

# Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School

326 Joliet Street

West Chicago, IL

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Photo by Tracy Morris

## Barta, FBLA chapter compete at Nationals

### Press Release

Henry Barta, a Senior from Community High School District 94, was presented with a first place award in the computer concepts competition at the Future Business Leaders of America National Conference. The conference took place July 8-11 in Washington, D.C. Henry competed against over 60 of the finest computer concept students throughout the country. Being named a national champion is an outstanding accomplishment and the West Chicago chapter members and advisers are extremely proud of Henry. The award was part of a comprehensive competitive events program sponsored annually by Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. (FBLA-PBL). Individuals, state teams, and local chapters are

encouraged to compete in any of nearly 40 different events representing a wide range of activities and the business and leadership development focus of FBLA-PBL. The winners of these highly competitive and prestigious awards are se-



Photo by Nancy Blume  
Grads Brandon Beideman and David Yong, with junior Kirk Johnson and senior Henry Barta represented We-go's FBLA chapter at the National Conference July 8-11.

lected from among FBLA-PBL's membership of 270,000 students and represents some of the best and brightest of today's youth. The 4,000 plus delegates to the

national leadership conference participated in a structured, four day meeting that included business and leadership training workshops and seminars, corporate tours and the election of national officers. FBLA-PBL is the National Business Education Association that prepares students for leadership and careers in business. Its members, belonging to more than 12,000 chartered chapters, include students from the United States, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Europe. Also attending the conference from Community High School were Brandon Beideman, Kirk Johnson, David Yong, and advisers Nancy Blume and Lisa Becker. Yong was a national finalist for Mr. Future Business Leader, placing him in the top 15 in the nation. Illinois captured 16 top ten individual, team and chapter awards, the most ever for Illinois.

### Press Release

## VICA looking for new members

VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) is looking for new members. If you are interested in Industrial Arts, Home Economics, CWT or BTI, please see Mr. Junkroski or Mrs. Kozlowski for membership information.

Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month in Room 107.

New and present members can earn money to help pay for our annual convention in Springfield, Illinois by working at our home football games.

## The Great We-go Dig-up

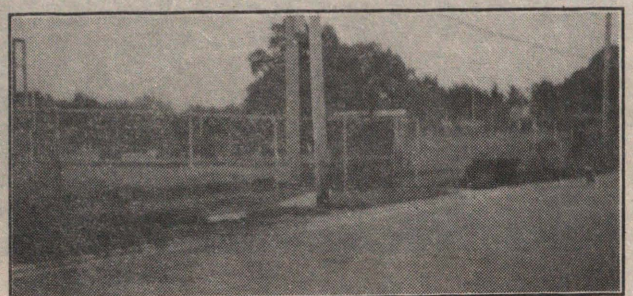


Photo by Kelley Betts

During the summer, Thorium was removed from many areas on the high school campus, including here by the bleachers along Wood Street.



## Is there a doctor in the house?

By Dan Horyn

Interim superintendent Dr. Robert Rubenow is like the traveling Monet exhibit. He goes from city to city, sometimes for a couple of years, sharing his talents and expertise.

Rubenow may not be a work of art, but he is a valuable asset to education, and, most recently, to Community High School.

Rubenow took the interim position July 1st when Dr. Joel Morris resigned to take on a job in Iowa. Rubenow will serve for one year while the Board of Education looks for a permanent replacement, according to Linda Kime, assistant superintendent of personnel.

And though he said he will move on in a year, Rubenow will try to

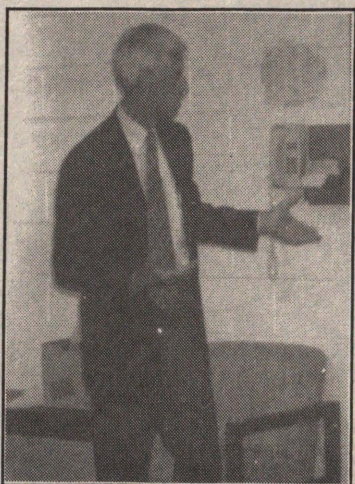


Photo by Tracy Morris  
Dr. Robert Rubenow, the interim Superintendent, addresses the new staff.

maintain District 94 organization

with the same devotion as Morris had. If a referendum comes up again in next April's elections, Rubenow said getting it together "will be a project," but he and the rest of the Board of Education will "get to the bottom of issues" and develop a game plan.

Rubenow brings years of experience to District 94. He has been a high school teacher for 26 years, an associate professor at Emporia University, a superintendent for six years, and both an interim superintendent and assistant principal. Most of these positions have been held in state, but Rubenow, like the Monet exhibit, has ventured far, too- Kansas and Arizona to name two places.

Rubenow pursued a career in education because he had "a lot of respect" for his high school teachers and that he "wanted to be like them." Rubenow feels that that is the reason why many educators become educators.

Since Rubenow will work for District 94 for only one year, it does not seem like he is looking to make any drastic changes to the high school. "The instructional program is fine," he said, District 94 "appears to be a very fine school district" with "high quality professional people."

Rubenow works as the moderator at Board meetings. School board member David Augustyn said that Rubenow brings new

ideas and tremendous experiences to the organization.

Board member Maria Owens said Rubenow has done a "marvelous job, he works so hard. His record is impeccable."

But Rubenow isn't all about business and education- he has some color in his painting. Rubenow enjoys walking the lakeshore; rollerblading, though he hasn't had time this summer; bike riding; and shooting free throws. Though he's a little rusty, he challenges anyone in the high school to a free throw shooting contest.

Chicagoans remembered the Monet exhibit after it was gone; hopefully the same will happen with Rubenow and Community High School.

## Schedule brings early dismissal, zero hour

By Tracy Morris

At the District 94 School Board Meeting this past May, Principal Alan Jones and former Superintendent Joel Morris finalized the decision to add a period before classes start in the morning and end the school day ten minutes earlier.

Starting this year, first hour classes will begin at 7:45 and tenth hour will dismiss at 3:15.

Jones points out two factors that contributed to the change in schedule at West Chicago Community High this year.

First of all, District 94 was approached by District 33 in West Chicago and asked to dismiss students ten minutes earlier. Since the two districts are linked by a joint busing plan, what the junior high and grade schools do in terms of busing reflects upon the high school busing program.

"When they (District 33) approached us, we jumped at the chance," said Jones, "We've been trying to change the schedule for about five years, but it never worked out until now."

According to Jones, the other component in the changing of the

schedule was the need to get athletic teams out to the practice and game fields earlier.

Jones expressed the need of Wildcat teams, who were previously dismissed the latest of all the DuPage Valley Conference teams, to utilize as much daylight as possible.

By maintaining joint busing with District 33, the high school is able to save money, which became increasingly important when another referendum failed in November of 1995.

In addition to the regular hour classes, a zero hour that lasts from 6:50 to 7:40 has been added to the schedule.

The zero hour was created to offer classes in the morning that otherwise wouldn't fit into the schedules of students.

Dr. Jones said that the zero period, "was designed for special interest classes that students wouldn't be able to take during the regular day."

These special interests include Photography and Advanced Strength and Fitness, the only two classes offered during the zero period.

SCHEDULE FOR 1996-1997 SCHOOL YEAR		
Period	Time	
0	6:50	- 7:40
1	7:45	- 8:40
2	8:45	- 9:40
3	9:45	- 10:45
4	10:50	- 11:15
5	11:20	- 11:45
6	11:50	- 12:15
7	12:20	- 12:45
8	12:50	- 1:15
9	1:20	- 2:15
10	2:20	- 3:15

Assembly A			Assembly B		
0.	6:50	- 7:40	0.	6:50	- 7:40
1.	7:45	- 8:35	1.	7:45	- 8:35
2.	8:40	- 9:30	2.	8:40	- 9:30
3.	9:35	- 10:25	3.	9:35	- 10:25
4.	10:30	- 10:55	4.	10:30	- 10:55
5.	11:00	- 11:25	5.	11:00	- 11:25
6.	11:30	- 11:55	6.	11:30	- 11:55
7.	12:00	- 12:25	7.	12:00	- 12:25
8.	12:30	- 12:55	8.	12:30	- 12:55
Assembly	1:00	- 1:25	Assembly	1:00	- 1:50
9.	1:30	- 2:20	10.	1:55	- 2:40
10.	2:25	- 3:15	Assembly	2:45	- 3:15

5-HOUR DAY		
0.	6:50	- 7:40
1.	7:45	- 8:20
2.	8:25	- 9:00
3.	9:05	- 9:40
4.	9:45	- 10:00
5.	10:05	- 10:20
6.	10:25	- 10:40
7.	10:45	- 11:00
8.	11:05	- 11:20
9.	11:25	- 12:00
10.	12:05	- 12:45

Club Notes

## Future Business Leaders of America

The West Chicago chapter of FBLA is open for membership to anyone interested in developing leadership skills. The first evening chapter meeting will be Wednesday, September 4, in Room 226 at 7:30 p.m. and will last one hour. Everyone is welcome, Freshmen through Seniors. Listen to announcements for information regarding committee chair positions and committee meetings.

Chapter officers for this year are: Mike Altman, President; Dave Hogan, Vice President; Darcie Wostratzky, Secretary; David Shilling, Treasurer; Matt Bowne, Reporter; Kirk Johnson, Historian; Chris Hauger, Parliamentarian; Tom Holloway, Sgt. at Arms.

Advisers are: Mrs. Becker, Room 203 and Miss Blume, Room 201.

Contact one of the officers or advisers for more information.

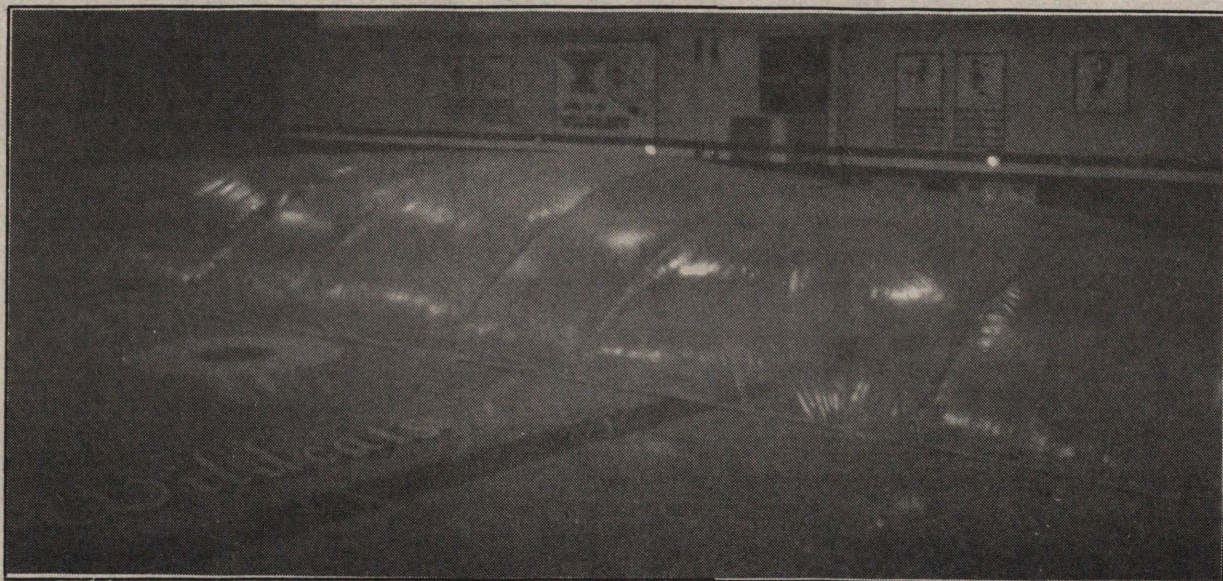


Photo by Tracy Morris

We-go's own Bio-Dome? After a flooding in Bishop Gym over the summer, which disrupted volleyball practice schedules, a bubble was placed over the gym floor. The school is trying to avoid permanent damage to the gym floor. According to Athletic Director Gail George, use of the gym should be restored by the first or second week in September.



## George is movin' on up

By Tracy Morris

It's the thrill of the sports that keep her going. The practices, the games. To her, high school competition is the most intense level of sports.

Believe it or not, she's not a Wildcat athlete. She's Gail George, the interim Athletic Director replacing Tom Hancock.

On August 7, George added a new element to her existence at West Chicago, which began 32 years ago.

When Hancock announced his resignation from the Athletic Director position, George was bumped up from Assistant A.D. to the head job.

Hancock, who had been at We-go three years this past July, left to continue his career as a basketball coach in England.

George said, "I was sad to see that he was going to leave but happy for him because his first love is really basketball."

According to George, Hancock had received numerous offers to return to coaching professional basketball and the last offer was too good to refuse.

Before Hancock settled on the idea of coaching Newcastle, England, he thought long and hard about the transition that would have to be made at the high school.

George did not immediately see herself filling in for Hancock, but was instead very content with teaching and remaining the assistant Athletic Director.

"I love teaching and being an assistant Athletic Director, I always could stay a part of athletics, which is extremely important to me," said George.

When the administration finally approached George for the interim job, she admits she had to think about it because it would take her away from teaching in the classroom.

She likened her decision with that of when she retired from coaching. George dedicated 21 years to coaching Wildcat sports, including vol-

leyball, softball for 13 years, and



Photo by Tracy Morris

Athletic Director Gail George looks ahead to the new year.

the one-time archery team.

"The challenge was very exciting and I didn't have to think a long time, but I tried to think of the benefits for athletics and for me," said George.

George praises Principal Alan Jones with supporting her since

she chose to give up teaching for the Athletic Director's seat, saying, "Dr. Jones has been just right there for me all the time." George also considered athletic office secretary Karen Rubini a great help in her transition. George labeled Rubini, who will have been at West Chicago 10 years in January 1997, as "irreplaceable in this office."

She also noted that many of the tasks in the athletic office would not get done if it weren't for Rubini's dedication and commitment.

George is hardly a stranger to sports. She played basketball and volleyball at Illinois State University (ISU) and came to the Chicago area to play AAU basketball out of Glen Ellyn.

Along with Lavora Singleton, a Physical Education teacher and badminton coach here at We-go, George played a significant part in the foundation of girls sports for Community High School.

At a time when girls sports were not considered equal to those of boys, the two of them used to iron numbers and stripes on girls' uniforms to make sure they had something to wear for competition.

These days, when the money split between guys and girls sports is pretty much balanced, ordering

uniforms is as simple as picking up the phone and getting what the sports need.

Given her jobs as coach and assistant A.D., George has witnessed these changes first hand. She says, "The way sports have evolved has been just a real exciting time for me."

George considers the best part of her job as Athletic Director being around the student athletes, saying the kids are what come first for her.

She feels it is important to understand the needs of coaches since she is a former coach herself.

"What was important to me as a coach and the kind of support I wanted, I try to do that."

The only real downside George sees to her job is the paperwork and the small details like making sure doors are locked, perhaps because it takes her away from the kids.

With her future for next year still pretty much up in the air, George maintains that she simply wanted the transition to be smooth when Hancock departed.

According to Linda Kime, the Assistant Superintendent of Personnel at Community High, George's role as Athletic Director will be dealt with in January or February.

## What's up doc?

By Dan Horyn

Former District 94 Superintendent Joel Morris is relocated and doing well in Dubuque, Iowa as superintendent of the Dubuque Community School District.

There was a farewell reception in his honor on June 18th before Morris took charge of 18 schools, including three high schools, on July 1st.

Since July 1st, Morris has been busy "getting to know principals" and "finding my way around town". Morris said that the Dubuque area is similar to West Chicago, and says that some of the schools are facing overcrowding problems like that of West Chicago schools.

Consequently, Morris has been busy reasoning parts of Dubuque in order to control overcrowding. He has also been reevaluating bussing schedules.

Morris said that he is trying

to meet as many staff members as possible, but he said, "I know I will never have a chance to know all my staff like I did in West Chicago." This is mainly because Morris works with so many more people- he now supervises 10,000 students.

Although he oversees more people, Morris is working about the same number of hours in Dubuque as he did in West Chicago. Morris also said that since Dubuque schools are facing overcrowding, the District is finding ways to promote a smaller scale referendum to the voters.

He said that the district is trying to "nail [the overcrowding situation] before it becomes a problem." He said that changes to the Dubuque district will "not be as sudden."

Morris enjoys his new job, but he still maintains that Community High School is "the finest high school I have ever seen."

## Hollywood reaches for We-go

By Kelley Betts

Lights, camera, action! This was heard in West Chicago when a filming crew showed up and was ready to film a John Hughes film, *Reach the Rock*, this summer.

Downtown We-go on Main Street had a new look to it during the filming when local shops had new names and styles. Some of the stores include The Beanery (Jacobsen's flower shop), which was made to be a coffee shop, a shoe store, Hoffman Bakery, Kendall's Hardware, Wilson Stationary and a clock tower (which will be returning permanently to We-go according to production manager, Paul Marcus), all located in the fictitious town of Shermer, Illinois.

Filming took place around 9 p.m. to 5 p.m. to around five o'clock on the days of July 8 through August 10. It began at the Toms' house located at 405 Arbor Ave. and then continued on Main Street. Filming was put on hold during Railroad Days, and the frequent thunderstorms caused some trouble in the beginning, which set filming dates back two days. The train tracks also caused minor problems because the noise

of the passing trains interfered with the film tape. The crew consisted of about 100-130 members including set directors, grips, set coordinators, and actors who helped during the filming.

About 50% of the movie was filmed in West Chicago, and the

crew member.

Area residents had no complaints about the filming and the town was very cooperative, commented the assistant director. Many times off-duty police officers were hired to direct and block traffic and control spectators.

One crew member said it was easier to film in a small town because the residents seem to be more cooperative than those of a city.

The movie itself stars Brooke Langton, who has made appearances on *Melrose Place*. Langton is playing the character of Lise, the main female character. Actor Bill Sadler plays the roll of a policeman named Quinn, who wants to date Lise. Sadler played the roll of the grim reaper in *Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey*.

*Reach the Rock* is a coming of age story about a teenager named Robin, played by Alessandro Nivola, who gets into trouble a lot. The filming is expected to be completely done in mid-September. *Reach the Rock* is due out in theaters next spring or summer.

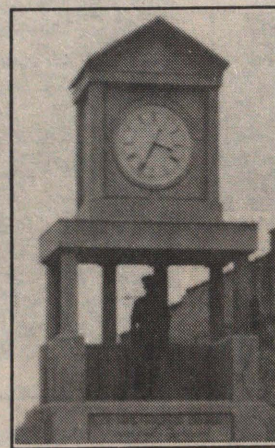


Photo by Kelley Betts

A new feature in downtown We-go.

rest was done in Chicago on sets and sound stages. West Chicago was chosen because it was an easy town to reconstruct due to the abandoned buildings said one



# Features

## New Faces From Different Places

By Tracy Morris

Every new school year brings change. The building changes, the environment changes, and most often, the people change. Old faces are replaced by new ones. The faces of recent graduates fade out as incoming freshman look to make their mark at We-go.

Teachers and staff are no different. Some faculty members retire, while some move on to other jobs.

Even though the influences of former staff remain at Community High, new teachers move in to bring unique traits to their jobs. This year's list of hires is a healthy one, with 17 newcomers finding home here. The following teachers and staff members begin their careers at We-go this year.

Danielle Crawford (English), Robert Gammelgaard (Math), Gwen Geiger (Math), Christine Lang (Math), Dan McCarthy (Business), Nicolette Miller (Special Education), Tony Nevrlly (Physical Education), Karan Oliver (Science), David Perrel (Science), Rebecca Rahn (Home Ec), Ward Rau (Guidance), Roxana Stachura (Guidance), John Walters (Physical Education), Sanford Weiss (Industrial

Arts), and Lisa Willuweit (Social Studies).

Antonio DelReal (Bilingual) returns after serving as a Para-Pro and Roger Lincoln returns to teach Industrial Arts.

Three of the recently named staffers are prior Wildcat ath-

letic coaches. Nevrlly moves over from teaching P.E. at West Chicago Middle School,

but is no stranger to the high school. He is on the varsity football coaching staff and was the freshman level head coach. Finally, Willuweit made

her coaching debut last season as she coached the freshman softball

teaching staff on August 26 and 27.

The new teachers were addressed by interim Superintendent Dr. Rubenow, who told the staffers of a bumper sticker he had seen while out driving.

It read, "Real Men Don't Ask

Questions."

The activities for new staff orientation included a people search, an icebreaker for teachers to get acquainted with each other.

New staffers were then encouraged to ask questions ranging from "When is pay day" to "Where do I get my parking sticker?"

On hand to answer these questions were mentors, who are current staff members. These staffers include Spanish teacher Sue Junkroski and English teachers Wayne Kosek, and Brad Larson.

According to Junkroski, the mentors save time for everyone involved by answering questions in small groups and leading new teachers on tours. Besides the teachers in the mentoring program, the new staffers also were introduced to other personnel in the building.

Terry Lemberg spoke about Special Education, Mary McCarter discussed Bilingual Education, and Officer Tony Quarto and Assistant Principal John Highland addressed disciplining students and familiarized the teachers with the neighborhood.



Photo by Tracy Morris

Front row: Dan McCarthy, John Walters, Chrissy Lang, Karan Oliver. Middle row: Tony Nevrlly, Gwen Geiger, Danielle Crawford, Becky Rahn, Lisa Willuweit. Back row: Antonio DelReal, Sandy Weiss, Ward Rau, Robert Gammelgaard, David Perrel.

letic coaches. DelReal coached boys freshman level soccer along with the girls freshman and junior varsity soccer teams.

squad to a DuPage Valley Conference Championship.

The new staff members had independent orientation on August 23 and 24 and joined the rest of the

Directions."

Rubenow urged them to consider what new ideas and questions they can bring to the staff by adding "Real Teachers Ask



Photo by Tracy Morris

A native of Montana and a first year teacher, Chrissy Lang will be teaching Algebra classes.



Photo by Tracy Morris

Dan McCarthy brings 20 years of teaching experience to the business education department. In addition to teaching, McCarthy will be the new boys varsity basketball coach.

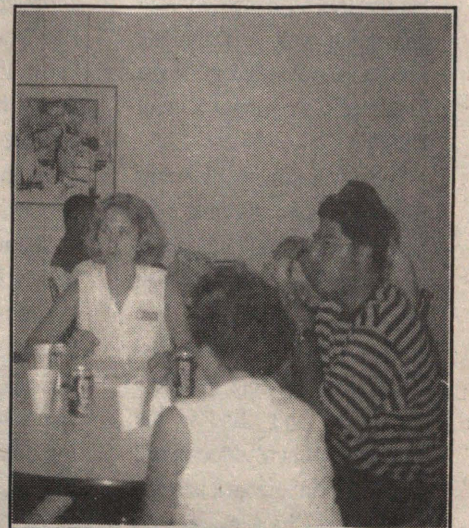


Photo by Tracy Morris

Lisa Willuweit and Antonio DelReal are two of the new staffers who are Wildcat athletic coaches.



Photo by Tracy Morris

Karan Oliver (left) will teach science classes, while Gwen Geiger will handle math.



Photo by Tracy Morris

Danielle Crawford (left), a graduate of Northwestern University, listens intently to faculty mentor Mary McCarter.



## The waves never cease

By Dan Horyn

Sometimes I take on a task that proves too much and I want to quit. My mind takes the easy way out. I reason why it's OK to stop- I'm in pain, I'm too tired, I'm stressed out. Once an optimist, I accept the pessimistic thought process.

And soon I'm slowing down. And nearly stopped when a positive idea slips through the sieve of negativity: why stop?

When have the waves stopped crashing? Don't birds still sing after storms? Do the homeless quit living during winter?

So what reason do I have? Am I in that much pain? Am I that tired? Am I stressed to the point of breaking?

So the sieve breaks and I push on. The way my positive mind sees it is this: why should I commit myself one hundred percent then stop? Or, why should I commit myself ninety percent all the time? Isn't this a waste of time, an exercise in futility?

I need to evaluate my priorities and eliminate things that my heart doesn't desire. That way the time eaters are gone and I have a greater opportunity to do the task one hundred percent.

So whether you take Calculus, march for the band, run cross country, or live life, do it with passionate devotion.

Because the waves have never stopped crashing.

### Next step for referendum?

By Kelley Betts

I realize this issue is getting old, but this needs to be said. For those who have not yet heard, the school board decided the referendum will not be on the November election ballot. I am really surprised and mad at this decision.

"It is becoming apparent that there is a space crunch, but the school board knows best and hopefully it will pass in spring," said Wayne Kosek, president of the Teachers Association. Like many teachers, Kosek, an English teacher, will have to switch classrooms throughout the day, and will have to share classrooms.

From what I understand, more voters were needed for the last referendum election. Well... what better time to get more voters than when there is a presidential election?

I know I won't personally be affected by any changes that will be made if the referendum did pass in November, but what about the other 2000 or so students that will? This is insane.

The longer the school board waits to try to pass this issue, the more problems they will have to deal with, as if we don't have enough already such as the long lunch lines and the crowded lunch room and halls. In addition to these problems, the incoming freshman classes just keep getting bigger and bigger.

"The school board wanted to get more details and more information on the referendum and I trust their decision," said social studies teacher and We-go C.A.R.E.S. advisor, Barbara Laimins.

A common concern among the voters was if all the options were considered when the school board got their estimates. At the time the school board agreed that all the options were considered, but now, they are taking a second look at their information.

According to school board secretary, Michael Mueller, the board

wanted to make sure they had all the answers to all the problems that require attention, such as the growing rate of incoming students, and that the studies that were done are accurate.

Well, the studies done should have been accurate to begin with. If the school board is trying to pass this referendum, then it would be assumed the information given was checked and double checked before the first election. Now we are suffering because the school board wants to check over their information. This all should have been done before the elections even began.

So, now we're stuck with the growing possibility of trailers to serve as classrooms and split shifts for the different class levels. This would all be a big inconvenience to both faculty and students. The longer the referendum is put off, the more these ideas are becoming a reality.

This is a growing problem that needs to be solved now.

**Wildcat Chronicle**  
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## Got the time?

By Dan Horyn

A man is in a car accident. His smoking automobile is pulled to the side of the road while he is trapped inside. Cars drive by; no one stops.

A woman is raped in an alley, her screams are heard by many. They look away, walk faster, turn the TV louder. A policeman isn't called.

A lost child wanders through the mall calling for his mother. Busy shoppers quickly pass by. They cannot stop- they must shop.

A homeless man is hungry. A bird is injured. A neighborhood girl is abused.

We move through life at light speed. We have our schedules. We must be here at nine, there at ten. In between we rush. And occasionally we sleep.

But what do we notice along the way? Nothing much- we're always thinking about what will happen next.

So we avoid anything that gets in the way. How many times have you stopped to help a driver with a flat tire? I never have, I was too busy being late.

I know we live in a dog-eat-dog world. I know we daily run the rat race. But how much do our excuses cover? Is being late worth risking the trapped man's life? You say you don't know him. How many people do you know in rush hour traffic?

When did the value of human life drop lower than five minutes of time? Some women are murdered when they are raped. Then again, employees get yelled at by bosses for showing up late. Which is worse?

Though we all have our separate lives, we are in this world together, like it or not. Challenge yourself to forget about time commit an unselfish act. It will make someone happy. It could save someone's life.

Maybe you refuse to give away time. Though these situations are hypothetical, someday you may be trapped inside a care. Let's hope not everyone's like you.

## Senior year: full of fun or full of fear?

By Dan Horyn

I got to school a week early for a good parking spot, so I had a little free time to eat, think and write. But seeing this is a newspaper, it would be best to show you the results.

I am a senior now. With that distinction comes the question that has nearly become a cliché: what will happen after high school? Truth is, at this point I don't know. Not even a week of solitary confinement in a car could answer the question. There are just too many possibilities to consider.

I can stay at home and work, but how decent a job will I get? I can move out, but where will the money come? I can be a bum and do nothing, but Oprah might get boring. I can be a professional criminal, but there's always jail. I can join a circus. I can become a gypsy. Or I could go to college- what most people do. But then there's the mess of tuition, student loans, scholarships, two-year, four-year

The list goes on. So right now my mind is a puzzle missing many pieces. My first inclination is to worry- both by myself and with friends. It's important to worry, sometimes. Worrying to a friend releases built-up tension, and it can be a problem solver. But like all great things, worrying should be done in moderation.

Picture a Saturday night three months in the future. What will you be talking about at the concert, party, or movie? Will it be the girl of your dreams or the college of your dreams? Will it be the nightmare date or the nightmare SAT? Hopefully it won't be the latter. Many people say college is the turning point in a teenager's life. I agree with that statement. So naturally it is important to select the right university. To some that might be an institution strong in

the field of communications. To others it might be a larger number of girls than guys. Whatever the reasons, you must be careful. So take your time. But don't let the selection process become your life. Sure, you will never forget college. But isn't senior year important, too? Do you remember being a freshman? I know that was a long time ago, but I always looked forward to the chance to be on top of the school.

And finally it's here. But what are you going to do about it- let it all pass by? I'm going to do my best to keep from worrying. It won't be easy, but senior year will be a lot more fun. It's not like I'll forget college altogether. I'll just enjoy my time on top- TP-ing, driving to school, picking on the "little people", Homecoming, Prom, Senior Ditch Day- without thinking about college. I hope you will do the same.



## Beating the back to school blues

By Tracy Morris

It's back. The dreaded virus. You've heard about the illness that strikes teenagers in late August each year.

The back-to-school blues have made a comeback in 1996 and you could be the next victim.

Symptoms of the blues include loss of memory (forgetting to set your alarm for 6:00 in the morning), extreme depression (moping and crying in the middle of science class over missing your favorite daytime TV show), and dehydration (from lack of water previously found in a swimming pool).

To ease the transition from summer slacker to school year student, let me suggest five movies to take your mind off your own anxieties and your worries off your wallets.

All the movies below have been released on video and can be rented for less than four or five dollars, in select places for only one or two bucks. So pop some popcorn, munch on some pizza, and share the healing process with friends.

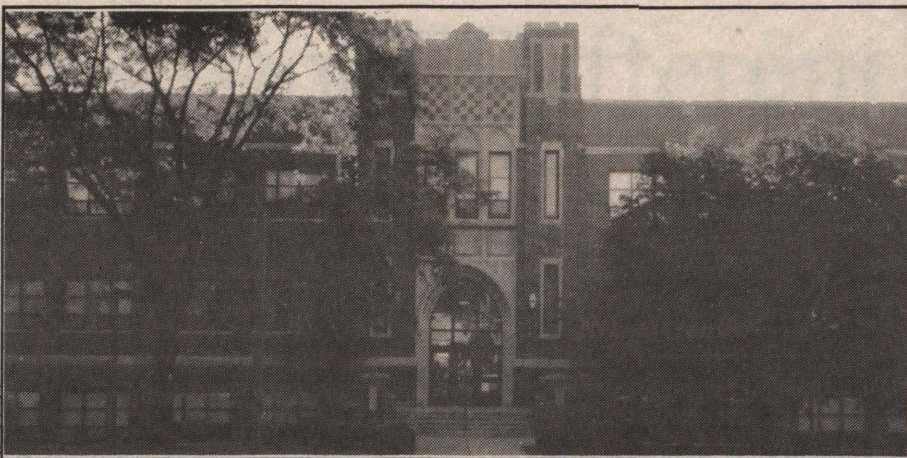
**Billy Madison (1995)**- This movie gives a whole new meaning to "back to school." The comedy stars "Saturday Night Live" standouts Adam Sandler and Norm MacDonald. Sandler plays Billy, a 20 something beer-drinking bum who goes back to school in order to take over his father's hotel empire. When Billy finds out his wealthy father bribed every teacher he ever had to pass him, he agrees to redo every grade K-12. Billy is allowed two weeks for each grade

and if he passes in time, he can take over the company. It isn't quite as easy

as it sounds, though. Grade school was pretty tough, the high school kids in the 90's are a lot different than they were when he was in school, and pop quizzes "pop up" more often than expected.

**The Final Word:** Get your frequent renters pass now. A must see (100 times) movie. By the third time, you should have most of the lines memorized to start quoting for your friends.

**Clueless (1995)**- A comedy, starring Aerosmith video queen Alicia Silverstone as a teenager named Cher, detailing the lives of a group of Beverly Hills sophomores. In a school where a girl resolves her problems by exercising her daddy's plastic cards on a shopping spree, Cher strives to do good deeds such as taking a "burnout" transfer student under her wing and playing matchmaker to two of her teachers. She's constantly bickering with her ex step-brother.



over. The scheme tricks his parents, but his younger sister Jeanie, played by Jennifer Grey

Her dad and his mom were only married for a short time and she refuses to think of him as her brother. He's a college student who cares about charities and the news, while she's a spoiled teenager who considers breaking in her clogs a school activity.

**The Final Word:** Invite a date. A girl can get caught up on the latest fashions and a guy would be too busy looking at Silverstone to care. On second thought, forget the date and watch it with a group of girlfriends.

**Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986)**- Matthew Broderick (*War Games*) plays the title role 17-year-old who goes to great lengths for a day off. Ninth time's a charm because on his ninth sick day of the semester, Bueller has the time of his life. His plans, like the clammy hands, are fool proof. He simply fakes a stomach ache, moans and wails, and licks his palms when he bends

(*Dirty Dancing*), doesn't buy it for a minute. While he's sipping Hawaiian cocktails by the pool and taking in a Cubs game, the principal is busy hunting him down. With his willing friend and loving girlfriend, they run into anything and everything in downtown Chicago.

**The Final Word:** A perfect movie to watch when you're home sick from school. It'll give you plenty of ideas for the day's outings!

**Grease (1977)**- John Travolta (*Pulp Fiction*) co-stars with singer Olivia Newton-John in this film set during the height of rock n' roll, the 1950's. Travolta plays Danny, a tough guy in a high school gang called the T-Birds, in this seventies representation of the original musical. Danny falls hard for his summer love Sandy, played by Newton-John. There's just one problem. Sandy is a proper girl

who doesn't drink, smoke, or tease her hair like the girls in the Pink Ladies gang. The seniors at Rydell High School sing and dance to sever hit songs including "Summer Lovin'," "Greased Lightning," "The One That I Want," and "We'll Always Be Together." Also included in the film is a dance contest for a TV show "National Bandstand," which features the Hand Jive.

**The Final Word:** Get a group of friends together and share a few laughs over just how cheesy the 50's were. Guaranteed to make you ask yourself, "This was cool?"

**With Honors (1994)**- A serious film with Brendan Fraser (*Encino Man*) and Joe Pesci (*My Cousin Vinny*). Fraser plays a Harvard student who has a run in with a homeless man named Simon Wilder, played by Pesci. Simon has managed to get his hands on the only copy of Fraser's senior thesis paper. Simon uses the paper to bribe Fraser for food and a place to stay. Simon is granted a home in a broken down van outside Fraser's home, but eventually finds his place in the home. Through his experiences with Fraser and his three roommates, Simon learns about both the harshness and goodness of Ivy League college students.

**The Final Word:** A real tear jerker for girls to watch with their best friends and a box of Kleenex. You'll be sending food to Pesci's character by the time the movie is through.

## Skate into shape

By Kelley Betts

A rapidly growing fad looks like it is here to stay. In-line skating has become popular over the years, especially during the summer. It has progressed from being done by athletes, then on to kids and teens, and has now reached older adults. Skating is a fun way to get in shape and stay fit whether you're skating on your own or with friends. Now even police officers are lacing up to say, "hi," to neighborhood children and families.

In-line skating gives the body a great aerobic workout. It strengthens the muscles from the lower back to the knees while stimulating the upper body. Thirty minutes of skating can burn anywhere from 285 to 450 calories (*Get Rolling: The Beginner's Guide to In-line Skating* by Liz Miller).

In-line skating, or rollerblading as it is often referred to, was a concept first thought of by ice hockey players in Minnesota. They found it a good source of cross training on dry land. Soon, the hockey players were skating for fun. This was the prototype for the first skate.

In-line skates range in price from \$39 to \$279. The price depends on the quality of the skate. This includes the size of the wheels, the strength of the blade, the braking system, and the bearings. For example, according to a Sportmart employee, A-back one bearings allow the wheel to rotate slower, meaning the skater would have to

work harder to go faster. A-back three bearings make it easier for the skater to move faster, and A-back five bearings are the fastest.

Safety is another factor to consider in in-line skating. Safety gear includes elbow and knee pads, wrist guards and a helmet. Wrist injuries are the most common injuries for skaters so wrist guards are important. They also prevent hyperextension of the wrist and gravel burns. Light colored clothing is also a good safety factor especially when skating at night. This allows skaters to be more visible to traffic. On a hot day, it would also be a good idea to bring a water bottle to avoid any heat related injuries such as heat stroke or heat exhaustion.

In-line skating is not as easy as it looks. The first time I ever laced up, I fell right back down on the ground. It has a similar feeling of ice skating and those who know how to ice skate will probably find it easier to in-line skate. Above all, skating takes balance. Those who have good balance will also find it easier to learn. One feature on a rollerblade that is different from roller skates is the brake. The brake on a roller skate is in front of the skate, by the skater's toe, as opposed to an in-line skate that has the brake on the back of the skate, where the heel is. This takes some getting used to.

In-line skating is a great activity to take up for people of all ages. It is a fun activity and a great way to get in shape so lace up!

## Make time for this one

By Dan Horyn

Author John Grisham picked a sure bet when he wrote *A Time to Kill*, a small town southern trial pitting white versus black and racism versus justice. This premise is similar to Harper Lee's classic novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Put the pages into picture form, throw in a cast of stars Sandra Bullock, Samuel L. Jackson, Kevin Spacey, and new Matthew McConaughey, and the result is a suspense-filled film.

*A Time to Kill* begins with the violent rape of a young black girl on a peaceful Sunday morning. Although the rape isn't entirely shown, the viewer gets a vivid picture of how unbearable the rape is when the rapists pick up rope and broken bottles to abuse the girl. The rapists are cast as low-class, ignorant white racists-so ignorant that they leave some of the girl's clothing in the back seat of their truck.

They are soon tracked down and arrested by black police chief played by Charles Dutton.

The movie becomes a roller coaster of events because the raped girl's father, Carl Lee

(played by Jackson), believes the rapists will go unpunished and takes justice into his own hands by shooting the rapists as they walk into the courtroom for their preliminary trial. Perhaps he was thinking of *To Kill a Mockingbird* when he shot the guilty. Perhaps he was afraid the rapists would be acquitted because racism still runs deep in his hometown.

This is where McConaughey comes in. Jackson is not the well to do type, and he needs a lawyer at a low cost, so he asks McConaughey a favor. McConaughey accepts for reasons more than justice- with his law practice in debt, he sees the trial as an opportunity to spark his career.

Once the story is set up, it becomes the battle of racism versus justice, with the fighting taking place both in and out of the courtroom. Spacey plays the opposing attorney, who has much more experience than the nearly untested McConaughey.

The trial scenes are packed with the traditional smooth talking, big worded speeches. But there is also life outside of the courtroom as the KKK, NAACP, local law enforce-

ment and townsfolk take action and sides in the controversial case. Before each court session, demonstrators on both sides line the street chanting either "Free Carl Lee" or "Fry Carl Lee".

These demonstrations get heated, and there are a couple of violent outbreaks in the movie. A KKK wizard is set on fire during a mosh pit of fighting. An assassin tries to kill McConaughey.

The viewer is allowed to see the entire spectrum- what effect the trial has on life as a whole. And that is one reason why *A Time to Kill* is such a good film.

McConaughey's closing comments are enough to see the movie. His acting in this five minute clip is enough to guarantee him a lead role in another big name movie.

*A Time to Kill* does not disappoint. I was unsure of the next scene up until the final scene. I couldn't predict the ending- instead I sat in my seat with my candy-filled mouth ajar.

You will get your seven dollars worth with this film. I give *A Time to Kill* three and a half stars.



## Driving off tee in DVC

By Dan Horyn

The Wildcat golf team started its season last Monday at the Conant Invitational with new faces and a positive attitude.

And though the Cats took fourth out of four teams, head coach Tim Courtney is optimistic about this year's squad, saying that the team "thought they could have done a lot better."

The Cats were led by John Brigowatz's 83 on Arrowhead Golf Course. Jason Sewell followed with an 84, Justin Sadauskas, captain Terry Yormark and Josh Harris rounded out the scoring.

Yormark feels that despite losing a few seniors from last year, this year's team is "a heck of a lot better. There are a lot of juniors that are stepping up."

The most obvious of the juniors are Brigowatz, Sewell and Sadauskas. Not only did Sadauskas finish in the top five, he also shot a one over par 37 in practice last week.

The seniors on the team want to make certain that last place invitational finishes won't happen again. And they shouldn't,

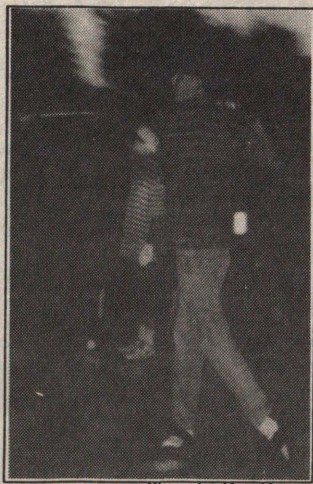


Photo by Dan Horyn  
Justin Sadauskas and Terry Yormark, two of the Wildcat's best golfers, are driving for a top notch season this year.

seeing some of the scores they have had in practice. "We have a lot of talent and consistency this year," said senior Harris, "We're looking for top three or better in the DVC."

Most of the varsity members did that in the off season by "taking the initiative to pay for lessons, practice and equipment," said Yormark.

"We have six or seven guys capable of shooting a 40 or better."

## Girls tennis serves up successful summer

By Tracy Morris

The Ladycat tennis team has been waiting all summer for this season to begin.

Well, maybe waiting isn't the right word.

They've been running, sweating, hustling, and pretty much going all out in anticipation of the 1996 fall sports season.

Head coach Sione Moeaki got what every coach hopes for, a successful summer for his team.

By playing in the Park District summer program, the Cats gained valuable experience that Moeaki hopes will carry over into the regular season.

The experience may have been just what the Cats needed, considering how young the team is.

After all, We-go lost notable leadership when Michelle Rapinchuck graduated in June. Rapinchuck, who played both doubles and singles for Moeaki, served as last year's team captain and only starting senior.



Photo by Tracy Morris  
The girls tennis team takes a breather from their vigorous practice.

Four seniors stepped up in the summer tournament and made a mark in the summer program by seizing two conference championships.

Amanda and Melissa Petrowich teamed up for the first doubles title, while Angela Snell and Beth Hooper brought home the second doubles championship.

Rounding out the success in the

tournament was the third doubles combo, which ended up with a third place finish.

Moeaki expects his team to continue working hard over the next few weeks until their first match and after that until they reach conference play.

The Cats travel to Aurora to take on Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA) on Tuesday, September 3.

## Wildcat Fall Sports Schedule

### Cross Country

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Tues. Sept. 3 vs. Kaneland at Elburn Woods  
Sat. Sept. 7 Invitational at Crystal Lake South  
Sat. Sept. 14 Invitational at Wauconda  
Tues. Sept. 17 vs. Glenbard East at Sunset Knoll  
Sat. Sept. 21 at Notre Dame, Peoria

### Football

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Fri. Aug. 30 vs. Oswego (S/V)  
Sat. Aug. 31 vs. Oswego (F)  
Fri. Sept. 6 at Batavia (S/V)  
Sat. Sept. 7 at Batavia (F)  
Fri. Sept. 13 vs. Wheaton North (S/V)  
Sat. Sept. 14 vs. Wheaton North (F)  
Mon. Sept. 16 vs. Wheaton North (F/JV)  
Fri. Sept. 20 at Glenbard North (S/V)  
Sat. Sept. 21 at Glenbard North (F)

### Golf - Boys

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Wed. Sept. 4 at Streamwood  
Th. Sept. 5 vs. Waubonsie Valley  
Fri. Sept. 6 vs. Wheaton North  
Wed. Sept. 11 at Lake Park  
Th. Sept. 12 at Glenbard North  
Mon. Sept. 16 vs. Fenton & St. Edwards  
Tues. Sept. 17 vs. Naperville Central  
Wed. Sept. 18 at Addison Trail  
Th. Sept. 19 at Glenbard East  
Sat. Sept. 21 Invitational at Dundee-Crown

### Golf - Girls

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Wed. Sept. 4 at Geneva  
Tues. Sept. 10 at Naperville North

### Boys Soccer

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Fri. Aug. 30 at Marmion Military Academy  
Tues. Sept. 3 vs. Plainfield  
Th. Sept. 5 at West Aurora (S/V)

Sat. Sept. 7 at Oswego (F)  
Tues. Sept. 10 vs. Bolingbrook  
Wed. Sept. 11 at Addison Trail  
Th. Sept. 12 vs. West Aurora (F)  
Sat. Sept. 14 vs. Streamwood (S/V)  
Mon. Sept. 16 at Streamwood (F)  
Tues. Sept. 17 vs. Willowbrook  
Wed. Sept. 18 vs. West Aurora (JV)  
Sat. Sept. 21 at Lake Park  
vs. Wheaton North (JV)  
vs. Lyons Township

### Girls Swimming

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Wed. Sept. 4 at York  
Sat. Sept. 7 vs. Evanston & Barrington (swimming & diving)  
Sat. Sept. 21 Wildcat Swim Invitational (swimming & diving)

### Girls Tennis

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Tues. Sept. 3 at Illinois Math & Science Academy  
Wed. Sept. 4 vs. Geneva (V)  
Sat. Sept. 7 at Geneva (JV)  
Tues. Sept. 10 Quad vs. Driscoll, Glenbard East & St. Francis  
Th. Sept. 12 at Waubonsie Valley  
Sat. Sept. 14 vs. Oswego  
Tues. Sept. 17 Invitational at Fenton (V)  
Th. Sept. 19 at York (S)  
vs. Wheaton North (V)  
at Wheaton North (JV)  
at Glenbard North (V)  
vs. Glenbard North (JV)

### Girls Volleyball

Wed. Aug. 28 All Sport Night  
Wed. Sept. 4 at York  
Fri. Sept. 6 at Lyons Township  
Sat. Sept. 7 at St. Francis (S)  
Tues. Sept. 10 at Wheaton North  
Th. Sept. 12 vs. Glenbard East  
Tues. Sept. 17 at Naperville Central  
Wed. Sept. 18 vs. Geneva  
Fri. Sept. 20 at Wheaton North  
Sat. Sept. 21 at Wheaton North



## Football hopes to tackle monsters of DVC

By Tracy Morris

Change, by definition, is "to put or take one thing in place of another."

Simple enough.

At the beginning of each season, one group of seniors is put in place of last year's group, the grass on the field is renewed, and every once in a while, the coaching staff makes a bit of a shift.

The Wildcat football program has become the epitome of change at the high school this year.

At the end of last season, head coach Bruce Donash surprisingly announced his resignation.

Moving in to replace Donash for this season was Bob Bagby, a native of Springfield, Illinois.

Another shocker was delivered to We-go when Bagby resigned on August 8, just as players were wrapping up summer workouts, registering for classes, and getting set to begin the new season.

Newly-appointed interim Athletic Director Gail George said Bagby's resignation after three and a half months on the job was "right out of the blue."

George had just begun her second day as Athletic Director after

taking the place of recently departed A.D. Tom Hancock, when she received Bagby's resignation.

Bagby cited personal family matters as the reason for his resignation, according to George.

"He felt regret that he had to do this, but for his family, he felt that he must," said George, who spoke



Photo by Tracy Morris

An injured player receives assistance from trainer Mike Keating

to Bagby over the phone for 45 minutes.

Senior Dave Delort summed up the team's initial reaction to

Bagby's departure by saying, "A lot of people were mad, disappointed, and surprised."

Luckily for George and the rest of the football staff, they didn't have to search too far for Bagby's replacement.

"We had somebody right here in Randy Hoffman whose credentials were even better," said George.

Interestingly enough, Hoffman had been Bagby's high school football coach.

Hoffman assisted Bagby and his coaching staff with the team's summer workouts and volunteered to step in to take Bagby's place.

George said, "He stepped up to offer his services and felt that he could do the job."

Hoffman's move made for an easy transition for the team and for George.

The players and coaching personnel were already somewhat familiar with Hoffman from the summer, so his move made the team able to begin regular season practices without missing a beat.

It also saved many hours of work for George and the athletic department.

"In that respect, that made it ex-

tremely easy, because we didn't have to go looking again a day before the boys were to come in," said George.

George believes that more than anything, Hoffman knew the program was in an awkward position and wanted to help.

"He was a little familiar with some of the kids and coaches and decided maybe he could help us out, and he certainly has," said George.

Hoffman's team has set their sights on a fourth or fifth place finish in conference and some of the players feel this summer may

Ayala and Zach Davidson were already named senior captains, and two more were expected to be named.

The Cats see their defense as a big asset at this point, but know their offense needs some work. This year's seniors feel they've improved over last year because they're older and a little wiser in a football sense.

Despite having to learn a whole new offense and defense when Bagby left, the team seems to feel that Hoffman is a knowledgeable leader.

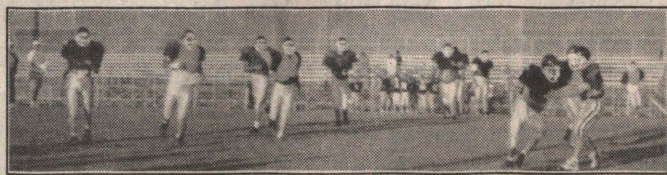


Photo by Tracy Morris

The Cats take the field in last Friday's scrimmage.

have been what they needed to get them off the ground.

According to senior Humberto "Bear" Ayala, some of the seniors lifted over the summer and now feel a little stronger, a little quicker, and overall more confident in themselves.

Ayala said, "He's instilled in our minds that we can beat anybody if we truly believe it and play passionately."

The Cats get their first chance to do so at the home season opener this Friday, August 30, against Oswego.

## Alive and kicking

By Tracy Morris

With their first game forthcoming this Friday, August 30, the Wildcat boys soccer team is spending its remaining practice time polishing up a few select areas.

One of these areas, according to head coach Robert Owens, is conditioning. Owens and his coaching staff have been putting the team through extensive practices to whip the guys into game day shape.

While the defensive strategy has come along since their first practice on August 19, Owens has had his team concentrating on giving better shape to their offensive attack.

One final element of the team that's still lacking is the fitting of the right personnel into their suitable places on the field.

Owens was left with a number of spots to fill after losing several key players to graduation. The departed Cats include Eddie Acosta, Brandon Beideman, Rafeal

Pasillas, Joe Paver, Chris Ribe, Dietrich Rudolph, Dustin Shultze, Joe Smiley, and Nick Spalo.

Stepping in to fill those places is a crew of fresh seniors who return from last year's varsity squad.

Juan Bejarano, Mike Christiansen, Juan Garcia, Roberto Martinez, Chris Payton, Chris Pheneger, and Juan Ruiz represent this year's senior class for the Wildcats.

Owens also noted a pack of promising juniors: Victor Acosta, Renee Allende, Todd Ballard, Uriel Bejarano, Jim Callahan, Erik Chavez, Damian Guerrero, Arturo Guvera, Adrian Guzman, Jon Hall, Jason Hempel, Joe Kazmareck, Randy Labak, Brian O'Hara, Kevin Openshaw, Gerardo Resendiz, Ernesto Vargaz, and Brandon Wojcik.

The Cats' first game is this Friday, August 30, at Marmion Military Academy.



Photo by Tracy Morris

The Cats run the field to condition for their first big game.

## Spikin' into the new season

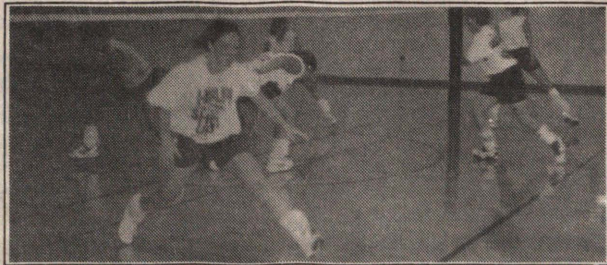


Photo by Tracy Morris

The girls volleyball team conditions by doing ladders.

By Kelley Betts

Aside from some minor adjustments on their game plan and starting rotations, the girls varsity volleyball team is ready to head out on the court for their first game.

Despite losing key players, Rene Levine, Lyndsy Paver, and Karen Paton to graduation, the team of seven girls are looking very confident and competitive.

The varsity team consists of hitters Angela Barnes (senior), Danielle Murphy and Kelly Kaylor (both juniors), senior middles Jamie Hansen and Sarah McQueen. To round off the 1996-'97 roster is sophomore setter Chrissy Dabbert and junior outside hitter Nicole Stuart.

According to varsity coach Kris Hasty, throughout the summer the girls kept active

and by joining various volleyball clubs such as Sports Performance to strengthen their skills on the court. Weight training was another way the team kept active. This allows the girls to add more power to their plays.

Volleyball was scheduled to practice twice a day, however, the bubble on the gym floor allowed the team only one practice a day because the other sports needed to practice. The bubble serves the purpose of drying up the gym floor. The floor was flooded due to the heavy rains that took place about a month ago.

Yet, nothing's going to stop this team. This week their practices will be held at the Great Lakes Center.

The season opener for the Lady Cats will be on Wednesday, September 4, at York.

## And in other sports...

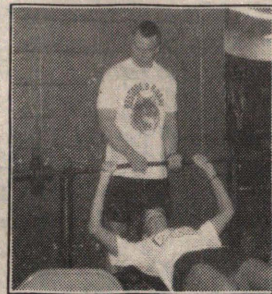


Photo by Tracy Morris

Weight trainer Kevin Nejedlo assists two-sport athlete Leslie Harlson (jr). Many athletes, no matter what their sport, trained in the weightroom over the summer.



Photo by Tracy Morris

Girls cross-country coach Kelly Kolasa spends a minute on the track with her team and daughter.