



Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School

326 Joliet Street, West Chicago, IL

February 14, 1997, Volume 28, Issue 7

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Check out the Play Preview on page 2.

Turn to pages 3 and 4 and read about Handguns and Suicide.

Look for Wrestling coverage and the Girls Track Preview on page 8.

District 94 super search underway

By Dan Horyn

Community High School District 94 has begun its process of elimination for a new superintendent.

With the aid of the Illinois Association of School Boards, the Board of Education has four superintendent candidates to choose from. All four candidates are male, two of whom live in Illinois, while the other two reside in New Jersey and Minnesota.

All of the candidates are presently superintendents, and all have worked with high schools during their careers.

Two of the candidates have already visited Community High School this week. The other two possibilities will come to West Chicago during the week of the 17th.

Interim superintendent Dr. Robert Rubenow said that during the visit, each candidate will have a chance to explore the area and school and meet with students, staff, administrators, and members of the community.

These meetings will primarily be in the form of interviews. As facilitator of the activities, Rubenow has assembled groups of 12 to 15 people to question the potential superintendent.

Though "the interviewers will submit written summaries of their impression" of the candidate, Rubenow said that the final superintendent decision will be made by the Board of Education.

The Board will also interview the candidate. Rubenow said that how the candidate "relates to seven members of the Board as he spends two to four hours with them... presenting visions and direction for the district" will be critical in deciding the candidate's competency.

One final evaluation will be made when Board members travel to the candidates' present work sites to interview co-workers. The Board will do this to get an idea of how the candidates work with others.

District 94 is looking for a superintendent who is "experienced and seasoned, comfortable with diversity" and who "exhibits exemplary interpersonal skills."

The final decision probably will not be made until later in the semester.

The superintendent search began more than six months ago when Dr. Joel Morris resigned as District 94 superintendent to pursue an opportunity in Iowa. Rubenow was hired to succeed Morris as interim.

Rubenow said that the typical tenure of a superintendent is five years, because otherwise there runs a danger of the superintendent and his Board becoming "stagnant."

Rubenow is unsure of what he will do after his interim position, as he will have a better idea once the superintendent selection is made.

Winter formal

By Allison Taylor

The Winter Formal, organized by the junior class Student Council, was held Friday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The theme was Kiss From a Rose.

According to Jennie Grobe, junior class representative, over 100 students, mostly freshmen and sophomores, attended the dance. It raised approximately \$280 for the junior class prom committee.

"It was a great dance, but I wished I would have seen more upperclassmen since it was a fundraiser for prom," said Grobe. Grobe also said attendance was lower than last year's winter dance. The disc jockey, Steve Bagniak, was

from T.J. Star Entertainment. He played a wide range of music, from country to the chicken dance. "This was one of the best d.j.'s we've had in a long time," said junior class representative Meg Runyan.

The cafeteria was decorated from top to bottom in red, white, and silver. Guests were greeted by an enormous balloon arch put together by the junior girls. "I thought the decorations looked great," said junior Caroline McClellan.

The dance was considered a success by Student Council, since it raised a large amount of money for prom. "It was a great dance. It was a lot of fun for everyone who was there," said Grobe.

Speech team screams way to Sectionals

By Beth Siwy

With Sectionals just around the corner, the Forensics team took 5th out of 13 teams at regional competition last Saturday at York High School.

Senior Roxi Rohrback and junior Steve Garcia took 2nd place with their dramatic duet acting and senior Matt Bowne took second place in humorous interpretation.

Senior Meredith Baker and juniors Meg Runyan and Liz Edwards finished second for Theater in the Round.

Nine days earlier, the '96-'97 Forensics team performed for the last time in public at the 3rd annual showcase Verbally Yours January 30.

Seniors Baker, Bowne, Emily Conradt, Kathy York, and co-captains Annalea Jimmo and Rohrback gave their opinions of what Forensics Team has meant to them.

At the end of the evening, the entire Forensics team came out on stage and was congratulated by their captains Jimmo and Rohrback. The seniors were presented with a rose and a card

and were given great thanks for all of their years of hard work on the team.

Both Conradt and Rohrback have been members of the team for four years while Baker, Jimmo, and York are three year members, and Bowne is a two year member. The crowd laughed nonstop during the Humorous

interpretation given by Bowne. In this event the team member is to write his or her own story and perform it while playing all of the characters. Bowne focused on family

and its interaction with the television remote control. He created six main characters: Mom, Grandpa, Little brother, Big sister, Dog, and himself, as the middle child. In the end of the performance the remote control flew out of the window and the family was left in a state of shock.

Baker, Runyan, and Edwards performed Theater in the Round, an experimental event created this year. The act is performed in a circle surrounded by the audience.

The focus of the act was the fear of flying. With the use of props being limited to only six cafeteria chairs, the act began with Baker, Runyan, and Edwards portraying confident flight attendants. What

began as a semi-humorous event turned into a dramatic one as they gave many statistics and facts about people and their fears of flying.

The turnout for the free event was not as prominent as the team would have liked, with an audience not exceeding fifty people.

Jimmo said, "I was disappointed because we'd like to bring up the popularity. The Variety Show might have had something to do with it." The Variety Show took place the evening before.

Forensics advisor and history teacher Steve Kellner has worked with the team for three years. He said he is sad to see the seniors go, but is very excited about Sectionals, which take place on February 15th, since the team is "definitely ready."



Photo by Sandy Weiss
Junior Liz Edwards smokes an invisible cigarette in her act at Verbally Yours.



Photo by Sandy Weiss
Annalea Jimmo and Steve Garcia stare off into the distance.

The men of We-go

By Jennifer Lasky

The 5th annual Mr. Wildcat contest, sponsored by Student Council to raise money for needy families, is being held on Wednesday, February 26, at 7:00 p.m. in Weyrauch Auditorium.

Mary Ellen Daneels, Student Council advisor, expects \$250 will be raised from Mr. Wildcat this year.

The money will be used for the Humanitarian Service Project. The high school has adopted a grandparent and a family, for whom they buy things such as groceries and Christmas presents.

The contest features ten senior guys showcasing their talents and personalities by singing, dancing, acting, playing instruments, and doing impressions.

This year's contestants are Ed Abante, Humberto "Bear" Ayala, Matt Bowne, Josh Brown, Dave Delort, Brad Dujmovic, Jason Petronzio, Matt Shinofield, and Jeff Weber.

In order to be accepted for the competition, contestants had to fill out applications asking about school involvement, ac-

complishments, and talent. The application also required teacher approval.

The number of contestants is kept at ten each year. If there are more than ten applicants, the Mr. Wildcat committee decides which ten will participate in the contest.

The Mr. Wildcat committee is Student Council sponsored, but anyone can be on it. The committee solicits the prizes, works

backstage, writes the program, creates the tickets, and finds judges not associated with the school.

Seniors Annalea Jimmo and Stacy Hook are chairing the event. Jimmo said she is on the committee because she can see the results of her efforts in everyone. She also says it is fun to see the guys make fools of themselves.

Prizes for the winner include free prom tickets and gift certificates to local businesses.

The escorts for the contestants are members of the Mr. Wildcat committee and will be wearing clothing from Ciara in Danada.

Rehearsals for Mr. Wildcat are the day before the actual contest, but the guys are practicing on their own. The cost to get in is \$3.

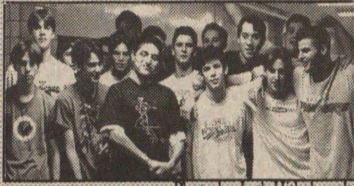


Photo by Josh Hitchcock

Who will be the next Mr. Wildcat?

You'll laugh, you'll cry... Because Their Hearts Were Pure

By Travis Pinkowski

If you enjoy stories about an evil villain who tries to outsmart a family's fortune, only to see truth triumph in the end, then you may want to go see *Because Their Hearts Were Pure* or *The Secret of the Mine*, the West Chicago winter play.

This double casted play will open up on February 13 and run the entire weekend until Sunday. Thursday through Saturday the play can be seen at 7:30 p.m. On Sunday the play will take place at 3:00 p.m.

The play is set in a mining town during the late 1800s. The setting looks pretty good, and the costumes look great and appropriate, and fit in nicely with the 1800s look.

Also for the set, directors Lori Watson and Mary Hafertepe

did a great job of creating an ideal look of that time era. Instead of using one main set, they used a bunch of little sets

The music for the play sounds great and the cast acts along with it perfectly. The lighting also seems to be nicely done.

The double cast of 35 appeared well organized and has taken on the appropriate mood for the time period.

This 2 hour play can also be seen on Valentines Day. Now you may be thinking, I want to be doing something that relates to love on Valentines day. The play is the perfect thing to go and see. The story fits in great with Valentines Day and Hafertepe and Watson have done a great job of organizing and directing the play.

It's going to be a wonderful play and tickets are only \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students and children. So if you get a chance, go and check out the play.

West Chicago Community High School Theatre Presents:

Because Their Hearts Were Pure

OR

The Secret of The Mine

By Morland Cary

FEBRUARY 13-16
THURSDAY-SATURDAY 7:30 PM
SUNDAY 3:00 PM

ADMISSION:
\$3.00 ADULTS
\$2.00 STUDENTS & CHILDREN

Press release

Anti-censorship bill introduced

February 5, 1997

Aiming to guarantee the free speech of high school students, a bill designed to protect student publications from censorship by school administrators was introduced in the Illinois General Assembly on January 16.

Censorship of school-sponsored publications such as newspapers, yearbooks and literary magazines by school administrators is widespread throughout the country. Subjects such as sexuality, teen pregnancy, race relations and even criticism of school policies are often off limits in the minds of some administrators. Additionally, many student journalists and journalism advisor, fearing the disapproval of principals or deans, simply stay away from topics they think might prove controversial.

The proposed law states that public school students "shall have the right to exercise

freedom of speech and freedom of the press" in school-sponsored publications, whether or not they receive school funding and use school facilities. It also says that student publication editors "shall be responsible for determining the news, opinion, and advertising content of their publications."

At the same time that [the proposed bill] restores First Amendment protection to public school student journalists, it also makes them more responsible for what they say. Student publications could potentially be sued for libelous remarks made in their publications.

There will be a committee hearing on the proposed bill on February 19, 1997 in Springfield.

Six other states, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas and Massachusetts have laws similar to the proposed Illinois bill.

A Separate Piece

We-go's very own literary-art magazine is accepting submissions of poetry, short stories, essays, artwork, and photography.

Now is your chance to have your work published.

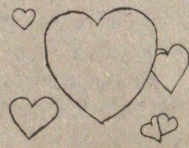
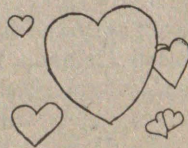
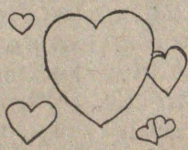
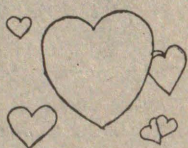
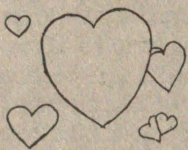
Please turn in all entries to Ms. Zuccherro in room 304 by February 24.

Put your suit on and surf the net

Community High School has recently made the internet available to its students. In order to regulate usage, We-go has limited internet access through strict regulations.

The school is, however, working on a plan to make the internet a more accessible resource for the students.

This room, located next to the Learning Resource Center classroom, will serve as a control room for all computers located in the L.R.C.



Well worth the wait

By Dan Horyn

"I make a commitment to God, myself, my family, my friends, my future mate, and my future children to be sexually abstinent from this day until the day I enter a biblical marriage relationship."

A question. When did this quote take place? B.C.? The 1800's? Early 1900's? The 50's?

Certainly not the nineties! I mean, what on earth is so stylish about being a virgin?

Virginity represents poor social skills and bad acne, right? Who wants to wait till marriage? Marriage is so far away. Probably bookworms and losers are the only people who wait to have sex, right? No real people abstain from sex, no athletes, no cool kids.

Guess again.

True Love Waits is a campaign that was started to prove that there still are teenagers out there who believe that the best premarital sex

is no sex.

This philosophy might seem out of date to many high schoolers today, as the MTV generation dives deeper into each experiment, forever looking for the perfect feeling.

But there still are many who hold fast to sexual abstinence. Mostly for religious, moral and personal convictions, but also because of the dangers of premarital sex: sexually transmitted diseases, teenage pregnancies, and broken hearts are rampant in today's society.

Sexual abstinence is also a moral issue. Unfortunately, the word "moral" tends to make people groan- thoughts of Hester Prynne and The Scarlet Letter, Benedictine monks, nuns and The Family Channel come to mind.

But "moral" isn't like that. Moral can be cool.

Close your eyes and imagine a deep lush forest with thick moist grass, mossy corners, and a sky more blue than the Caribbean Sea. Open them. Close them again and picture Kerr-McGee.

The contrast is considerable. The same comparison can be made to the person who can't wait. The person with the mindset of "if it feels good, then it must be O.K."

You see, this person is giving away a piece of his or her paradise until there is nothing left but Thorium.

Virginity is the only gift you can give but never get back. There are no receipts with virginity- you don't get your money back if you have sex. That gift is forever gone.

Then why do you want to jump into the game so soon? Why not wait?

There is no doubt that sex is a wonderful and exhilarating experi-

ence. I'm sure that it is one of the greatest feelings a human can possibly encounter. Better than candy, better than ice cream. I can hardly wait for the day I have sex.

But I am going to wait.

I want this "exhilarating experience" to be shared with the woman I love. I want to give my gift to the person I will live with for the rest of my entire life.

You see, if I give my gift away now to a girl whom I may not know ten years from now, won't I carry guilt? Baggage? Can I possibly approach my future mate with a pure and unblemished body?

No. Truth is, I will have given away my gift of virginity.

And how special will your wedding night be if you've already had sex? How will things be different? How will things feel different?

And would if you already had

sex with another man or woman come your honeymoon night? There is danger that you might begin to compare. Danger that you might think that the previous mate was a better lover.

I admit, this is an embarrassing and touchy subject. Sex isn't the easiest thing to talk about. But the issue needs to be stated.

Because look at marriages today. Look at all the divorces. Look at statistics today. Look at all the AIDS patients. Look at teenage pregnancy, depression, and suicide.

Of course not all of this is directly related to premarital sex. But every one of these categories would have more promising statistics if humans realized that True Love Waits.

I encourage you to wait. More things than wine improve with time. Don't give your gift too soon.

Guitar strings and steak knives

By Hannah Kenny

Can we use handguns in a non-destructive manner?

I want anyone who claims handguns are simply a "tool" to think about it. I'm sure you've all heard the saying "guns don't kill people, people kill people." OK. If you really want to kill someone you can do it with a handgun, or a steak knife or a guitar string. Should we ban guitar strings and steak knives then?

Picture this: everyone in the world carries a gun. Every man, woman, child, senior citizen, black, Hispanic, mental patient, criminal, lawyer, homosexual, punk and Eskimo on the planet is given a handgun. Now, do you think there will be more killing or less?

Have you ever gotten so angry at someone your gut urge was to end their life with a flick of your index finger so you'd never have to bear their presence again? Have you had a friend who totally screwed you over? Has someone ever been rude to you for no reason for a long time, making fun of everything you do, and are you sick and tired of it?

Now, if you had a gun do you think it's possible you could have taken that simple action in your blind rage and regret it later?

Think about that the next time

you feel the you feel that sort of rage. Ask yourself if you could do it or would do it.

Is there a productive use for handguns? For atomic bombs? For MX missiles? Warheads? Steak knives? Guitar strings?

Let's take the previous scenario a bit to the extreme. Let's hypothetically say every man woman, child, etc., etc., had their handgun taken away, and were given a remote control device with one button on it that would blow up the world (never mind how- this is hypothetical).

Do you think you might feel the urge to use it? Have you had the worst day at school, then came home and your brother was annoying you, and your parents were nagging you for something that wasn't even your fault? Did you want everybody to disappear, even your harmless cat?

If you had that kind of destructive power, easily at your disposal, wouldn't you ever wonder?

How many productive uses are there for handguns? How many non-productive uses? What are they designed for? What are steak knives and guitar strings designed for?

Guns don't kill people, but they sure do make it a helluva lot easier.

There is help

By Amanda Pope

We go to classes, listen to teachers teach their lessons, gossip, and go to another class.

But what do you know about the person sitting next to you?

The truth is, a lot of people do not care about the person until he or she is gone, when it's too late. In fact, in one year, considering all races and both sexes, 5350 people between the ages of 15 and 24 commit suicide.

Everyone has problems. No one's life is perfect. Each person deals with his or her problems in different ways.

Some people start smoking to relieve their stress. Others may use drugs to get high and temporarily forget their problems. These drugs could include alcohol, marijuana, heroine, or other such narcotics.

Some people may even join a gang in order to feel accepted.

Then there are those who are suicidal. Suicide is a serious issue because it happens more often than we know. People who are suicidal or have problems need to get help.

There are many people one can talk to if he or she needs help in school. Any guidance counselor, the nurse, the teachers, deans and principals, are all willing to help.

If one does not feel comfortable talking to them about a problem, one could also contact the school psychologist or the social worker, through the guidance department.

A lot of teens do not want the school to know about their problems, which is easy to understand. That's why the community has places to help.

There are suicide hotlines one can call, and no one has to know

the call was ever made. There are also student support centers and mental health institutions.

Another option is the police. If one calls 911, one can ask to speak to the police social worker.

If you hear, or think, one of your friends, or even someone you sit next to, may be suicidal, tell someone. As Nancy Douglas, a guidance counselor here, says, "If you're worried about somebody, let someone else know, not just one person should determine whether or not someone is suicidal."

Suicide affects everyone, friends and family alike. Someone very close to me lost one of her best friends, and it still upsets her to this day when the subject of suicide arises. She realizes the situation was uncontrollable, but she still has the pain to live with.

Often times, the family and friends will think it is their fault for not being there for the person, but in fact, it's not their fault at all. I think if someone is suicidal, they need to try and express their feelings, so people can listen to them, and try to help. Talking to some friends, or just someone who will listen, can often help a person feel better.

A lot of times, a person isn't going to just walk up to someone and say, "Hi, I'm suicidal, do you have the time to listen to my problems?" In fact, many times the people who are suicidal are people you would least expect. Everyone should keep their eyes and ears open, because that person often times, won't be around to tell you again.

Health and Wellness Counseling/Crisis Intervention/ Family Support Services	
DuPage County Health Department (DCHD)	Mental Health Division Central Intake 627-7772
United Charities/Family Services of DuPage	682-1802
Outreach Community Center (Carol Stream)	260-7600
Outreach Community Ministries	982-1910
Wayne/Worfield Area Youth/Family Services	231-7166
Student Support Center (West Chicago)	231-9394
DuPage Department of Human Services	982-7542
DuPage County Health Department (DCHD)	
Mental Health Division (24 hours)	627-1700
Talk Line	628-6400
Local Police Department	911
Victim Witness Advocate	682-7759
Family Shelter Services	469-5850
Illinois Council for Prevention of Violence	312/998-9200
Care and Counseling Center	960-1060
DuPage County Health Department	682-7525
Adoption Information Center of Illinois	1-800-572-2390
Sunny Ridge Family Centers	668-5117

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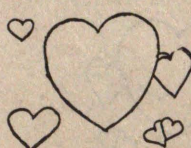
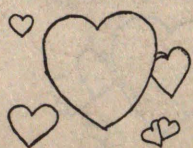
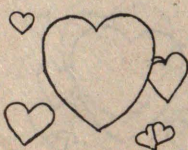
326 Joliet Street
West Chicago, IL., 60185
(630) 231-0880

News	Dan Horyn
Perspectives	Kelley Betts
Features	Allison Taylor Amanda Pope
Entertainment	Hannah Kenny
Sports	Jeff Goluszka Beth Siwy
Editor-in-Chief	Tracy Morris
Advisor	Carrie Mocariski
Name Plate	Chris Kurzhals

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 if they would like to be printed. The newspaper 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.



Second City, stars of tomorrow

By Travis Pinkowski

On December 16, 1959, a small club known as The Second City attracted a sell-out crowd and has been doing so ever since. The Second City has not only collected large numbers in Chicago, but in Toronto and Detroit as well.

In 1959, Paul Sills teamed up with Howard Alk and Bernard Sahlins. Together they set out to find a home for their theater group. After convincing the owner of a Chinese laundry to rent out the building to them, The Second City took off and never looked back. The address of the laundry place was 1842 N. Wells street, Chicago, but more important the birth place of The Second City.

Some of the most well known actors of today started off in this down-to-earth club. Stars such as Dan Aykroyd, John and James Belushi, John Candy, Chris Farley, Bill Murray, Michael Myers, Joan Rivers, Martin Short and many other well known actors, directors, musicians, stage managers and producers have contributed to The Second City's success.

During The Second City's long history of writing, the cast has been honored with 13 Emmy Award nominations and 2 Emmy Awards for shows such as the

Opening shows were seen in the cities of New York, London, Boston, New Haven, St. Louis and other well known cities in North America.

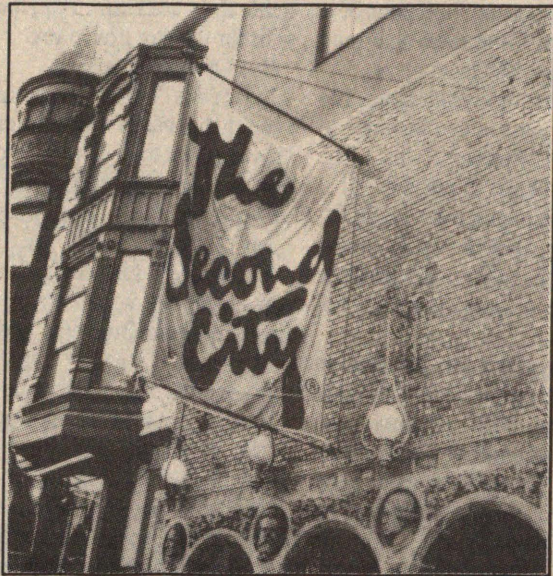


Photo courtesy of Second City

ACE, Gemini, My Talk Show, Second City Live, and many others.

Since 1961, The Second City has been taking its act on the road.

If you enjoy comical acting, Second City is the place to visit. You will be presented with a great improv show

and will get a chance to meet some good hearted people.

The Second City will host a benefit on February 26 at 7:00 p.m. for Aliana Micheli. Aliana

Show times and prices for the main stage are:

Monday	8:30 p.m.	\$5.50
Tues-Thur	8:30 p.m.	\$10.50
Friday	8:00 & 11:00 p.m.	\$12.50
Saturday	8:00 & 11:00 p.m.	\$15.00
Sunday	3:00 p.m.	\$5.00
Sunday	8:00 p.m.	\$10.00

For reservations call 312-337-3992.

Show times and prices for the E.T.C. (second stage) are

Wed-Thurs	8:30 p.m.	\$10.50
Friday	8:00 & 11:00 p.m.	\$12.50
Saturday	8:00 & 11:00 p.m.	\$15.00
Sunday	8:00 p.m.	\$10.50

For reservations call 312-642-8189

There is also a Second City training center for young actors/actresses. For more information call 312-664-3959.

Micheli, a 3 month old baby suffered from an unfortunate rare blood disease called Neonatal Hemochromatosis, or in other words an iron storage disease. This disease produces an excess of iron in the blood causing the liver to function abnormally. Aliana was 1 of only 45 cases in the world diagnosed with this disease.

Aliana just recently received her third liver transplant. Unfortunately her body rejected the liver and she passed away on Monday, February

3. The Second City producers and talent, along with Marcello's restaurant and private catering, have generously donated all of their services for the benefit in order to help pay for Aliana's medical expenses.

If you would like to help but cannot attend the benefit, you can send a check payable to the Aliana Micheli fund to: First Chicago Bank, 1800 South Naperville Road, Wheaton IL, 60187.

Love Hurts

By Dan Young

"Wow. I can't believe it. It's Valentine's Day, and I don't have anything for my sweetie. I have to think of something quick," I said to Julie, my best friend since seventh grade.

"Why didn't you get her a carnation from the school?" she asked. There were many reasons, but I didn't want to answer. Besides I was late for class. I sprinted down the hall, too late to slip in the door.

I opened the door and slid into my seat. I looked over and saw Cindy, my girlfriend, combing her light blond hair. My heart skipped a beat, then I remembered I didn't have a gift for her.

I was going to buy something last night, but I couldn't use the car. I should have gone on Thursday, but I had to work. Then I remembered Julie's party. Yes! An escape route from this torturous feeling of forgetting. I would be okay after all.

The rest of the day was really slow, but at least I wasn't going suffer the ultimate embarrassment of being dumped by Cindy in front of my friends. This was a very good thing.

I couldn't wait to get home, borrow the car, and get something, anything at the store. When I got home, I ran up to my room. My mom didn't bother to ask how my day was since I was in a hurry. I grabbed my keys and checked the cash situation. \$4.72. Not good. I needed to go to the bank to get

some money. I said good-bye to my mom and got in the car.

I turned the key, but nothing happened. I popped the hood and checked the motor. Nothing was missing, so I tried again. It sputtered then came to life. I realized the car was running on fumes. Not good since I had no money. I killed the engine and considered my options.

Mom. She has cash with her. I went into the house and asked if I could borrow some money. She lectured me about keeping money for an emergency, but then gave in.

I filled the car up and went on my way. I stopped at Target and grabbed some flowers and candy. I then headed to Julie's house, joyous since I would survive Valentine's Day after all.

Then the car hit an ice patch and skidded uncontrollably until it stopped on the side of the road. Although I wasn't hit by another car, one of my wheels was out of place and I couldn't pull away from the curb.

I called my mom from the car phone. She told me I had to pay for the damage so I had the car towed and started walking to Julie's house.

"What's wrong with this picture?" I asked myself as I walked. The flowers. I left them in the car. I walked to the mechanic's, grabbed the flowers and then hustled to Julie's house.

When I arrived, I went down-

stairs to the party. It was pretty cool, but I couldn't find Cindy anywhere. Suddenly, Julie was yelling in my ear that I had a phone call.

"Who would be calling me here?" I thought to myself as I picked up the phone. I said hello and listened halfheartedly while some girl talked. Then I realized it was Cindy.

I was suddenly totally awake and nothing mattered besides Cindy. She was crying and I asked where she was. She said she was at her house, but she didn't want to see me anymore, not even to be my friend. She was really angry and said it was over between us. I asked her why, but the only answer I got was a dead line.

Julie was standing behind me as I hung up the phone. I was shocked. I hadn't seen this coming. No one had even hinted at the possibility of this happening. I slumped into a chair, too shocked to stand. Then Julie said, "She did it. She finally told you how she felt."

I was confused and I asked Julie how she knew. She said Cindy told her she didn't like me anymore. I couldn't believe her. "Why?" I asked.

"Sorry Jim, but you've have been in a funk lately, and it's time for you to become the person you were, the person who was my best friend."

As I slumped in the chair, I realized I got what I deserved. I also realized I haven't had fun with my friends in a long time. I got up, and went downstairs to join the party. It was going to take a while, but this blow wouldn't kill me.

Mr. Perrel: Einstein of We-go

By Jennifer Lasky

What do West Chicago High School, the Adler Planetarium, and Indiana all have in common? These are places in which you may find We-go's newest science teacher.

David Perrel, although new to We-go, is not new to teaching. Previously, he taught for one year each at Polaris High School and Shepard High School both on the south side of Chicago.

Perrel decided to come to We-go since they offered the subjects he wanted to teach. He also likes the Chicagoland area, since he feels they stress science more than Indiana schools.

During his first year of college, at Purdue University, Perrel majored in physics. In his second year, he knew he wanted to be a teacher, so he could pass on his knowledge to others.

At We-go, Perrel teaches both physics and chemistry. He likes We-go and plans to stay "as long as they'll have me."

Perrel describes himself to be loyal, curious, adaptive, and attentive to other's needs. He said he is still trying to learn the best ways to teach different types of students.

Perrel finds the best part of teaching to be the interaction with so many different students on a daily basis. He said he really enjoys moments when he can see a student has made a connection.

However, teaching has its low points. Perrel said he feels like his

job is never done.

While at We-go, Perrel has noticed students are the same from high school to high school. He said the only difference between students when he was in high school and students now is there was more big hair in his day.

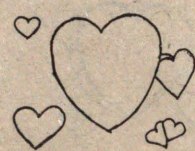
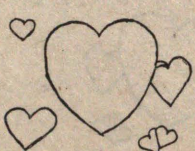
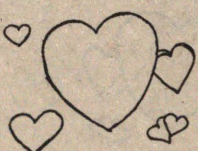
He is also learning things about the school itself. He said he has noticed how well the administration and the faculty work together. He also said he needs to get to school earlier to get a better parking space.

When Perrel was in high school, he was a quiet student who never got in a fight or was sent to the dean. He was involved in the German Club, NHS, Physics Club, and was the boys basketball manager. He also worked in his high school's planetarium.

During the summers, Perrel can probably be found at Adler Planetarium. Last summer he ran a day camp for nine and ten-year olds. He said the theme for the day camp was comets.

In his future, Perrel plans to get his Master's degree in education, buy a house after paying off college debts, and travel out west.

When asked what advice he would give to high school students, he said students should take advantage of every situation and should not be afraid to try new things.



Metal on the horizon

By Jeff Goluszka

Metallica's 18 month "Poor Touring Me" tour continued to leave its tracks through the country when it stopped at the Rosemont Horizon.

Metallica's 24 song rampage left the Rosemont Horizon stage in a cloud of dust along with 16,000 fans still wanting more.

The first two shows, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, sold out so quickly a third show had to be added on Sunday.

The band started out with "One Last Caress," then played "Creeping Death." Their third song was the crowd-pleasing hit "Sad But True" which is noted for the featured drum work by Lars Ulrich.

Songs from each of their previous six albums, a preview of "Load: Part 2," and, of course, their trademark concert smash "So What" were all part of the show.

Of all the songs Metallica played, there were three that especially stood out. "One," a song about a war veteran becoming crippled, was played to near perfection before a head pounding ovation.

"Master Of Puppets," and the last song of the night "Battery,"

were equally as good.

When such slower songs as "Hero Of The Day," "One," "Nothing Else Matters," and "Fade To Black" were played, the

entire crowd sang in unison along with lead singer and rhythm guitarist James Hetfield while displaying countless amounts of lighters.

After playing 14 songs mostly from "Load" or self titled album,

"Metallica," Hetfield proclaimed "We're about to play somethin' we haven't played in a while, so if

we — it up who gives a —. That got a rise from the crowd. Then Metallica began playing the familiar sound of "The Shortest Straw." They didn't miss a single note.

Lead guitarist Kirk Hammett and bass guitarist Jason Newsted both took opportunities to make the crowd louder.



They would face a particular area of the crowd, point at them and scream at them to get loud.

Each member of the band also at one time or another went

around shaking hands with fans on the floor while playing a song at the same time.

After proclaiming they were going to "play some old —," Hetfield shouted to the crowd: "We've got one rule here at Metallica. We always play the old — louder! And that means you gotta get louder, too!" After that the band played the 1984 hit "Ride The Lightning."

Next was a barrage of old songs that made the crowd so loud you couldn't hear the music. Included was "Hit The Lights," "Seek & Destroy," "Fight Fire With Fire," "So What," and "Master Of Puppets."

After those songs came the loudest noise I may ever hear in my life. Metallica began strumming the familiar chords of the 1991 hit single "Enter Sandman." The ovation practically blew the top off the Rosemont Horizon.

At the early climax of the song an explosion and numerous fire-

works and fire littered the stage. Following the song a cameraman "fell" from the rafters slamming

into the stage. "Paramedics" immediately

rushed to his side, while at the same time a man emerged onto the stage engulfed in flames, running around like a chicken with its head cut off.

Hetfield then began having a shouting match with one of the stage workers, and then fire spewed all over the stage from displays.

At first the crowd was stunned, but then began to cheer, realizing it was a prank. Then Metallica ended the concert with a new tune from "Load: Part 2," and then pounding out a perfect rendition of "Battery."

Lost in all of this commotion was opening act Corrosion of Conformity, as they should have been. They were the only downside to the evening.

Corrosion played songs that sounded like a bunch of noise with screaming in the background. Even when they played their self-proclaimed "radio hit," no one recognized it.

Metallica won't be making any more stops in Chicago anytime soon. The closest they'll get in the near future is tonight in Milwaukee. Metallica's "Poor Touring Me" tour will continue into 1998.

A love triangle

By Allison Taylor

Many times we find love in the most unusual places and when we're least expecting it.

Times of war and hardship are probably the last places we expect to find it. However, Agnes von Kurowsky (Sandra Bullock) and Ernest Hemingway (Chris O' Donnell) managed to fall in love during WWI.

"In Love and War" opens with von Kurowsky arriving in northern Italy with a group of Red Cross nurses.

At the same time, American author Hemingway arrives with the other men in the Red Cross who are supposed to help serve food to the soldiers and deliver supplies to the trenches.

Hemingway tries to transfer into the army, but his attempts fail and he remains in the Red Cross.

While delivering supplies to the trenches one night, Hemingway is caught in cross-fire and trapped in the trench after a shell explodes.

Everyone in the trench is killed except an Italian soldier and Hemingway, who was shot in the leg while cutting across the battlefield.

von Kurowsky and Hemingway meet at the hospital where she worked and he was transported to.

von Kurowsky takes care of Hemingway and stops the doctor, Domenico Caracciolo (Emilio Bonucci), from amputating his leg. Hemingway is grateful and starts to fall in love with her.

Agnes has mixed feelings about him, since he was about eight years younger. She loves him, but constantly refers to him as "kid." This doesn't seem to bother Hemingway, because he thinks of "kid" as an affectionate nickname.

At the same time Domenico, Hemingway's doctor, fell in love with von Kurowsky. This creates a love triangle for the rest of the movie. Agnes knows she has feelings for Domenico, yet Ernest is more exciting and she can't stop thinking about him.

Bullock and O' Donnell gave excellent performances in the film. The two portrayed their respective characters realistically, never got out of character, and their relationship was believable.

The storyline could be a little better even though the story is modeled after real life events. Some of the parts seem a little drawn-out and overplayed.

At one point, von Kurowsky visits Caracciolo's house, the movie focuses on his rich lifestyle and how important he is. This was significant, but it wasn't a major part in the story.

The movie is made out to be a happy love story in the previews, and it is for the majority of the movie. Unfortunately, the end of the movie has a different tone and the basic story seems to change.

There is more of an emphasis on Caracciolo's life than those of von Kurowsky and Hemingway.

I left the movie unhappy and wishing for more of the romance that was promised in the beginning.

A runner's dream

By Dan Young

Prefontaine. Mention that name to any runner who has ever studied long distance running, and the answer will be Prefontaine was one of the greatest distance runners ever.

Prefontaine held every American record between 2,000 meters and 10,000 meters. He started every race extremely fast, and dared all of the other runners to keep up with him.

Prefontaine is about "Pre," (Jared Leto) changing the way people looked at running. He was a star, and he ran to win.

The movie began with Pre, as a young boy, jumping off a bridge into a small river. Prefontaine is smaller when growing up and doesn't get to play as much as the rest of the boys. After sneaking out of his house in a fit of anger, he begins his running life.

Soon the scene shifts to show a coach of Oregon watching Pre win a race. He tries to woo Pre to go to the University of Oregon, after Pre eventually goes because of coach Bill Bowerman.

Pre wanted to be the best mile runner, but Bowerman told him that he didn't have the kick to beat the top milers. Pre instead ran the longer distances and won

most of his races.

Leto was excellent in this true story of a man who changed the way people looked at athletes and what they did. This story was based on Pre's life told from his family and friends.

There is even a part in the movie from the 1970's showing the real Pre run. Leto was a good look-alike for Pre. His acting ability was excellent, and he copied the style of Pre's running form.

This movie was really inspiring, showing Pre's toughness, and will to win. He never ran for second. When in the Munich Olympics, Prefontaine could have tried for second or third, but instead he challenged the sprinters to the fastest last lap possible.

He got passed, and then he collapsed right before the finish line, taking fourth.

Pre was also a symbol of strong endurance. He wanted to challenge Viren, who beat him in the Olympics, but the American Athletic Union wouldn't let him. They wanted Prefontaine to run against the Soviet Union, against his will. Prefontaine decided that athletes should decide where and when they should run.

During this time, Coach Bowerman decided that it was time to quit as the coach of Or-

egon. He and Knight got together and created a now popular shoe company, Nike.

The producers of *Prefontaine* did an excellent job reproducing the action of the races. They also produced *Hoop Dreams*, and similarly, were questioned about the story being a documentary.

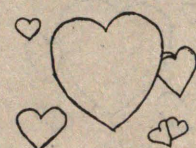
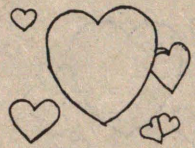
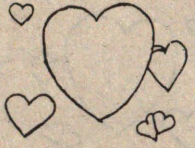
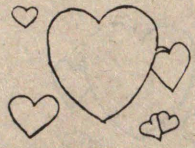
The only other known actor in the movie was Ed O'Neill, who starred in "Married with Children." O'Neill played the part of the assistant coach who stepped in as the new coach when Bowerman quit.

Even though there were not many big name actors, they all did a good job with their parts.

Leto captured the image of Prefontaine as well as anyone could have, and it was a very good image of his personality. The entire movie is great, and the races kept me on the edge. Even the surprising end is exciting.

Prefontaine was a very good movie that caught my attention from the beginning, and it was very exciting. I never lost interest, and each scene looked like it was the news displaying the event from the actual day.

This movie is worth seeing. Look for it when it comes out on video.



May the force be with you

By Travis Pinkowski

In 1977, a long time ago in a galaxy far away there lived some of the most remembered heroes to date.

Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill), a young boy who becomes a Jedi Knight and battles Darth Vader and the Evil forces of the Emperor, is a chosen warrior with special powers beyond belief.

His apprentices, Han Solo (Harrison Ford), Chewbacca, R2d2, C3po, and Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher) tag along with Luke to battle the Emperor.

Yes, that's right, *Star Wars* is back on the big screen and is as good as ever.

There is four and a half minutes of new added material that isn't really noticeable unless you know the movie, although it does help to patch up some of the sloppy camera work that was presented in the original *Star Wars* release.

The surround sound at the theater gets two thumbs up; it

sounded great and produced the effect of felling I was in the movie.

The special effects on the big screen made the movie more enjoyable. The explosions and the battling scenes seemed more louder, brighter and bigger.

In this movie Luke begins his adventure to save the galaxy. He teams up with Han Solo, Chewbacca, and Obi-wan Kenobi to save princess Leia and destroy the Death Star, an imperial base that can destroy a planet with one shot.

The Empire Strikes Back is the movie where Luke Skywalker starts to learn the ways of a Jedi Knight when he receives training from Yoda, a creature from a different world. Luke also faces Darth Vader for the first time. *The Empire Strikes Back* hits the big screen on February 21.

Return of the Jedi includes the story of Luke becoming a full Jedi Knight and battles Jabba the Hutt

in order to save his friend Han Solo. Luke also battles Darth Vader and the Evil Emperor for the last time.

We also can't forget about the Ewoks, who help Luke and company battle the forces of evil. *Return of the Jedi* will also be in the theater on March 7.

There is a new *Star Wars* movie in the making. Filming is set to start in the fall and to be released in 1999. The new movie is said to have computer-generated characters and digital environments, props and costumes.

Star Wars brought in an estimated \$30 million the first 3 days. In 1977 *Star Wars* only opened up on 35 screens as opposed to 2,104 last weekend. Even if you have already seen *Star Wars*, go see it again, because you will enjoy it more.



'97 variety show unforgettable

By Elizabeth Patterson

Your chance to see Matt Potts in a dress and Chris Shern impersonating Michael Jackson has come and gone.

The 1997 FBLA Variety Show packed the auditorium on January 29, 16 acts complete with singing, dancing, speaking, and acting.

Sophomore Season Barclay began the show by singing the Star Spangled Banner. Junior Abe Mashal continued his tradition of creating parodies of rap songs by singing "Ice Ice Abey".

Ed Abante gave his last performance this year. Once again he wrote an original song and played guitar. After performing his first selection, Ed announced that he had been granted permission to play another song, which he wrote

for his girlfriend.

Senior Roxi Rohrback and junior Steve Garcia gave their award-winning Forensics team performance, a dramatization of a couple going through a divorce.

The Save the Whales choir was another memorable performance and featured senior Mike Ebert as a Michael Jackson impersonator backed up by a choir of gospel singers and Doo-Wop girls.

Just before the Senior Girls performed the last act, Chris Shern dressed as Michael Jackson danced around the stage to one of Jackson's songs.

Money raised from the variety show will go to Mr. Zaebelin. His house was damaged by the floods in the summer of 1996.

Too many tornadoes and volcanoes

By Jeff Goluszka

There are only so many natural disaster films America can handle, and *Dante's Peak* crosses the line. Just imagine watching *Twister* all over again, but with volcanoes.

Dante's Peak is your basic, run-of-the-mill adventure movie. Every part of the movie is either predictable, corny or implausible.

The corny dialogue is especially noticeable. Writer Leslie Bohem does a very poor job writing lines for actresses Linda Hamilton (Rachel Wando) and Elizabeth Hoffman (Grandma Ruth), along with horrible child actors that clearly are reading their lines, not acting them out.

It is clear Hamilton is not cut out for a role as a caring mother and the mayor of a small town. It's very confusing for the aver-

age person in the movie theater to see her in this role.

This movie takes almost an hour to set up the ending, carefully placing events and conflicts so they will come up later. This film starts with a flashback from four years ago in which Harry Dalton (Pierce Brosnan) is running with his girlfriend from a volcano, and she is tragically killed.

Dalton then tries to warn everyone as soon as he can to let them know a volcano is coming. Sound familiar? It should, Brosnan plays the same exact role as Helen Hunt did in *Twister*.

After that for the next 45 minutes, Dalton, his boss Paul Dreyfus (Charles Hallahan) and their crew begin testing the volcano, aptly named Dante's Peak, when two

lovers are found boiled to death in a hot spring.

This happens at the same time Mayor Wando is accepting an award naming Dante's Peak (the town) the second safest place to live in the country. Then there is another long string of tests on the mountain, eventually culminating in an ash shower, leading to a cryptonic cloud, and eventually molten lava pouring over the town.

I could tell you more of the movie, but all you have to do is replace tornadoes with volcanoes, and you get an average movie with great special effects.

★★★

The Magical Mystery Quiz

By Brian Miller

Hello to all Fab Four fans out there. This is a quiz about the best groups of all time. It's not trivia questions but instead a short story containing phrases or titles from the Beatles songs. All the phrases are several words but there are several single word song titles contained in the made-up conversation. The task set out for you is to find all the references (all 69 of them) and list them in the order (with the song title) they occur in the story. The one who finds and lists every reference will win a prize being offered by the newspaper. Good luck.

An by odd chance one cold day on the streets of Chicago, a man felt that it was his "destiny" to go up to and talk to a woman he saw passing him by.

"Hello," the man uttered not sure of how to start a conversation from des-

tiny, "I don't know how I know this but is your name Michelle Ma Belle?"

"Boy, you don't let me down. Isn't your name Maxwell? Baby, you're a rich man," she coyly replied.

"My name is just that and something tells me that I've seen you before, maybe back in the USSR?"

"Even if you didn't, it's nothing to get hung about. I have recently been traveling down a long and winding road."

"You mean the road that passes the strawberry fields? There are places I remember all of my life and I think that is one of them."

"Really? I remember one day I was standing at the dock at Southampton and I saw the Taxman!"

"Oh no, I hope you told him that all you need is love."

"Of course but then he replied, 'You never give me your money.'"

"What do you think about war?" said the man, for some reason abruptly changing the subject. "When it comes to death and destruction, you should know that you can count me out."

"I have the same point of view but I think we need to change the constitution."

"I don't know about that. It would take eight days a week to get it fixed."

"It might but with the help of Dr. Robert, I think we can work it out."

"Maybe it will happen because tomorrow never knows. Girl, what do you want to do with your life?"

"I wanna be famous, a star of the screen. What about you?"

"I been thinking about becoming a paperback writer. I sent my first manu-

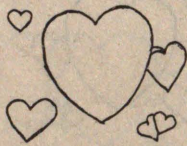
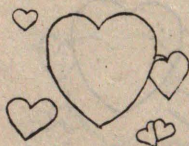
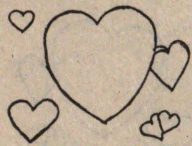
script in last week. It's a thousand pages, give or take a few, and I told them I can make it longer if you like the style."

After suddenly being hit by a thought of inspiration, the woman blurted, "Baby, you can drive my car. Yes I'm gonna be a star. Working for peanuts is all very fine, but I can show you a better t i m e ."

"I don't know. Words keep flowing out like endless rain into a paper cup, they call me on and on. My thoughts meander like a restless wind and are drifting through my open mind."

"If that's the way you want it, no one else can make you change your mind. But with a little help from my friends, I'm going to make it onto the magical mystery tour."

The tour will continue next issue



Seniors lead Ladycats into Regionals

By Tracy Morris

The Ladycat basketball team put the finishing touches on the regular season last night and will head into Regional play this Monday. Last night's game, a Senior Parent Night matchup versus Wheaton North (results were unavailable at press time), marked a rematch between the neighboring DVC foes.

The Falcons had snagged an 11 point victory over the Cats in Wheaton last month. The two teams may have yet another chance to

go at it if each wins its respective first Regional game. We-go hosts West Aurora on Monday, February 17, while North kicks off its post season against East Aurora.

If the Ladycats get past West Aurora and happen to meet the Falcons again, they would have to knock off their rivals to fight for the Regional title. In order to get to that point, the Cats will call on the experience and poise of Angela Barnes, Missy Buenz, Natalie Fijalkowski, and Sarah McQueen.

Everything seems to point in the right direction for the four seniors, considering the team had won four straight games, three of them conference matchups, before last

night's Wheaton North game. "If we play as a team we can go very far," said Buenz, "but we have problems when there's one person who's out of it."

Aside from the team's recent success, Buenz broke a 15 year Ladycat record for scoring.

The forward, who became the all-time leading scorer for We-go as the Cats took down the Panthers of Glenbard North on January 30, prefers to focus on the future of the team rather than individual accomplishments.

"I'm looking forward to our team playing in Regionals and advancing as far as we can in the state tournament," said Buenz. To do so, the Cats will need to count on steady scoring from Buenz and Fijalkowski, the all-around effort of McQueen, and the defense of Barnes. While Buenz called Barnes the team's best defender, she also added, "When Angela is offensively aggressive, she helps the team."

The Ladycats' first post season game will be played in the Bishop Gym on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

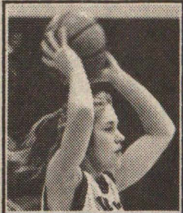


Photo by Sandy Weiss

Sectionals next for swimmers

By Tracy Morris

After a 12 meet schedule that concluded last night at We-go, the Wildcat guys swimming team will see sectional action next weekend.

Last night's meet, Sr. Parent Night against Streamwood, was to be the last meet for the Cats before they host Sectionals on Saturday, February 22.

Head Coach Len Penkala expected the meet (results were unavailable at press time) to be a final tune-up before post-season competition.

Prior to the meet, Penkala said, "The Streamwood meet will be kind of a test to see where we're at."

Where they're at has a lot to do with the training they've been doing as of late.

Although the guys have completed their endurance training stage, they still do two practices a day, much as the girls' team does.

According to Penkala, speed work is the key factor the Cats will be working on going into

Sectionals.

"We need to work a little bit on our first 25 pace," said Penkala.

One aspect of the team's line-up that could use some speed work is the medley team, which consists of senior trio Jeff Cain, Peter Grant,

(IMSA) and Oswego on Thursday, February 6.

En route to a 121-100-74 We-go win, Grant swam a first place time of 5:09 in the 500 Free event and Hartigan took first in the 100 Breast event.

Hartigan, who has already swam times below state cuts, and Grant were also both a part of the 200 Free relay team that took first in 1:37.

The post season line-up for the team depends largely on Hartigan. The senior has the freedom to choose what event he wants to swim.

Penkala is expecting the decision in the immediate future, not to long after last night's Streamwood meet.

Sophomore Mark Gottlieb and senior Ryan Acker are two swimmers Penkala noted had put in top performances.

Gottlieb grabbed first place in the 100 Back event, while Acker swam a 1:58 200 Free on his way to the top slot.

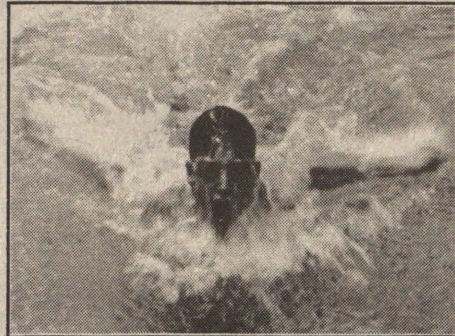


Photo by Sandy Weiss

Jai Hartigan, along with sophomore Josh Slattery.

"They're a little flat, because they haven't been doing enough speed work," said Penkala.

Hartigan and Grant have posted satisfactory times, most recently when West Chicago hosted Illinois Math and Science Academy

Wildcat Spring Sports Schedule

Boys basketball season comes to an end

By Amanda Pope

The Varsity Boys Basketball team went from an amazing seven game winning streak, to a five game losing streak. They lost to Naperville North and Geneva Friday and Saturday night, bringing their record to 10-9. What could the reasons be for their losses?

Mr. McCarthy, the head coach, seems to think "the boys have lost confidence." He believes the boys are still trying, but they need to hit the boards more often. He also believes that the boys need to commit less turnovers.

Senior center, Eric Daniel, a three year starter for We-go, says that "the team has lost intensity." He thinks it may be because the season is coming to an end.

The team has had the angel of injury sitting on their shoulders lately. Jeff Murphy, Josh Harris, and Tim Fraser, all seniors, have been injured this season. Not to mention that Brett Mackert and Josh Harris, also seniors have had the flu and missed several days of practice.

Earlier in the season, Jeff Murphy, a senior starter, was injured during a game against Naperville Central. He has been out due to a hairline fracture in his ankle, but is expected to play

against Wheaton Warrenville South.

Josh Harris twisted his ankle in a Junior Varsity game the following morning. He has recovered and been playing well.

Tim Fraser pulled some ligaments in his knee in the game against Geneva Saturday night. We hope that the angel of injury will fly to another team soon.

Eric Daniel says that when Murphy was injured, "The communication lowered." Mr. McCarthy supports his comments by adding, "The rotation was disturbed, so people were playing positions they weren't as comfortable playing." Both Eric and Coach McCarthy agree that the chemistry was effected.

Coach McCarthy has maintained his reputation for using the bench effectively. It's good to see that he's not just dependent on the starters.

As the season has progressed, the boy's free throw shots have improved, and forced turnovers due steals and their full court press have been a strong point. We-Go wishes the basketball team the best of luck in maintaining their goal of beating last year's record.

Badminton

Mon. Mar. 3 1st day of practice
 Mon. Mar. 17 @ York (JV/V)
 Fri. Mar. 21 @ Downers Grove S. (JV/V)
 Tue. Mar. 25 vs. Aurora East (JV/V)
 Wed. Mar. 26 @ DeKalb (JV/V)

Boys Basketball

Fri. Feb. 14 @ Naperville Central (S/V)
 Sat. Feb. 15 @ Naperville Central (FA,SB/FB,JV)
 Wed. Feb. 19 @ St. Charles (FA/FB)
 Fri. Feb. 21 @ Glenbard East (S/V)
 Sat. Feb. 22 @ York (S/V)
 Sat. Feb. 22 vs. Glenbard East (FA,SB/FB,JV)
 Mon. Feb. 24 vs. York (FA/FB)
 Wed. Feb. 26 vs. Wheaton North (FA/FB)
 Fri. Feb. 28 vs. Wheaton North (S/V)-Sr Parent Night
 Sat. Mar. 1 @ Wheaton North (F ONLY)
 Mon. Mar. 3-7 Regionals
 Tue. Mar. 11-12 Sectional Semifinals
 Thu. Mar. 13 Winter Awards Night - Bishop Gym
 Fri. Mar. 14 Sectional Finals
 Tue. Mar. 18 Super Sectionals
 Fri. Mar. 21-22 State Finals

Girls Basketball

Mon. Feb. 17-20 Regionals
 Mon. Feb. 24-27 Sectionals
 Mon. Mar. 3 Super Sectionals
 Thu. Mar. 6-8 State Finals
 Thu. Mar. 13 Winter Awards Night - Bishop Gym

Baseball

Mon. Mar. 3 1st day of practice

Girls Soccer

Mon. Mar. 10 1st day of practice
 Tue. Mar. 25 vs. Immaculate Heart of Mary (V)
 Wed. Mar. 26 JV @ We-go Middle School vs. Wheaton Academy (V)
 JV @ We-go Middle School

Softball

Mon. Mar. 3 1st day of practice

Boys Swimming

Sat. Feb. 22 Sectionals @ We-go
 Fri. Feb. 28 State Finals
 Sat. Mar. 1 State Finals
 Thu. Mar. 13 Winter Awards Night - Bishop Gym

Boys Tennis

Mon. Mar. 3 1st day of practice

Boys Track

Fri. Feb. 14 @ Rolling Meadows w/Maine West (FS/V)
 Mon. Feb. 24 vs. Elgin ; West Aurora (S/V)
 Sat. Mar. 1 @ Fenton - Jim Spivey Classic (V)
 Fri. Mar. 7 @ Glenbard North - Panther Invitational (V ONLY)
 Tue. Mar. 11 vs. Elgin Larkin (S/V)
 Sat. Mar. 22 DVC Invitational @ Glenbard South (S/V)
 Mon. Mar. 24 DVC Invitational @ Glenbard South (F ONLY)
 Tue. Mar. 25 @ Fenton - Junior Bison Invitational (F/S ONLY)

Girls Track

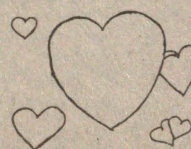
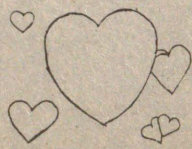
Sat. Feb. 15 @ Oswego w/ Joliet, Naperville Central (JV/V)
 Thu. Feb. 20 vs. East Aurora; Elgin Larkin
 Thu. Feb. 27 vs. Rosary; Streamwood (JV/V)
 Sat. Mar. 1 @ Rolling Meadows w/ Plainfield
 Tue. Mar. 4 vs. West Aurora; Wheaton North
 Sat. Mar. 15 @ Fenton - Kurtz Klassic (V)
 Fri. Mar. 21 DVC Invitational @ Glenbard South (JV/V)

Boys Volleyball

Mon. Mar. 10 1st day of practice
 Tue. Mar. 25 @ St. Joe's (JV/V)

Wrestling

Fri. Feb. 14-15 Sectionals @ Naperville North (V)
 Fri. Feb. 21-22 Individual State Finals
 Tue. Feb. 25 Team Sectionals
 Sat. Mar. 1 Team State Final
 Thu. Mar. 13 Winter Awards Night - Bishop Gym



Cats unhappy with fourth place finish in DVC

By Dan Horyn

The 96-97 season has been an oddity for the Wildcat wrestling program. Maybe not Dennis Rodman odd, but definitely not what the doctor ordered.

Head coach Bob Hein started the season skeptical of how successful the team could be. He now looks back and smiles, saying: "We've improved a great deal. We inherited only one winning record from last year. We've come a long way."

Indeed. The Cats finished fourth in the DVC, a one place jump from the previous year. Hein was displeased with fourth, however, as the team was seeded to take third place: "We were flat, but that happens. It's difficult to be up every time."

Senior co-captain Jaime Sanchez said, "There was a little more pressure on us; we were trying to live up to our seed."

Hein rationalized it though and said, "It's more important for us to

be at our best [for Regionals]."

The Cats were close. They finished fourth out of seven teams behind sectional qualifiers Adam

Fitzenreider (second, 125), **Humberto Ayala** (second, 160), **Jason Osterkamp** (second, 275), **Steve**

Pastore (third, 112), **Jaime Sanchez** (third, 125).

Ayala has been a rock all season long. His present record is 32-5 with most of his defeats decided by two points or less. He was disappointed that he did not win the conference title because he "wasn't mentally prepared for the [final] match."

But now that Ayala is coming off a strong Regional showing, he should expect to do well at Sectionals. The top three finishers

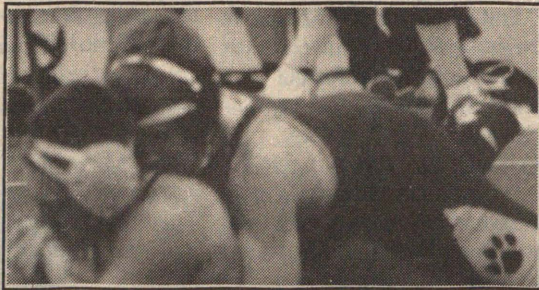


Photo by Josh Hitchcock

in each weight class go to State. The top three wrestlers in the state are in his sectional, so he will have to upset at least one of them. "I think that I can [pull an upset]. It's my senior year, so I don't have another season to look forward to, so I'll wrestle as hard as I can."

Following Ayala is a battered and bruised Adam Fitzenreider. The senior suffered three strained neck tendons in the middle of January, and his wrestling has been negatively affected by it. Fitzenreider did not place at Conference because of the injury. "It's very frustrating. You try to do something that you can't."

Fitzenreider is now 26-11, with half of those defeats coming while he was injured. Now that Fitzenreider has gotten past the Regional test, he is hoping his neck will hold out for Sectionals. He is undergoing two hours of neck therapy a day.

After the big three seniors comes a group of very solid wrestlers. Among these is Pastore and Osterkamp. Hein has praised the two because of their great improvement from last year. In addition to

Pastore and Osterkamp is Sanchez. Sanchez took fourth at conference in addition to his third place Regional finish.

Freshman Ben Stevens and senior Luke Stevens suffered at Regionals. Luke took fourth and narrowly missed qualifying for Sectionals. His bout with anemia might have had something to do with his subpar performance. Ben wrestled at 140. He has matured greatly in his freshman season, and the varsity experience should make him a sure bet State qualifier for next year. Ben said that in order to be a more successful wrestler, he will need to work on his muscle tone.

Whatever happens at Sectionals and State, Hein can be assured his Cats have been overachievers this year. Look to see how they wrestle at Sectionals today and tomorrow at Naperville North.

Ladycat track preparing for future

By Dan Horyn

With a multitude of freshmen and a lack of seniors, the Ladycat track team starts its season tomorrow younger and larger than ever.

Head coach Wilbert Walters presently has about thirty girls—predominantly freshmen and juniors—to work with. This total is ahead of where the Cats were at this time last year. Also, the number is about the same as the amount of girls who were on the team at the end of last year's season. In addition, Walters is anticipating the addition of five to ten girls from various winter sports.

Low turnout has been a problem for girls track over the years. After the graduation of Jill Branner, Marisol Garcia, and Lyndsy Paver in 1996, it appeared that the problem would once again repeat itself.

Instead Walters was blessed with one of his largest freshman turnouts ever. Many of the freshmen come from the cross country team. Consequently, the distance corps consists of about 12 girls.

Distance coach Kelly Kolasa is excited. She is also the head girls cross country coach, and has seen the freshman girls grow over the past months. Kolasa feels that she can put together a decent 4 by 800 meter relay team.

Behind sophomore Nicole Adams and freshmen Crystal Adams, Merrit Olsen, and Jenny Wiecher, Kolasa believes that "three years down the line those girls are going to be awesome."

With juniors Lindsey Leckner and Andrea Beutjer in the waiting, it appears that there will be six girls to choose from for the 4 by 800 meter relay each meet: "If we can get the juniors in," said Kolasa, then hopefully the girls can "get a taste of success."

Walters might have one of his stronger throwing groups in the last couple years, saying, "The throwing crew perhaps will score the most points for us." Leading

that gang is junior Shannon Baker and sophomore Jamie Shanks.

Last year's sprinting sophomores have turned into this season's junior leaders. Walters can no longer count on his juniors to score junior varsity points—it is clear that his junior sprinters will be competing almost exclusively on the varsity level.

One problem that Walters must immediately face is the unexpected loss of two contributors from last year. Walters was anticipating using these two girls along with other seasoned veterans to put together a strong 4 by 400 meter relay team. Unfortunately, Walters is "right back at stage one."

Nevertheless, he should expect junior sprinter Lexie Nussbaum to score some big varsity points this year. Walters considers her his number one sprinter, and will possibly be looking for her to run the 200 meter dash as well as anchor some sprint relays.

Along with Nussbaum, Walters expects Leckner to contribute in the 400, 800, and medley relays. He will also be looking to sophomore Megan Horgan, who he considers to have "great potential". Horgan is a sprinter.

The rest is a question mark Walters won't find the answer to for at least a few weeks. He is looking at "untested" sophomore Teresa Leach among a group of similar girls who have not seen much competition.

Senior Leslie Kurzawa, who runs the 400, should also be considered to be a potential point scorer.

The Ladycats are lacking in the jumping categories. Junior Janine Morris does it all, including a 4'10" high jump last year, but after her the jumps are nonexistent. The hurdles are a similar story. With the departure of Paver last year, junior Becky Blenkle is the only experienced hurdler Walters has.

After that, three incoming freshmen from Benjamin represent potential for the Ladycat program

because they broke nearly every Benjamin sprinting record.

There are no captains at this time, probably because the season is early, but also because seniors are few and far between.

If the girls can overcome their youthful hurdle, then expect to see a couple of stronger relays, as well as some shot put and discus points.

The Ladycats first meet is tomorrow.

I'm here to pump...you up

By Jeff Goluszka

The domino effect continued in the West Chicago athletic department in late November when Kevin Nejedlo was replaced by new weight trainer Dan DePhillips. This decision follows a coaching change in basketball, and three coaching changes in football.

Nejedlo left to pursue a career as a fireman. DePhillips, currently a Special Education teacher at Lake Park High School, wanted to come to We-go to help teens with weight lifting the same way he was helped as a student at Fenton High School in Bensenville.

The 31-year old University of Tennessee grad has had quite an affect on We-go's weight lifting program. A weight lifting sophomore, Dan Young, had these thoughts on DePhillips: "He puts you on a program...and I can tell it's working already. He's an all-around good guy."

DePhillips looks to be a perfect match with our school. He referred to our students as "dedicated, looking to improve, nice, friendly and willing to listen." In comparison with Lake Park, he believes we need more student involvement, but basically

there's not much difference in the weight lifting program.

DePhillips says that many of the students involved are beginners, so he has them started on a basic program of bench press, leg lifting, etc. His motto, "To have good technique, enthusiasm and safety," basically explains his philosophy on lifting. His long-term goals in the program include students getting stronger, healthier and becoming winners in their sport.

DePhillips started lifting at age 20, and did bodybuilding and power lifting shows to start off. He applied here 14 months ago, and started in November.

Varsity football and freshman baseball coach John Walters had the following thoughts on DePhillips: "He does a great job. He's helped us out tremendously as far as form and technique, he knows a lot about weight training."

The West Chicago weight room can be used by anyone who is a student here at We-go. For more information, go to the P.E. office and talk to Ms. George or the receptionist. DePhillips can be found every day after school in the weight room until 5 pm.

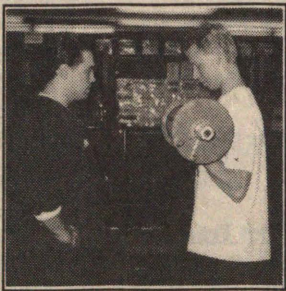


Photo by Jeff Goluszka

Top Ten Reasons Shaq can't play basketball

By Dan Young

10. His dad forgot to tell him to take it to the hole via 1-800-COLLECT.

9. His free throw broke the backboard at his house.

8. ShaqFu

7. Can we say Kazaam?

6. His mom forgot to give him his Robitussin.

5. Mickey Mouse doesn't like him anymore.

4. Will Purdue beat him out for the Chunky Cambell's soup commercial.

3. Now he doesn't have Lil' Penny to tell him where his shots are.

2. Now that he lives in L.A., he can visit his family more. (Because L.A. can't make it past the second round.)

1. Can't compare to the legendary Vlade Divac.

