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See what students are saying about SADD on page 2.



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Wildcat Chronicle



West Chicago Community High School
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West Chicago, IL 60185
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Referendum passes

Changes to occur next summer

By Dan Young

The plans to start the \$29.8 referendum will start during the summer after this year. Superintendent Dr. Griff Powell and the school board are ready to begin the process of reconstructing the boiler room and adding more classrooms within the next four years.

The board met on November 18 to celebrate its victory and ratify plans for the destruction of the old football field and construction of the new one, the addition of new classrooms, the new boiler and much more.

The plans start with the removal of the fields on the west side of the school. The track, football field, and tennis courts will be removed. The garages and concession stands will also be removed. All of these actions will take place before or during the fall of 1998.

The improvements start this coming summer, so the board isn't wasting any time. The plan will include a new kitchen by

August of 1999, more classrooms by the fall of 2000 and a new boiler for June of 2001. Everything will be completed by August of 2001.

Powell said, "Most of the referendum will be seen by the freshman class. They will probably have classes in the new additions and be heated by the new heater."

Construction of the tennis courts, concession stands, P.E. fields, locker rooms, garages, and additions to the science department will be completed by the end of spring of 1999. The plan has five different stages and will take until August of 2001.

There are a couple of minor problems with the plan, like the sports moving off campus. The members of the class of 1999 who play football won't have a game at the current West Chicago field for their senior year. It is still undecided as to where they will play. There will be no fall play in 2000 and all concerts

will be moved to the gym.

The referendum just barely passed, with a percentage of about 51.5. There were 4,841 voters and 2,495 voted yes. All of the voting districts went up in yes vote percentage. The smallest gain in yes vote percentage was three percent, with a largest of 20 percent.

Powell said he felt "pleasantly surprised (the referendum passed). I had cautious optimism because the chances of losing were very high." Powell said he was "thrilled when I saw we won. It was close all of the way."

Powell also said, "It was more like this referendum passed because there wasn't another school referendum on the ballot. There was the open spaced referendum for the forest preserves, but it didn't affect our referendum."

Powell would like to add about "50 more acres of property (to the existing campuses). Mostly for athletics and outside areas.

Chess places 2nd in Wildcat Invitational

By Dan Young

The chess team opened its season with a second place finish behind last year's state champion IMSA in the Wildcat Invitational.

The Cats played well according to assistant coach Tim Martin, but lack of experience showed up when they played IMSA.

The Wildcats currently have a record of 3-1 verses tough opponents. They lost the match to IMSA, but came up victorious against New Trier, Belville East, and Marmion.

Martin said, "I think we match up really well against anyone, especially IMSA. They beat us because we didn't have the experience to match up with them. We will get the experience when we play more games."

Head coach Joe Splinter said, "We started off about the same as last year. However, we are more confident this year." They got great play from seniors Justin Sadauskas, Kevin Brewer, captain Blair Machaj and Alfredo Muhlburger. Sadauskas and Brewer were both undefeated, while Muhlburger was 3-1 and

Machaj played solidly on the second board. "Dennis Janek and Ryan Begy showed poise in their first year," said Splinter.

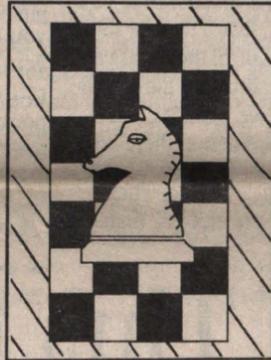
The team is a combination of seniors and freshman, with a lack of sophomores and juniors. However, this doesn't pose a problem to Splinter. He said, "We are excited about our combination. It is a perfect mix of seniors and freshman."

Splinter said, "They are ready for the tough teams like IMSA. There is no real difference where we play them, just how much experience we have

under our belts. We really need to work hard on our middle game, but the team is really shaping up well. We will be ready for state and nationals when we get there."

The team is preparing for sectionals and state by practicing and entering tournaments. "They are almost ready to take on the IMSA's and the New Triers of the state. All we need is a little more experience and we are there," said Machaj.

Kevin Brewer summed up the invite and the outlook on the Wildcat season when he said We-go is "a definite contender."



New board members for District #94

By Kelly Kaylor

The District 94 school board elections were held November 4, resulting in two newcomers and two incumbents being elected from the seven candidates.

The elected were Patricia Davidson and Karen Kostal (newcomers), and Richard Nagel and Maria Owens (incumbents). The entire race was a close finish with no candidate winning by a major margin.

New addition to the board, Davidson, was the former president of the Wildcat Booster Club, and has been a resident of West Chicago for over 25 years. She is confident in her abilities to work with the other board members, and hopes to help the high school staff reach out more into the community.

Her son, Nick, was a 1997

graduate of We-go.

Another newly elected board member is Winfield resident, Kostal, who is looking forward to her part in making a difference in her community. She has also been a member of the Winfield Zoning Board, Winfield in Action, and the Winfield Junior Women's Club.

Kostal's son, Mike, is currently a sophomore at We-go.

Nagel will be serving his second term. In his last term he was chairman of the board's finance committee, part of negotiations held for teacher contracts, and was actively involved in the process of selecting the new superintendent.

Nagel has been a resident of the city for over 20 years, and was an eight year member of the West Chicago District 33's Founda-

tion for Educational Excellence. His goals for the board are to incorporate technology into the school's curriculum and secure the opportunity for students to take cross curriculum courses (such as the C3 program).

His son, Dan, graduated last year from the school and his daughter, Beth, is a junior.

Another second term electee is Owens, who was also involved in last year's selection of new superintendent Griff Powell.

A 27-year resident of the city, she stresses the importance of strong relations between the board and other taxing bodies. She was a former member of the West Chicago Park Board.

Other members of the board are: Gerald Landis (President), Deborah E. Skidgel (Secretary), and Michael Mueller.

Blood drive a success

By Jennifer Lasky

This year's biannual blood drive, sponsored by student council, exceeded last year's total by bringing in 93 units of blood.

The drive, held on Wednesday, November 19, was organized by Lifesource, a blood center in Glen Ellyn.

Lifesource replaced Heartland blood centers. "It seems more organized this year. The environment is more friendly," said student council representative, senior Lisa Mueller.

Tim Sajewski, director of new business development for Lifesource, says high schools are a good place to hold blood drives because high school students are the biggest contributors of blood. He says high schools donate between 60 and 70 units of blood.

The center will not take blood from people who have low iron, weigh less than 110 pounds, have had a tattoo or piercing in the past year, have had a homosexual experience since 1977, have or think they have AIDS, hepatitis syphilis, anyone who is pregnant, or anyone who has used needles for drugs.

Sajewski says if donors prepare by eating healthy and drinking plenty of fluids, they should be fine after giving blood.

Letters to the Editor

Clarification of SADD's actions

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the letter written in the last newspaper, "Not So SADD After All." I would like to correct some of the misconceptions mentioned in the article. Bill Crothers mentions the handmade posters in the hallway that he says were made by SADD members. Those posters were not made by anyone here at We-go; they were made by elementary students. They made posters for us to hang in our hallways, and we made posters for them to hang in their halls. Perhaps the elementary student's posters were not as creative as a high school student's, but it can't be helped.

Mr. Crothers also mentions that "SADD shouldn't focus on keeping teens from drinking." SADD's main focus is drinking and driving (hence the name Students Against Driving Drunk), but if people do stop drinking because of us, great. The bells on Friday also seemed to be a concern. I personally got a lot of positive response (and not just from SADD members, their close friends, and family members). People told me when they heard the bells, they took a moment and thought about it. As far as the discussions your class got into over it, that's not our fault. If a teacher cannot control their class and allows you to start talking in the middle of a test, something we cannot control.

As for the announcements, there were some that were read that had no numbers in them. For example: College students spend more money on alcohol than on

books." I did not expect anyone to memorize the statistics that were read. There was not going to be a test on them at the end of each week. I just wanted people to hear them and be aware. Believe it or not, some people did remember some of the announcements that were read.

Also I do not have a monotone voice. I may not have read those announcements with a lot of enthusiasm and spunk, but would you have read them like someone just won something? "You just won the dead prize, have a nice trip, and we'll see you soon!!!"

After the article was published in the paper, SADD invited Bill to the next meeting. I was rather surprised when he showed up with some of his friends. After they started talking, I found that they were acting foolishly and they only had one major point: "who cares." After one of them swore at us, maybe they were thinking that they were better than we were.

Many of us are going to be graduating soon, and out in the 'real world' you are presented with statistics, facts, and choices. If someone tells you a statistic you cannot tell them, "Preach to those who want to be preached and leave the rest of us alone." And when you are presented with a choice, you need to make an informed decision. Until people stop drinking and driving, I will continue to inform people any way that I can.

Lisa Mueller

Need facts before judgement

Dear Editor,

This is in response to the letter entitled "Not so SADD after all". First of all, I'm not going to stoop down to the level that some people in our school will to get a point across. In this response, I would just like to say that unless you have all the facts straight, none of the clubs at our school deserve criticism from anyone. All the clubs in our school including SADD and We-go Cares, try their hardest at getting the point of their club across. I agree that everyone is entitled to have say in whether or not they agree to what the clubs stand for, but they should not bash the club unless they have done the utmost to try and change it for the better. Being a member of many clubs, including We-go's own SADD, we do advocate the message not to drive while drunk, but also participated in a nation wide event called Red Ribbon Week, which promotes not only the message of not driving while intoxicated, but gives the awareness of drug and alcohol related problems.

Another issue that comes to mind is the one involving SADD announcements third hour on Wednesdays. I agree that some students in the school could care

less about the numbers that are read, but there are those that do listen to them (yes, other than SADD members). If any of the students in the school think that they could come up with a better way to inform We-go about how many people are killed or injured in drunk driving collisions, then they should inform the members of SADD, instead of attacking the students who read the facts during announcements.

What I'm trying to get across is that the only way something will ever get changed is if someone does something about it. Anyone can criticize a club, but do they have the right to tell the school how they feel in a condescending way when they don't try to change what they feel is wrong? At least the club SADD is trying their hardest at getting their message across. If SADD reaches just one person, then that's all that matters. Next time if a student would like to express their feelings toward a club, or any issue concerning others in the school, try doing it in a tactful manner, because the only issue that is being portrayed is that of ignorance.

Sincerely,
Kari Flagg

This time around

Dear Editor,

Since the last letter didn't provoke the response I hoped, we might as well have another go at it.

There were three responses to the last article. First, there were the students also annoyed by all the crap SADD has done. I got congratulations all around. Then there were the half way people, those stuck on the idea that SADD has a good cause and should not be criticized, even though they believed in some of what I said.

Then there were the narrow-minded, the SADD affiliated, the few. A common phrase came from them: "you have no right to say what you did about SADD." Ever hear of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

These people were so into the SADD frame of mind they couldn't open their minds enough to see the ideas. They couldn't even accept the criticism and refute it, they just decided what I said was wrong. I have one word for people who think like that. Ignorant.

I took the invitation to go to a SADD meeting. This was one of the most intellectual arguments in my life (cough, cough). I was under the assumption I would go to the meeting to see how SADD works and how they get some of these stupid ideas to flow.

Well, I was wrong. When I walked in, they were finishing business matters, and 'got ready' for me. Most pulled out copies of the newspaper, many had even highlighted several passages in my article. Highlighted! It was pretty sad(d).

We started with the posters. Remem-

ber how I said they look like they were made by fifth-graders? SADD let me know it's because they were. It was supposed to be part of some exchange with a fifth-grade somewhere (they never let me know where.)

When I asked why 5th-grade level posters were being used on a high school class, they couldn't bring up a valid answer. They argued back in a circle and said it was all about how valuable it was for the exchange. Which means to me, they didn't have an answer.

The next thing brought up was the actual name and focus of the group. Unfortunately, the group couldn't seem to reach a consensus. A few students were set on Students Against Dangerous Decision Making. Most of the group was set on Students Against Drinking and Driving, not Driving Drunk as I think it should be (and it really is. Check out the banner in commons.)

They believed they should also work against drinking and the two words should function separately. They're working against drinking. Does this mean they're working against driving too?

Then they hit the root of the problem. They think if they can stop teens from drinking, they will effectively stop them from driving drunk. Unfortunately, as I said in my last article, ITS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN! No one is going to stop teens from drinking.

I guess all the SADD members were too steamed to read the whole thing. Maybe I should say it again. YOU CAN'T STOP TEENS FROM DRINKING IF

THEY WANT TO.

No one, (nor any group) should dictate what people do for fun. But stopping them from killing themselves and/or other people is a perfectly valid and a perfectly possible idea.

My gratitude to the president, Tiffany Hanshaw, for one of the few intelligent things done in the meeting by keeping it away from a personal attack.

What I've done is what I'm willing to bet has never happened to SADD before. I've forced them to stand up to criticism. They've grown so used to doing what they want under the guise of 'a good cause' no one ever bothered to look through it. They don't seem to be able to stand up to it very well.

In the last article, people were angry about the little stab at Lisa Mueller. I suppose I shouldn't have left that in. It took away from the actual point of the article, and gave too many people an excuse to find fault with the article when there was none, aside from that. I do not intend to apologize, I meant what I said, as I mean what I am now saying.

Oh yeah, does anybody know how I can get things sent through in school mail? I received a rather nasty and very personal letter from Lisa Mueller right in the middle of my Calculus class, by a school messenger on school time.

Does this mean in school mail is open to students we can send personal mail through the school to other people during classes? If so, I want to know how. If not, I'd like to know why Lisa Mueller can abuse the system and what our administration will do about it.

Bill Crothers

Don't learn the hard way

Dear Editor,

In response to Bill Crother's letter (October 30), I would like to say that your sarcasm about drinking says nothing positive about you. The point of the bells and the statistics about drunk driving was not to be annoying (as you made it seem), but it was to make everyone aware of the risk of driving intoxicated. Maybe someday you, Bill, will be in the position of wanting to drive drunk or riding in a car with someone who is drunk, but will decide not to. Maybe you will decide it is wrong because you will remember the bells telling you that every 26 minutes someone is killed because of a drunk driver. And remembering that may save your life.

SADD knows that teens will drink and it is not their purpose to try and stop drinking. It is the driving that they want to prevent - driving while intoxicated. SADD is not trying to lecture or annoy people. They are only trying to prevent the headache death causes. Would you rather learn not to drink and drive by losing your mother or brother or best friend? Or would you rather learn in advance so that you do not have to bury an innocent person?

Julea Hodge

First, not always

foremost



By Allison Taylor

It seems as though every holiday has turned into an excuse to receive gifts and candy or buy thousands of decorations to make the holiday more "meaningful."

There is only one major holiday that hasn't changed into a consumer wasteland. That holiday is Thanksgiving.

Christmas is more geared to Santa and his elves. The true meaning of Christmas seems lost in piles of tinsel and holly.

The same is true for Easter. People remember that we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, however many people just celebrate the Easter Bunny.

Thanksgiving is the one holiday that hasn't lost its meaning.

In 1621, Governor William Bradford of Plymouth colony held a day of thanksgiving and prayer, to celebrate the first successful harvest. This celebration included pilgrims and Native Americans alike, and food was shared by all.

They ate berries, corn, and turkey. They prayed to God for the plentiful harvest and celebrated as a community.

Today, people still gather together to give thanks for what they have. Families eat Thanksgiving dinner and remember why they should be grateful.

People even eat the same types of foods, like turkey, potatoes, and cranberries.

I know that not everyone believes in God or in holidays like Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving. However people should always set aside a time when they can give thanks for what they have.

It doesn't have to be on Thanksgiving Day, it could be any old day. The idea of

Thanksgiving is something that most people can relate to.

The holiday represents everything that is good in the world, yet it is constantly pushed aside by the jingle of Santa's sleigh bells. Every year Christmas comes a little earlier in the stores and on television.

Immediately following the Halloween specials are commercials with little Suzy and Michael sitting under the Christmas tree wishing for some new holiday toy. The public is ecstatic for the "holiday season" to begin, and many seem to forget that Thanksgiving is part of that "holiday season."

Just because stores don't sell Thanksgiving trees or Turkey lights doesn't mean the holiday is any less important. Thanksgiving is a holiday that requires few decoration and no gifts. It is a time for family and friends to be together.

Thanksgiving is one of the only American holidays. Christmas and Easter began in other countries about two thousand years ago.

Thanksgiving began less than 400 years ago in the United States. It should be the most important holiday, but it is not.

I love Christmas just as much as the next person, but I think Thanksgiving doesn't get enough credit.

People always seem to forget about it until a week before, yet they know the exact number of days until Christmas.

This year try to remember why we celebrate Thanksgiving.

Give thanks. Be happy. Eat turkey.

Senior Column

The choice is yours

By Kelly Kaylor

We are faced with decisions every day of our lives, some more minimal than others. Yet, as seniors we are approaching one of the most crucial choices of our adult years—college. To go or not to go? Why to go? How to go? And the list of deciding factors goes on and on.

We all wish our minds would be made up and we could finally take advantage of what remains of our high school years. Yet, there are schools to narrow down, campuses to visit, applications to be completed, and financial aid to be applied for. Will the insanity ever stop?

Personally, my main concern in thinking about the next four years of my life is *will I be happy where I go?* I have this need for assurance that the university I choose is where I belong, and that I will not regret my decision.

However, the reality of the situation is that I could make the wrong choice, and end up somewhere I do not fit in. All hope shall not be lost though, because I know that no decision ever has to be final. A life lesson at hand... "no choice is ever wrong, it is how you choose to react to it that determines your success".

High school is full of minor tribulations that are blown out of proportion and over-analyzed. There is not a single person who could truthfully admit to never having a single regret. No one is perfect and mistakes are allowed to be made.

We all have choices to make that determine who we are or will become. We have a control over our lives that most fail to realize. It is how we choose to make use of such power that reflects who we are.

Take advantage of the time remaining of your "childhood," or if you choose "the best years of your life". The minor decisions we face day to day such as; what to do on Saturday night, whether or not to resolve the petty tiff with your best friend, or whom to date, have no major importance in the overall scheme of things.

All of the above are teenage worries, insignificant problems that are major because we have nothing better to think about. It is scary to say, but enjoy this while it lasts.

Do not take for granted the people, places, and things around you now, relish them before June 7th rolls around and we commence our days as kids.

At this time in one year, our lives will be completely rearranged, and we will be completely dependent on our decision-making skills. Make your decisions and stick with them, do not look back, and attempt to make the best of every situation you are in.

"Living is a form of not being sure, but not knowing what next or how. We guess. We may be wrong, but take leap after leap in the dark..." -Agnes de Mille.

It's tough to not look back and live with regrets, but remember mistakes are inevitable. With every mistake made, a chance for redemption is available. Use your best judgment.



News Flash

The class of 1997 graduated five and a half months ago.

So why is it Student of the Month pictures were not posted by the auditorium until several days ago?

Is it because whoever is in charge of putting the pictures in the display case was sick for the first two months of school?

Was somebody on strike for 170 days?

What about during the summer? It is hard to believe not a single person was around to take Katie Wilkovich's name down from the marquee.

Well, it was good for Katie; she got to be student of the month for June, July and August. Great recognition, but poor Katie didn't even get her picture in the case.

Trisha Tinnes and Leslie Harlson had touching tributes read over third hour announcements, but to everyone's knowledge, September and October's students of the month were Josh Brown and Annalea Jimmo.

Is the class of '98 not so important as the preceding class that they do not deserve pictorial recognition? Shouldn't we live in the moment, not dwell in the past?

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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 the student body.

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the Chronicle box in the main office. Letters to the editor must be signed 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.

"Divoon, simply divoon"

By Tommy Walton

Opening up the year for Community High School was the fall play, *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*.

The play boasts a super cast of well-spoken actors and actresses flaunting excellent acting.

The play opens up with an outstandingly funny scene featuring the Maid (Tanya Austin), and a burglar (Brian Jones). The burglar killed the maid, and had a tough time trying to hide her. His funny hand and head movements made the scene hilarious.

Act I, scene I, started on one late evening, and takes us through almost 2 days. The guests of the home show up periodically, and kind of have a *Clue* type feel to them. Some people show up at random, although their appearance was necessary.

The first coincidental guest was Patrick O'Reilly, the Irish Tenor (Michael Petrik). Quite a nice Irish accent, I might say. When he first shows up he seems polite and courteous, but he has a surprise.

One of the funnier performances was by Steve Garcia as Eddie McCuen. Eddie was a comic who was not funny on purpose, but it turned out to be amusing.

Another one of the better per-

formances, and winner of The Best Made up Name Award, was that of Marjorie Baverstock played by Liz Edwards. Although her performance was extremely short, she made a lovely rich person.

The admission was \$2 for students, and \$3 for adults, and well worth the hard earned cash. The performances were exemplary, for the most part anyway, and the huge crew worked many-o-long hours to make the props and the lighting just perfect.

As for the attendance of the play, the Thursday opening night was the slow night, but the attendance rose as the weekend drew on.

The plot of the play was solid, and quite confusing. Most of the time it had you wondering who the mysterious Stage Door Slasher was, and where people went. Also included in the old home were many eerie passages that were supposedly secret, but everyone seemed to know about them anyway.

Once again, the play production crew, the actors and actresses, and the organizers deserve a round of applause for putting out another fine-quality play. A most enjoyable, well produced play that everyone involved in the making should be very proud of.

The OzzMan is here

By Jeff Goluszka

After stepping away from music just four years ago, Ozzy Osbourne has returned in full force with his second release since, *The OzzMan Cometh*.

Osbourne's new album follows his 1995 release of *Ozzmosis*, a clear display that Ozzy is not done.

OzzMan is not a brand new album, but was released November 11 as a double-disc greatest hits collection.

There are songs from all seven of Ozzy's in-studio albums, plus two live songs to give you a feel of his on-stage performances.

Also included is one previously unreleased song, "Back On Earth," which was left off of *Ozzmosis*. As for why, I'm not sure, but it was a mistake because "Back On Earth" is now a hit song on the radio, and it could've added tremendously to *Ozzmosis*.

There are four previously unreleased demos done in 1970 by Osbourne's former band, Black Sabbath.

Also, just to make sure you absorb enough Ozzy, a 17-minute interview is tacked on at the end of the second disc.

There is an unusual twist to

this album, as it is separated into two discs, with disc one having 15 tracks and the second disc only three. I'm not sure why this was done, but it detracts from the quality of the album, as the disc two only contains the interview and the two demo songs.

The first disc contains "Black Sabbath" and "War Pigs" by Black Sabbath, songs from Ozzy's 1970 *Basement Tapes*. Two other demos were from those tapes, "Fairies Wear Boots" and "Behind the Wall of Sleep" appear on the second disc.

"Back on Earth," is on the first disc. It is in very good company, as it is matched along with timeless hits "Crazy Train," "Mr. Crowley," "Over the Mountain," "Bark at the Moon," "No More Tears," "Mama, I'm Coming Home" and Ozzy's self-proclaimed first hit single "Shot in the Dark," which mold this album into one of the greatest compilations in the history of rock.

Overall, *The OzzMan Cometh* amounts to a full collection of the first 25 years of Ozzy Osbourne's musical career, spanning from his beginning Black Sabbath days, to his most recent release *Ozzmosis*.

Ozzy's musical career started way back in 1968, when he was only 20 years old. He began as the vocalist with former bandmates Tony Iommi, Geezer Butler and Bill Ward to form the metal mainstay Black Sabbath.

Ozzy departed the band in the late '70's after tension had begun to develop between Osbourne and the band.

Ozzy began recording with his own band in 1980, and the rest is history, as his first album, *Blizzard Of Ozz*, went gold.

His story continues in the present, with the 49-year old Osbourne, still as exciting and lively as ever.

One amazing thing usually overlooked about Ozzy, is for the 17 songs on this album, there were a total of 22 different musicians that played in his band, for different reasons.

Ozzy literally had a new band for each album he put out but that doesn't seem to matter. It's as if no matter who plays for him, he still produces great music.

The OzzMan Cometh is a definite must have for all rock 'n' roll, hard rock and heavy metal fans of all ages and attitudes.

Zeppelin Rocks 'n Rolls

By Tommy Walton

Led Zeppelin's Rock Classic is known to many fans as *Zoso*.

The rock-anthem style that "Black Dog" was written in is one of the most classic songwriting tools used by guitarist Jimmy Page. The solid rock drumming of the late John Bonham. The high pitched squeal of Robert Plant's vocals. The thundering lows of John Paul Jones' bass. This is the epitome of the Rock and Roll era. These four started a trend in music that will never be forgotten.

Perhaps the most out-of-place song on the album is the third track, "The Battle of Evermore." The song's uniqueness comes from yet another innovative idea by Jimmy Page. His thought: use a sitar as the main guitar. This was practically unheard of back in the days of arena rock and is unheard of even these days. The haunting sitar line plays through the song with seemingly effortless ease. Plant's whiny vocals drone their way through the entire song.

The next song on the CD is the definitive Zep song, "Stairway to Heaven." This very song just may have given Zep the extra kick in the butt they needed to become Rock Gods. The very combination of mellow acoustic guitars and a gentle voice combined with a great guitar solo, then a substantially heavy part at the end with the lyric "As I wind on down the road..."

"Misty Mountain Hop," starts off with a toy organ sounding a catchy theme played through the entire the song. Plant's vocals enhance the heaviness of the song, and keep it running very smoothly.

"Four Sticks," is a very interesting melody in the least. The song is going at a waltz-paced 6/8 time, but it's really more of a sloppily 4/4 time intended for the sole purpose of the song sounding more melodic. Page, the pioneer of modern guitar, makes his strings scream with mild distortion and a blues-ish feeling.

"Going to California" is another mellow song, but is one of the most catchy songs on the entire album. It's very rhythmic, and pretty much flows itself through the entire time. Plant's high-pitched vocals seem comical at times.

The last song on *Zoso*, "When the Levee Breaks," starts off with a very solid drum beat which has been sampled by plenty of modern bands, including Cypress Hill and The Beastie Boys. The actual song is very blues oriented, and kind of backs up to the roots of Rock and Roll. All in all, there's some lovely slide work with Page's guitar, and erie, haunting, vocals.

The validity of this rock epic will never be questioned, merely worshipped by millions of Rock fans, and die hard Zep fans.

It's all cracked up to *Bean* and more

By Arlete Penaflor and Jeff Goluszka

Following in the footsteps of "Wayne's World," *Bean* has shown that some television shows can also be good movies.

Mr. Bean is a wonderfully-hilarious and refreshing movie.

Looking at past TV shows that have been made into movies for expansion. *Bean* is based on the PBS program "Mr. Bean," which is about a man who lives in London and has to deal with the way things are in life, but not the same way people usually do. He always seems to find a way to do things his own way which seem to get him into a mess.

Many of the same things that make the show funny are also used in the movie. Some of them are, making the simple process of cooking a turkey into a total disaster by getting his head stuck inside it. Then falling asleep in a chair and falling over when he should be awake paying attention to something important, looking in the mirror and making funny faces, among many other things that he does. The movie is based on the same skits used on the show.

The film starts out very unusual, as *Bean* (played by Rowan Atkinson) begins his day early in the morning. This gives it a twist over other movies where they get right to the point at the

beginning.

Bean works at the Britain's Royal National Gallery of Art in London where he "sits in a corner and looks at paintings," all day, as he tells everyone. Unknowingly, he is about to be fired by his superiors because of incompetence and repeated tardiness.

Next, the unsuspecting *Bean* is sent to Los Angeles, where he happens to get in trouble with the airport security on his arrival to the airport. Later on he meets his host, David Langley (played by Peter MacNicol, from *Ghostbusters II*) who is the head of the whole event with Whistlers painting.

Bean doesn't waste any time making a fool out of himself in front of everyone. Langley and *Bean* come across as the perfect team in this film. Langley mistaken by the image he was given of *Bean* at first, expects a total genius who knows everything there is to possibly know about art. Is faced with the harsh reality when he first meets *Bean*. From that moment on he has to figure out a way to make things go smoothly or his whole career is in jeopardy.

Not only does Langley worry about his job but about his marriage, his wife (Pamela Reed from *Kinderergarten Cop*,) feels

that it's either *Bean* or his family. Throughout the movie *Bean* learns one major lesson what family and friends really mean to people.

The movie just keeps getting funnier when *Bean* can't stop from getting himself into sticky situations. One involves a security guard, and an entire bottle of laxative powder. Then another which involves a \$50 million dollar painting and a jug of paint thinner.

Bean just keeps getting dumber and dumber in this hilarious motion picture. His ability to make good decisions fluctuates, as in one instance he is making a man terribly ill, the next he is saving two lives.

Overall, Atkinson and MacNicol and the rest of the cast make an excellent team, providing a stunningly-hilarious movie that made the successful switch from television to film. Adding every little detail from the show into the movie, unlike other movies such as *Stuart Saves His Family*, which flip many things around and make the movie hard to follow.

Bean won't win any awards for movie of the year, but it will make you laugh.

★★★

Metallica *Re-Load's* for '97

By Jeff Goluszka

Metallica shocked the world again with the release of their new album, *Re-Load*.

The two albums split up because of time constraints. Metallica headlined the Lollapalooza tour in '96, so the band recorded the 14 tracks that were the quickest to finish. However, quicker does not equal better, as *Re-Load* is clearly the better of the two.

On *Re-Load*, Metallica is a surprise with an extremely unusual song called "Low Man's Lyric," in which the band includes the sounds of a violin, an unconventional, somewhat guitar-sounding instrument. The ending effect is a very slow, calming and different type of song.

The first single released off *Re-Load*, "The Memory Remains," includes a guest appearance by folk singer Marianne Faithfull. She holds the distinction of being the first ever guest vocalist on a Metallica album. In "The Memory Remains," she delivers some eerie, spine-tingling vocals in the middle and end of the song.

I feel these vocals make this a great song. However, it may be to the disappointment of many

Metallica fans, but give Metallica credit for turning a good song into a great song by incorporating Faithfull.

Other than the awkward creepiness of "Low Man's Lyric," Metallica overall delivers thirteen songs that combine to be not only heavier, but better than those on *Load*.

Some of those songs, "Fuel," "Better Than You," "Slither," "Prince Charming" and "Attitude" bring back some of the old, heavy sound that Metallica fans have missed.

Re-Load is exactly how drummer Lars Ulrich described it, "a combination of *Master Of Puppets* and *Load*."

Load was much lighter than *Puppets*, with more of a 1970's metal and blues sound to it, with more crooning and rhythm vocals from vocalist James Hetfield, instead of the fan-favored growling and fast-paced screaming found on *Puppets*.

Hetfield's voice is very diverse, but in a good way.

The first track on *Re-Load*, "Fuel," contains some of Hetfield's growling and screaming, as the song and the album start out with Hetfield barking

out "Gimme fuel, gimme fire, gimme that which I desire!" which is followed by Hetfield on rhythm guitar, lead guitarist Kirk Hammett, bassist Jason Newsted and drummer Lars Ulrich launching into the song in unison.

Metallica recorded a sequel to "The Unforgiven," "The Unforgiven II."

The follow-up to "The Unforgiven" was done for a couple of reasons. "It's probably the hardest song for us to play live and we basically stopped doing it. This, in a roundabout way, was forcing us to not let that song fade into the distance. By continuing the story [there is a story of a young boy in the lyrics], we keep the song relevant, and maybe we'll take another crack at it [in concert]," said Ulrich about the sequel in an interview with Greg Kot from the November 14 issue of *The Chicago Tribune*.

"Better Than You" starts out with a steady drum beat, then leads into a heavy riff that is consistent throughout the song. It is a catchy song, and has already had radio play.

"Slither" starts out with a

quick-pounding riff with a mumbly Hetfield in the background before leading into a slamming riff similar to the one found in "Enter Sandman" from "Black."

Other tracks like "Carpe Diem Baby," "Where The Wild Things Are" and "Low Man's Lyric" are the only songs on *Re-Load* that bear a resemblance to *Load*. They have a lighter sound and a more slower, calmer feel to them than the other songs on *Re-Load*.

Overall, *Re-Load* is better than *Load* by far, bringing back the aspect of heavy metal to the band. Heavy metal was almost non-existent on *Load*.

Metallica's original plans had been to release a 27-track double disc, which probably would have been a disaster. Many of the better songs could get lost in the shuffle. Also, two separate albums in 18 months gives fans a chance to absorb all of the music.

Metallica had put out five albums between 1983 and 1991, before touring for three years and not releasing new material for five years until *Load* in 1996. Putting out a double album after five years of no new music would have been detrimental to the al-

bum, as well as the band.

Some instrumental differences between *Re-Load* and *Load* include Ulrich's return to the double bass drums.

He used them in the first five albums, but it was absent on *Load*.

The double bass allows quicker bass drumming, which Ulrich uses very much, as in "Bad Seed," to create a rumbling sound.

Hammett was also very creative and varied with his solos and riffs this time around. Hammett had said he wanted to try some other things outside of using a wah-wah pedal and he did as his guitar solos on *Re-Load* are sometimes very fast and high-pitched, while at other times are crazily played, but still sound good.

Hetfield, the vocalist and rhythm guitarist, gave probably his most diverse and varied vocal performance of his career.

Not only has he developed, but the entire band has developed, as they plan to continue to in the future. Around the release of *Load*, Ulrich had said that "[Metallica was] nearing the midpoint in [their] career."

What is in the stars for you this month?

Aries (March 21-April 19)

The outlook for this month is positive. You feel great this month, and if you don't then think again, because things are going your way. Your view on love this month is secretive. You are quiet about who you like because you're afraid of getting hurt. It's okay. Let things work themselves out, don't rush anything. Your lucky shape this month is the circle, and your lucky love match is a Pisces.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Friendships are booming this month. You feel like you have more now than ever before. That's great. But be wary of singling out friends over others. One friend isn't more important than the other. Also, remember that your parents need some time with you too. This is an important time for family, so remember your roots. Your lucky shape this month is an octagon, and your lucky love match is Cancer.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

You're thinking about getting in shape before the holidays. Go for it. Do it while you're motivated it'll be easier to stay with it. You'll feel great once you get started. You feel really great this month

and you're not sure why. You don't need to know why, just feel great. If you walk around and people see that you seem as happy as you really are you might just make someone else's day. Your lucky shape this month is a hexagon, and when you have some time, love it up with a Scorpio.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

You feel rushed with decisions this month about love, life, and the planet. Think things through before you do anything drastic. You should be feeling very relaxed towards the end of the month. Go with the feeling. It's your turn to sit back and watch things happen. Try not to get involved in friendship quarrels that don't involve you; your words aren't needed. Your lucky shape is a square, and look out for Capricorn this month, because they'll be looking out for you.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Just remember that cats always land on their feet. So if something goes haywire this month - don't worry. You've always been one to make things happen; so fall back into that circle and enjoy the wealth you gain. Focus on something positive, make that work, and then

maybe everything else will work out in your favor. Your lucky shape this month is a cone. And your lucky love match is a mellow Libra.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

This month you are looking ahead and seeing your future right before your eyes. Grab ahead to your future and be wise. An old flame starts calling again. Don't be excited and don't get annoyed. Who knows? There may be a new found friendship right behind the corner. Everything happens for a reason. Your lucky shape this month is the rectangle and check out the Aquarius who you are closest to.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You are totally psyched about Christmas break approaching. But stay intact with school for the time being. You've still got a month to go. You're feeling really comfortable being by yourself until the end of the month. But be aware of accidentally shutting people out. Next month you may need support from friends and family. Your lucky shape is the cube and your short term love interest is the Gemini.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)

If you find out that someone

back - beat them at their own game. But be cautious; never play with fire. If grades take over your life - just remember that friendships rule the world. You may be entitled or recruited to help a friend in a tough time this month. Be sensitive and understanding, the problem is really bigger than you think. Your lucky shape is a heart, and your lucky match this month is a loving Leo.

Sagittarius Nov 23-Dec 21

Seeing that you are very motivated this month, you may find yourself working harder than usual. Get on top and try to stay motivated. You can be great at anything you try, just keep at it. Practice makes perfect and soon you will reach that point. Don't let that new appliance bother you. If you are nice to it, it will be nice to you. Good luck with the diamond shape this month, and keep your eyes on a familiar Aries.

Capricorn Dec 22-Jan 19

Things concerning your life right now seems like a pool to you - too cold to jump into, but very tempting. Take the plunge. You only live once. Be creative this month and remember that lucky color is your friend. Stay in tune with news this month, you may need it for school or for

something happening right now in your own life. Your lucky shape this month is a triangle, and your lucky love match is not the Virgo - so be careful.

Aquarius Jan 20-Feb 18

With Thanksgiving quickly approaching you begin to feel sentimental. Go with this feeling, it can only benefit you in the end. Your love life takes an interesting turn and you begin to feel pressure to commit. Just remember that pressure (peer or otherwise) can be a very dangerous thing. Be careful and think things through. Your lucky shape this month is an oval. And your eyes should be set high on a Scorpio.

Pisces Feb 19-Mar 20

You are feeling really stressed out this month. With school and work, you feel like you don't have time for anything else. Well you do, so budget your time wisely. You're coming into a lot of money this month, but be careful. And remember the saying out of sight, out of mind. Your lucky shape this month is a pentagon and your love match this month is Taurus.

It's hair today, gone tomorrow

By Beth Siwy

Much like styles of clothing and what colors are in or out for the season, hair is constantly changing.

The diversity in hair styles today could send a beautician back to school. Senior Corie Brockway thinks that hair styles are important because "it's the first thing you notice." While Angie Berg, another senior, laughed and said "if your hair doesn't

look good I won't talk to you." Examine hairstyles from the past, and you just might see some popular reruns.

The '60s produced a wide variety of hairdos.

One hairstyle in particular, the Beehive, is a dome shaped style

that resembled a home for honey making insects. This style lasted until the early 70's, when flat, pasted to the head hair became more popular.

In the mid '80s women were subjected to the light feathered

poo.

In the early '90s the short lived but ever popular wall , a.k.a. Rainbow, a.k.a. Waterfall, was in effect. If none of these names rings a bell, this would be the hair style which required six

the late 90's, with blondes becoming brunettes, and redheads becoming blondes. Who knows which is which anymore.

Note: Beware of the Tori Spelling Syndrome. Definition: The condition which causes a new hair color with every full moon. Just wait until next season when we see Spelling sporting blue hair.

Multi-colored hair can be seen on the person whose locker is next to yours; it has become this popular.

Color isn't the only thing changing with the ages. Cuts

are also becoming more star struck. The hit tv show "Friends" has had a huge impact on hairstyles of the late '90s. With David

Schwimmer's short, gelled, combed to the front look, and Jennifer Aniston's neatly hacked layers, guys and girls all over the country were making appointments for a haircut.

No matter the hair style, the time, or the actor, hairdos are going to keep changing.

One season it's cool to have curly hair while the next season may require bone straight styles.

No matter the style or cut or color (how unnatural or natural) there will always be something new that is cool or in.

Keep in mind that the average person will

change his or her haircut or color once every four months, and/or change their hair style once every two or three months.



Photo courtesy of William Spelman

Juniors Chris Cruz and Cesar Pena sport the common buzzed hair and junior Mike Lockett has the bald look.

look, and guys of all ages were gelling their hair to stand straight up in all directions and not move when touched; this was known as the spike.

That wasn't the only hairstyle that required one full can of hair spray and two bottles of sham-

poos. Today, guys and girls hair styles have entered the twilight zone. Its a scary place to be in

inches of bangs which would then extend six inches into the air. Most people would need a booster seat or ladder to see over this hairdo.



Photo courtesy of William Spelman

Junior Maggie McPike has the short and straight look.

Students make a positive impact

By Kelley Betts

Many students are doing what they can to give to those less fortunate this holiday season.

Some even put themselves in the place of someone who cannot afford to eat as much as others.

St. John the Baptist Church in Winfield conducted a unique program to raise money for Oxfam International Hunger Relief. All junior and senior high students in the parish were asked to experience what it was like to not have food all the time.

Students ate less than normal for one day, just eating a small breakfast and lunch. The money normally spent on food was collected to donate to Oxfam. Then, for dinner, those participating were invited to the church for a "soup kitchen" meal which consisted of tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwich, fruit, and water.

"This really helped them to experience the unsatisfied feeling left with those who have to eat at a soup kitchen," said Mark Vician, St. John's youth minister.

A few students didn't eat anything all day, according to Vician.

\$250 was raised by the 47 students that participated this year.

The idea came because the Diocese of Joliet wanted to highlight the idea of hunger. Vician thought this program would be the best way to impact people.

"It's easy to buy extra food when shopping for a charity, or to donate money. This program

allows people to feel it," said Vician.

The same program took place last year but with less success. Only eight students participated.

"This year increased by five fold, and I'm looking forward to next year," said Vician.

St. Mary's Church in West Chicago is doing their part to provide for the less fortunate. "Feed the Lambs" is a food pantry that operates year round. Families in need of food fill out an application and, if they qualify, come in and pick up bags of food.

The food usually lasts seven days, according to Donna Santiago, co-coordinate of the program. Food is donated from churches and VICA and Key Club. Cash donations are accepted.

The money is used to purchase food from Bethlehem Center, a food pantry located in Carol Stream. The staff of the food drive is all volunteers.

The average number of people picking up food is about 1400 every three months, according to Santiago. The program has been running several years, says Santiago.

The pantry is open Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. "It is rarely closed," says Santiago, "Since I've been here it was closed once, on Christmas Eve. My philosophy is people are hungry, even on holidays."

Any questions can be directed to Donna Santiago at 231-6124.

This year student council is

sponsoring a different program instead of their annual Toys for Tots drive. This year, they will be collecting holiday presents for teens. The items collected will be dropped off at the Wheaton Religious Center, a community service program.

"We [student council] choose to do this program because it hits closer to home," says senior Jennie Grobe, student council executive board secretary.

The program will begin the week after Thanksgiving and will run through December 18.

Student council also plans to help elderly people too. They are planning to adopt an elderly woman from the community. They will be purchasing a vacuum cleaner for her using student council funds.

They are also looking for a nursing home to visit with the elderly and bring cookies, decorate, and sing Christmas carols.

FBLA is planning to sponsor a shoe/boot drive. All shoes will be donated to the homeless through the Wheaton Religious Center. The community service committee planned this program, says senior Kelsey Link.

The drive starts the Monday, December 1 and ends December 19.

Students are doing their part to raise money for the homeless in creative ways, leaving more of an impact on students.

"It's nice to know so many organizations in school are getting involved in positive ways," says junior Maggie McPike.

Students speak out

By Allison Taylor

Imagine spending an entire hour with the principal discussing problems at West Chicago.

You could offer solutions to problems or discuss how to improve the school. There would be no limit to what you could talk about. The curriculum, the crowded hallways, security guards, social issues, anything you want.

To address these problems at We-go, the student advisory committee is a group of students from all four grades who meet twice a month to discuss.

The group is comprised of student council officers from all four classes and the executive board members. They meet with Principal Alan Jones for a hour and talk about our school.

The council was formed this year by Jones. "I always wanted to talk to a group of students on a regular basis," he said. He enjoys talking to students because he feels they know the most about the school.

The committee is currently limited to just student council, because they represent the majority of the student body.

Jones is the only staff member in the meetings, but other staff members may attend if they are invited. For example, if the committee asks questions about the curriculum, they might invite a department chair to their next meeting.

According to senior class representative and executive board secretary Jennie Grobe, the committee is helping student council

expand their duties. She said student council is usually focused on social events like homecoming and prom, and the student advisory committee is helping them expand their focus to other issues in the school.

In past meetings, the group has discussed such topics as drinking and driving.

The committee decided to respond to the accident involving three Waubonsie High School students by sending a card from the entire school and sending money for their scholarship funds.

Members also talked about developing programs to spread drug and alcohol awareness for the school.

In another meeting, students brought up the idea of school spirit, and they discussed ways to improve We-go pride.

The committee tries to focus on general problems in our school rather than specific problems.

There is a separate student board, called the problems committee, which focuses more on general problems. These meetings are open to all students in the school.

Grobe enjoys being a member of the committee. "I think it's a great way for students to have their voices heard," she said. "For the most part, people are actively involved in discussion during the meetings."

Jones feels the committee is doing well and he wishes he would have started it years ago.

Volleyball finishes 2nd in DVC

By Jeff Goluszka

The girls volleyball team won the regional championship by defeating both Geneva and Batavia.

They defeated Geneva (15-6, 15-4) and Batavia (15-7, 15-8) before facing a tough Larkin squad.

Larkin was a very good team, as was shown by their record going into the game of 34-1-1.

Their victory over We-go 15-4, 15-11 in the sectionals eliminated the Cats from the Class AA state playoffs.

Even off this down point, Kelly Kaylor and Danielle Murphy made the All-Conference team.

Overall, the team's final record

of 25-13 (9-5 in the DuPage Valley Conference, which placed them tied for second place) pleased the team.

"I'm very proud of our performance. We accomplished our main goal of winning regionals. We're also very proud of winning the [DVC] tournament. There was a little disappointment because we thought we could've gone farther in the playoffs, but overall the season was a success," said senior outside hitter Kelly Kaylor of the team's performance this year.

"We had a strong season, the best since I've been on varsity [for four years]. We achieved

our season goal of winning regionals, but we're still a little disappointed with such an early finish," said senior co-captain and outside hitter Danielle Murphy.

"We will definitely miss our seniors, but we have a lot of talent to work with. Combine that with hard work in the off-season and we can put it to use," said junior setter Melissa Acker on next year.

One bright spot for next season will be the return of junior setters Chrissy Dabbert and Acker. "Setter is a key position on our team," said Kaylor.

Wrestling team on the move

By Arlete Penaflo

The wrestling team is preparing for their first meet against Geneva on Wednesday, November 26.

The wrestling team has been preparing with a lot of practice. It is vital that they fit into the right weight classes in order to make the best of this year's season.

They have a lot of goals this season. Some are to have a winning season with a better than a .500 winning percentage in dual meets. They also want to have at least six sectional qualifiers. They want to win one out of four tournaments. Another one of their major goals this season is to have two state qualifiers.

"Last year we didn't have any state qualifiers. It's hard to qualify athletes some times but if they work hard this season, we hope to at least get two," said head varsity coach Bob Hein.

This season will have a much different look. The team will be strong in the upper weight levels, unlike last year's power in the lower weights. Hein feels this could be the team's advantage.

Hein feels that although they

haven't had a good turnout so far this year, he is very impressed with the team's performance.

"Although we are low on numbers for the some weight classes, I am very impressed with the hard work that they all do," said Hein.

The varsity team is looking very strong this year with seniors Steve Pastore, Greg Gomez, Luke English, Dale English, Marvin Boorsma, John Svast, Jason Osterkamp, juniors Luis Aquado, Cesar Pena and sophomore Ben Stevens.

With the wrestling team being strong and ready to take this year's season head on, Hein feels that they will do good in this year's season.

"Right now we have quality, not quantity," said Hein.

Last year's wrestling team had a record of 9-12, and they placed third in conference, third in the dual meets, and fourth place overall in the conference tournament. This year's team hopes to beat last year's records from last season.

The season opening meet is on Wednesday, November 26 at Geneva.

Swimming season ends at state

By Dan Young

After taking the DVC invite by storm, the girls swim team jumped into the sectional pool and qualified five athletes to head down to the state meet.

The girls left on Friday, November 21 and competed in the state meet

at Batavia on November 21

and 22 (Results were unavailable at press time).

The Wildcats took third overall in the sectional meeting, losing to St. Charles and Schaumburg. Coach Dan Johnson said, "We loaded the relays and that move hurt our team score. We took a chance and didn't let some of our swimmers rest enough and it hurt us. On a good note, senior Angie Johnson swam well, and so did Katy Coffman."

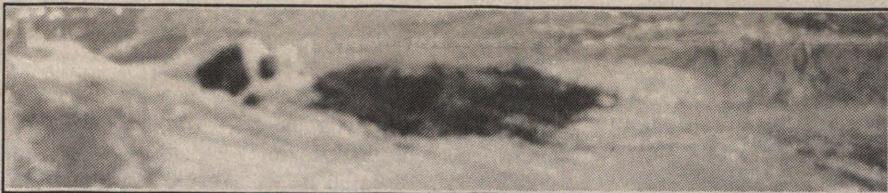
After all of the hard work the girls put in, they are reaping their success. Five swimmers qualified to the state meet, including

repeaters junior Danielle Lureau, seniors Emily Limburger, Johnson, sophomores Abby Grant and Stephanie Shalek.

Johnson, Grant, Lureau and Shalek make up the medley relay and Grant is also swimming

events last year and this year she is only going down in the relays.

"We took a chance with her endurance, and we lost this time. She made it last year without the rest, so we expected she could make it this year as well. She



Girls swimming ended their season at the State Meet in Evanston.

File Photo

in the 100-meter breast stroke. The medley relay is a combination of breast stroke, freestyle, butterfly and back stroke. Grant is the 13 ranked individual in the state in the 100-meter breast stroke. Johnson said, "We hope Abby can move up a spot and take top 12, which is All-State."

However, they have to stand up to last year's success. Last year's team had six girls head downstate, starring ex-Wildcat Heather Horsley, senior Limburger, Lureau, Grant, sophomore Tracy Drzal, and Shalek.

Lureau went downstate in four

had a great sectional last year and then she didn't have anything left for state," said Johnson.

"This year we will be going for team points, team score and placing. We have made it to state almost every year now, so we want to try for a good state finish," said Johnson.

"Right now," Johnson said, "we really need to rest up and get ready for state. We also need to correct our mistakes and practice on those relays. The relays preformed well for sectionals, dropping 2 seconds off the medley and 5 seconds off the 400 free relay."

Winter sports schedule

Boys Basketball:

11/25/97 - Thanksgiving Tip-Off at Oswego
12/5/97 - At Glenbard East - 6:00 p.m.
12/12/97 - Home vs. Naperville Central - 6:00 p.m.
12/16/97 - Home vs. Rockford Jefferson - 5:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball:

11/28/97 - Tournament at Lyons Township
12/4/97 - Home vs. Downers Grove North - 6:00 p.m.

12/11/97 - Home vs. Glenbard East - 6:00 p.m.
12/13/97 - Home vs. Naperville Central - 1:30 p.m.

Boys Swimming:

12/11/97 - At Benedictine University - 6:00 p.m.
12/13/97 - Home - 1:00 p.m.
12/18/97 - Home vs. Crystal Lake Central - 5:00 p.m.

Wrestling:

11/26/97 - At Geneva - 5:30 p.m.

11/29/97 - At Wauconda - 9:00 a.m.

12/5/97 - Home vs. Glenbard East - 5:30 p.m.

12/6/97 - At Hersey - 10:00 a.m.

12/9/97 - Home vs. Steinmetz - 6:00 p.m.

12/12/97 - At Naperville Central - 6:00 p.m.

12/13/97 - At Sycamore - 9:30 a.m.

12/18/97 - Home vs. Wheaton North - 6:00 p.m.

Girls basketball wins season opener

By Beth Siwy

The girls basketball team also played vs. Homewood Flossmore. Janine Morris played well and Leslie Harlson got five blocks.

The Cats won against Oswego on opening night, which was Tuesday, November 18 by a score of 55-37.

The game was close up until halftime, but the Ladycats pulled away in the second half, mostly by Harlsons 26 points.

With the loss of Natalie Fijalkowski and Missy Buenz, who was the top scorer and top rebounder, to graduation, Coach Kim Wallner has a long road ahead of her.

The '98 We-go girls basketball team is counting on seniors Andrea Beutjer and



File Photo

Leslie Harlson returns for the new season. The cats will be playing at the Lyons Township Tournament on Friday, November 28.

Leslie Harlson to lead the way. The four year players and leaders of two key positions, point guard and center, have a lot riding on their shoulders this season.

The team includes seniors Harlson, Beutjer, Morris; juniors Leah Spindler, Molly Saul, Krista Varble, Kim Ellis, Mellissa Miller, Mellissa Acker, Jeanette Arroyo, Nicole Gomez; sophomores Michelle Grove, Neha Soneji, Missy Krueger, Christine Cleveland, Michelle Lasky, Kim Olson.

Harlson was honored with all DVC last season by averaging 10 points per game. The Wildcats are starting with a new lineup this season with three guards, two centers, and no forwards. The Wildcats will be playing at the Lyons Township Tournament on Friday, November 28.

Soccer enjoys great season

Sectional champs fall to St. Charles

By Jeff Goluszka

The West Chicago boys soccer team had a successful season, which included a sectional championship.

Their season ended with a loss in the supersectional of the state playoffs to then top-ranked St. Charles.

No one outside of the team itself, according to head coach Robert Owens, ever thought We-go could go so far into the state playoffs. During the sectional the Cats outscored their three opponents, Willowbrook, York and previously undefeated Wheaton North by a combined score of 11 to 1.

The win over Wheaton North was especially sweet for the Wildcats, mostly because the Cats lost 4-3 in an early match-up.

The Wildcats' 3-0 shutout of the Falcons in the sectional shocked everyone, except for the We-go soccer team.

Unfortunately, the Cats fell into a trap versus St. Charles.

"We had been so emotionally and mentally ready for the Wheaton North game, with the adrenaline flowing, that after the game we had to sit around for

two days," said Owens.

"It can be difficult to be ready mentally, physically and emotionally in two days, even when we were ready to play then top ranked St. Charles," said Owens.

We-go ended up losing the game 5-2. St. Charles went up 2-0 early on a disputed goal that should not have counted, said Owens.

The ball bounced off the football crossbar and should have been out of play, said Owens. The referee didn't call it and St. Charles scored a goal.

"The missed call caused a bit of a letdown for us, but we stayed with [St. Charles] the rest of the game," said Owens.

Overall, the We-go soccer team accomplished their goal of winning sectionals, but they didn't do as well in the DVC as they had hoped.

The Cats' overall record was 15-5-2, but they were a dismal 2-4-1 in the DVC.

The Wildcats blew a 3-1 lead in the final minutes to lose to West Aurora in overtime in a conference game.

In addition, the loss to Wheaton North was a game We-go could

have won, said Owens.

We-go didn't have problems scoring, as they made 74 goals this year, averaging about three per game. They gave up just over a goal per game, which makes a good a winning combination.

The defensive unit was led by seniors Antonio Pasillas, Jason Hempel, Kevin Openshaw, Gustavo Porcayo, Jim Callahan, John Hall, Brian O'Hara and juniors Joe Leli.

The Wildcat offensive unit was led by seniors Nino Gonzalez, Joe Kaczmarek, Damian Guerrero and Randy Labak. The players on this years team were "the driving force behind [our run in the playoffs]," said Owens.

The future is certain with sophomores Ryan Dorn (forward) and Dave Boyle (midfielder) stepping up this year. Along with juniors Alberto Perez (midfielder), Kevin Rugaard (goalie) and Leli, these two look to be leaders next year.

All of the midfield will return, except for All-Conference and All-Area senior midfielder Arturo Guevara.

Number of athletes hurdle for boys swimming

By Jennifer Lasky

The boys swim team is beginning a new season with new coach, Chris Hall.

Hall has four years of high school coaching experience in Arizona. He has also spent six to eight years coaching recreational summer swimming.

The team consists of Joey Lureau, Jake McPherson, Justin Hilt, Dave Marino, Scott Hamlin, Kevin McCarthy, Brian Ahlgard, and Mark Gottleib.

The team practices every afternoon, three mornings each week, and Saturdays. Altogether, the team practices and weight lifts 22 plus hours each week.

Hall's goals for the season are

not focused on a win-loss record, but on making sure the boys have more progress than ever before.

Hall sees this season's schedule as being difficult, but he feels the win-loss record will not reflect what the team is capable of.

The boys swim team lost many swimmers to graduation, including the "Fab Four," Ryan Acker, Jeff Cain, Peter Grant, and Jai Hartigan.

Hall replaces Len Penkala, who led last years team through a good season. Penkala is now the aquatics director at Neuqua Valley High School

Boys may join the swim team up until Sectionals, on February 21.

Fall sports wrap-up

By Allison Taylor

Athletes from nine different sports, including six All-Conference athletes, were recognized on Monday, November 10, at Fall Sports Awards Night.

Students on boys soccer, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls golf, girls tennis, football, girls volleyball, and girls swimming were recognized for their performance during the fall sports season.

The evening opened with a short speech by Athletic Director Bob Stone. Stone said that the season was very, very successful. He thanked everyone for the support they gave the athletes over the past three

Campos and Vice-President Amy Kaylor. They recognized all 44 of the four year athletes and presented them each with a key chain.

Over 40 students were presented with the scholar athlete award and 69 people earned Academic All-Conference honors. To be a scholar athlete, one must have a 3.5 G.P.A. or higher and have earned a varsity letter in their respective sport. To earn Academic All Conference, the athletes must have a 3.0 G.P.A. or higher and have earned a varsity letter in their sport.

The six All-Conference athletes were recognized for their

achievements. They include, junior Dan Young for cross country, senior Justin Sedas for boys golf, seniors Damian Guerrero and Arturo Guevara



Photo courtesy of William Spellman

Wes Skidgel accepts an award from months. Coach Paul McLeland

Pep Club advisor and social studies teacher Steven Wroblewski then recognized senior athletes who were not honored with a senior parent night. Seniors from boys and girls cross country, boys and girls golf, and girls tennis were recognized for their hard work and dedication. Each athlete was escorted by their parents and given a flower.

The next award was presented by Booster Club President Ruben

for boys soccer, and seniors Kelly Kaylor and Danielle Murphy for girls volleyball.

After all of the awards were given out, coaches from the nine sports talked about their teams and what they accomplished during the season. Each gave a short synopsis, and then the sports separated and held mini-awards ceremonies for their respective teams. Awards such as most valuable player, most improved player, and the coach's award were given to athletes.

Basketball ready to tip-off the new season

by Kelly Kaylor

After last year's disappointing 10-16 finish, the boys basketball team is hoping to stay consistently winning throughout this season.

The Wildcats finished in the bottom of the conference last year, despite a 7-0 start and winning the annual season-opening Oswego Thanksgiving Tournament.

Experienced varsity returners seniors Jim Callahan and Jon Hall are expected to carry the team of newcomers into one of the most competitive basketball conferences in the state of Illinois.

Callahan, a 5'9" senior guard, was one of the most reliable and successful shooters on last year's squad and will be looked to direct the offense on the floor. With an almost guaranteed shot outside the arc, he enters the season with a fair chance at being an all-conference selection if his game proves consistent.

Senior forward, 6'4" Hall, who's play saw tremendous improvement last year, as he led the team in scoring their last five games of the season, will also be looked to lead the team. Coach Dan McCarthy is depending on him to be a strong force off the glass.

Newcomers senior Martin Filippon and junior Andy DuBois should be key additions

to McCarthy's talented roster.

Swedish exchange student, Filippon, brings his talent and experience to the team. This 6'3" senior played with the Swedish national team last year and is expected to be one of We-Go's top scorers.

DuBois, a 6'1" guard who worked extensively in the off-season has proved his hard work and dedication to the program.

Returning varsity letter winners also include: Jeremy Adams, Justin Coletti, and Justin McLoughlin.

The team as a whole seems to find its strength in its well-balanced offense, McCarthy said, "We have quite a few kids who can score." Offense will be vital, but defense may be just as important when the Cats step onto the court with such teams as last year's state runner-up, West Aurora.

McCarthy feels his team needs to improve on their rebounding game, considering the team does not stack up to the height of the conference.

"Strong shooting, heart, and intensity are our strengths. We also have a good group of juniors coming in who look to contribute. But we need to work on our rebounding game," Callahan said.

Predictions for the DVC competition have Naperville North

and Central at the top, in addition to powerhouse West Aurora. All of the teams will be tough competition for the Wildcats.

McCarthy believes his team will be constant competitors with teams of such caliber. "The DVC is challenging, but also an opportunity to go up against some of the best teams in the state," he said.

Team expectations for the season include finishing in the top half of the conference and winning their regional, Callahan said.

The squad had a busy summer in preparation for the season, having 22 kids on two teams in leagues at Glenbard West and Lockport. One team also competed in the 32-team Morris Shootout, one of the most prestigious tournaments in the state.

The team also includes: senior Justin Sadowski and juniors Jeff Callahan, Brian Raymond, Mark Doesacke, Jeff Belokin, Andrew Merrick, Brian Franckowiak, and Chris Grin.

The Cats kicked off competition last night against Yorkville in the Oswego Thanksgiving Tournament (results were unavailable at press time). Their next game is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. on Friday against Marmion Academy at Oswego.