

# Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School

326 Joliet Street

West Chicago, IL

October 31, 1996

Volume 28 Issue 3



## Coming soon to an auditorium near you

By Tracy Morris

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The cast of this year's fall play is making last minute adjustments and finishing touches before the curtain goes up exactly two weeks from today.

The nine member cast of "Noises Off" has already put in over 70 hours of preparation since they began working in early October.

Practices were only three hours after school and about five hours on Saturdays, but now stay after school to about 8:00 at night.

During the countdown to showtime the cast, aided by advisor Lori Watson, will become familiar with their directions on stage, work on developing their characters, and make finishing touches on their costumes.

Watson works with the cast on their run throughs, costumes, and the places the actors take on stage. English teacher Mary Hafertepe has been assisting the crew back stage to get the set ready to go for the premier show.

The plot of "Noises Off" focuses around a play within the play, called "Nothing On," and highlights a flirtatious director named Lloyd Dallas.

Dallas is played by junior Steve Garcia, who was Dan Hilliard in last year's fall play "The Desperate Hours."

There are actually two plays being acted out at the same time on stage, so each cast member has two characters to perform as and has to work on developing their characters' styles.

Having such a small cast has allowed each member to have a large part in the play, even those who are newcomers to the stage.

One of these newcomers, senior Meredith Baker, has one of the largest parts in the play as Dotty Otley, an actress who plays Mrs. Clackett in "Nothing On."

Other students making their play debut are seniors Matt Potts, Melissa Kern, and Grant Barclay. Both Potts and Barclay took part in the musical "Oklahoma" two years ago and Kern worked on the crew for three previous plays.

Rounding out the cast is sophomore Jon Fraser and seniors Matt Bowne and Matt Shinofield. Bowne plays Seldson Mowbray a 70 year old drunk who is partially deaf and smells. Last year Bowne performed in the winter play "Alice in Wonderland" when he played Humpty Dumpty and in "The Desperate Hours" as criminal Glen Griffin.

This year, understudies are being used as backup for the cast members.

Junior Meg Runyan has had to learn all the girl's parts so she would be ready to step up in the event of any of the girls on the cast not being able to perform. The only male understudy is sophomore Matt Edwards, who

worked on the crew for "The Desperate Hours" and "Pippin" last year.

"Noises Off" will not be performed as a matinee this year, at least partly due to the racy content of the play. While "Alice in Wonderland" was more appropriate for young audiences from junior high schools, which attend the "screening" of the plays. It's not only this more adult content that will make the play more appealing to high school students, but "Noises Off" is also a total comedy.

The cast and crew are hoping that choosing a comedic play will make people want to come back another night, as opposed to a drama like "The Desperate Hours."

Tickets for the November 14, 15, and 16, performances go on sale on November 4, during all lunches and are \$2.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults.

## Former We-go teacher earns state honor

By Kelley Betts

Robert McCollum, a former West Chicago Community High School teacher, was recently presented the Presidential Award for Teaching of Mathematics.

The award has three areas of recognition: the National level, which is awarded to three teachers nationwide, the State level, which is also awarded to three people, and Honorable Mention. McCollum earned the State level award.

McCollum was nominated for the award by an unknown person. He then had to fill out an application which had to include a sample lesson plan on a unit.

This was followed by three letters of recommendation. Two were filled out by the Math Department Chairperson, John Carter, and a fellow teacher, Carol Pennel. The third was submitted by a We-go student, junior Cassy Kutilek.

McCollum earned his bachelor of science degree in mathematics and masters in education, specifically in administration, from the University of Illinois in Champagne.

McCollum taught at We-go for six years, first teaching both math and science then finishing the rest of his years teaching only math.

McCollum always wanted to be a teacher. He started college with engineering in mind but then decided to switch to education.

"I felt math was a subject I could say to kids 'boy, you really need this,'" said McCollum.

McCollum currently teaches at Naperville Central where he is the Math Department Coordinator.

By Hannah Kenny

There is something lacking from our school this year. The blue trash cans and bins that people put their recyclable items, from milk cartons to paper to tin cans, in are gone.

The paper bins are being held in maintenance until the high school gets another program started. The cans that go into the solitary bin in the cafeteria are taken by some staff members and cashed in for money or left by the dumpsters until volunteers are recruited to take them to the recycling center.

"It would cost tax-payer money for the school to hire people to do the job, and there are no volunteers," says Jim Mast, Assistant Superintendent of Business, on why we don't have a recycling program.

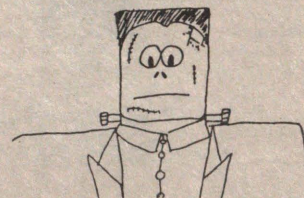
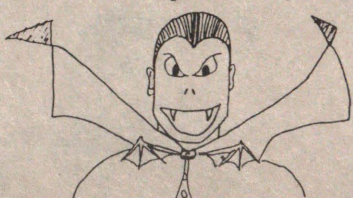
We still do our part in the quest to reduce, reuse, and recycle. The school began to use 100% recycled newsprint in school,

over 25,000 sheets of it a week last year. But, "it is difficult to use; it breaks down the copy machine often," said Tammy Lockert, who works in the reprographic room.

Last year a recycling program was run by the Student Environmental Action Committee (S.E.A.C.), formed by mostly seniors, "and now they are gone, the passion has diminished," said Assistant principal John Highland.

Art teacher Mr. Exner was the sponsor, but the load fell on him, and Highland thought it was "too much to ask of one person."

Highland then presented the problem to student council, and senior Heather Horsley got together a group of students who were interested in starting the recycling program up again, but they need more help. Anyone interested should talk to Heather Horsley or Jenny Grobe.



## Brown named first Student of Month for 1996 school year

By Angie Johnson

Josh Brown is a familiar name at We-go. Whether on stage in the latest play, in the halls directing the newest Student Council event, or conducting the band on the field at halftime of the football games, there seems to be no limit to what this exemplary student can do. Brown finds time for many activities off campus as well. As the student leader of OMEGA, he plans mission trips as well as a variety of fun activities to bring today's youth together. One of his newest activities includes his position as student board member for the United Way. Last summer, Brown attended a

missionary trip to Honduras with a group of youth chosen from all around the United States. There they built a school in the middle of the rain forest. The trip had many benefits, but while Brown was there he felt like "everything seemed to go wrong." Their clothing arrived a week late and poachers stole their water pump, leaving them without water for a week. Music has played a major role in Brown's life. Besides being part of our high school marching band, jazz band, and madrigals, Brown has started his own band with fellow seniors Jeff

Weber and Brad Dujmovic. The band, Bluazz Funk, plays a variety of blues, jazz, and funk music. Brown and the other members use the band to express their personality. Weber said, "Josh not only brings his musical abilities to the band, he also brings his flamboyant personality." Brown is currently in the midst of deciding where he will attend college. However, he knows he would like to attend a private college that will allow him to take part in everything he was able to do in high school. Brown sees himself as either a

marine biologist or veterinarian in the future. Surrounded by animals his whole life, Brown prides himself on the animals he has loved. His collection currently includes an alligator named Gilligan. Brown's obvious love for animals has formed his career dream and he would love to work with exotic animals someday, more specifically in tiger training. A key part in Brown's success as a student, a leader, and a person has been his family. He has a brother, Chris, who is two years older than him, and a younger

sister Abby, who is a sophomore here at We-go. Brown's most important long term goal is to have a family of his own. This goal stems from unforgettable moments with his family such as him having to protect his sister from Chris' slanderous remarks and his dad chasing down all the hamsters that escaped from their cage into heating vents. Brown recognizes being named Student of the Month as his biggest accomplishment in high school and said, "It stands for everything I have done."

## Two television scholarships offered

Press Release

The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences is offering two \$20,000 Scholarships to high school seniors who intend to major in television, telecommunications or similar related fields at a four-year college or university. Each scholarship will be distributed in increments of \$5,000 over four years. To be eligible for the award, each recipient must demonstrate satisfactory progress towards a degree and remain in a communications-oriented program. The Board of Trustees of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences administers the scholarship program guided by Norman Felsenthal, Ph.D., Profes-

or of Communications at Temple University, Philadelphia, Chairman of the Academy's Scholarship Committee. Dr. Felsenthal said while traditional measures of academic potential such as grade point average and college board scores will certainly be considered, "the scholarship committee intends to give considerable emphasis to the creative potential of each applicant." Applicants will be required to submit two creative essays: one on the subject of career aspirations and the second on the subject of changes and challenges facing American television. In

addition, college board scores such as the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or American College Test (ACT) must be submitted with the application. Application forms may be obtained by writing The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, 111 West 57th Street, New York City, 10019, 212-586-8424. The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences comprised of 12,000 television professionals nation-wide is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of excellence in the broadcasting and cable industries and awards the coveted Emmy.

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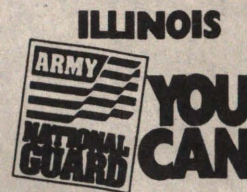
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## Future Business Leaders of America

Club Notes

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), advised by Nancy Blume and Lisa Becker, hold committee meetings every Thursday morning before school at 7:15 in room 226, the Study Hall room. The five committees of FBLA are Financial, Business, Community Service, Membership, and Publicity. The members of West Chicago's FBLA chapter recently took part in Vocational Student Organization Week, along with VICA, from October 6-12. This year's officers for the West Chicago chapter are President Mike Altman, Vice President Dave Hogan, Secretary Darcie Wostratzky, Treasurer David Shilling, Parliamentarian Chris Hauger, Historian Kirk Johnson, Reporter Matt Bowne, and Sgt. at Arms Tom Holloway. The next item up on the agenda for the Community High School Future Business Leaders is the North Central Fall Leadership Conference. The conference will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from November 1-3.

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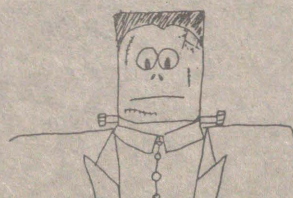
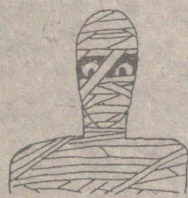
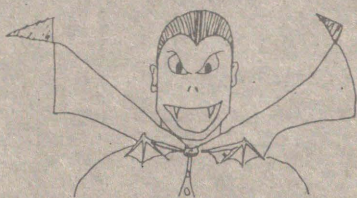
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## Never too old to trick or treat

By Dan Horyn

At this time last year I was braving the wind, rain, slush and sleet trick or treatin' with a group of my high school friends. We laughed from door to door, shooting our fake guns from underneath our scary monster masks.

Sometimes when a door opened, after our covered mouths screamed "Trick or treat!", the person would hand us the candy with a glare more hideous than our masks.

And occasionally we would get comments like, "You're too old to be trick or treating," or "Why aren't you at home handing the candy out?"

This made us pretty mad. Almost as maddening as getting that orange and black wrapped candy. Or apples. Or pencils.

But anyway, we were pretty angry- just a group of high school guys trick or treating. Nothing more. We weren't egging people's houses or stealing little kids' candy and giving them wedgies. We were just having a nice time gorging ourselves on sweets.

I don't see the point of staying inside on Halloween. I could watch TV, but Halloween comes once a year, and Seinfeld reruns are on every night.

All I want are my Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. So what's the problem? Why should I be forced to grow up when I'm still a kid?

It all boils down to whether or not high school students are considered adults. I can't legally move out of my house, I can't vote, I can't buy alcohol. Obviously I am not yet considered an adult.

Halloween has traditionally been considered a holiday for kids, and since I am not an adult, then my right to *pursue candy* should be preserved.

Otherwise high school students are being discriminated against. Not the kind of discrimination that warrants law suits, but the kind that should be addressed.

So what will I do this year? I'll probably go crazy with a four-hour trick or treating marathon- running from house to house (and of course not cutting through the lawns), amassing Hefty bag-full amounts worth of Peanut Butter Cups.

But maybe I'll take it a couple steps further. I should do high school kids justice by tricking anyone who slams me for going after candy. I should uphold my promise- if I say "Trick or treat", then people should know I have the right to trick them if I feel slighted. If a mom or dad glares at me for not being inside, then maybe I'll egg their house. Or break their windows. Or set dog poop on fire on their front step.

But that creates a conflict of interest. I would be doing nothing to show that high school kids deserve to trick or treat.

So I'll just go to every doorstep dressed in my pirate costume and on my best behavior. And when I get my Peanut Butter Cups, I'll say "Thank you, have a nice day," and move on. That way adults will have no fuel for the fire. Even if they think that I shouldn't be

trick or treating, they will have no reasons, other than my age, to tell me I shouldn't.

Maybe the only bad thing that I might do is leave the orange and black wrapped candy next to the front door of anyone who is strange enough to give it out.

But other than that, I'll take my Peanut Butter Cups and run.

And I think you should, too; don't feel obligated to stay inside because of your age- you're still a kid! Just be sure to act your best and you'll give adults every reason to willingly hand over the candy.

And one more important detail- have fun!

## Should it stay or should it go?

By Tom Walton

Unscheduled.

That one free hour most people have during the day. A time to do their homework, go to the LRC, or talk to friends while grabbing a bite to eat.

Lately, people have questioned our need for that hour. If you're a junior or senior, you can apply for off-campus, but what if you don't get it, or if you're an underclassman?

Many on the school faculty say it certainly does have a use and provides an extra hour for people who really want to learn by taking elective courses.

Students in the school generally agree with the faculty.

"It's a time that people can take to rest during the long school day," said junior Trevor Power. "It also gives them a chance to take an extra class."

Bob Shah, also a junior, said "it's very necessary," and it gives kids an incentive to do their homework since many have jobs.

Freshman Matt Borchke has a different reason for why unscheduled should remain. "It's a good time to make up tests so you don't have to come in early."

Though most of the students are supportive of the free period, but not all are. Junior Mark Perez said school is long enough as it is and most schools get out much earlier than us. As for homework, he said he can do that at home or at lunch.

Even though it makes our day 55 minutes longer, making it seem almost endless, we stick to that extra period.

If people really have a problem, they can just get off-campus.

I guess it turns out to be better in the long run, because most colleges look to see if you worked hard in school. You can take advantage of the free hour and take an elective course, such as Journalism.

This is just Community High School looking out for its students.

## Quote

People are strange when you're a stranger. Faces look ugly when you're alone.

Jim Morrison

## Unquote

## Letters to the Editor

### Half Days and Bleachers

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you in regards to the change in bleacher seatings and the half days of school. We, the fans, liked it better on the other side of the football field. I've heard that we moved because of the cheerleaders and someone else told me that it was so the opposing fans got blinded by the sun during the morning games. Come on. It is horrible sitting over here. We can't really hear the announcements and we have no places to sit. It is so crowded that people have to stand or sit on the walkways. The opposing team now has a lot more space, which they don't need, and can hear everything that is going on. If the real reason is for the cheerleaders, then I suggest that we make room more room for them. I think we should move back to our original seats. That is where we belong.

About the half days, I think that I speak for everyone when I say that we'd rather have the whole day off. Why can't we just combine them and then take the net one off? Teachers have to change their lesson plans if they have classes in the morning and the afternoon, because they can't see both of the classes. Most of the time on these half days, we do nothing because the teachers

don't want to do anything either. Let's try and change this so we can sleep in or do something else that we'd rather do instead of coming to school for 3 hours and then going home or out.

From a concerned student,  
Katie Oen

### Stop Complaining

I believe our school needs to do a lot less complaining. I was a member of the West Chicago football team this year. During the summer I was at camp by 7:30 every morning for two and a half hours, four days a week.

On August 14, the football players would start practicing again by 7:30 and finish about 7 hours later. We did this for about three weeks. We were doing this under a new coach because our previous coach quit with only days before the first day of double sessions. Then Friday night rolled around and we went out there and tried our best, although it still amounted to a loss.

Every day we practice after school, sometimes even when it's dark. We get up on Saturday mornings tired and bruised to be there for practice by 9:00. The truth is we had a very disappointing season. The sophomores were, by the end of the season, down to around 18 guys. Varsity finished with a little over 30.

State champions Wheaton-Warrenville South marches out 60 guys for the sophomore game and over 80 for varsity. I go into any one of my classes and the most fun other students have is making jokes about the team. We try very hard and bust our butts year round. I'm writing this article to say to all of you who think this is very funny, there are no cuts in football.

I challenge every one of you who do absolutely nothing to come out and play football. If you can talk about the team then you can come out and show everyone you can do better. Until then, you have no right to criticize or put down those of us that work harder than you.

Anonymous

### Styrofoam Stinks

Dear Editor,

My friend and I are really confused as to where our school stands on recycling. We seem to try so hard to make sure students recycle their cans and cartons and paper but yet in our lunch lines we are serving food on Styrofoam plates. I really don't understand why we stress to recycle and everybody's starting to make an effort but yet we still have non-recyclable Styrofoam.

Is there any way we could change to paper or a recyclable dish?

A concerned student

## Wildcat Chronicle

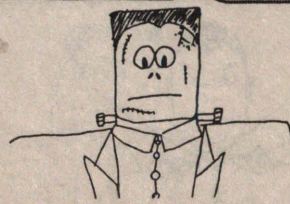
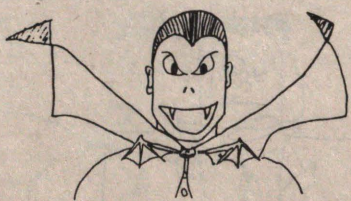
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The *Wildcat Chronicle* is the student newspaper at West Chicago Community High School. The views and opinions of the *Wildcat Chronicle* do not necessarily reflect or represent the majority of the staff or student body.

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to Advisor Carrie Mocariski in room 319. Letters to the editor should be signed to be printed. The paper has the right to exclude any letters that are inappropriate or will not fit in a particular issue.

The *Wildcat Chronicle* is a forum for freedom of expression and encourages readers to express their views and thoughts.



## For the love of planting

By Tracy Morris

If you plant it, it will grow. And plant is exactly what five We-go botany and horticulture students did at the close of the 1995-1996 school year.

Seniors Sarah McQueen, Barb Nowaczewski, Matt Potts, and Jeremy Wiedow, along with 1996 graduate Kiley Long, completed their community project of planting at West Chicago's City Hall after school let out in June of this year.

The members of the project, including botany and horticulture instructor Carol Walksler, had anticipated culmination of the plan by May of 1996, but the constant spring rains forced Walksler and her students to push the date back to June.

Walksler, who has spent 20 of her 30 years of teaching here at Community High School, called on her botany and horticulture classes for further help in designing the landscaping plan which

has been two years in the making. The project was initially intended to be class work, but with little time allotted in the lesson plan for her classes, it ended up being

strictly on a volunteer basis. One of the students who volunteered her time and was, according to Walksler, a big part of the plan was Class of '96 graduate Michelle Rapinchuk.

Rapinchuk was in charge of the greenhouses and making sure that the plant material was being grown and taken care of properly, however was unable to take part in the planting due to an out of town trip. In order to see this project through, the volunteers, which in-

cludes Walksler, who doesn't get reimbursed for the time she puts into these projects, needed to attain materials from outside sources. Walksler spoke with the Economic Director of West Chicago, Paul Tague, in order to get the project approved by the city council.

Once the council gave their approval, the city provided money for shrub ground covers and an irrigation system.

While Anna Ball of the Ball Seed Company in West Chicago donated annual and perennial plant materials, botany and horticulture classes still needed to raise other annual crops to make up a consid-

erable part in the design. Walksler estimates that the landscaping and designing stage of the project took 40 hours. This process included the sharing of infor-

horticulture students Melisa Buenz and Diana Thomas.

Both Buenz and Thomas were inducted into the National Honor Society during the 1995-1996 school year and are able to include the planting maintenance as part of their community service requirements for the NHS.

Walksler's classes have been no strangers to projects in the past. In the late 1970's at West Chicago, botany and horticulture students planted the Court-

yard, which is located in between two parts of the school building and is visible from the hot lunch line in the cafeteria or when walking up the ramp to the LRC.

During class periods, not on volunteer time, Walksler and company returned in trucks from nurseries and hauled trees, shrubs, gravel, and soil through the lunch line.

These days, due to the increased class sizes and lack of time, all botany and horticulture students have the chance to do is to plant a few annuals and hope they get maintained.

Walksler proposed that community organizations such as the Rotary Club keep up the planting. The site at City Hall on Main Street in West Chicago is now being preserved by second year

information and plans between Walksler and her students, as well as the time Walksler had to allow for meetings with Ball Seed and city officials. Once the planting process had reached completion, what Walksler believes to be the hard part began.

"Planting is very simple," says Walksler, "It's the maintaining that's hard."



Horticulture students work hard to work on City Hall's landscape.



Horticulture students (left): Jeremy Wiedow, Kiley Long, Carol Walksler, Sarah McQueen, Barb Nowaczewski, and Matt Potts.



Melisa Buenz and Diana Thomas work hard to maintain the landscape.

## Reuse, recycle, rewear

By Hannah Kenny

Are you sick of spending outrageous amounts of money on ridiculously over-priced clothes every time you go to the mall? There is another option.

A thrift shop is a kind of recycling center. People go in and drop off what they don't want, then others go in and want the unwanted. Like the saying goes, "one man's trash is the other man's treasure."

Generally thrift shops have bargains and the prices are lower and resale shops get donations and give proceeds to charities. Both are run by volunteers. Consignment shops are privately owned, so the prices are a bit higher because owners want profits.

If someone went out to the mall or even stores like K-Mart or Target and bought a pair of jeans and a plain t-shirt, they could end up spending \$20-40 for the jeans and \$10-30 for the shirt, but if they went to a resale shop they might spend a total of \$7-10. That's more money to go and spend on CDs.

Some people are hesitant to go to a resale store because they think the clothes because they were some strangers and they might be damaged but the clothes must be in good condition to be able to go on the racks. If they are soiled, torn or have dirt on them, the clothes go in the garbage, said Alice, a salesperson from the Wesley

Shoppe. Anything that is up to date, and has no stains or tears is worthy to go on sale, said salesperson Chic, from St. Vincents. She also said that all kinds of people come to to shop, not just one type and come from far as Chicago or Hinsdale.

The Iris Patch located at 208 S Hale in downtown Wheaton has a special retro section and vast choices of shirts, jeans, dresses, shoes and jewelry. Prices are a bit expensive because it is privately owned; they range from about \$5 to \$15. It seems a bit costly, but it is cheaper than buying a paisley shirt at Gadzooks for \$20-30, and it's the real thing.

St. Vincent DePaul Resale Shop at 213 Main St. has everything you want from clothes and toys to appliances and furniture. There are dishes, ashtrays, and a lot of old 33LP records for under a dollar. Prices on clothes vary from 50 cents to \$5, both men and women's, and there usually are sales.

At the Wise-Penny Resale Shop of Central DuPage Hospital there is clothing for men, women, teens, and kids. Jewelry and accessories, antiques and collectibles, furniture and housewares can also be found, along with games, books, toys and records. There also is dishes, comforters and draperies. The Wise-Penny recently moved, and now is located on

122 Main in Wheaton.

The Wesley Shoppe is at 216 N Main in downtown Wheaton. The whole downstairs of the restored house is books, records, art, jewelry, and an abundance of knickknacks. The upstairs is clothes, shoes, belts, and hats. Prices at the Wesley Shoppe are fairly cheap, they fall between 25 cents and 5 dollars for anything you can find there.

The Hi-Hat House 328 2nd Street in Geneva is an upscale thrift shop where most all the clothes are high quality. Because of the high quality, prices are a bit more expensive and you won't find anything below a dollar. In the men's section there are slightly used, otherwise very nice coats for only \$10. Names include London Fog. Full suits, even in corduroy, sell for less than 30 dollars. You can also find shoes, hats, children's clothing, bowling balls, jewelry, lamps, and a wide selection of women's clothes.

Thrift stores are another type of recycling, and we all need to do our part. Also, shopping at a thrift store can save a lot of money. Chic said that people who come in to St. Vincents spend anywhere between \$2 and \$25.

So when the register rings up \$200 next time you visit the mall, think again about how much you can save shopping at a thrift store.

## A woman's fear

By Kelley Betts

It is everywhere. 1 in 8 women are going to develop it in their lifetime. What is it? Breast cancer.

It sounds like a distant disease that is only talked about, but think again.

October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Breast cancer is the second cause of cancer-related deaths in women in 1996, next to lung cancer.

Although teens are not at risk of developing breast cancer now, their mothers are. It is estimated that 184,300 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in American women in 1996.

The causes of breast cancer are not yet known; however, researchers have found risk factors that have been linked to breast cancer. Some of these risk factors include: having a family history of breast cancer, menstruation at a young age, never having children or having children at a later age.

Lifestyle, including diet, might also have an effect on breast cancer risks. As of now, there is no definite connection between food intake and breast cancer; however, diets high in fat, especially saturated fats like meat or dairy products, might increase the risk of breast cancer.

From recent studies, it is estimated that about 5% of all breast cancer cases are hereditary. This

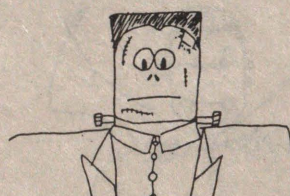
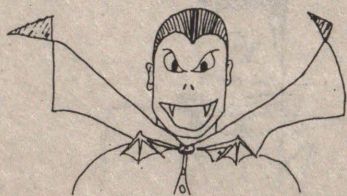
is about 9,000 new cases each year. A breast cancer susceptibility gene, BRCA 1, has been found. When women inherit the gene in the mutated form, they are highly susceptible to both breast and ovarian cancer. An estimated 45% of all families with a history of breast cancer and 80% of families with high rates of both breast cancer and ovarian cancer carry this gene.

The best protection against breast cancer is early detection and treatment. This includes a mammogram (a breast x-ray) and a breast exam. The breast exam can be done by a doctor or on your own. This ensures women the best chances of survival even though researchers have not yet determined how to prevent breast cancer or what exactly causes it.

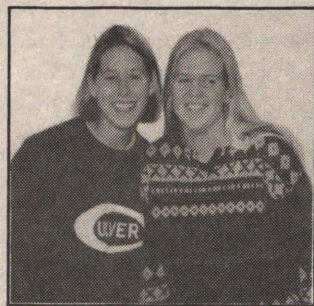
Y-Me is a support group available for breast cancer survivors and family and friends who know someone with breast cancer. There are 19 groups around in the Chicagoland area. This group is free of charge. For more information call Y-Me at (312) 986-8228.

Information provided by American Cancer Society.

*"I think I'm pregnant. How do I find out for sure? Come to the Care and Counseling Center for free pregnancy testing. Confidential, non-judgemental. In Downers Grove. (630) 960-1060.*

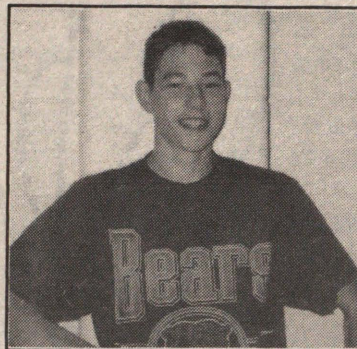


## Halloween Poll: What was the funniest thing that you dressed up as?



Seniors Katie Toboja (left) and Alicia Acker-

"In fifth grade, we dressed up as Tweedle-dee and Tweedle-dum and Angela Barnes dressed up as the rabbit. We had our checkered pants and hats with the spinners made for us."



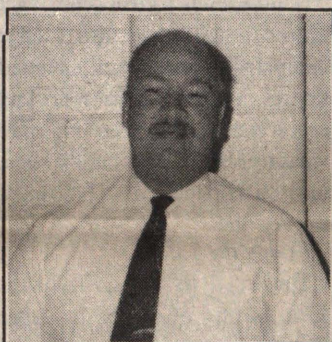
Junior John Ascher-

"[Pee Wee Herman] There was a white button-down shirt, the gray coat over it and a pair of nice gray pants. Then there were big, white Bozo shoes and a bow tie that squeezed my neck. I had a big, funky hair-do and my cousins and I did the dance from the movie."



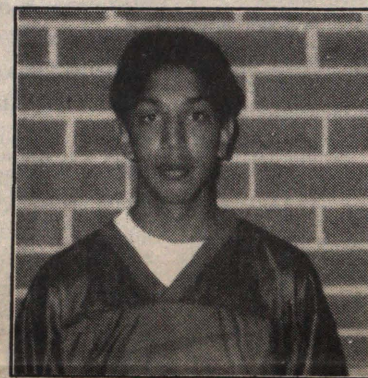
Junior Amber Gove

"[Jem] I had a big pink wig and a guitar made out of cardboard with foil around it, spiked, pink heels and my light-up earrings. I had a rocker outfit that was all different colors. It was the coolest!"



Dean of students Miguel Arroyo

"I dressed up as myself and nobody recognized me."



Freshman Nishil Patel-

"[A girl] I had high heels and panty hose on and put my make-up on by myself and had a girl's business suit."

## It was only a nightmare...or was it?

By Laura M. Gilbert

Imagine yourself awaking suddenly in a cold sweat. Fear rising in your chest as you struggle to breathe. Darkness and shadows dance in front of your eyes, reaching, needing, wanting, taking. You're paralyzed and cannot move. You scream, but you have no voice. It's coming, slowly, steadily, it's coming, and there's no turning back.

An advertisement for a new horror flick? No. A new novel by Stephen King? No. It's real life. It happened to me.

This nightmare occurred when I was in fifth grade, so long ago, but yet not really. My birthday was approaching, and I was extremely excited.

I checked my clock a little after nine o'clock when my eyes were

finally getting heavy. Just as they were about to close, I noticed a glint of something out of the corner of my eye.

At first I thought the shimmer was a flash of light reflecting off my mirror, but the flash of light kept coming back, erratically, shining right in my face.

I looked over to see if there was any way I could stop that annoying flickering, then I saw "IT."

It was as black as night and as light as day, never the same, always changing color, changing tone, like the rise and set of the sun, like the ever changing moon.

It had eyes, eyes that saw nothing, but saw everything. Eyes that looked straight through to the deepest part of me. They burned of red, but no color filled those empty

ovals on his face. They were clear, but they were there.

It had a mouth that talked, but did not move, like a snake. He did not speak to me, but I could tell he wanted to. His mouth shone of all colors but only one. The colors twinkled and twitched as if imitating the opening and closing of a mouth, but no sounds emerged, only the sound of fear, of utter blackness. It had nine fingers on each hand but no palm, no arm, they just seemed to sway by where the head sat.

You see, the head sat, not the body, because there was no body, just a head, and just the hands. The hands had no tip, no nail, just a hole, as if the finger tips and been chopped off. There were nine holes on each hand, never ending holes.

They led into eternal blackness, that you could not get out of, and they were pointing at me!

I huddled under my covers, with just my eyes peaking over the top. I did not want him to see me, but it was too late. There I was and there he was. I was trapped.

I couldn't take the pressure anymore. I turned on my light, hoping the light would bring some peace of mind, show me that I was just seeing things. There was nothing to fear, but I was wrong.

Even in the light he sat there, more prone to disappear, harder to follow. He began shooting beams of light at me, everything was shooting these piercing beams of light.

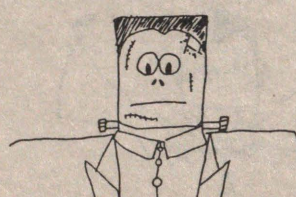
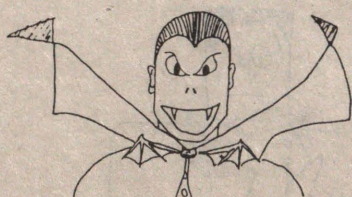
I wanted to scream, I wanted to run, but I couldn't move, I couldn't

utter a sound. I finally turned off my light, and hid under the covers crying.

I didn't dare open my eyes, but even with my eyes closed, I didn't feel safe for in the back of my mind, I could see those eyes, never moving eyes, staring deep into my soul.

I don't recall when or how I fell asleep. I don't even remember dreaming, but I must have. I woke up hoping the night had never happened, but knew that it had been true because even in the sunlight, I felt a chill that sank into the depths of my bones, like I was being watched by the eyes of death.

I have since switched rooms with my brothers, and they have had no problems, but I...I still have that feeling, even now, I feel that cold sinking into my very being.



## Medieval Magic

### A smashing good time

By Dan Horyn

By Ted Barzo

The Smashing Pumpkins returned home to the Chicago area the evening of Friday, October 4. Their concert at the Rosemont Horizon was one of the best I'd ever been to.

Right around 7:00, with a lot of empty seats and people still arriving, Grant Lee Buffalo took the stage.

The three member opening band put on a pretty good show, despite the fact they were the opening band and didn't have a good sound system.

The guitar player used a 12-string guitar that sounded good when he didn't use his distortion pedal and the bass player not only played bass, but sang and played keyboards as well.

All the members had good voices and played their respective instruments well.

After a short break at the end of Grant Lee Buffalo's set, the headlining band took the stage.

Billy Corgan, James Iha, D'arcy, and Filter's drummer took the stage. Fomer drummer Jimmy Chamberlain left the tour because of a reported heroin problem. The Smashing Pumpkins made their entrance in the total darkness to the song "Melon Collie and the Infinite Sadness."

While the lights remained off, they began playing "Where Boys Fear To Tread." After the song's introduction, all the lights came on the stage.

Towards the middle of the song, a curtain pulled away and a large steel structure with lights was revealed.



The light show was very impressive throughout the entire show and really added to the band's performance.

Besides the lighting, there were also large movie screens that played clips from videos and distorted pictures of the band.

The Pumpkins played all their current hits like "Tonight, Tonight," "1979," and "Zero," and a lot of their old ones like "Today" and "Disarm" for a good two hours.

At the end of the show, the band came out for four encores. The final song was lengthy and ended with lead singer Billy Corgan free-versing about life and mixing in lyrics.

The show was well worth the money and was almost mind-blowing because I couldn't believe I was actually seeing The Smashing Pumpkins.

Lead thy horse to the grazing fields called Pheasant Run. Keep thy eyes open for the castle named Mega Center. Enter the Center's doors, and you will surely encounter "Camelot," which runs through January 12.

The Pheasant Run Dinner Theater is a small and comfortable playhouse, seating 262, with any seat in the house well within shout-ing distance of the stage.

The stage is split into three sets for the Camelot production, including a forest setting, castle setting, and a multi-purpose backdrop. The musical's props are nothing spectacular but they do give the mind enough to vividly imagine the time of knights, castles, and horses.

"Camelot" is divided into two acts. Act I is similar to much of T.H. White's The Once and Future

King, following White's story line of how King Arthur meets Guenevere and the creation of the round table. Arthur is played well by the short, vibrant and strong-voiced Steve Calzaretta.

William Schumacher plays super-knight Lancelot Du Lac. Schumacher's powerful baritone voice resonates through the theater. Schumacher's shining armor and long hair create a super-knight image.

Lara Filip is Lady Guenevere. Though she takes a back seat to Calzaretta and Schumacher, Filip has a soft, beautiful singing voice, which overshadows her acting.

Act II turns very dreamy and mystical, straying from the T.H. White setup, and moving at a much faster than Act I.

It is about a half hour shorter than Act I (Act I is about 85 min-

utes), and falls in the gray, abstract area which makes it unique and enjoyable.

Calzaretta closes "Camelot" with a strong and enjoyable scene. The musical has received rave reviews from the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, and many local newspapers.

I found the \$20 ticket price to be reasonable- about half the price you pay to see the Bears lose and about a tenth of what you pay for one day in Vegas.

So if your wallet is a tad thicker one month, and you're looking for a way to impress someone, consider "Camelot" at the Pheasant Run Theater. Tickets can be purchased by dialing 584-6342.

## Halloween Movie Madness

### Some movies that work up a SCOPE

By Kelley Betts

Halloween is a great time to get scared. After spending large amounts of money on haunted houses, it's time to just relax and rent some scary movies. Not sure what to rent? Well, here's some ideas to help make this Halloween a scary one.

#### Friday the 13th

The first in its series, *Friday the 13th*, is one of the best. After numerous murders, Camp Crystal Lake has been shut down for over 20 years. When seven camp counselors and a new owner decide to fix the camp up and reopen it, they're in for a deadly surprise.

They experience the most terrifying 24 hours of their lives as the counselors are gruesomely murdered one by one. This movie is probably best known for its very graphic killings.

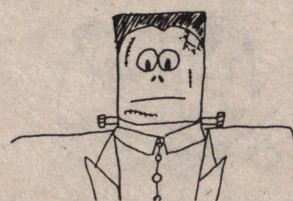
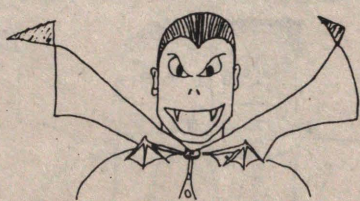
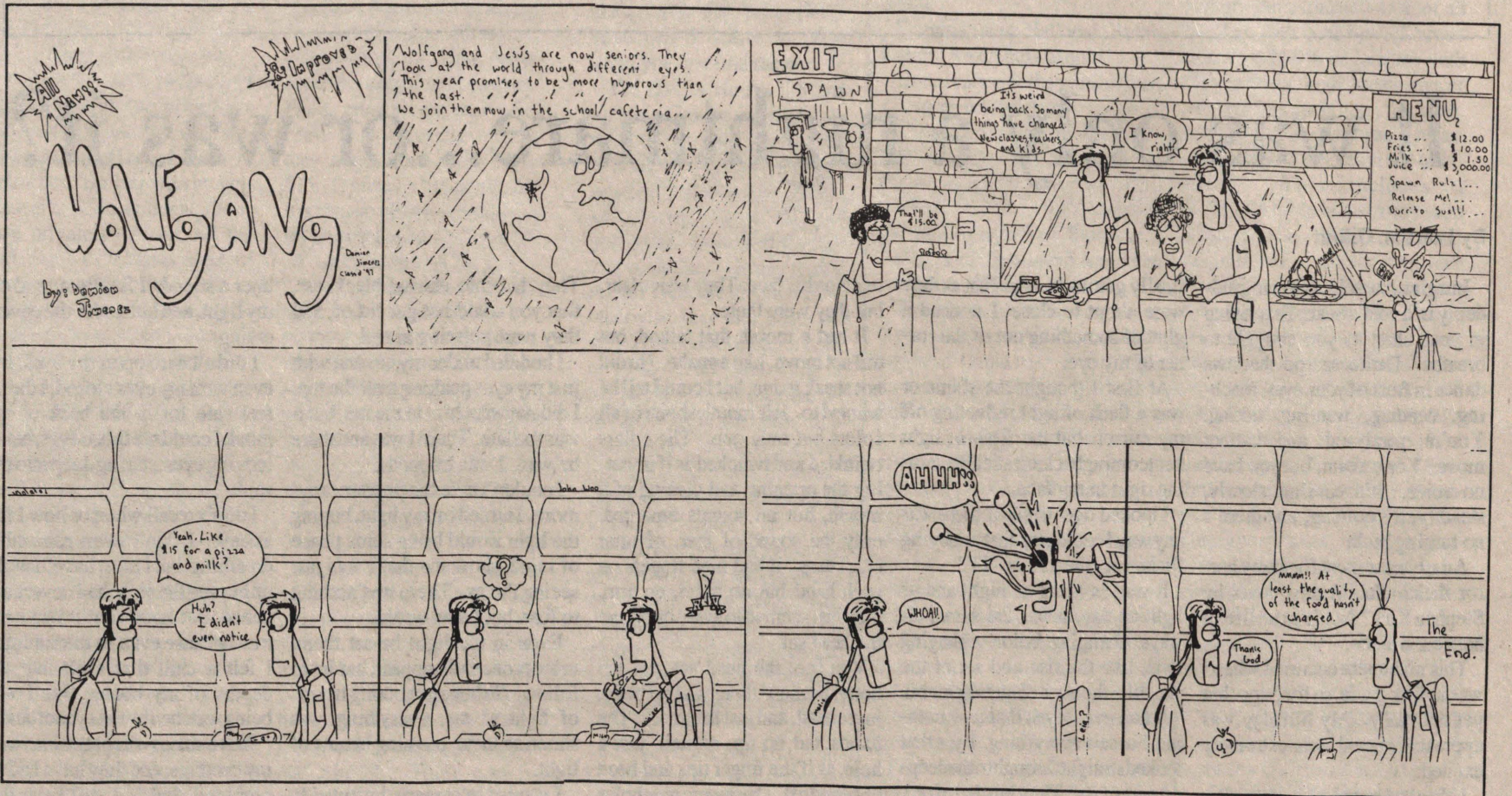
#### A Nightmare on Elm Street

"One...two... Freddy's coming for you...." Being Wes Craven's first in the series, *Nightmare on Elm Street* is a must see on Halloween. Nancy Thompson's (Heather Langenkamp) friends start dying of the same unexplainable death. Nancy claims it's the guy from her dreams, but her parents think she's going crazy. After several attempts, Nancy successfully brings Krueger out of her

dreams and into reality. That's when the real battle begins. The movie leaves you singing "...nine...ten...never sleep again."

#### Halloween

On Halloween night in Haddonfield, Illinois, 6-year old Michael Myers brutally stabs his baby-sitter to death. After being in a mental hospital for 15 years, he escapes and goes back to his house, which is now abandoned. Myers follows around Laurie (Jamie Lee Curtis), a teen age girl and her friends on Halloween night. That night the murder begins. This movie isn't very graphic, but is downright scary and will leave you on the edge of your seat.



## Editorial: DVC not for WC

By Dan Horyn

Homecoming has passed, Halloween is here, the football season is nearly over, and we are left to ponder yet another fall sports season at West Chicago.

The teams have been almost the same—some winning, more losing—and all having hope for next year. Go to sports awards night next month, and you'll hear a lot of the same thing—1997 will be the time to restore the roar, to finally begin the victory tour.

But unfortunately, West Chicago is stuck in a continuous circle, making a cycle each and every season.

Hope is vital in high school sports, it's what keeps us going, but where does the breaking point lie? When is it time to throw in the towel? When is it time to stay down?

The DuPage Valley Conference is undoubtedly the toughest conference in the state. That is a legitimate reason for the frequent losing records our teams put out. But how many conference champs did we have in 1995? Zero. Out of 20 varsity team sports, we had zero conference crowns. Checking your math, 0 for 20 is a little worse than the Bears' record this year.

And how many top four conference teams were there in '95? Certainly more than zero, but not nearly enough.

Competing against the best should make the weak stronger, but what if the weak never get stronger? Losing has be-

come a pattern for West Chicago sports.

Wilbert Walters has been the head girls track coach for ten years. Over the years, he considers his teams "not very successful. We've had some great individuals, but no numbers" and therefore the Ladycats have been "unable to meet the standards [of the other DVC teams]."

Perhaps moving out of the conference would be a way to stop West Chicago's losing streak. Interim Athletic Director Gail George disagrees, saying "the good experiences [in the DVC] outweigh the bad."

Maybe it's time to look at Glenbard South, who moved to the Suburban Prairie Conference this year. Lee Halberg, Glenbard South's Athletic Director, said the Raiders left the DVC because they were having "a very difficult time competing. We weren't going to increase our pool of participants, so we found a conference compatible to our size."

Consequently, the Raiders are off to a great start—team records are above .500 and Halberg said participation is up in nearly every sport.

George noted the Raiders records are improved because they are competing against smaller schools.

Basically, then, should we play smaller schools and win, or DVC schools and lose? George clearly stated she wants We-go to compete in the DVC.

The price we pay for that is low morale and low winning percentages.

The last winning football season we had was in 1992, and the record was 5-4. Man alive, for the Wildcats, 5-4 was like winning the NBA championship.

It's like that with a lot of our teams. Historically, we've had great girls' softball and basketball teams, great swimming teams, quite a few good teams, and a bunch of sub par teams.

Sub par by whose standard? The rest of the DVC teams. Now imagine the life we'd be livin' if we were playing Glenbard South, Batavia or Oswego each week. Obviously our record would be a lot better.

But not everyone wants to play the smaller schools. George said she prefers the tougher competition of the DVC.

People might say that West Chicago is quitting—after all, they said that about the Glenbard South Raiders.

But why stay in the conference if we keep on losing? Sure we can work harder, practice longer, eat more Wheaties, but haven't we-go coaches been saying that for years?

It's not a question of desire. I see football players on crutches, cross country runners with shin splints, tennis players with tendinitis. Football practice doesn't get out until 7:30, female swimmers are in the pool four mornings a week, teams practice in the rain.

It's just a question of practicality. Is it practical to eat, sleep and breathe a sport only to lose time and again?

Ask the Raiders.

## Editorial: Movin' up

By Dan Young

It's first down for the Wildcats and quarterback Brian Raymond takes the snap from center Mike Chapin. Raymond can pass it to many eligible receivers, including tight end Chris Grin.

Flip it over to defense and you see Shea Pallante, Josh Slattery, and Mike Schneider puttin' the pressure on. Soon you notice something and that something is that there are sophomores playing varsity.

Is there some kind of conspiracy going on? What do coaches think?

Lately, a lot of sophomore athletes have been moved up to varsity and there are a few answers why.

One is that the sophomore class is extremely talented, or so coaches are thinking. Not only in football, but in sports like cross country, girls swimming and girls volleyball, sophomores are being promoted to varsity.

Greg Hansen, a coach on the varsity football team, said that "there is an open invitation to all players [to play varsity] if you want to or have any skill." He reminds all athletes that "the entire season is made in the off season. You can't just put on your uniform on game day and expect to win."

So is it that some sophomores worked harder this

summer? Is that why so many varsity rosters have sophomores?

Maybe yes, maybe no. The bottom line is though that coaches want the best team out on the field, court, or course. And since many of those teams have sophomores on them, coaches are really looking forward to the next few years to see how West Chicago does against West Aurora and other DVC schools.

Coaches also want to see how this year's sophomores and juniors combine to form teams next year.

Coaches have their opinions and they call the shots. Some tenth graders disagree with coaches' decision to promote them to varsity. Some sophomores say that by playing at a higher level, they may have lost their confidence to win.

No matter what players or coaches think, Athletic Director Gail George has always backed the coaches of all sports.

Whatever might have come from this year, Hansen reminds us all, amid the controversy, that this year's football season should be a learning experience for everyone at We-go.

This not only includes football, but cross country, swimming, volleyball, and all sports.

## Golf ends with subpar play

By Dan Horyn

After a summer of hard work on the greens, and a strong conference showing, the Wildcat golf team ended its season in disappointing fashion with a subpar team performance at Regionals.

With home course advantage, the Wildcats finished fifth at the DVC invitational, losing the number 4 spot in a tie breaker to Wheaton North. Head coach Tim Courtney said the team played great behind, especially Bart Gallagher. The senior took third place, shooting a 77.

"I was *en fuego* [on fire]," said Gallagher, "I'm pretty happy with how I played and it's nice to get all-conference."

Most of the guys followed Gallagher's lead, golfing very well. Senior captain Terry Yormark was one of the few Cats off of his game, but he was still named to the all-conference team, making it the first time in a long time that two Wildcats made all-conference.

The Wildcats entered Regionals confident that they were capable of advancing to Sectionals.

The team fell from grace, though, shooting 22 strokes higher than they did just a week ago.

"We all hit our bad day at Regionals," said senior captain Terry Yormark, "But that's golf. Naturally though, we're still very disappointed."

Courtney was unhappy because the Cats had previously beaten many of the teams that finished ahead of them at Regionals.

The only golfer to escape disappointment was Justin Sadauskas. In only his first year of high school golf, the junior shot an 83 on the par-72 course.

"It was a great feeling [qualifying for sectionals]. The course was tough and the weather was bad."

Sadauskas went on to the sectional meet, noting the "the experience factor will be great for next year." Not to mention,

Sadauskas didn't do half bad, shooting another 83.

Unfortunately, the Cats lose Gallagher, Yormark, and Josh Harris to graduation.

"Josh contributed to the team when he was on, and Bart was a great player, and Terry was a great leader," said Courtney.

But hope springs eternal as some strong sophomores and juniors should take over next year, including Sadauskas, Jason Sewell, John Brigowatz and Jeff Powell.

"We should be good next year. It'll be very competitive to make the team," said Courtney.

"They'll be great if their cockiness doesn't get to 'em," said Yormark.

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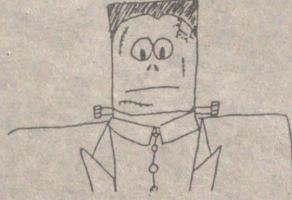
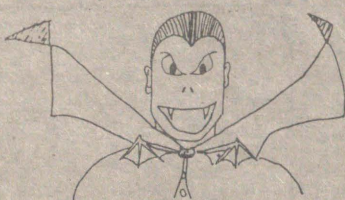
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## Harriers hit homestretch

By Tracy Morris

Coming off a fifth place finish at Regionals and a best combined team time of the year, the boys cross country team is looking to make their mark at Sectionals this Saturday.

The Cats traveled to Varble Park in Bensenville Saturday, October 26, to compete in the Regional meet.

We-go placed fifth out of twelve teams with personal best times from sophomores Bart Visser and Wes Skidgel and junior Alfredo Muhlberger. The three placed 23rd, 44th, and 42nd respectively.

Finishing ahead of We-go were DVC teams Wheaton Warrenville South and Glenbard North. Wheaton Warrenville took fourth with 98 points and Glenbard North landed third with 88 points. The host Fenton won with 31 points.

Senior Dan Horyn put in a seventh place run with a time of 15:26 on the three mile course, which was about ten seconds off his goal.

The only other senior on the varsity squad, Jaime Sanchez, placed 50th and the lone freshman, Tim Keller, finished 27th.



Photos by Sandy Weiss  
Seniors Jaime Sanchez and Candace Benja stride for the chute.

Sophomore Liam Doyle, who was instrumental in the success of the frosh/soph this year, finished 23rd out of about 80 runners on the course.

The varsity runners took first place on Saturday, October 12, at the Benet Academy Invite. Benet finished second, as the Cats were too much with six finishers in the top 15.

Horyn led the team with a first place finish and set a course record, while Muhlberger put in a personal best time.

The Cats hosted the DVC invite at Reed Keppler Park in West Chicago on Saturday, October 19, and finished last as Naperville North took the title.

Horyn ran to a fourth place finish to earn his fourth straight

all-conference honor.

It wasn't all bad news for the We-go team, though- the frosh/soph team grabbed the conference championship behind first, second, and fourth place finishes by Doyle, Visser, and Keller, respectively.

Skidgel placed sixth and teammate Dan Young rounded out the scoring, finishing eighth.

The lone qualifier at the Fenton regional for the girl's team was senior Candace Benja.

The Ladycats ran a full team of seven at the meet but Benja, the team captain this season, came out alone. Benja was the only experienced varsity runner on the team as everyone else had run at the frosh/soph level.

The East Aurora sectional this year proves to be a difficult one. Benja will be going against runners from St. Charles, Glenbard North, and Wheaton Warrenville South.

Not only will these teams be competitive in sectionals, but they will probably also place in the top ten at state.

Sectional action begins this Saturday, November 2, at 11:00 a.m. at Phillips Park in Aurora, with the State Finals on Saturday, November 9.

## Makin' waves

By Dan Horyn

Though small in numbers and predominantly young, the girls swim team has proven this season that they aren't little fish in a big sea.

They swim with the passion of piranhas, finishing high in many invitationals, crushing teams in dual meets, and swimming under state cut times.

Last Saturday, the girls competed in the Deerfield Invitational placing second in a strong field to Naperville North.

Not many personal best times were recorded, but such was the case for most of the teams. The Cats did see strong performances by sophomore Emily Limburger (first in the 50 free, third in the 400 free relay), senior Heather Horsley (second in the 200 free, third in the 400 free relay) and sophomore Danielle Lureau (third in 400 free relay, fourth in the 200 free relay).

Head coach Dan Johnson said the Deerfield Invite was important because it was the last invite before post season play.

Most of the girls will be tapering (decreasing intensity in

practice) by next Monday, to help them reach their peak at the right time.

Before the Deerfield Invitational, the girls had Crystal Lake Central at home on October 22. The girls decapitated the Tigers despite swimming in off events. Johnson said the meet was good because the girls got to "have a little fun."

Much of the success this year can be attributed to a vigorous off-season regiment and a split coaching staff. Johnson and coach Len Penalka split the duties, allowing each to devote more time to individual needs. "Dividing the girls up has worked very well," said Johnson.

The program should remain strong for years to come as Johnson has a strong pool of young swimmers. Among them is freshman Abby Grant who has already broken a record set by state champion Tawney Larm.

Also, the Cats should grow in the diving area, as there are 11 girls on the team.

The conference meet will be held at 9:00 a.m. for diving and 1:00 p.m. for swimming at West Chicago this Saturday.

## Ladycat tennis season ends at Sectionals

By Tracy Morris

The Ladycat tennis team brought down the net on the 1996 season with disappointing results at the West Aurora Sectional two weeks ago.

The sectional was one of the hardest sectionals in the state especially in the doubles competition.

Amongst tough teams West Aurora, Rosary, and St. Charles, seniors Melissa and Amanda Petrowich were the only Wildcats to win a match, but they didn't make it any further than their teammates.

The Petrowich twins, who won at least twice as many

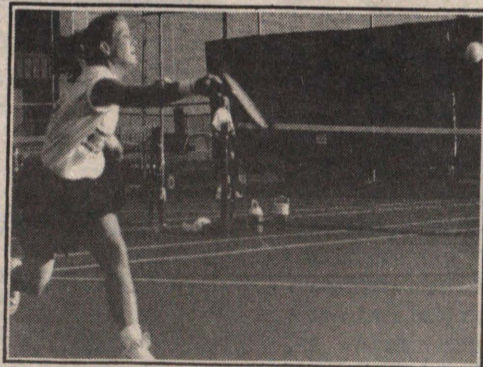
matches as they lost this year, were by far the most experienced members of the netters on the We-go courts this season.

Coach Sione Moeaki encourages all the Wildcats to attend open gyms in the winter and even seek lessons with instructors. This isn't always possible, though, due to commitments at school.

According to Amanda Petrowich, while there are good instructors out there, there aren't many for girls.

Without playing year round

and just beginning to get experience in their junior and senior years, the task of keep-



Melissa Petrowich lunges for the ball. Photo by Anup Gurnani

Moeaki also urges his athletes to play with the West Chicago Park District traveling tennis program in the summer. The summer workouts then lead right into the fall sports season, which begins practice in August.

Despite gaining no wins in DuPage Valley Conference play, the Ladycats enjoyed success on the non-conference level. The high point of the season

was the Fenton Invitational. While the Petrowiches

placed first in 1st doubles, senior Jocy Kovalik placed second in 1st singles and third overall.

Sophomore Marla D'Aversa earned a first place finish in the consolation round, as did senior Julie Kolodick and junior Liz Murphy in third doubles.

The two day DVC tournament saw the Petrowiches finish fourth and be the only varsity Cats to advance to the second day of play.

On the junior varsity level, Nicole Wigder took fourth for 1st singles.

## V-ball kills Geneva, 2nd round next

By Tracy Morris

The We-go girls volleyball team heads into second round regional action behind a dead even season of play.

At the end of regular season play, the Cat had a 16-16 overall record and a 6-6 DuPage Valley Conference record.

Key conference wins this season came over Wheaton North and Wheaton Warrenville South. Both are

top ranked teams in the Daily Herald.

We-go hosted Naperville North on October 22 for senior parent night as they "packed the gym" with We-go fans.

The Cats fell to the Huskies in two games, but senior Dana Nelson made her first appearance this season since she underwent ACL surgery on her knee.

Nelson came in to serve and

did so in the best possible fashion, nailing an ace and putting a point on the board.

Coach Kristy Hasty looks to three of her starters, junior outside hitter Kelly Kaylor as well as seniors Angela Barnes (middle) and Jamie Hansen (right side), to lead the Cats.

Regional play began on Tuesday against Geneva at West Chicago Community High School, where the Cats

played host to three other teams. The Cats pulled off a 15-10, 15-8 win just before Chronicle deadline.

With We-go's win over Geneva, they will take on the winner of the match between St. Charles and Batavia tonight, October 31, for the regional championship.

Sectional action begins on Tuesday, November 5, in the St. Charles Sectional.

### ◆Flash◆

Head freshman football coach Gordon Heaton resigned earlier this month because of "personal differences" with head varsity coach Randy Hoffman. Heaton is the third head football coach in less than a year to discontinue his services at We-go. Among him are Bruce Donash, who resigned his varsity post last fall and Bob Bagby, who quit because of family reasons. Stay tuned.

