

# Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School

326 Joliet Street

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## In this issue...

Check out some senior reflections on page 3.

Learn 98 things the seniors have learned on pages 6 and 7.

Find the sequel to last month's feature story on page 8.

Seen *Deep Impact*? Read a review on page 9.

Read about the first place Ladycat softball team on page 12.

## 'Now and Forever' a night to remember

By Arlete Penaflor

The big night everyone had been waiting for finally arrived. Everyone was all dressed up and looking their best to have the time of their lives.

The 1998 West Chicago Community High School prom began promptly at 6:45 at the Diplomat West, located off North Avenue.

The tables were decorated with silver, teal, and magenta balloons, along with a picture frame and candle with the logo of "Now and Forever," the prom theme. In the ballroom there were portraits by Spellman studios. Many people were their picture taken.

As the evening was served at 7:30, seemed to enjoy as the music the dinner. They while they sat at dinner.

The dance began. People began ing the time of pating on stage in well as the Prom coronation.

This year's prom juniors Abigail Planek, Molly Varble, Cathal Rugaard, Adam Callahan, Jon Fraser. The Prom King and Queen this year was Planek and Fraser. They were congratulated by everyone as they were crowned.

Later on in the evening people started to get even more into the party and didn't want the night to come to an end but it did with the theme song "I will remember you," by Sarah McLachlan. The DJ's didn't want to leave on a slow song so they ended the night with "Gettin' Jiggy Wit It," by Will Smith.

Even though prom came to an end, the night was still young. Some went to All Night Long while others had plans of their own. Everyone left prom with the message 'Don't drink and drive,' as well as many unforgettable memories.



Photo by Arlete Penaflor  
Senior Damian Guerrero and junior Vicki Guevara enjoy their night at prom.

the far end of the were portraits by Spellman studios. lining up to get

went on, dinner People really the dinner as well DJ's put on during played mostly old- People sang along their tables eating

at 8:30, after dindancing and hav- their lives partici- dance contests, as King and Queen

court consisted of Brown, Autumn Saul, Krista Walsh, Kevin Morrissey, Jeff

Fraser. The Prom King and Queen this year was Planek and Fraser.

## When will We-go get out next year?

By Carrie Zeffield

The 1998-'99 school calendar was recently released by the Board of Education and District 94.

Many suggestions were made to change the calendar, including a proposal for an early release and a later start in the '98-'99 school year, due to construction starting over the summer.

The new calendar was just decided on and has been released to all students and parents along with a newsletter explaining the new calendar.

"It brought up too many problems. There was lots of discussion, but too many problems came in the way," said assistant principal John Highland.

The teachers have been told and seen the new calendar and they have their own opinion about it.

"We should live through the school year in order to [see] if it is going to be bad or not," said English teacher Jane Feeney.

Within the last few weeks, people of the community have called in and questioned the new calendar.

"Most of the feedback from the community was good. Some people were confused, but mainly they wanted to know if there were any changes in vacation time and certain days off," said Principal Dr. Alan Jones.

As for days off, We-go will have 26, including winter and spring break. The only day off missing from the new calendar is Casimir Pulaski Day, in which We-go will be in session. All other days off remain the same as this year.

The new calendar still gives Community High School 182 days of school and eight hours a day, which to some students seems to be too much.

"They shouldn't have school so long. The kids are so tired and overworked," said sophomore Leah Kueker.

"It's unfair they expect us to live like this. It's too much," said junior Kristin Loek.

While Community High School's school days remain the longest in the Chicagoland area and the second longest in Illinois, kids are managing to get through it.

What students don't understand is that it's not the school board that decides how many days we attend per year, but the it's the state of Illinois.

While the days go on at We-go, the board has decided to pursue a normal school year without any major changes to the new calendar.

## Meet the 1998-'99 We-go student council

By Allison Taylor

The student council officers and representatives for the 1998-1999 school year were elected the week of May 4.

The student council members for the class of 1999 are: president Melissa Acker, vice-president Kerry Herbert, secretary Abby Brown, treasurer Maggie McPike, and representatives Nicole Gomez, Mike Chapin, Jeff Powell, Autumn Planek, Jeff Callahan, and Molly Saul.

The class of 2000 will be represented by: president Sara Knox, vice-president Beau Brown, secretary Kristin Leitherer, Treasurer Suzy Bollhoffer, and representatives Michelle Grove, Katy Coffman, Liz Ribe, Crystal Adams, Chris Thomas, Christina Payton, and Matt Grogan.

Student Council members for the class of 2001 are: president Chris Hendricks, vice-president Shannon Sterne, secretary Cheryl Winter, treasurer Alex Corson, and representatives Cathy Wilken, Sara Donovan, Joe Wasiqui, and Dennis Janek.

Student Council Secretary senior Jennie Grobe was pleased with the way elections were run and was happy with the results. "Many great people were elected for next year's student council," she said.

The Student Council executive board will consist of McPike as president, Planek as vice-president, Herbert as secretary, Chapin as treasurer, and Powell and Thomas as Parliamentarians.

## Future Business Leaders win

Congratulations to the Future Business Leaders who won awards at the Northern Area Conference on Saturday, January 31. Over 270 students from 12 schools vied for top positions and We-go brought home 15 awards! Those awards are:

- Third place in Accounting, senior Brian Pullion.
- Second place in Parliamentary Procedures, senior Darcie Wostrasky.
- Fourth place in Parliamentary Procedures, sophomore Katy Coffman.
- Fourth place in Business Communications, senior Kelsey Link.
- Ninth place in Business Communications, junior Courtney Czech.
- First place in Business Procedures, senior Beth Evans.
- Second place in Computer Applications, junior Ann Milauskas.
- Second place in Computer Concepts, junior Matt Sosnowski.
- Fifth place in Computer Concepts, junior Joe Swantek.
- Tied for fourth place in Desktop Publishing, senior Dan Janek and sophomore Ryan Dorn.
- Sixth place in Intro to Business, sophomore Mike Streams.
- Second place in Job Interview, senior Laurie Millner.
- Third place in Public Speaking, junior John McPheters.

Finally, Wostrasky won the honor of being one of the five state qualifiers to represent Northern Area in the battle of the chapters!

## Anything Goes works out great

By Jennifer Lasky

This year's musical, *Anything Goes*, was performed well. It was performed under new director Ron Koepl. Koepl came to We-go from St. Charles, where he directs musicals and plays for the Norris center.

Senior Meg Runyan said, "It was strange working with someone new. He and the cast were unsure of each other, but it all worked out in the end."

The assistant director was choir teacher Lisa Smith, and the student director was senior Amie Weidner.

The musical featured Runyan in the lead role of Reno Sweeny. This was Runyan's first lead role and she described the experience as "really scary, but really exciting. I had a lot of fun." Sweeny is a lounge singer and a flirt on her way to England.

Other parts included junior Michael Petrik as Sir Evelyn Oakleigh, sophomore Kendra Norton as Hope Harcourt, sophomore Chris Thomas as Billy Crocker, junior Jon Fraser as Moonface Martin, junior Abby Brown as Bonnie, and junior Cheryl Pruett as Mrs. Wadsworth T. Harcourt.

"Everyone pulled together and the show was great," said Weidner.

*Anything Goes* takes place in the 1920s on a ship traveling from the United States to England. There are love triangles, involving Evelyn (Petrik), Hope (Norton), Reno (Runyan), and Billy (Thomas), which work themselves out in the end. Gangsters Moonface Martin (Fraser) and Bonnie (Brown) are on the ship and provide comic relief to the story.

Much of the places the character Sweeny went, a group of angels, her background singers, followed her. The angels, Marilyn Monroe types, were played by seniors Caroline McClellan and Monica Acker, juniors Lisa Arnett, Season Barclay, Leah Bjorklund, Jessica Weiss, sophomore Sara Knox, and freshman Lilli Szafranski.

Social studies teacher Steven Wroblewski was head of the set crew for the musical. Wroblewski said being head of the crew "was a good experience. Several students were extremely helpful throughout. Freshman Deanna Volk was the best student worker of everyone. It was nice to be able to work with students I've never had in class, nice to meet more students at We-go."

The musical ran May 7, 8, and 9 in the Weyrauch Auditorium.

## The destruction of We-go

By Carrie Zeffield

Within in the last few months, unidentified suspects have allegedly damaged West Chicago Community High School property, while sending negative messages towards dean Miguel Arroyo.

On May 21, a freshman in the school allegedly cut the back of a sophomores throat. The sophomore is okay and the freshman is being questioned at this time.

On May 20, in the late hours of the evening, an unidentified person/people entered the school. Gold spray paint was found the next morning on the attendance office doors and the doors to the deans office. Obscene language was directed toward Arroyo along with gang initials sprayed on the walls.

On May 19, it is suspected that the same unidentified person/people threw large rocks through the glass windows of the pool doors. That same night, the seniors tee-peed the school. The seniors claim that it was not the senior class.

A few months ago, black spray paint was found in commons with an obscene message directed towards Arroyo.

"All incidence are under investigation," said We-go police liaison Tony Quarto, though he had no further comment at this time.

## They want your blood

By Allison Taylor

The biannual blood drive, sponsored by student council, resulted in 94 units of blood for the Lifesource centers. This is one more unit of blood than the previous drive in November.

The blood drive was held at West Chicago on Wednesday, May 13 in the small gym. Lifesource blood centers organized the drive which began around 9:00 a.m. Senior Lisa Mueller, student council representative, said there were more technicians for this blood drive than the previous drive in the fall. This allowed for a more organized system.

To donate blood, each donor must fill out a medical form and be screened by a blood technician. Each potential donor is asked a series of questions on their health, such as are they taking any medication or are they currently being treated for an illness. The technician takes the donor's pulse, blood pressure, and weight. The technician also pricks the donor's finger for a small sample of blood to test the iron content. If a person's iron is too low, they cannot donate blood.

If the donor passes the screening, they are brought to one of the stations and one pint of their blood is drawn. The average person has 10-12 pints of blood in their body, according to Lifesource.

After donating blood, each student is instructed to sit down and eat and drink to replenish their system. If a person tries to walk around without resting, they may faint or collapse because their body has been weakened.

Senior Candi Widorski was the first student to donate blood at the drive. This was Widorski's seventh time donating, since she donates at school drives and out of school as well. Widorski started donating because, "My mom asked me to," she said. After the first time, Widorski continued because she likes to help people.

Students who signed up to donate blood prior to the day of the blood drive were entered in a raffle for a free prom ticket. Senior Melissa Martinez was chosen as the winner.

Mueller said the prom ticket contest was a way to have more people sign up in advance rather than just walking in without signing up. The more people who sign up in advance, the easier it is to organize the blood drive, said Mueller.

People may not donate blood if they have low iron, weigh less than 110 pounds, have had a tattoo or piercing in the last year, have used needles for drugs, have had a homosexual experience since 1977, have or think they have AIDS, hepatitis, syphilis, or are pregnant.

## What does NHS stand for?

By Dan Young

The West Chicago branch of the National Honor Society inducted 83 students on May 12th.

The induction included an opening from We-go Principal Dr. Alan Jones and keynote speech from english teacher Jim Flanagan. Flanagan congratulated the students and told a story about what he saw the students as.

While reflecting on his speech, Flanagan said, "I hope the inductees understand the story. Our world is of ideology and I hope the students understand that it is up to you. People will see you for who you are. The teachers see something and I hope the students understand what an honor this is."

The head of both the math department and the West Chicago branch of National Honor Society, John Carter, inducted the members. The ceremony was followed by a celebration down in commons.

Carter was assisted by current National Honor Society members seniors Kelly Kaylor, Jason Hemple, Jackie Palluth, Aaron Farber and Bob Shah. Shah lead the Pledge of Allegance while the other four seniors spoke about the keys of NHS, which are service, leadership, character and academic.

The process to enter NHS is pretty complicated. It all starts with an application and your G.P.A.

Carter said, "There is a pretty big process to go through. It starts with your G.P.A. If your G.P.A. is over 3.00 after 5 semesters, then you are automatically suggested for Nation Honor Society. You receive a letter and an application."

Carter continued, "We receive about 140 applications from the students and then it is up to teachers to give their

input on the candidates. However, each candidate would be known as a code number, so there isn't a problem of one teacher disliking you."

The average number of students in Carter's four years here has been 80, so this year is just about the same.

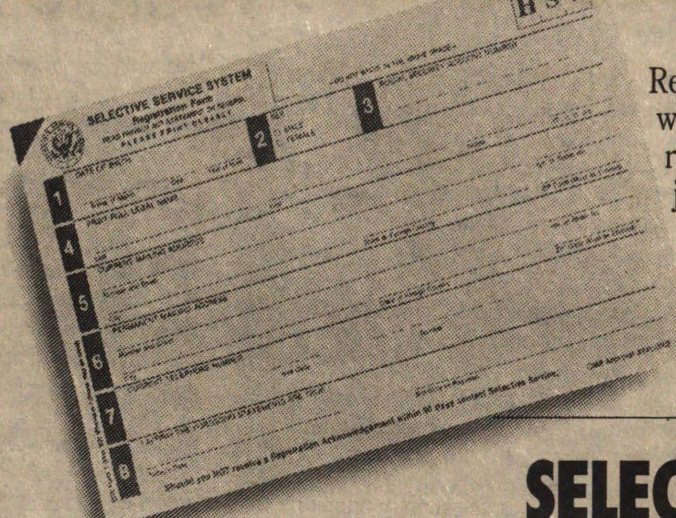
Carter also said, "There has to be a pattern of negative things to kick someone out of the process. One bad card won't stop you from being inducted. The cards go before a council of five teachers and to get in you need a majority of those teachers votes. The council looks at your leadership, service and character."

Leadership is about being a leader in the classroom and in outside the classroom, service is about helping your community and character is what you would do in a certain situation and how you act. An example of character is if you would cheat or not. "The biggest negative on a card is cheating," said Carter. "One card with that can seriously hurt your chances."

"After you are inducted into the NHS, it isn't too hard to keep yourself in. If you maintain your 3.00 G.P.A. and you finish all of your five service hours, there isn't all that much you can do. Another possibility is if you are suspended. We might look at your character again," said Carter.

The last three speakers before Flanagan were science teacher Beverly Burke in 1995, science teacher Julie Overpeck in 1996 and social studies teacher Steven Wroblewski in 1997. Dr. Alan Jones and Carter select each speaker due to who has something to offer and the number of inductees the students the teacher had.

## BE A MAN ABOUT IT.



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### SELECTIVE SERVICE

Register when you turn 18. It's what a man's gotta do.

## Freedom to live is freedom to die

By Jameson H.

Survival is the natural way of things. Most, if not all, wild animals think first and foremost of their survival.

Humans are no different, and in ages past, people struggled to survive. In this high tech day and age when people are handed everything they need to survive, they have time to think about other ideals, such as love and freedom.

Love is a double-edged sword, for during the times when it is abundant all is well, but the result is every bit as bad as the love was good. They go on to tell people their innermost thoughts and secrets, wishing to repair the wound and then find they are only trapped in a hole.

Once in the hole, they scramble from whence they came, and like dogs, only succeed in making the dirt fly.

The other dogs come not to help, but to devour.

The weak die out because the world is a scam artist, regulated by the government. Say it's bad and they will come to try it. All this leads to is better things, right? Wrong.

One day you will try to quit the materialism, but it won't be easy. Many struggle against it, and the few who succeed taste freedom.

Freedom is another double-edged sword. Once you have tasted the forbidden fruit you strive to attain the purest form of freedom, which is unattainable. The closer you get, the more the world holds you back.

People don't want freedom, people want comfort. They forsake the ideal of freedom for peace of mind, which itself is just a delusion.

People think that if they have a nice job and a nice wife and a nice family and if they don't do anything but the time-tested methods to happiness—to have your 2.5 kids and grow old and die content. But contentment is false, just another one of their lies.

That's why people hold onto their values to the bitter end; not because they hold them to be true in their hearts, but because they must be true, or else the person has nothing.

And people say they are free. They have the whole Bill of Rights, the Constitution. But what do a couple pieces of paper have to do with anything? You may be free to do what you want, but the society blocks you. You have to do good in life, they say. You have to be respectable so your grandparents or

your parents or whoever isn't disappointed. You have to live up to your family's expectations because they love you, and they only want what is best for you.

In reality, however, there is no government, no reality. We're just a bunch of hairless apes walking about playing the biggest game of pretend ever. And you have to play.

If you don't give your services to the society, they won't give you any money, and if you don't have any money you can't get any food. And there is not alternative.

You can't say, "No, I don't want your way of life. I think I'll go into the forest and become a hermit," because next thing you know, you're in a mental hospital.

And once you've been to a mental hospital, you're never the same. Because after such a visit you know more than ever it's all just a huge masquerade, and we're all just pretending to be students or teacher or electricians or whatever.

But then you realize that you can't go on like this. You realize that freedom doesn't only mean you can do anything, it also means you can do nothing. The endless contradictions in reality eventually wear you down and you grow weak and tired. You crave some sort of sanctuary from the chaos, some place where you can be comfortable.

This is when you open your eyes and look around. This is when you realize that your life is on a fast track to nowhere, just the same places you've already been. Slowly but surely the last of your own ideals is crushed out of you, and just like the hippies of old, you become a nine-to-five and forget everything you ever knew about freedom.

Then you have kids, and they themselves are forced to walk the same path you took. But they have to do it better than you, harder and faster. They have to be even crazier than you because they know you did it, and what is freedom if your parents did the same thing?

And all the while we hide ourselves from the knowledge that all we are is a statistic in some scientist's notebook about the state of the populous.

Just another guinea pig thrown into life's maze, and just like very other guinea pig we think the cheese in the middle is the prize instead of the path which leads out of the maze.

## Senior Reflection

### The real reasons for everything in High school

By Jennifer Lasky

As I walk in the doors, I am so glad my older brother is by my side. High school can be scary, you know. I await the torture due to me for being a freshman. Four long years stretch out ahead of me. College is an eternity away.

Then you blink and high school is over. College is waiting just around the corner.

And you begin to look back.....

Maybe I didn't have straight A's in high school. And I skipped some homework. I've had detentions, and I've failed tests.

But that's not what matters. High school is about something totally different.

It's not about learning the quadratic formula or knowing when Shakespeare was born. It's about people and learning who you are. It's about making the best of the situations teachers may put you in, making the best of situations you put yourself in, and learning from the things around you.

Teachers do not assign homework and give pop quizzes

for the sheer pleasure of watching us suffer, though it may seem that way. They are teaching us not to procrastinate and to be prepared. By giving us group assignments, it is not to intentionally group you with someone you hate. It is so we learn to ask each other questions, to depend on one another, and to get the best from each other.

It doesn't matter what class this may be for, what subject you're working on, they all teach you about people. They teach you to work with someone you may strongly dislike, or to talk to someone you don't know. They teach you to do your share, and to expect more from yourself.

When teachers randomly assign you to groups to work, stop complaining and take advantage. Use the time to get to know someone you may never have known otherwise. You could end up with a great friendship which may never have happened had it not been for the group work.

I've been stuck in situations I don't like. And I've

had to deal with people I can't stand. But I've also met some pretty amazing people. People whose exteriors I've frowned upon. Then I found by taking the time to peel back layers, most people are not what they appear on the outside. By asking questions and really listening to the answers, you find there's more to a person than what appears on the outside.

High school throws us in with so many different people from so many different places in so many situations. It is a giant kaleidoscope. Everybody twists their situations in their own way, and many different pictures emerge. No two pictures are the same. High school teaches us to understand and appreciate that everybody is different.

I've learned to accept people from all walks of life. I have friends who smoke, who drink, or who use drugs. I would never do these things myself, but I've learned to look at things from a different view. While someone's views may be different than mine, that doesn't make them

wrong. It's just one more thing I'm learning.

It's also one more way to define who I am. High school is a time for us to experiment with all kinds of things. We are offered so many different classes and clubs to figure out what it is we like and what we want to devote the rest of our lives to. We are exposed to a variety of ideas, issues, and decisions. We learn to be firm in our belief, stand up for them, and fight for them.

As we begin to realize our time at We-go is really coming to an end, some of us are anxious to graduate, some want to go back, all are wondering the same thing: Are we ready for the "real world?"

We are leaving here with friends by our sides, knowledge in our pockets, and dreams in our hearts, all are well equipped to conquer anything thrown our way. Instead of asking if we are ready for the "real world", we should be asking ourselves: Is the "real world" ready for us?

## What I really learned here at We-go

By Allison Taylor

Everyone tells you high school is the "best years of your life." I won't know if that's true until I have lived the rest of my life. However, I do know I've had a great time at We-go and I learned things I will never forget.

I started out my four years at We-go scared to be away from the small hallways of Winfield, but hopeful that I would meet many new people and succeed in my classes. From that first day of school, my life changed forever and no longer did I dread coming to high school, but I looked forward to it.

I learned to get involved and to have school spirit. Some of the best times my friends and I had were at football games huddled under blankets cheering on our team. It didn't matter if we won or if we lost, just as long as we had fun.

This year I saw the senior class display their pride at homecoming, winning the tug-of-war for the fourth straight year. We lost just about everything else, but to know that we won something four times in a row was exciting for the class of 1998. Little things like this make high school worthwhile and

to never experience true school spirit will make high school a lesser experience.

Many people here at We-go don't have school spirit and they come to class everyday and leave without ever getting involved. This is their choice, but I urge them to attend school events. It doesn't matter what you do, but get involved. Spend an entire week spray-painting a dilapidated ship for your homecoming float knowing you won't win the competition. Help tie two hundred balloons for the winter dance or come to school at 6:00 a.m. to decorate the hallway in mismatched streamers and balloons for winter wonderland week.

I think it is important to get involved with our school and to have school spirit. I also believe our classes are important. We learn many things that will help us later in life.

I have learned a great deal in the classrooms here at We-go. I know that many of us talk about how much we hate our teachers or how stupid our classes are, but I don't think our complaints hold any merit. We learn so much from the time-consuming as-

signments we complain about.

I realized I wanted to be a history major as a result of Mr. Zimmerman's Western Civ. class. Almost every other person who took the class said it was the worst class, it was so boring, etc., etc. I am going out on a limb to say it was my favorite class. I learned more in this class than any of my other classes in high school. It helped me choose what I want to do with the rest of my life.

The class that taught me more than just textbook education, though, is journalism. I love to write for the paper, but more importantly the class has helped me to be the person I am today. I learned it was okay to be myself and it was okay to think differently from the majority of the population. I broke out of my shell and I took a risk. I didn't care what others thought of my writing or what they thought of my opinions. More importantly, I made friends with people I never would have met had I not been in Journalism. All of them taught me something about life.

Hannah taught me to be myself and not care what oth-

ers think. Kelley taught me patience and kindness while working of deadlines. Jeff, Dan, and Arlete taught me how to have fun while working under stress and Jenny taught me that people could become good friends no matter how different they are. I will take these lessons with me and apply them to the rest of my life.

So, I think I have two main messages, the first being to get involved and have pride in your classes and your classmates. The knowledge you gain from others will benefit you as much as the knowledge you gain from your classes. Spend time on your homework and study for tests, but also spend time with your friends. You need both social and academic knowledge to get through your life.

My second message is to get involved and have pride in West Chicago. Maybe We-go isn't the best school in the area and maybe it isn't the most prestigious or most well-known, but it is our home. "So here's to the teams who have won the right, to carry our colors on the field and fight, here's to the teams fight for me and you, for old West Chicago, white and blue."

## Real crimes to bust

By Dave Mehrman

I have a complaint to submit to the comment box of life. Why is it the human race must always find one group of people to harass and bother? Though, I don't understand about the conflict between two group of people. The harassment and cruelty from the police towards the skaters.

Now when I hear most peoples opinion of police, the opinions normally become strong against the law enforcement. Now don't get me wrong, I understand that police are here to help us. Sometimes I don't understand how well their authority is used.

I enjoy skateboarding. When I am skating somewhere, the last thing I like is a police officer coming up to my friends and me and ending our fun. Some of the reasons they give us to leave I can respect, but some I can't. Things like: it's busy in the area, or we are in the way, those are decent reasons for skaters to leave. I can't stand it those when people blame all the wear and tear on benches and stairs on skaters. The wear and tear from every day use.

When it is the middle of the day and there are millions of people in a downtown area, I guess it could be dangerous to be skating through all the people. Though when it is at night or a cloudy cool day when not many people around, I don't see why we can't skateboard.

A few weekends ago, some skateboarders went on an excursion to downtown Chicago. With skateboards in their hands, they were in the city and stoked. Within five minutes of being in the city, they had already had been kicked out of a spot. There were marble ledges and nobody was around. They were set back a little bit away from the streets and sidewalks. After doing one trick a security guard from the building next to the ledges was kicking them out. I could understand if there were a lot of people out when they were skating, but there weren't. So they listened to the guard and they left.

The next stop they skated at, they were kicked out immediately. So

they complied and began to leave. A they were walking out of the plaza, a police car came flying out of no where with lights flashing and all. The police weren't after them right then, but the skaters took off anyway in the other direction. Five minutes later and far away from where they had been skating, a police officer drove by them, then turns a corner to cut them off. They weren't doing anything wrong at the time. They were minding their own business. They weren't even skating, they were walking.

The officer stepped out of the car and confronted them. She sat them down and started to lecture them as two other officers stopped by. "Skating in a business district is illegal," she went on to say, "I don't want to see you suburbanites skateboarding down here." As she was speaking to them one of the skaters, who we will call Nasty Mouth (which is the name the officer gave him), had his own opinion. "Don't you have any real crimes to bust?" he said in a sarcastic tone. Faster than lighting one of the male officers who came late to the party, grabbed him and yanked him to his feet by his shirt. He was searched and thrown in to the back of the police car.

When the first officer told the newer officer what Nasty Mouth said, the officer changed the story saying that Nasty was swearing at him. Wrong, he wasn't. Now I don't understand their grudge about skaters. The woman officer even told them that if they even gave here a little bit of attitude, she would tell the sergeant they were skating. She said she would have ticketed them or maybe even arrested them and confiscated their boards.

I think that is wrong. She spent twenty minutes telling them that they aren't wanted anywhere, when more serious crimes are most likely taking place. Now I'm not saying what they were doing wasn't a crime. I do understand that most places don't like it when people skate, but why do the police have to take these offenses to these extremes?

## Give them some credit

By Jeff Goluszka

A We-go student lay attacked and beaten as the security and police around him arrest the perpetrators of the crimes committed, both trespassing and battery as well.

On a Tuesday in late April, a 16-year old sophomore, who we'll call J.V., was attacked on Community High School property by two men who were not even students there.

By his own account of the story, J.V. had been dating an African-American female who attends We-go.

A female friend of J.V.'s noticed as an oddity in her mind that two people of different races were together, being that J.V. was caucasian.

The friend of J.V.'s notified her boyfriend, who happened to be associated with the Ku Klux Klan.

Now, the scene would shift to ninth hour on that Tuesday, in the commons area at We-go. The girl

asked J.V. to come outside, where not only her boyfriend, but another male, both associated with the Klan, had been waiting.

The two males began to insult African-Americans, and the three males exchanged words.

Mind you, this happened just outside the south entrance at We-go, apparently just out of sight of the guard who had been stationed there.

The next thing J.V. knew, he had been punched in the chest, then in the face, with the second blow breaking his nose.

The two attackers ran off, but not quick enough as the security guards at We-go chased them down. The men were arrested by police and charged with battery, but unfortunately were released on bond.

We-go police liaison Tony Quarto released a brief statement saying there were two arrests for battery, and since it was a juvenile situa-

tion, he could not say more.

After all the hassle and criticism that the new security guards at We-go have dealt with, they deserve to be complemented for doing their jobs well, and stopping the attackers before they could escape.

J.V. said he "has no problem with the security guards...99% of them I like as people...they do their job."

Maybe we all should rethink our opinions on these guards. There have been letters to the editor written, even an article by a former member of the Chronicle staff putting down these new guards.

They may be a pain sometimes, they always want to see your pass, to see your ID, to know where you're going, but they do have good reasons why- to avoid situations like the one J.V. encountered. They are here to protect us, after all, so maybe we should just lay off them for a while.

## Letter to the Editor

### West Chicago Community Prison

Prison. This is a fitting name for what our school has become. A prison is a building where people are locked inside and told where and when to go places. Guards patrol the perimeters to make sure the population stays inside. I believe this definition has a striking similarity to our school.

There is no reason at all why our school should not have an open campus, like many other schools in the area. The school tells us that they are protecting us and locking us in for our own good. Then we ask, "Why do we need this supervision?" The school tells us that we

are not responsible enough to make the right decisions for ourselves.

But my question is, when do we become old enough or responsible enough to make our own decisions? Is it some magical age or day of the year?

The majority of student who wish to go off-campus only want some decent food for a change. Cafeteria food does not appeal to everyone, and some students need to go home for lunch because they cannot afford to buy food.

If it is okay with their parents, then why shouldn't the school allow us to go out for lunch? The

school explains to us that they are responsible for us even during unscheduled hours, but if our parents signed a consent from, shouldn't we all be allowed to leave?

So I ask you, does there seem to be any reason why our school shouldn't become open-campus? We're responsible young adults. We understand that if we ditch classes, we will have to face the consequences. But we don't understand why it is possible to get in trouble for ditching an unscheduled period?

Anonymous

## Where do we place the blame?

By Dan Young

Are you planning on killing some people that go to this high school?

Just recently, a student from Glenbard North was accused of planning to get a gun and shoot kids at his high school. Why doesn't this surprise me, especially with all of the shootings going on that involve kids?

Where do people get off when they think they can teach kids how to use guns and give them access to the weapons and not expect this to happen?

Just listening to this crap is sickening. I can't believe parent would teach their kids to shoot and not teach them the damages shooting could cause. The shooting aren't necessary and neither are the guns.

When people have problems with each other, they used to talk it out. Now it all resorts to violence. What are parents teaching their kids today?

Kids killing each other to solve problems like a break up, just isn't right. The fault isn't to be blamed on the kid; he really didn't know what he was doing. The kid doesn't realize what is happening and what results this is going to bring.

It is the parents fault.

Why? The parents need to teach the kid all about guns if there is going to be access to the gun. The parents need to teach the kid right from wrong. The parents need to teach the kid that everything they do will have an impact on people

around them.

Now, this kid going to jail isn't going to solve the problem. Any kid going to jail won't solve the problem. The problem starts in parenting. Parents need to teach their kids about solutions. If they don't, it really won't matter if a kid goes to jail for his/her crime. The problem won't go away without the correction. If you don't solve a problem from the beginning, the problem will keep returning.

Parents need to take the responsibility to correct this problem. Hopefully, all of the parents in the rest of the world are learning from the parents who have made a mistake, whether they have been from Arkansas, Pittsburgh, Oregon or Glenbard North.

### Wildcat Chronicle

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

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the Chronicle box in the main office. letters to the editor must be signed to be printed. Letters may be to a maximum of 300 words may be edited for space. 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 their views and thoughts.

## The choice between life and death

By Carrie Zeffield

*He stops. He looks down at the world below him. The building is twelve stories high. The wind is blowing lightly in his face. The sun is shining brightly in the blue sky. He holds tightly to the storm pipe as he inches closer to the edge. He looks down one more time and looks back. He is alone on the ledge of the highrise. He closes his eyes and.....*

*"Billy, get down here for dinner right now!" said Billy's mom.*

*In his torn jeans and ripped shirt, Billy lazily walked to the table for dinner.*

*"I saw your grades. Do you realize you are failing every class? What's your problem, boy?"*

*Billy sat down, not paying attention to his mother. She slammed the report card down and walked toward the liquor cabinet.*

*"I have had enough with your lazy ways. You shape up or get out!" His mom reached for her bottle of Vodka. "Do you hear me?"*

*Billy stared at her for a short period of time. Then he got up and ran out the door. He never looked back.*

*"Hey Billy, so what class were you dropped from this time?" said Jake, one of the few people that talked to Billy.*

*Jake suavely walked up to Billy as he sat outside in the campus courtyard.*

*"Shut up man, I'm still in four classes. What's it to you anyway?"*

*Jake said nothing. Instead he pointed out the fact that Sherri, Billy's long time friend and girlfriend, was approaching them.*

*"Hi Billy, can we talk alone?" said Sherri.*

*"I'll see you later man." Without hesitating, Jake left.*

*"What's up?" asked Billy in a blunt tone.*

*"Well, it's about us. Look Billy, we have known each other since second grade. I remember you being a bright, energetic, fun person to be around. And you were my best friend. But it seems like ever since we got into high school, you have changed so much.*

*You're happy one minute and depressed the next minute. And since we started our junior year, you have become more depressed and alone. You seclude yourself from everything and everyone. School isn't working out for you, you don't eat, you don't sleep, you're into drugs now, Billy, what is going on with you?"*

*Billy looked at her blankly, but seriously.*

*"Sherri, leave me alone. You and the rest of this world wouldn't understand."*

*As he got up to leave, Sherri said "Billy, your counselor wants to see you."*

*And with that he was gone.*

*As Billy strayed his way into his counselor's office, he heard his counselor talking to a dean on the phone.*

*"He should be here any minute, I'll call you back."*

*Billy cautiously knocked on the door.*

*"Come in Billy, take a seat." His counselor stared at him with a puzzled eye. "Billy, do you want to stay in school?"*

*Billy didn't answer.*

*"Son, you only have four classes left and your teachers don't want you in their classes anymore. You don't show up for class and your work skills have really changed.*

*Last year you were a B student and now you aren't even passing your junior year. What's going on Billy?"*

*"Nothing. I just don't feel like trying anymore. It's no use. School doesn't matter and neither do the other things in my life." The room was silent. Boldly, Billy stood up and walked to the door. "I'm outta here. I promise, I won't be a problem for you much longer." Billy slammed the door shut on his way out.*

*Later that day, Billy sat in his room, alone with Marilyn Manson blasting in the background. Billy's mom was at work and wouldn't be returning until late that evening.*

*He took out a piece of paper and a dull pencil and began to write a letter. When he was done, he put it in a small envelope and put it on his mother's bed.*

*He then walked over to the liquor cabinet and poured himself a glass of whiskey. He indulged a half a bottle of whiskey and a few full glasses of vodka.*

*After drinking so much, he stumbled to a big window over looking Elm Avenue. He climbed out the window and stood on the ledge. Billy opened his eyes, looked up, then down at the crowded street again. He grabbed on to a storm pipe and inched his way closer to the edge. He closed his eyes again and let go.*

*His death was silent and painless, hitting the concrete and dying instantly. Within seconds, squad cars and emergency vehicles surrounded the shattered boy.*

*His mother was called to the scene moments later. That night, she found the envelope on her*

*bed. She pulled out the letter and it read:*

*Mother, life for me ended six months ago, after dad left. Now you're a drunk and there is no hope left in this world for me. I feel alone and useless. I feel like I have lost everything. Why? Why does life have to be so unfair? Since it's so unfair, what's the point of living it? I'll miss you. - Billy.*

The suicide rate among young people has dramatically increased within the last few years. Suicide is the third leading cause in death among young people between the ages of 15 to 24 years old. Between the ages of 5 to 14, suicide is the sixth leading cause of death.

Many factors in a person's life can make that person come to a "solution" that ending his/her life is the best resort.

Things to look out for are lack of attention, isolation, the use of drugs and/or alcohol, personality change, frequent mood change, a decline in school work, change in eating and sleeping habits, depression and stress. All these factors combined can lead a person to becoming suicidal.

Suicidal people usually use statements like "I won't be a problem for you much longer," "It's no use," "It doesn't matter anymore," and "I won't be seeing you again." These sentences should not be ignored. Usually they will say this when they are looking for help or need attention.

Suicidal thoughts arise in young people when they feel like they cannot expand their horizons of becoming more independent and discover oneself. People begin to

discover their sexuality and identities. Old habits are changed to new habits and impulsive behavior arises in a young person when they seek to resolve a conflict.

Young people who become suicidal experience family problems, which in turn gives that child self-doubt and insecurity. They feel unwanted, unloved and misunderstood.

People who become suicidal or think highly of suicide should always be given special attention. Groups in the DuPage County area have been formed to save people from making a big mistake.

If people are not willing to go to these groups, there are some things a person could do to help prevent a suicide.

Listen to the person. Encourage them to talk. Be on their side and try to understand where the person is coming from. Ask the person if they think of suicide a lot or only when crisis rises in the person's life. Offer suggestions to help. Be a friend and stay with the person.

There are many facts and myths about suicide. If a person says they are going to commit suicide, take it into consideration. Eight out of ten people actually attempt suicide. A person is most vulnerable to attempt suicide at the peak of their depression. Try to sway them away from becoming depressed.

Life is hard and we all know it, but if you know anyone who is thinking and considering suicide, please help them. You could prevent one less body in the ground.

All sources are from The Befrienders youth suicide group and the University of Michigan.

## New looks for We-go: past, present, and future

By Jennifer Lasky

Starting out as a small schoolhouse 72 years ago at 326 Joliet Street, West Chicago Community High School has undergone many changes and additions throughout the years.

In 1926, the school was built at its current location on Joliet Street. The small building was home to 125 students. This is the core of the building we have today.

29 years later, in 1955, a new cafeteria, industrial arts wing, small gym, locker rooms, gymnastics gym, and classrooms at the northwest and southwest corners of the building were added. The cafeteria from this addition has since been replaced.

In the late 50s, under principal Samuel Bishop, a gymnasium was added to the building. Bishop died before the completion of the gymnasium. On December 9, 1960, the gymnasium was dedicated in Bishop's memory.

The north wing, with science, social studies, and foreign language

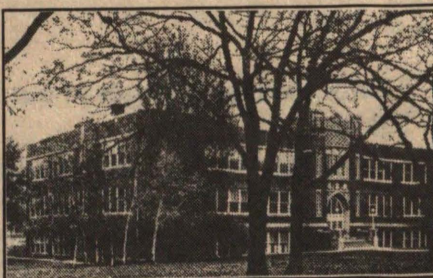
classrooms, was added to the building in 1965, when the enrollment was 1025. Remodelling was done in 1966 to provide separate office areas for the main office and the board of education office.

A referendum for the school failed in February 1969. As a result of this, a group called Save Our School was organized by social studies teachers George Strecker, Steven Arnold, and Dean Burgess to persuade the community to vote for the 1970 referendum.

Over 200 students helped, going door to door, informing the community of the need for the referendum. On January 27, 1970, it passed by 25 votes.

In the late 60s, a memorial fund was established to honor the late superintendent John T. Weyrauch, who died in 1968. The fund was used to refurbish the auditorium. On January 21, 1973, the auditorium was dedicated in the honor of Weyrauch.

On November 13, 1976, the community approved a 5.3 million dollar building bond issue to build a learning center, commons, a new cafeteria, student service offices, fieldhouse, pool, greenhouse, and



The high school building in 1955

renovations. The marquee in front of the building was provided by the school board in 1976.

The Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation was forced to close in 1976, as a result of the dangerous chemicals they were using. Students now use this area on Factory Street for parking.

Ground was broken in July 1977 for the additions which were approved in 1976. The northwest and cafeteria doors were closed with plywood partitions and construction workers were everywhere.

Construction continued into the 1978 school year. Due to construction, the small gym doubled as a cafeteria, thus being called the "gymateria." The receiving doors doubled as a main entrance for the building.

Many changes for We-go occurred during the 1978-79 school year. The newly renovated classrooms became usable and the new home ec rooms were finished. The new LRC opened on January 2 and in April the electronics lab was hooked up. The students moved from the "gymateria" to the new cafeteria and hot lunches began on March 26. The fieldhouse was ready for use on January 26 and We-go's

first indoor track meet was held on February 17. The pool opened on May 17. On May 20, these new areas were formally dedicated. The building did not undergo any significant changes until 1994, when they annexed Lincoln School to make it a foreign language wing.

In 1995, a group of students formed We-go Cares. This was a group designed to push for the passing of a referendum for the school. Efforts for the referendum continued until 1997, when the referendum was passed.

Beginning this summer, We-go will take on another look. The school will be acquiring a new stadium, classrooms, parking, as well as renovations to the infrastructure, the commons, the kitchen, the computer labs, and existing classrooms.

Throughout the years of its existence, We-go has undergone many changes. Starting as a small schoolhouse, it grew into the building we have today, and is scheduled to have another growth again.

## 98 things w

How to function on no sleep. -Danielle Drumm  
 How important friendships are. -Kari Flagg  
 Don't judge people by their outside appearance, but by who they really are. -Mary Fenner  
 How to sleep with your eyes open. -Kelly Kemp  
 Meeting deadlines are important. -Maulin Soneji  
 Don't give your heart to anybody, they'll just make it bleed. -Malgosia Stecuik  
 Life is what you make of it. -Jerry Ericson  
 Nice guys finish last. -Mike Hendron  
 Trust no one. -Nikki Oroni  
 People change. -Richie DiVito  
 The world is not the great place I once thought it was. -Brian O'Hara  
 Whatever happens, happens. -Kelly Boyle  
 I learned that I'm ignorant. -Kevin Openshaw  
 It's hard to find who your true friends are. -Dora Guevara  
 Always keep one sock on. -P.J. Leitherer and Andrea Beutjer  
 Life is stressful when you grow up. -Hilda Hernadez  
 Follow your uninfluenced feelings, or you will look back on certain people and wish you did things differently. -Dominick Cavaliere  
 Women suck. High school relationships suck. -P.J. Augustyn  
 I've learned that younger men are better. -Jodi Zipprich  
 It's easy to talk out problems. -Heather Jones  
 Nothing. -Melissa Jones  
 I learned how to design a house from the ground up. -Adam Acosta  
 If you're gonna ditch, don't use the main door. -Amie Weidner  
 The para-pros do absolutely nothing. -Leslie Harlson  
 Never try. -Dan Janek  
 We are losers because teachers teach us to be that way. -Ed Patel  
 Some of the biggest changes have hit us during high school. -Dayna Jeschke  
 Peers in the school don't care about anybody but those in their clique. -Samantha Jeschke  
 Problems don't always solve themselves. -Dave Fennewald  
 I didn't learn anything at all. -Mitch McCabe  
 How to talk about a book without really ever reading it. -Janine Morris  
 I learned how to swim. -Mike Plefka  
 I need to hook up an air-conditioning system to my arm pits. -Tom Otto  
 The only thing I have learned this year is how to take a derivative. -Liz Breiseth  
 This place sucks. -Brian Pillion  
 What goes around comes around and you'll end up where you never thought you'd be. -Liz Perez  
 You find out who your real friends are. -Lisa Cosco  
 Friends come, friends go and in the end you're on your own. -Evan Larson  
 To live in another country and accept the lifestyle is great experience. -Kim Grundstedt  
 Everywhere you go in life, no matter who you meet, there will always be something to learn so keep an open mind. -Liz Edwards  
 What I've learned in high school is that everything I say or do is "inappropriate," "uncalled for," "not necessary," "out in the hall," "go to the dean," "you're late," "where's your pass," or "do you have off-campus..." Aghhhh! Enough already. I'm done. -Mike Trojan  
 I learned to put up with incompetent people. -Nicole Begy  
 Not to care what other people think about me. -Jenny Perry  
 Um uh uh. -Matt (Twinkie) Walter  
 Friendships are underrated. -Alfredo Muhlberger  
 How to get out of school without getting caught. -Joe Visco  
 Just be yourself. Stop trying to act like someone else just for them to like you. Be your own person. -Jason Osterkamp  
 You find happiness in the strangest places. -Evan Piemone  
 You gotta be an individual. -Ken Robertson  
 I've learned how to send teachers to mental hospitals. -Brian Kilgore  
 There's a lot of stupid people in this school. -Kevin Birtcher  
 Waking up early isn't fun. -Blair Machaj  
 Everybody's different and they all have the right to live the way they want to and the right to choose what they believe in. -Tracy Busse  
 Don't say too much because rumors get spread. -John Brigowatz

**Kelley,**  
 Congratulations on your big day!  
 You are a beautiful girl inside and out. Never change. Always reach for your dreams! We're proud of you!



We love you forever,  
 Mom & Dad

**Congratulations to Michael Hendron,**

You've done a lot in your four years of high school -French exchange student - VICA winner in 3 years of competitions - National Honor Society. We are proud of you.

Love,  
 Your family

**Kari Congratulations!**

Thank you for doing your best. Keep up the good work.

Love,  
 Mom, Dad, and Mike

**Dear Challenge Seniors,**

For a bunch of rookies, we did all right! Just remember- It's a Bittersweet Symphony...  
 Keep the emphasis on the sweet part!

Mr. Larson

**Lara,**

Congratulations on your high school graduation! We're all so proud of you! Best wishes as you go off to college to achieve your dreams! We love you!

Kevin, Mom and Keileen

**Nikki,**

You can achieve anything you set your mind on. Remember, there are no limits to what you can accomplish except the ones you place on yourself.



Congratulations, we love you!  
 Rhonda, John, Regina, Guy, and Lisa

**Congratulations Kelly - We Love You!**

"Today is your day  
 You're off to Great Places!  
 You're off and away!  
 You have brains in your head.  
 You have feet in your shoes.  
 You can steer yourself any direction you choose."



Dr. Seuss  
**KINDERGARTEN TO GRADUATION - IT SURE WENT FAST!**

Mom, Dad, Dan

**Congratulations John!!**

It has been fun. Watching a son in high school has been an experience. I love the changes (oh so many), but you always managed to follow the right roads. Thank you for making us proud!!

Love,  
 Mom, Dan, Robbie, and Angie

**Dear Seniors!**

Ich werde euch vermissen!

Frau

**Sweet Melissa, angel of our lifetime...**

We're so proud of you! Happy Graduation!

From your family

**Leslie,**

Good luck at Loras and enjoy the experience!!

Love,  
 Mom and Dad

**Congratulations Katie!**

Love,  
 Dad, Mom, Ben

**Dear Hannah, Kelley, Allison, and Jenny,**

Thanks for making this a memorable year. I will miss you all very much next year, especially around deadline. Congratulations and good luck next year.

Miss Mo

**Jennie,**

Stepped on any squirrels lately?

Sporky

**Jason,**

You have worked hard and your accomplishments are many. It's an honor to witness the process of your journey through life, and we are proud to be you parents.



We love you,  
 Mom and Dad

## e've learned

Don't eat the cafeteria food. -Dave Hogan  
 Get help when you need it. -Katie Hensey  
 High school isn't about what you've learned, it's about what you experience, the people, the situations. -Besnike Kashetanjeva  
 Well, the bottom line is that four years ago I was only catching two to three pound bass. Now it's six or seven pounders. I give credit to Miss Carney who made me a much faster and quieter student when necessary, of course! -Abe Mashal  
 Once you've reached senior year you've learned who your true friends are. -Amanda Olson  
 I've learned that there is not one person in this school that knows what they are doing. Also that us as students go through para-pros like paper plates. -Derek Scott  
 I've learned that the older you get the faster the years fly by, so enjoy every moment of it! -Trisha Tinnes  
 I've learned that every student that comes in to this school is like a seed and the school is the greenhouse. You need the school to grow in mind and body. You need a greenhouse to grow people and plants. -Jim Taylor  
 You can't trust anyone and high school relationships suck. Live life to the fullest because it goes by too fast. -Laura Memoli  
 Make sure to kiss butt and don't spill your lemonhead in your lap. -Cassy Kutelik  
 Ditching gets you caught. -Corie Brockway  
 It is not necessarily wise to TP in the snow. -Lisa Mueller  
 The wicked witch of the west is alive; she drives a golf cart around outside. -Anon  
 Choose your friends wisely; they help you decide who you become. -Darcie Wostratzky  
 Don't wait until the last minute. -Jenny Vlach  
 Don't be afraid to experience your brave new world, no matter how bizarre you create it to be. -Brian Kenny  
 I learned never to sit on the brown couch because ya never know what may have happened there. -Caroline McClellan  
 The roof and attic are the funnest places in the school. -Tiffany Hanshaw  
 Don't worry about your favorite color being orange. -Steve Garcia  
 If a security guard asks you if you're a teacher, smile and say "Why, yes I am." -Jennie Grobe  
 Teachers should learn not to assign the whole book because students are going to read Cliff's Notes anyway. -Monica Acker  
 Avoid eye contact when walking into the commons without your i.d. -Amie Weidner  
 Find enjoyment outside of high school. -Kirk Johnson  
 I learned a lot about people who are different than me. -Laura Bieniasz  
 What other people think doesn't matter. -Jessica Bina  
 "Nothing that is so is so." -Barbie Karnoscak  
 It's a waste of time. -Lucas English  
 The wierdest thing is looking down on the high schoolers younger than you and remembering you were there once. -Kelly Macauley  
 You learn which teachers really care about you. -Julissa Ballines  
 Always look twice. People are never what they appear at first glance. -Jenny Lasky  
 When all else fails, manipulate the data. -Meg Runyan  
 The easiest path out is not always the best way. -Hannah Kenny  
 I learned what qualities make up a good teacher and how to learn from the best. -Kelley Betts  
 I learned to do what I want to do and not what everyone else wants to do and don't trust everyone you come across. -Lisa Schellenberg  
 You learn who your true friends are and who will stick by your side through thick and thin. -Danielle Christopher  
 You find out who's real and who's fake. You find out who can be themselves and who has to put on an act. -Danielle Murphy  
 You really find out who your friends are and the kind of people you're most like. -Lexie Nussbaum  
 Sometimes those who seem the most innocent can actually be the most dangerous. -Katie Mitchell  
 It's not important in life to strive to satisfy others, but strive to improve yourself. -Angie Johnson  
 High school is what you make of it. If you think it sucks, then do something about it. -Allison Taylor  
 The passion for power is more important than the passion for knowledge. -Mike Altman  
 How to get along with people I don't like. -Elena Tawney  
 Live life like each day is your last. -Kelsey Link

**Dear Senior Thespians,**  
 Break-a-leg!

Ms. H

**Congratulations Chistine Yourek,**

We're very proud of all you've accomplished.  
 We love you,  
 Mom, Dad, Greg, Ken

**Dear Senior Cheerleaders,**

Thanks for a fun-filled year. We'll miss you.  
 Ms. Clifford

**Kari,**

The big day is almost here. We're so proud of you and all that you accomplished in high school. Congratulations!

Love,

Dad, Mom, Kori, Zack, Kadi,  
 Snickers & Cody

**Dear Greg Cinert,**

So proud of all you accomplished here at school.

Mrs. Mikutis

**Mike Congratulations!**

You deserve a rest for a job well done!



Success  
 Always,  
 Mom and Dad, Mandi, Billie and  
 Monkey

**Dear Tracy,**

Congrats! You finally made it through! Remember that I am praying for you as you start a new chapter in your life.

I'll miss ya!  
 Kristi

**Congratulations, Toddy-o.**

Good luck in the future.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Terry  
 II, Tim and Dana



**Congratulations Nicole,**

We are proud of you. Looking forward to see you getting your nursing degree. Keep up the good work.

Love always,

Grandma, Grandpa, Mom, Torr,  
 Lindsey, Tonya, Tomm /

**Dear Bob Piet,**

Best of luck to the 2nd in command.  
 FLY PAPER

Mrs. Mikutis

**Brigz,**

After four years at WeGo, you're ending the fun.  
 Love and Our Best to You,  
 Your Work's Just Begun!



Now hit the books at COD!  
 Strive hard to keep on top  
 Of goals that are what you see  
 In your life's next stop.

**Dear Allison,**

We are all so proud of you. We wish you lots of happiness and much success. Congratulations to you and the entire class of '98.

Love,  
 Mom, Dad, Jennifer, and Karen

**To all my Seniors,**

Congratulations on finishing up here at We-go! Bueno suerte as you go out to pursue your dreams!

Senorita Allen

**Becky, Janine, Lexie, Lindsay and Shannon,**

You led your team by word and by example.  
 You grew and improved throughout the year.  
 Sometimes you made us scream.  
 More often you made us laugh.  
**Always** you made us proud.

Congratulations on a great season and good luck in the track meet of life.

"I have been given the ability the rest is up to me...  
 Believe, believe, believe."

Your "almighty coaches"  
 Kolasa, Carper, and Mocarski

**The last Runyan,**

You are terrific!  
 Calvin,  
 here she comes!



## The time has finally come

By Dan Young

Well, it all came down to this. I had to make something out of "the relationship." It was over for good, that was for sure. Everyone I knew had said they were sorry, but that's the way it goes. Not for me.

It all began when I took Darlene on "the Date" and then asked her out. Everything was working great until she passed me "the note," and then things turned bad. It was horrid. Things seem to crawl as time stopped and I was thrust into my black world.

However, I wasn't going down that easy. NO WAY. No one could knock me down now. I was going to win this fight, no matter what the cost. I have pride and now it was time to show her what is up.

It wasn't going to be hard. All I had to do was talk to her. Then I was ok.

I was still good. She couldn't have just stopped liking me all of a sudden, could she? No. It just wasn't possible, not this time.

I know that she was a cheerleader and the cheerleaders always practiced out on the football field, so when I was walking to chess practice, I would get there a little late and have a chat with her. She couldn't tell me no the first time, so how could she now?

The bell rang and I ran out of class, veering for my locker on the second floor. I had about 20 minutes to kill before practice started. Maybe I should find her before she started. I checked her locker on the way past, but the effort was fruitless. So, I continued running down the hall.

Suddenly, I saw Gerald, one of her best friends, walking down the hall. I asked him if he had seen her, but he hadn't. I continued to search around the school until I came to my locker. I put my books away and headed towards the football field.

There were a couple of girls already practicing, but none of them were Darlene. I stood there, right next to the bleachers, waiting for her to show up. It only took five minutes, but it was an eternity for me. It seemed to drag on; time was dead. I was attempting to formulate what I would say in my mind when she stepped out of school.

The sun shined on her red hair, and she squinted because of the light in her eyes. I headed towards her, my heart pounding in my chest. I wondered how she would react and if everything would be ok.

"Hey," I said, attempting to open the conversation like it was normal. However, this would be anything but normal. After the opening, the conversation took a turn for the worse.

I don't know where I got the idea to ask why she broke up with me, but I shouldn't have asked her then. She burst into tears, and there was nothing I could do.

How I wished I hadn't asked that question. She wasn't my property. I shouldn't have pushed her so far. Now I realized my mistake. I wanted to hold her; to comfort her. However, I wasn't allowed to anymore. I should have been kinder to her. I should have called her more often.

I apologized, not wanting to make her too angry, but she waved me off. So, I left because it seemed she wanted me to. I gave up that time, but this was just the beginning. She called me that night and yelled at me, like the whole breakup was my fault. We argued and eventually she even hung up at me.

The next day was horrid. Darlene ignored me in class and then blew me off when I asked her if we could talk. That was it. I was really angry now. She wasn't going to make me out to be the bad guy. I didn't do anything wrong. Every person who talked to me said it wasn't my fault and I shouldn't blame myself.

Well, I didn't. It was time for me to get my revenge. I wasn't going to play second fiddle to anyone. I was going to show her what she was missing.

I talked to her friend Gerald again and asked him who Darlene's best girlfriend was. He said it was Mary and they had been best friends for a long time. I knew who she was and where I might be able to talk to her. She wasn't too pleased with my ideas, but she said she thought we belonged together. So, she would help me out. Now, it was time to put "the plan" in action.

Mary had to get Darlene to come to Ray's party, which I had been invited to. I went to the costume store and found the mask I was looking for. I prepared myself for the festivity, placing the necessary items for the plan to take place.

I found myself at Ray's party, looking for Darlene. The plan which I knew had changed. She blew me off for three hours and then, when she was ready to talk, I wasn't. The result wasn't pretty. She was yelling at me and crying at the same time.

I didn't know what to do, but I walked away. Again. She yelled something at my back as I walked, and when I turned around, I could feel the hatred pitted in my stomach. My words were simple, but harsh. I said, "I'd watch your step if I were you."

With that, I walked into the party. Time to take plan B. The party had been going for a while already, but still, there was more than enough time to carry out the plan. I was going to finish what I started. This was it. The room seemed to turn red as she walked in and give me "the look."

My entire body began to shake from both hatred and fear. Unfortunately, the hatred was much stronger than the fear. I put on the costume I had purchased at Moe's Costume Factory, and grabbed the knife. I slid out the door and ran up the stairs, back into the party.

I quickly scanned the room, noticing the door and the two windows. My exits are open. I was ready. There wasn't a lot of time left to get going. I sought her out. She was in the corner, making out with some guy. My blood rushed to my head, my eyes turning to steel.

That was the last straw. I wasn't going to take this crap. Who does she think is to give me all of this torture? I wasn't myself any longer. I could see the room turning red, a bloody color. This is what she deserves.

So, she thinks she could play me, I thought. We will see about that.

I waded through the crowd, pushing people out of my way. Some idiot grabbed me by the shoulder and tried to stop me from going. He just hap-

pened to grab my right arm and I jabbed the knife into his stomach, watching him writhe in pain.

I pulled the knife out and watched him collapse onto the floor, a pool of blood staining the carpet. No one seemed to notice and the boy didn't make any noise.

I stepped towards the corner of the room and she saw me. She saw the thing she had made me become. The guy she was with stepped towards me and said back off or something to that nature, but I flashed my knife across his throat and watched him bleed. He put his hands on his neck and blood raced through his fingers. He fell to his knees.

I heard someone scream, but it was unimportant to me now. I had my goals and I was going to accomplish them. I ran after her up the stairs. She tried to close the door but I jammed my foot in the door and pushed it open.

"Why?" she screamed. I didn't answer her for a couple of seconds, then I said it was over and she shouldn't have messed with me. She screamed, but to no avail.

My moment had arrived. I raised the knife and slashed down in an arcing attack, aiming for her neck. She ducked her head down and I hit her on the chin. Blood gushed from the wound, and I grabbed her arm, forcing her up in the air. A quick slash across the neck, and it would be all over. I heard sirens in the background, but I was going to finish this.

I lifted the knife for the death plunge into her heart, already seeing her blood ooze out of her. I struck and watched her body jerk upright in the air, spasming as she bled to death.

Now it was time for my escape. I ran out of the bedroom. I saw the guy she was kissing, climbing up the stairs slowly. He hissed something at me and I slashed him across the arm, drawing more blood. He reared up, howling in pain, and I finished him with a thrust in the heart. Now, both the cheater and her lover had paid the price.

I finished running down the stairs, and noticed the confusion near the front door. The police were asking

quick questions to people who didn't know what was happening. I laughed again, and made my move towards the first window. Someone yelled something as I crashed through. The policeman looked up, shocked to see someone jump through the window, then took off after me. I didn't care.

He was one of those cops who shouldn't bother to chase me, mostly because he had too many donuts. I laughed again as I ran down the road. I was free. I jumped into my red Ford Pinto but the stupid car didn't start. I jumped out and saw the cop running down the road, about 100 meters away.

I looked up the side street I was on and saw a Camaro at the stop light about 25 meters away. I sprinted down the road and arrived before the light turned green. I opened the door and the guy inside looked at me like I was nuts.

"Get out right now and you won't die," I said.

The guy got out and I jumped in, hitting the gas. The car still had three quarters tank, so I was in the clear. I noticed the cop's partner had gotten the car and they were chasing after me, the cherries flashing like mad. I stepped on the gas, watching the speedometer fly up to about 120 m.p.h. I was going to win.

Right before the highway, a stupid car pulled out in front of me. I swerved, avoiding the car, but hit the bridge. As I bled, I could feel my life slip away. The cop opened the door to the Camaro and gasped in shock. I had begun to see black at the edge of my sight. The cop mumbled something about holding on, but I was already gone. I still had the knife. I couldn't force myself to stab my heart, so I checked the car. Sitting on the seat next to me was a Cougar Magnum. I picked it up and put it to my head. The cop grabbed the gun out of my hand and dragged me out of the car.

I lived through the accident and now I have to go to court. The only thing I can see myself as is a prisoner. But, it is what I deserve. I got my revenge. That is what matters. Or so I think.

## Alternative for the lazy days of summer

By Kelley Betts

The long, lazy days of summer lying just ahead of all of us bring many opportunities. The first few weeks are spent outdoors, sleeping in, or hanging out with friends.

But as soon as the newness of summer vacation wears off, the television turns on. Millions of kids spend hours on end sitting in front of the television. Well, there is another alternative to this laziness.

Read a book. Books are a great way to relax, and they are enjoyable. Watching television creates next to nothing for the mind. Reading a book pro-

vides knowledge and understanding. There are so many books out there to satisfy everyone's interest whether it is a book on skate boarding, music, sociology, history, or health.

There are mystery novels, science-fiction novels, horror novels, romance novels, and comical novels. Many authors have series such as Mary Higgins Clark, a mystery writer, or R.L. Stein, another mystery writer.

Books teach people at least one thing they don't already know. They allow the mind to wander and the imagination to develop by using

words to describe images. This allows the mind to visualize the pictures. Television programs show the image someone else has imagined. It does not require a lot of thinking or imagining.

Books can be taken anywhere, to a forest preserve, by a lake, by a pool deck, on a beach, on a vacation, there are endless possibilities.

Watching television can only be done in doors with the exception of hand held television sets and other new technological devices.

Whether it is in school or during summer, expanding the mind is always a beneficial pass time.

There are some students out there who can't bear to break away from talk shows. Well turn off Springer, and turn on Oprah. Oprah has started a campaign to motivate people to read more.

She will announce a book to read, and on her show, they will discuss the book. Often times, she will have the author on as a guest. There are special sections in bookstores where books Oprah has announced as part of the club are set aside.

Why wait to crack open a book for a report for school, or to earn a good grade for a class. Read for fun.

Bookstores aren't what they used to be either. Barnes and Noble Bookstores have coffee shops where customers may sit and enjoy a cup of coffee and a good book in a peaceful atmosphere. They also have authors there to sign books and discussion groups.

Border's Books is similar to Barnes and Noble Bookstore, only it also has a music section. They occasionally host musicians too.

So when those lazy summer days set in, don't spend them watching television. Get out in the world, and read a book.



## Deep Impact has weak impact

By Jeff Goluszka

*Deep Impact*, the new film with an all-star cast, mouth-dropping special effects and an end-of-the-world plot seemed destined for success.

But, you shouldn't judge a book by its cover, and that is proven in *Deep Impact*. In actuality, it's nothing but an oxymoron. What looked like one of the better films of this year is actually one of the most forgettable.

The loaded cast includes such film stars as Morgan Freeman (in past films such as *Kiss The Girls and Save 'em*), Tea Leoni (from television's "Naked Truth"), Elijah Wood (of *The Adventures of Huck Finn* and *The Good Son*), Robert Duvall (a film veteran from such motion pictures as *Days of Thunder* and parts one and two of *The Godfather*), and Vanessa Redgrave (from *Howards End* and *Murder on the Orient Express*).

*Deep Impact* starts with high school student Leo Biederman (played passionately by Wood) and a high school astronomy club. They happen to be out looking at the stars, and Leo notices an unfamiliar star.

One thing leads to another, and Leo sends a picture of it to a professor who looks at it using special equipment. He almost soils himself while choking at the same time when he realizes it's a comet the size of a city, headed straight towards Earth.

In hurry, he rushes out onto the roadway to notify the world, but is stopped when he encounters a fatal head-on collision with an inattentive semi-truck driver.

Next, in an odd change of events, the story fast-forwards to one year later, at the MSNBC newsroom with aspiring anchorwoman Jenny Lerner (acted sheepishly, yet charmingly by

Leoni), among other reporters.

Lerner quickly becomes involved in what she thinks is a sex scandal involving the Secretary of State, possibly the President, and a mistress named "Ellie."

In response, the FBI runs her off the road and takes her to a meeting place begging/threatening her not to break the story.

Soon after, U.S. President Tom Beck (played convincingly by Freeman) announces the discovery of the comet (which had been somehow kept secret for a year) to the nation, and some ways to stop it.

The comet is an E.L.E. (mistaken for "Ellie" by Lerner), or Extinction Level Event, which means it would possibly wipe out all life on the planet, similar to what likely happened to the dinosaurs.

Enter the space shuttle crew "Messiah," whose mission is to land on the comet, bury nuclear warheads, fly off and blow it up.

The crew is made up of a bunch of cocky young astronauts, and the last man to walk on the moon, "Fish" Tanner (played well as a know-it-all by Duvall).

Now the movie becomes a bit like a daytime TV series, with multiple plots becoming entangled. The stories don't show their connection until the end of the movie.

*Deep Impact* continues switching plots, from Leo Biederman and his new-found fame, to Lerner's becoming new head anchor because of her scoop, as well as the divorce of her parents (played excellently by Redgrave and Maximilian Schell), also President

Beck and his massive bomb shelter built in the ground in Missouri to hold one million

people in the event of a world disaster, the "Messiah" space crew, and not to mention the comet ready to end life as they all know it.

That sentence was about as confusing and disjointed as the movie.

At this point, you begin to wonder what the movie is trying to do, with a sad scene one moment, to a comedic one the next.

By far the worst quality of the film is the quick-moving time frames, leaving absolutely zero suspense for the viewer. For example, in a movie *The Game*, you are on the edge of your seat for most of the movie. That doesn't really happen at all in *Deep Impact*.

There are a lot of "one year later"-type jumps. For instance, the space crew has a time limit of seven hours to complete the mission. The countdown jumps from just over six hours down to 24 minutes in a single scene.

Also, many critical scenes are not shown. In one effort to stop the comet, countries around the world unite to fire missiles at it to send it off course.

The movie goes directly from the announcement to do this to the announcement that it failed. Neither missiles, nor worldwide unification are shown.

Personally, I would've loved to have seen missiles from all over the world shot at a moving comet, but, for some reason, it was not included.

The holes that *Deep Impact* had dug for itself were just too deep to crawl out of. This plot was destined for disaster. Even if there was suspense, and all the plots were fol-

lowed through, it would be a good movie, but it'd be five hours long.

The actors do a great job of making you sad when bad things happen, and vice-versa when something good happens, such as Freeman as the somber President telling about the comet, and the failed missile attack on it. The plot also just doesn't make sense, in the fact that a teenage boy can discover a comet, but no one else can for a whole year?

Also, why would the government hide it? Instead of telling everyone days before the impact, creating an *Independence Day*-like evacuation, why not tell them a year ahead of time so they can move away calmly?

Much as it always seems it's the manager's fault in baseball, it's the director's fault in this movie.

Director Mimi Leder, whose accomplishments include the television series "E.R." and the film *The Peacemaker*, took this movie in the wrong direction. *Deep Impact* just never developed into its full potential.

The base of the story was good, but it just didn't turn out right. The movie didn't "flow," but hobbled along.

One great thing about *Deep Impact* was its visual aspects.

Great disaster scenes and camera angles, including 150-foot tidal waves and astronauts on a moving comet, make this a watchable movie.

The film just had a bad feel to it from its beginning to its conclusion.

Give the actors an "A" for effort, as well as special effects, but give the movie an "F" for story.

★★

## The Ravenous Lyricist Big Punisher

by Joe Leli

Big Punisher is one hungry man. Having as much rhyming style as he does pounds, this Puerto Rican vocalist from the Bronx wants to go straight to the top and is stepping on any wack MC's that are getting in his way.

Lets just say he is like a hip hop Einstein, only Latino, and he will out rhyme you by spitting out every word in the dictionary. He follows the late 90's theme of focusing on vocal skills rather than just looking pretty and making people dance.

Despite entering the rap game with such appetizing singles such as "You ain't a Killer," "I'm not a Player," and the latest single, "Still not a Player," plus guest appearances with fellow terror squad members Fat Joe and the Beatnuts, he is still hungry enough to eat every dumbfounded MC and he is about due for a snack. For the main course, solo project *Capital Punishment*.

Pun's album is out on loud records and as his title says, it is all about punishment. His young, happy go lucky sense of humor sets up the songs perfectly on hilarious interludes such as "Pakinamac" parts one and two and "Uncensored" where he speaks with Funkmaster Flex about some adult issues. In "Pakinamac" though he shoots up a corner of small-time drug dealers with out negotiation then asks kindly if they are ok and blasts some more and jumping back in to his ride.

Now the song "You ain't a Killer" is played before "Pakinamac 2" begins. Suddenly breaks in to a song and dance routine repeating the catchy phrase, "Packed the mac in the back of the ac."

The album gets pumping with "Beware", showing Punishers talents completely and warning anyone who try's to test him. On

"Super Lyrical" featuring Black Thought from The Roots, the title is self explanatory: "My murderous rap/ verbal attack/ is actual fact/tactical tracks match perfectly with graphical stats."

Puns skills are also seen on "The Dream Shatterer" which is another high powered track with even more unbelievable rhymes then the one before it which seems to follow him from beginning to end on this album.

The Wu-Tang influenced, RZA produced, "Tres Leches" featuring Mobb Deeps Prodigy and Wu-Tangs Inspectah Deck show hip hop in a higher form by telling amateur rappers to back up and quit copying their style. Wyclef Jean brings some island flavor on "Caribbean Connection," Wyclef being from his naive Haiti and Punisher from Puerto Rico.

The Reggae style track features Wyclef with more energy to spare while Big Pun is up to his Spanish influenced tongue twisting ways.

Other guest appearances include the buckwilding Busta Rhymes, the new and improved Noreaga, plus Fat Joe with the terror squad.

All of Big Pun's collaborations show his versatility as an artist and makes his fellow artist on each song improve their style o keep up with him.

Overall, *Capital Punishment* is definitely worth the fifteen dollars to buy and is worth the time to just listen to, play in your car or even play at a party.

His style should be recognized a lot more in the music industry and be given more respect in the hip-hop world. Then the one he is given now in the hip-hop world.

## Plastilina mosh: hecho en Mexico

By Arlete Penaflor

"Aquamosh," the new sound wave is coming your way on June 30. This high beat rock groove is ready to conquer audiences all over the world. The songs of this CD are in Spanish and English although Spanish is the dominant language.

Para todos aquellos a quien les gusta el rock en espanol viene este nuevo sonido de Plastilina Mosh. El grupo que esta decidido a cruzar barreras y hacer su disco en dos idiomas en ingles y en espanol.

The masterminds behind P.Mosh are Alejandro Rosso and Jonas. Rosso is in charge of the keyboards, programming, arranging, and background vocals, while Jonas is the lead vocalist and guitarist.

With their different taste in music and explosive personalities they make a great group ready to a sound different to others. Adding beats of their own and a new of idea of combining languages.

El grupo quiere hacer un sonido que a ellos les gusta, en el cual ellos se sientan confortables.

No es cosa de seguir las mismas reglas para ellos si oyen algo y les gusta lo hacen, para ellos es como ver una pelicula si les gustan los cortes la van y la ven.

Their music has a mixture of everything from jazz to rock then adding a mixture of soul and a bit of electronic music. So you can just imagine the sound they create in their own little world.

Rossa y Jonas tienen gustos muy diferentes en musica.

A Rosso le gusta la musica clasica, el jazz, la musica brasilena, y tambien la musica alternativa.

Le gusta oir de todo, y a Jonas le gusta estar un paso adelante de lo que esta en moda si esta en su tiempo le gusta. Asi que con estos gustos tan diferentes todavia pueden crear un sonido diferente y muy de moda.

The CD has a different touch of sound to each song, there is no actual pattern. Especially when they add a catchy phrase like Mr. P.M-O-S-H. In every song they try to add a little phrase of maybe even rhythm that will have you humming to it all day long.

The CD has a variation going from fast tempo music to a simple slow melody taking it to a high tempo beat again.

The CD includes songs like "Nino Bomba," "MR.P. MOSH," among many other songs that the CD includes which are some you might want to check out.

Be on the look out for P.Mosh performances this summer. They have planned several participating in the Rock En Espanol tour this summer from July 1-August 1.

They will be out it the West Coast from June 4- 15th for some performances, and if you feel like going to the beach and getting a tan while you listen to live performing bands, then you might want to check out the OP Beach Festival in Huntington Beach or August 1, 1998.

P. Mosh will be there along with other bands who are ready for audiences to hear their music.

## Kemuri Style Ska

By Lara Earhart and Derek Scott

With Ska's third (and arguably most politically and socially inactive) wave currently ravaging pop culture, those trumpets and punk riffs are becoming harder and harder to ignore. Everywhere you turn you're likely to be bombarded with black and white checks and band patches and trombones.

The fashion statement and musical style are fairly out in the open- but what's behind it???

Punk and Ska have been notoriously active on both the political and societal front, but this seems to have been watered down if not made nonexistent in Ska's newfound popularity among teen trend chasers, and we can't help but wonder if there's still a point (besides plain old fun) backing up, fueling, and even creating this music.

We found the answer to this question and many others that had been plaguing us on May first's Ska Against Racism show at the Riviera.

Seven bands: Less Than Jake, Mustard Plug, Mu330, the Toasters, Kemuri, Five Iron Frenzy, and the Bruce Lee Band.

One cause: Ska bands of varied ethnic backgrounds unite to fight the evils of racism on a cross country tour.

While the majority of the audience was skankin' to the beautifully brassy sounds of the Toasters, your humble narrators held the esteemed honor of interviewing Fumio Ito, lead singer of Kemuri.

Kemuri- brainchild of Fumio Ito, Tsuda, Yukihiro T' Tanaka, Yuji Shimoda, and

Shoji Hiraya- was started in Japan around 1995 and was soon on a mission to conquer the United States.

Three years later, they seem to be well on their way; Kemuri is the first Japanese Ska band to make their mark on the U.S. scene.

They started out local, dispersed for a while to complete individual work, regrouped, and slowly but surely built up a fan base both in the States and Japan.

Through these connections they slowly climbed their way up, working on compilations along the way. Kemuri signed with Roadrunner Records in 1996 and recorded their first and only full length album, *Little Playmate*, in San Jose, CA during 1997.

Kemuri's sound is unique, to say the very least. Through his intensely emphatic and rambunctiously aggressive drumming, Shoji forms a powerful foundation to support Kemuri's sound. Yukihiro's guitar techniques, which show the band's heavy punk streak, are phenomenal but at the same time leave the spotlight open for Fumio's decisive, loud, and veracious voice.

The sound is further refined by Tsuda's unobtrusive bass playing. Trombone and horn are supplied by Yuji, creating an overall product that makes sitting still nearly impossible. Every band member backs up Fumio's vocals at one time or another, providing harmonizing and screaming where necessary.

The end product is a captivating and ener-

getic genre of Ska that is sure to be stuck in your head and under your breath whether you like it or not.

Kemuri's lyrics seem to be just catchy rhymes while they are sung, but soon infest your ideas, permeate your perception, and infiltrate your entire state of mind almost subconsciously.

This phenomenon can only be explained through experience, as not just lyrics, but inflections, emotions, and tones provided by Fumio create this feeling.

Kemuri's songs are littered with Positive Mental Attitude, its nearly impossible to listen to them for more than thirty seconds without a positive or encouraging undercurrent creeping up or slapping you square in the face.

With lyrics like "Darkness can never show you anything you want," "You got freedom so follow your soul, lonely it will be, but everything's gonna be all right," and "It don't matter how it's gonna be, we gotta keep living with the P.M.A." it's difficult to find an ounce of doubt or fear of the future in Kemuri.

The band became involved with Ska Against Racism through a close friend, Mike "Bruce Lee" Park of the Bruce Lee Band, and feel that racism is an issue that must be resolved. Song by song, person by person, stereotype by stereotype, they hope to break down the racial walls that hold us back.

## Do or Die is Back

By Dave Mehrman

The last time Do or Die was making hits in the rap game, they were riding in the back seat of a "Cadi" on a paper chase. After two years these Windy City rappers are back with a new album and they are a little more mature with their flow.

*Headz or Tailz* is the title of this new CD. It came out April 7, the first Tuesday of the month. So far the song "Still Po Pimpin'" is the first hit single of the album. It features Jonny P and Twista. The beat is R&B influenced, but the lyrics still show the tongue twisting ways of Do or Die.

Coming from the west side of Chicago Do or Die raps with a story. They started rapping to tell the story of their life in Chi town.

Other rappers on this album are Scarface, Bushwick Bill, Danny Boy, Shock tha World, Lil Chilla of the Snypaz, Beyond Content, and Val Young. With the smooth rapping, fast smooth beats.

The last half of the song on this CD are a harder kind of rap, with the stronger beats. After the song "Choppin up that paper" the songs begin to get more of a faster, harder beat to it.

Rap-a-lot records is the company selling this new album. Scarface, who is the de facto leader of the Rap-a-lot family. He has just released another album entitled *My Homies*.

## Third times a charm

By Dan Young

What do you call it when you mix alternative, rap, heavy metal and industrial all on one CD? Well, whatever it is, this record has a little bit of everything.

The X-Games is an alternative to the regular sports and the CD from the X-Games is an alternative from regular music.

The disc contains current hits from The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Pantera, Chemical Brothers and Days of the New.

It also has 311 and Pennywise, if those are your tastes.

The entire CD lasts 42:34, and there are twelve songs in total. The CD opens with The Mighty Mighty Bosstone's "The Impressions that I Get."

The song has been played on radio stations for a while, yet still is a pretty good song.

Then came the Descendants' "I'm the one." The song is all right, but should be moved to later in the CD. Then there was Fatboy Slim's "Going Out of My Head" and Fu Machu's "Jailbreak." "Jailbreak" has a good beginning and the songs isn't too bad.

The CD get back on an alternative track with 311's "All Mixed Up." 311 has moved on to better stuff, but this song is still great to listen to.

There is Pennywise's "Society" A solid song with a nice beat.

There is some heavy metal with Pantera's

"I'm Broken." Pantera gives the disc a heavy beat to go along with the different flavors.

Days of the New throws their fairly new song of "Touch, Stand and Peel" after the Pantera, still giving the heavy appeal, but with a different, lighter flavor than Pantera.

Crystal Method adds the industrial flavor to the disc with their song "Busy Child." It is a typical Crystal Method song with the industrial beat.

The rest of the CD is rounded off with The Charlatans UK, the Dropkick Murphy's, and Coal Chamber.

The total length of the CD isn't too long and the music changes a lot. It is a good, alternative beat, just like the X-Games.

All of these songs aren't played too often on the radio now, so if you want these songs, you can get this disc.

Of the bands above, Coal Chamber came to town on May 22 for a Rock 103.5 concert at the House of Blues.

The X-Games start on June 19, San Diego. The competitors play in different events ranging from skateboarding, in-line skating, bicycle stunt riding, sport climbing, big- air snowboarding, sky surfing, street luge and water sports.

There were 200,000 people at the last X-Games at Oceanside, California. The 400 athletes compete for money and medals.

## Engine 364

By Dan Young

Their back. Just like Michael Jordan's return to basketball, the band known as Engine 364 can't stop making music.

The group, which broke up last year due to graduation, has come back over this summer to record a disc.

The new disc is being recorded now and is planned on being released late in the summer. Engine 364 is no longer Engine 364; their new name is Filthy Rhythm Pilgrim. The members of the band are now Jordan Hill on the drums, Dan Perdue on the bass, Matt Nicoles and Justin Birchard on the vocals and the guitar.

Justin Birchard said, "Basically we changed our name, exchanged Matt's (Matt Nicoles for Matt Heslinga) and wrote all new songs."

Engine 364 broke up because Heslinga graduated last year and is currently attended Northwestern University in Chicago.

Birchard said, "I still think our music still has the same elements as Engine 364, but more diverse and about ten times better sounding. Matt (Nicoles) is definitely adds a different 'edge' to the band."

The CD is scheduled to come out between mid to late summer. It will have 10 songs on it, with styles ranging from funk to alternative to hardcore to acoustic rock.

The band is trying to attempt to create something more than "just another boring demo tape" said Birchard. The band has been working in the studio every weekend since Spring Break.

## Royal Stoners

By Dave Mehrman

The Kottonmouth Kings are another band with their own type of music. Though they do have similar sound as some bands such as Beaste Boys or Insane Clown Posse. Sounds like rapping from one to another in perfect sync.

They are a combination of hip hop with punk rock. They have an anarchists type of an attitude in their lyrics. Lyrics such as, "Suburban life an't what it seems. Suburban life the American dream. Suburban life so pretty and clean. suburban life an't what it is seems. It might get you but it won't get me." Even lyrics like, "were bong toking alcoholics." The beats are pretty smooth. The words rapped goes with a good flow as well.

The band is fairly young. Starting in 1994 the Kottonmouth Kings rose from the Southern California neighborhoods of Orange County. The band members consist of Daddy X, Saint Vicious', D-Loc, Pakelika, and Dj Bobby B.

Even though the band hasn't been around all to long they have already appeared on MTV with their first video, "Suburban Life." It was for the *Scream 2* soundtrack, from which the video comes from.

The band will release their new album called *Royal Highness* on their own Suburban Noize Record label. It was produced by Daddy X. Capital Records signed them though and will be distributing the Kottonmouth Kings' new album. It should be released in July.

The Kottonmouth Kings have a type of music you would want to listen to when you and your friends are just chillin. You can sit back a listen to these guys. Its not much to dance to.

## Season ends at sectionals

Senior Mitch McCabe prepares to assist his teammates in a recent volleyball game at West Chicago. The team competed in sectionals on Tuesday, May 26 losing to Willowbrook 10-15 and 5-15. The Wildcats finished the season with an overall record of 7-28 and a DVC record of 0-8. The JV team had a more successful season with an overall record of 10-15 and a DVC record of 4-5.

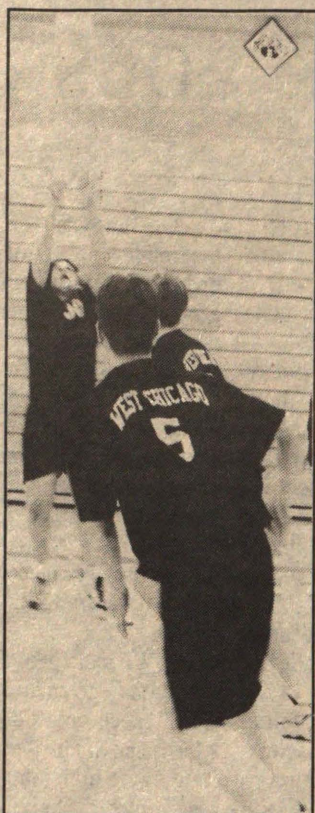


Photo by Sandy Weiss

## Badminton finishes season; looks ahead to next year

By Jennifer Lasky

With the 98 season over, the badminton team finished with some nice surprises.

At the sectionals tournament, held at We-go, sophomore Dana Mourning was only one game away from qualifying for state. Everybody who played at sectionals won at least match, which is uncommon for We-go.

The six students who played at sectionals were seniors Tanya Austin and Liz Murphy, junior Jessica Inch, and sophomores Mary Kovacs, Suzy Bollhoffer, and Dana Mourning.

The DVC tournament was also held at West Chicago. Austin and Mourning played excellent doubles, says coach LaVora Singleton. The two upset the fourth seed, 11-15, 15-11, 15-10, and lost to the eventual champion.

Singleton said the biggest

highlight of the season was that the team had nine returning players.

Singleton also said that no one said no about coming back next season. She would like to see them back in two years, because much of the team consists of sophomores. She feels they will definitely make a difference in conference and possibly win a sectional. "Next year we will be competitive, in two years we should be hard to beat," said Singleton.

Coach Judy Beckwith has promised to return, bringing with her twelve years of varsity coaching experience from Streamwood.

During the season, the badminton team put in four hour practices, with parts optional. Saturday practices often began at 7:00 a.m. The minimum requirement for the

players at practice was running a mile, lifting weights, jumps training, sprints, running the court, ladders, and other game-like drills.

Singleton has her team practice things which will aid them in their matches. "I don't believe in practicing something that doesn't transfer a game-like situation. It's a waste of time."

Coach Beckwith said she has never seen a team who puts more time in off of the court. She is pleased with the Lady wildcats for their extra effort in practice.

Amanda Millard, freshman, was another highlight for Singleton. She started the season at the bottom, and ended at first JV singles.

Mourning ended the season with a 15-8 record and Singleton considers her to be one of her strongest players.

## Girls soccer looking for more committment next year

By Arlete Penaflor

The girls soccer season came to an end with more disappointment for them than the feeling of sweet victory.

"This year I felt that we didn't commit ourselves as much to the team," said junior Blanca Ruiz. "We played just to play instead of putting all of our heart into it," she said.

The team overall felt disappointed with their performance this year although not all of it was bad. They had several games where they came out victorious and felt that when they put all of their heart into what they were doing the whole team would look good.

"The girls are capable of playing great when they want

to and they have proven this to me several times, but it's up to them not to me if they really want it they can do it," said Antonio Del Real, head JV coach.

The team felt that this year they lacked team work and are hopeful that next year they will have this more.

"I hope that next year we can start working as a team from the beginning instead of just doing it at the end when it's too late," said junior Nicole Medina.

Although the team didn't feel their performance this year was one to be proud of they had several highlights this season. One includes their victories against several schools. The varsity team

had an overall record this year of 8-12-1, junior varsity at 2-10-3, freshmen 2-7-1.

This year's soccer season came to an end with the varsity at a conference record of 3-4 and junior varsity 0-6-1, freshmen 1-3.

"I'm looking forward to a better season next year, one with more commitment from everyone as a team," said Del Real.

Motivation was one thing the team felt was important they needed to be reminded of their good points as well as their bad.

"As far as my motivation goes for the JV team, I try to have them do a lot of positive thinking, and I especially tell them about the good things

they have done in the game, I try to get them enthused about what they are doing," said Del Real.

Some ways that the coaches feel the girls could work up to a better season next year is be more active.

"One of our main goals to work up to next year is for at least 80% of the girls to be more involved with soccer clinics, camps, something related to the sport, this could really help us out a lot," said Del Real.

The whole season wasn't a major disappointment there were times when the soccer really proved their talents, by winning when they least expected it all it took was commitment and team work.

## Boys tennis ends disappointing season

By Joe Leli

The boys tennis team finished out the season at sectionals, not qualifying anyone for the upcoming state competition.

The sectional competition was held the weekend of May 22.

The 97-98 boys tennis team has gone 1-10 so far this season with a conference record of 0-7. The team won their first match against Streamwood but things never looked up from there on. Their games have been competitive and quite close.

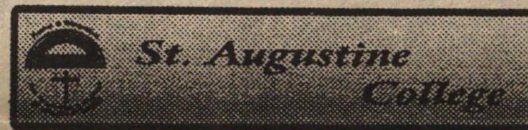
The team lost all of their regular season matches although they placed 6th in the

Geneva tournament and 4th at the Glenbard North quad.

During mid-season junior Christian Vignes said he and doubles partner junior Andy Spalo hoped to win more games and have a great second half of the season. Unfortunately, the season did not improve and the team continued their losing streak.

The Frosh-Soph team however has a little more success with an overall record of 3-8 but a conference record of 0-7. Recently, the frosh squad was defeated by Glenbard North but has bounced back from such incidences before earlier in the season.

Congratulations to the Ladycat softball team on their first place DVC title.



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## Wildcat baseball approaches regionals with determination

By Kelly Kaylor

West Chicago baseball is trying to turn its luck around as they near the state playoffs, which begin on Thursday, May 28th. After finally breaking their seven game losing streak on May 20, the team is now looking to bigger and better things.

The slump-breaking game was a 9-8 victory over West Aurora. A fine pitching performance was delivered by Jim Cahalan.

Strong hitting contributed to the win, with home runs by senior John Jensen and junior Brian Raymond (game-winning).

As the first round of regionals rapidly approaches, both coaches and players are hoping to eliminate their weaknesses which have cost them games in the past.

"We seem to have a lack of concentration and enthusiasm, and way too many defensive errors," said senior left fielder Brian O'Hara.

In a number of their losses this season the team has sustained a lead up until the final crucial innings. There has been a tendency for the Cats to blow their lead in the end, and find themselves unable to regain the advantage.

"We get the lead early on, but we have been losing it at the end," O'Hara said.

Despite strong offensive performances by Jensen, senior Todd Yormark, and Raymond, the team is looking for consistency and big hits when big hits are needed.

"At times we have an inability to make plays with runners in scoring position," senior catcher John Brigowatz commented.

This year the Cats will again play Geneva as their first round opponents in the St. Charles regional. There is a tone of confidence in the players as they prepare to face the same team they beat in the first round of last year's regional.

"We know we can step it up under pressure, the pressure of elimination means the end and we aren't ready for it to be over," said O'Hara.

The end it could be for the team with a majority of seniors, beginning on Thursday one loss could bring to a close the careers of most of the players.

The drive for a varsity baseball regional championship begins on Thursday, May 28th, at Geneva at 4:30 p.m.

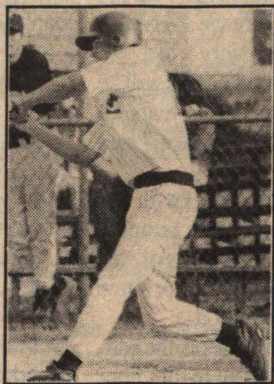


Photo by Sandy Weiss  
Junior Brian Raymond swings with determination

## Track goes downstate

By Allison Taylor

The 1997-98 season ended for the Lady Wildcats after senior Janine Morris and sophomore Jocelyn Schineller competed in the state competition.

Morris was seeded 40th out of about 50 competitors in the high jump. Morris jumped a 5'1" as her first jump, but then had trouble clearing 5'3". The first place finisher in the high jump cleared 5'8", but Morris's final score still placed her in the top 25 finishers in the state.

Assistant coach Carrie Mocarski said the high jumpers had a lot of pressure on them and many of the athletes did not make the initial jump. The high jump was scheduled to be held outdoors, but a continuing rainstorm forced the competition inside. This put more pressure on the athletes because they had been practicing outside for the last few months and were forced to compete indoors.

Schineller almost qualified for the final round for the discus. The top 12 athletes advanced to the final round, and Schineller placed 15th.

Schineller was ranked 2nd after the first few groups of competitors had gone. However, the next two groups included some of the best athletes in the state.

The discus was also delayed numerous times due to the rainstorm.

The entire Ladycat track team supported Morris and Schineller in their trip downstate. For example, the team decorated Morris's and Schineller's lockers and the van they drove down in. "The team support was fantastic," said Mocarski.

The Wildcats participated in the Wheaton-Warrenville South sectional meet on Friday, May 16. Morris and Schineller qualified for state in the high jump and discus, respectively. Morris jumped 5'1" placing second in the sectional, and Schineller threw 117'6" placing fourth.

Head coach Kelly Kolasa believed the sectional competition was as difficult as a state meet. Some of the best teams in the state competed in the 16-team sectional, including all of the DuPage Valley Confer-

ence schools, except West Aurora.

The sectional meet qualified 75 athletes including 45 from the DVC. In the discus and the high jump all of the state qualifiers were from the DVC, and in many of the other events, the majority of the state qualifiers were from the DVC.

The girls track team competed in the DVC conference meet on Friday, May 8, at West Aurora. The team finished last, however three individuals placed in field events.

Senior Janine Morris placed 2nd in the high jump with a personal best of 5'4" which exceeded the state qualifying height. Morris and the 1st place finisher both jumped a 5'4. However, the other competitor, senior Laura Staron of Glenbard North had a better record from the first few rounds.

Sophomore Jocelyn Schineller placed 4th in the discus and 6th in the shot and sophomore Terri Jensen placed 6th in the triple jump.

The JV track team competed in their last meet on Tuesday, May 12 in the Redhawk JV invitational at Naperville Central.

## Track season ends; Keller advances to state

By Jeff Goluszka

The We-go boys track team has finished the regular season and sectionals, and are preparing to send sophomore Tim Keller downstate.

Keller will be competing in the 3200 meter run. Keller earned his spot in the state finals by placing sixth at sectionals with a qualifying time of 9:39.2, which is also a new personal best.

Senior Arturo Robles had been hoping to make it to state, and he tied his own personal best by pole vaulting 13 feet. Sadly, it was one-half of a foot shorter than the state qualifying height of 13 feet, six inches.

Junior Dan Young also nearly qualified for state, but finished third in the 1600 meter run with a time 4:29.3, in which only the top two finishers go downstate.

Junior Bart Visser was the next closest to qualifying, finishing fourth in the 800 meter run. The 800 is the same as the 1600, in which only the top two finishers qualify.

Overall, the Cats finished tied for eleventh place out of 17 teams by scoring 12 points, much higher than anyone expected. The Cats have generally finished in the bottom portion of the pack this year, so this was quite a surprise.

"We exceeded [the] expectations

[that were] based on how we were seeded [as the 17th seed]," said Young.

The Cats poor finishes this year will not be too hard to handle, since the almost all of the junior-dominated roster will return next year.

At the DuPage Valley Conference meet, the Cats placed last out of eight teams, in arguably the toughest conference in the state.

We-go's top finishers were Keller, Robles and Young. Keller took fourth in the 3200 meter out of 16 runners. Young grabbed fifth place in the 1600 meter run, also out of 16 participants.

Robles pole vaulted to third place by clearing a height of 13 feet. Visser was ill, so he did not participate.

In the DuPage County meet at Wheaton-Warrenville South on May 8, the Cats took seventh place out of nine teams. We-go scored 16 points, compared to 158 by the host Tigers, 134 by second place York, and 93 by third place Lake Park. The Cats defeated eight place Glenbard West (14 points) and last place Willowbrook, which finished with five points.

Top feats for the Cats included Robles, who pole vaulted 12 feet, six inches, and Visser, who took fourth place in the 800 meter with a

time of 2:00.9.

At a meet at Crystal Lake Central on May 1, the Wildcats took sixth out of ten teams with 59 points. Top finishers included Robles and junior Mark Blozis, who finished first and second in the pole vault with jumps of 12 feet, and 11 feet, six inches.

Young took second in the 1600 meter with a time of 4:29.2, a personal best. Also, sophomore Tim Keller took second in the 3200 meter with a time of 9:49.3, also a personal best. Another second place finisher was Visser, who ran the 800 in 2:02.6.

The Cats finished in the middle of the pack at the Willowbrook Invitational on April 25, by taking fifth place out of nine teams. The Cats were lead by Visser and Young, who finished 1-2 in the 1600 meter run, with Young ahead of the next finisher by over four seconds. Visser attained a personal best by winning the race with a time of 4:35.4.

Other top finishers were Keller and the 3200 meter relay team. Keller took second in the 3200 meter with a time of 10 minutes even, while the relay team took second with a finish of 8:21.6, just over a second behind first place St. Ignatius.

## Softball 1st in conference

By Kelley Betts

Ladycats are sharing the title of first place in conference with Glenbard North and West Aurora, and a fourth team could be on its way to share the title.

Softball has had a great season this year including a six conference game winning streak. They were tied for first with West Aurora until they played them and lost.

"They [West Aurora] were taking advantage of our mistakes," said Coach Jim Schaudt.

They also suffered an injury that game when Jenny Hoffman hurt her leg in a collision at second base.

The Ladycats also lost to Glenbard North 0-7 in the game on May 20. "We made a lot of physical and mental errors," said Schaudt.

Both the West Aurora game and

the Glenbard North game were the Ladycats' ticket to the conference title, but they didn't score runs in either game.

All three hold the title of first place in conference.

Heading into the regionals, the Ladycats are seeded third, with Glenbard North at first and West Aurora at second.

They plan on focusing on regionals with the hope of winning it. The first regional game is on Thursday, May 28, at 5:00 p.m. It is a home game.

"Overall, we had a great season with a great group of girls. They came together will as a team and the seniors had a fantastic season. We all had a lot of fun," said Schaudt.