Chicago started the indoor girls soccer team.

The girls play every Sunday at the Norris Center in St. Charles.

Toto DelReal is the coach this year. He says, "I think we need to improve in some areas, a lot of the girls are new to the program. Most of the seniors left last year. Most of our team is made up of sophomores and juniors."

The record so far is 0 for 2. DelReal said, "We're not looking for a winning team. I just want the girls to improve their soccer skills for Spring."

Toto thinks that there doesn't need to be any changes made. They need a stronger defense. Cherie Oskerka left

last year and this year they need to build up that same defense to stand up to the other teams.

Patty Parra said, "I enjoy playing indoor soccer, it's a different experience from outdoor soccer." Another member of the team, Mandy Lobraico said, "It's my first year and I want a uniform because we wear Waubonsie shirts." Betsy Co said, "We may be a little unexperienced in playing indoor soccer, but it'll help us in our future season since we've been playing together in this session."

Overall coach Toto DelReal said, "We're all working together. We don't have any individuals, we're all a team."

We-Go Wrestlers

by: Maria Mendoza

Israel Castro and Carlos Ayala made the most dominating performances on Tuesday November 24, 1992.

The We-Go wrestlers were defeated as a team by West Aurora.

It was set that Tate Knutson was going to wrestle a female wrestler but it turned out that she quit right before the match. Instead Tate wrestled Alex Aguilar.

"Oh, this was definitely a tough match!" commented a person out of the crowd. It was definitely tough, being so that it was there first match of the year.

Maria Ayala, Manager of the team said, "Wrestling is a match of how

strong you are and using your mind wisely by making fast moves." She also said that the team had gone to a summer camp to get them ready for the season.

On the 24th, the 14th annual tournament took place here at West Chicago. Carlos Ayala and Israel Castro got First place finishes in their respective weights. Tate Knutson got second place in his weight. The crowd went wild as they were placed.

These three students have shown excellent performances in each of their matches. "You really need to watch the match to actually feel the excitement!" assured Maria Ayala.

The We-Go wrestlers are practicing hard and are all quenching for glory.

David Vingren's 1992\93 NFL Team Rankings

Post Week 14

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. 49ers | 15. Broncos |
| 2. Cowboys | 16. Raiders |
| 3. Saints | 17. Rams |
| 4. Eagles | 18. Colts |
| 5. Steelers | 19. Giants |
| 6. Redskins | 20. Jets |
| 7. Vikings | 21. Falcons |
| 8. Dolphins | 22. Bengals |
| 9. Bills | 23. Cardinals |
| 10. Chiefs | 24. Buccaneers |
| 11. Oilers | 25. Bears |
| 12. Chargers | 26. Lions |
| 13. Browns | 27. Seahawks |
| 14. Packers | 28. Patriots |

Top Notch Conference

by: Richie Fikis

The Wildcat football team may have been only 3-4 in the Dupage Valley Conference, however this record is pretty impressive considering it was in the best conference in the state.

Yes, it is now clear after the two state championships won by Naperville North and Wheaton-Warrenville South that West Chicago competes in the best football conference in the state.

These were the 6A and 5A championships, which are the two highest classes in the state.

One of the most amazing things about this is the fact that Naperville North could only capture third place in the conference, while eventually going on to win the highest division in the state.

Along with these championships, there were several players from the conference who received all-area and all-state status. Jimmy Briggs (1st team all-area) and Derek Nelson (2nd team all-area) were among them.

So next year when you watch the games, take a minute and realize how extremely competitive their schedule is.

12 SPORTS

Looking For A Turnaround

by: Richie Fikis

The Wildcats boys basketball season began like a roller coaster ride.

Competing in the Oswego Thanksgiving Tournament along with Oswego, Marmion, and Yorkville, the Wildcats came out with a third place finish.

This finish is slightly disappointing considering they won the tournament last year.

However, there is a bright side.

Kevin Baldus earned all-tournament team status at the center spot by averaging just over 14 points a game.

John Jovanovich showed that he is very capable of running the point guard spot at the varsity level. In the tournament he hit several key shots along with dishing out 20 assists, which is what John does best.

Tom Sues also showed that he is very capable of competing at the varsity

level. His defensive play stood out, along with his buzzer-beating shot in overtime to beat Oswego in the second game of the tournament.

Scott Weber showed signs that he has recuperated from his pre-season illness by making shots from the off-guard position.

The last starting spot was filled by yet another junior, John Lammers, who led the 'Cats with 17 points in their first contest.

The 'Cats entered conference play at Wheaton-Warrenville South last Friday night.

They got off to a very slow start. Actually, slow is an understatement. The 'Cats found themselves on the bottom side of a 18-2 score at the end of the first quarter.

Jovanovich tried to analyze the slow start, "There is a lack of inten-

sity, we go out in the first quarter and go through the motions."

The Wildcats did a good job of fighting the deficit with the help of Valenti, who scored 20 points in his season debut. However, the team still came up well short, losing 70-57.

Jovanovich said of the loss, "By the time we wake up, we are down a lot and it is too late to make a comeback."

After their loss to Friday night, the team went into Geneva with a record of 1-3.

The team didn't start much better, this time scoring only 6 points in the first quarter.

Nobody could get the hot hand for the 'Cats; they ended the game with only 37 points, 31 short of Geneva.

Baldus tried to find a solution, "We have to come together as a unit, instead of as individuals."

The team is now 1-4, however, they will play at home for the first time tomorrow night. We will host Glenbard East, looking to turnaround a tough beginning to the season.

"By the time we wake up, we are down a lot and it is too late to make a comeback."

A Gymnast Competing For We-Go? By Raven Moore

This year a freshman by the name of Sharon Yule will be representing West Chicago as a one woman gymnast team.

W.C.C.H.S. hasn't had a gymnast team for many years because of the lack of interest, but things are changing.

The Yules went to the school board and fought for the right for their daughter to compete for We-Go. The board voted on it and it went through.

Sharon will be allowed to represent our school though the school is not taking any financial responsibility. That includes insurance, leotards, coaching, and anything related. That doesn't surprise me.

"I'm very motivated!" responded Yule, "I've been training for years." Yule said she is very excited about this season and hopes to do well.

She thinks she will be one of the better gymnasts in the conference and



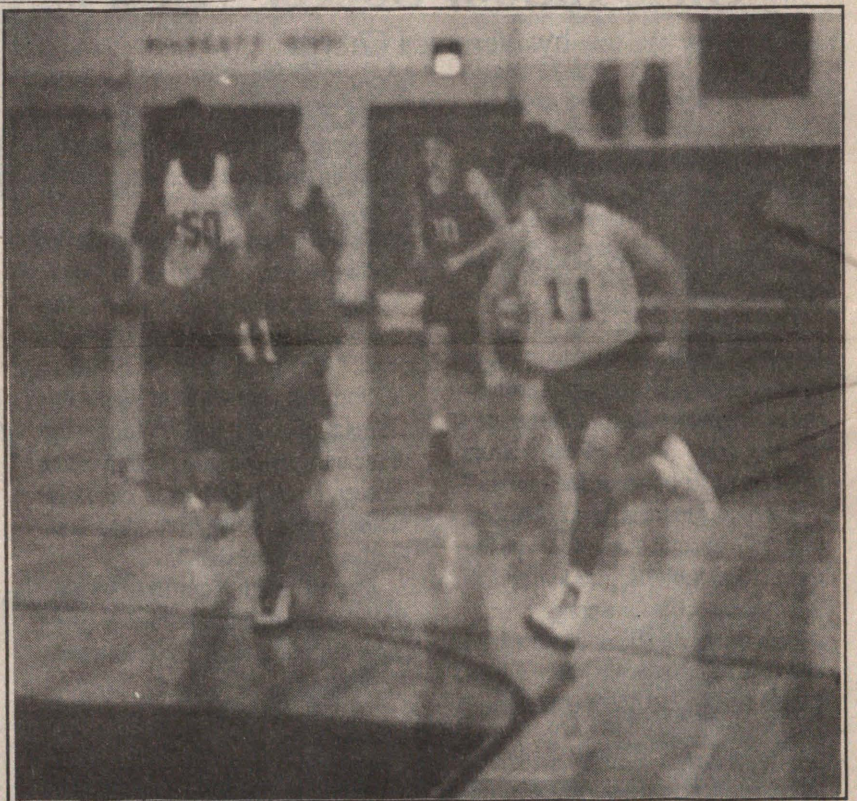
will probably make sectionals, though state is a long shot.

She said, "It's harder for me to do good because if I was on a team I would have fellow gymnasts to help build up the score, but since I have no gymnasts to help it's much harder to do well."

Yule is hoping to gain recognition by competing for our school. Newspapers cover high school gymnastics and she feels the coverage will help her get noticed by people.

As a fellow West Chicago athlete I support Sharon in her decision and wish her lots of luck. Hopefully Sharon will help the sport of gymnastics make a comeback at We-Go.

"... since I have no gymnasts to help it's much harder for me to do well."



Dave Valenti (41) and John Jovanovich (11) have both helped the 'Cats at the point guard spot.

Say it With a Splash

By Molly Statz

The boys diving team lost its number one Varsity diver, Dave Vaillancourt, to graduation but they haven't let it effect them. They practice everyday after school and do some strength training to improve their ability. Although many of the divers are first and second year they have a goal to get to sectionals.

Senior Mark Sabitino said he came in second to Vaillancourt and hopes to keep the top spot this year. Sabitino also said, "I have better height off the

board which means more room for dives of higher difficulties."

Last year Mark sprained his ankle and was not able to compete in sectionals. "This year I would like to go back to sectionals and show the other divers a thing or two," Sabitino said.

Like his fellow diver, sophomore Andy Dvorak would also like to make it to sectionals. Dvorak has a few years to perfect his dives and hope-

Ranked

In the Chicago Sun-Times on Monday, December 8, 1992, Israel Castro was ranked as the second best wrestler in the state at his 119 weight class. With this ranking and his finishes of 6th

and 4th in the state over the last two years, there will be many people anticipating this year's state competition. Israel, congratulations on your past success and good luck in the future.

Baseball Underway ?

The fieldhouse is now open, with batting cages available, for baseball players who are interested in developing their skills during the off-season.

It is open every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 pm.

Pitchers are encouraged to attend to keep their arms and legs in shape.

Players of all levels may attend and their will be instructors to help out.