

# Wildcat Chronicle



## West Chicago Community High School

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## We-go may start summer early

By Bart Visser

The Community High School Board is moving to pass a resolution to remove all unnecessary emergency days from the 1998-1999 school calendar, leading to an earlier dismissal of student and faculty to allow more time for the renovation of the older part of the school.

The resolution will call for all underclassmen and faculty to get out of school on June 7, four days earlier than planned. Since the school used one of the five snow days allowed, the board can only cut down the 1998-1999 schedule by four days.

Although underclassmen and faculty will be let out earlier if the resolution is passed, the chance for the senior calendar being shortened is unlikely. School Board member Deborah Skidgel said, "The seniors will get out at the same time as scheduled." The reason for this is that the seniors already meet the minimum

180-day requirement instituted by the state, and the school is not permitted to have a schedule that is less than the required amount.

The mentality of the student body is in favor of the resolution for the obvious reasons. Junior Shannon Nelson said, "It's fair considering other schools get out before us anyway." She added that we will not lose out on education, because we already have a prolonged school day.

As for senior Eric Hyde, he said, "It sounds like a good idea." Like many other seniors, he feels bad that the seniors will not be let out earlier. Seniors do not feel too bad because they will still get out earlier than the underclassmen and are accepting that it is a fact of life when a school is under construction.

This revision of the 1998-1999-school calendar was a request from the construction management to give workers more time to renovate the

older parts of the school. "After students and faculty leave the next day it will look like a bomb hit the school," said Principal Alan Jones.

The board of education would make the final approval of the revision sooner, but there is still a chance of cancellation of school due to a snow storm or power failure. Jones said, "the chances of a day of school being canceled is unlikely but never know."

The calendar for next year has been approved with a late start on September 7, 1999 and ends on June 19, 2000. These dates will not change.

"[Administration] would prefer not to move dates around during the school year of begin school so late," said Jones, "we must, however, make every effort to support a construction calendar that does not interfere with daily class room instruction."

## We-go students honored at TCD

Technology Center of DuPage (TCD), the DuPage area's technical and career study campus for high school students, announces its first semester "A-Team" honor roll. TCD's students receive the honor by earning an "A" semester grade in their program.

Technology Center of DuPage (formerly called the Davea Career Center) offers juniors and seniors from

over 20 high schools in DuPage County 22 technically advanced career training programs. A TCD program, part of each member high school's curriculum, is chosen as an elective by students. Students can earn high school credit and, in most programs, college credit by completing their TCD program.

Programs at TCD include Computer Information Sys-

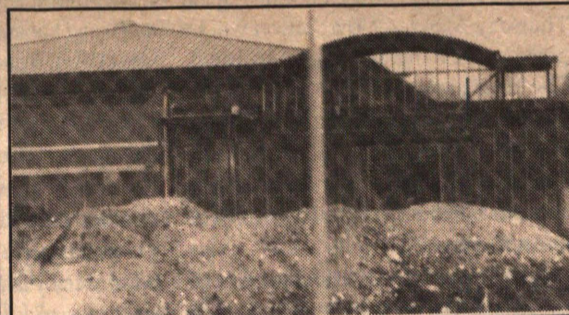
tems, Office Systems Technology, Data Entry, Travel & Tour Services, Culinary & Pastry Arts, Certified Nurse Assistant, Medical & Health Care Careers, Medical Laboratory Assistant, Cosmetology, Child Care, Electronics & Computer Technology, Pre-Engineering/Pre-Architectural CAD, Multimedia & Television, Graphic Communications,

## Construction at We-go



The School Board examines the new addition as Assistant Superintendent of Business Jim Mast leads in explanation.

Photo by Sandy Weiss



The new addition, as seen from Wood Street, keeps students and administration in curiosity.

Photo by Patty Correa

By Carrie Zeffield

Construction of the new addition has been underway at We-go.

Recently the school board got an opportunity to explore the new addition, while receiving some insight from the Assistant Superintendent of Business, Jim Mast.

Mast was also on hand Wednesday, February 10, to guide the administration and teachers through the new addition. Mast talked the fac-

ulty through a damp and wet site, soon to be the new part of Community High.

So far, We-go is spending about \$9 million on the new addition. The roof is on and most of the walls are up.

The framework of the classrooms is complete and the rooms are ready to be wired for technology. In addition, the new locker rooms and administrative offices have been started.

Construction Trades, Residential Appliance Technology, Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning/Refrigeration (HVAC), Machine Tool, Aviation Maintenance Technology, Auto Body Repair & Refinishing, and Automotive Technology. A new program, Network Technician, is scheduled to begin next

fall. Enrollment for the 1999-2000 school year is taking place now; contact your local high school guidance office for more information or call Technology Center of DuPage at (630) 620-8770 during regular school hours. TCD is located at 301 S. Swift Road in Addison, Illinois.

## Future Business Leaders of America Hosts Annual Variety Show

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

Talents were shared with West Chicago High School on Thursday, February 25. The Variety Show was quite the place to be. The auditorium was packed with students, parents, and faculty. They were seated in the balcony, standing in the back, and sitting on the floor.

The line up that FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) chose included a select few students with talents ranging from singing, dancing, to twirling.

Sara Knox, junior, started off the show performing a song written by her in seventh grade called "What is Forever." The crowd was impressed with her before she sang, and even more after her performance. From the dark stage, the crowd seemed to catch her seriousness, understanding what the song must have meant to her.

Jeff Tillson and Bob Vangorkom, juniors, and

Rachel Baker, senior, sang a song called "This World," by Caedmon's Call.

Vangorkom spoke a few words before the song, saying the song is a big part of his life with Jesus Christ. The crowd made a few uneasy comments about what Vangorkom said, and a few put downs were heard, but after the touching song the crowd applauded respectfully.

Following was Carl Volk, senior, singing and playing the guitar to Dave Matthews Band, "Crash Into Me."

The next four girls to take their moves and looking good. Brian Morrisey, se-

Flores sang two Jewel songs in the Variety Show performing more than any other student in the show.

Jessica Weiss, and Jessica Inch, both seniors, showed off their talent with a flag and rifle show. They added a variety of songs which had the crowd singing along.

Pat Scullion, senior, sang a capella to "Can We Find the Reason." Season Barclay, senior, sang a song by Jewel, and Flores played the guitar.

Joe Leli, senior, Dave Castillo, sophomore, and Ishmael Gonzalez, senior, come out singing a rap song made up by themselves.

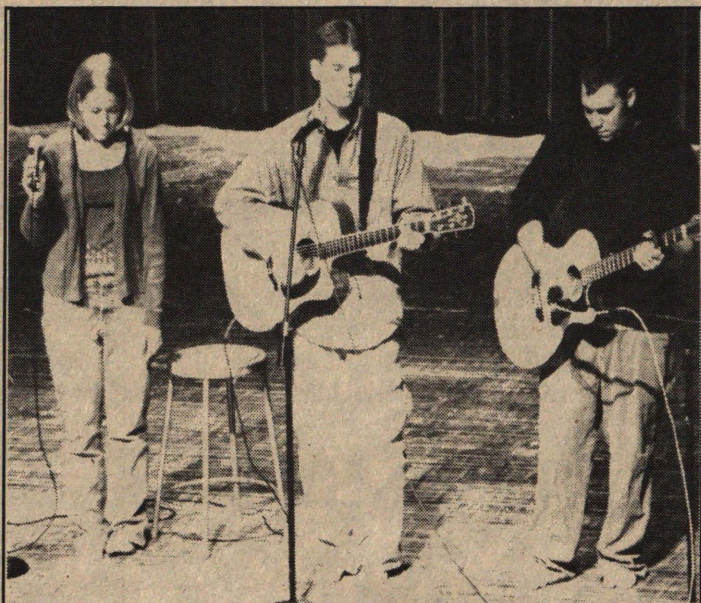
Chris Radousky, junior, played the guitar and sang "Break Down." Jacob Briggs, junior, amazed the crowd with his talent of playing the guitar to "Brutalia Lupe."

These next four boys rocked the stage, Jon Mam,

junior, Tad Netzel, freshman, Johnny Ortiz, sophomore and Moe Resendiz, junior, showed off their breakdancing moves. The crowd was screaming and going wild, especially when Mam took off his shirt.

The last act of the show was seniors Phil Roberts, and Mike Adamo who was supposed to sing "Be Quiet and Drive (Far Away)," however they sang a song which was a mix of heavy metal, hard core, punk, and alternative. The crowd was full of stunned faces and some parents got up and left. This song will make this Variety show one never to forget.

Judges were seniors Renee Altman, Patty Correa, Nick Duffy, Angie Granados, Craig Martus; juniors Allison Brown and Leslie Shambo; and business teacher, Cass Streicher.



Shoeless Rachel Baker, senior, with juniors Jeff Tillson, and Bob Vangorkom.

Photo by Sandy Weiss

pumped throughout the whole dance. Freshmen Amiee Paran, Darahlee de Leon, Stephaine Ly, and Angie Rojas were showing

niors Jake Reiner, Damon Zanon, and junior, Ivory Flores kept the crowd pumped with their song by U2 called "One."

Busy season for concerts; orchestra, band, and chorus

Many concerts planned for the future including Great America

By Alexandra Patin

There is a band concert coming up on Thursday, March 4. The concert will be given by the Symphonic and Jazz bands. The featured pieces will be "Florentiner," an Italian grand march, "Fortress," a concert piece "about a battle," "Chimes of Liberty," "Heberdes Suite," a folk song about the Heberdes Islands, and "With Quiet Courage."

Another time the jazz band played was at the jazz festival at Milikan University on February 20. The band played three pieces and competed in the festival with other schools from around the area. The three pieces that played were "One More Time Chic Correa." The band did very well.

This is a mix of styles from musicians Chic Correa and Chuck Mangione. Another "Count Base type swing" piece is called "Copycat," and the last piece will be Poplin' Fresh," with is a mixture of rock and jazz. Chic Correa is a mostly jazz musician, who also entertains the crowd.

All the choruses are having a concert on March 18, featuring the beginning chorus, intermediate chorus, girls concert choir, boy's ensemble, girl's ensemble, and maybe the jazz choir.

The theme of the concert will be "Music from the Americas." This theme takes music from Canadian native Americans, American movie classics, and Latin American rhythms and tunes. These

Latin American pieces are close to tango and habaner styles. The theme was chosen by music teacher and orchestra director Lisa Smith.

There is also the solo \ ensemble contest on March 6. From We-go, there are about 20 solos and ensembles entering into the contest. We-go has performed in this competition every year, with students in solos, duets, trios, and small groups.

An orchestra concert is coming up March 18, and will be done with the chorus, although the two will be completely separate concerts. The concert starts at 7:30 and the pieces played will be: "Maple Leaf Rag," "Star- Spangled Banner," "America the Beautiful," "Blessed USA," "Yankee Doodle Medley," "Music of the Americas," and "Night Soliloquy," which will feature flutist Jessica Inch in a solo.

The orchestra will also be playing at Six Flags Great America in a competition with about 20 other schools on April 23 and 24. The students have raised money for the overnight trip by selling candy, poinsettias, holiday CDs, and Tupperware. The cost for each student was \$150. There are no prizes in this trip, but it is an educational experience, according to band director James Guter.

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## Seniors given second chance

Despite high expectations and four years of work, many high school seniors are learning early this school semester that they are going to fall short of completing one of the most important achievements of their lives.

Seniors who discover they lack credits required for graduation can pick up the courses they need through Indiana University's Independent Study Program. But students need to enroll as soon as possible to complete course work in time to join their classmates in graduation ceremonies this spring.

IU's High School Independent Study Program offers students across the country 150 courses taught by licensed teachers that span the breadth of high school curricula. While students may sign up for the courses at any time, they need to allow 12 to 18 weeks for course completion.

Eileen Balliet, IU's director of learner services, said every year some students wait too long to sign up for the independent study courses they need.

"It is really disappointing for students and their families when seniors aren't able to participate in their graduation ceremony," Balleit said. "To avoid this, students need to complete all work, including exams, at least three weeks before they need a grade for graduation. That way the students with his or her class and everyone's happy."

Students can receive enrollment information and a free course catalog by calling 1-800-334-1011 or by making an e-mail request to [bulletin@indiana.edu](mailto:bulletin@indiana.edu). Enrollment information is available on the web at [www.extend.indiana.edu](http://www.extend.indiana.edu).

IU also offers high school courses to homeschooled students and dual-credit courses to students seeking both high school and university-level credit. Students taking courses to be applied toward a diploma must get approval from a high school principal or counselor prior to enrollment.

Founded in 1820, IU is one of the largest institutions of higher education in the United States and is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. IU's Independent Study Program has offered instruction to learners around the world since 1912 and is one of the world's largest programs, with more than 18,000 students enrolling annually.

## Cathal Walsh named Mr. Wildcat 1999

By Katie Oen

Senior Cathal Walsh won the annual Mr. Wildcat competition on Thursday, February 4, 1999.

Eight seniors performed in the competition.

The night was filled with laughter, cheering and smiles as the students did their best to prove that they would be the best candidate to represent the school. Candidate Mike Petrik said the day of the show, "I'm really excited. It's gonna be good, but I'm really nervous."

The male contestants did their best in the casual wear, talent section, formal wear and question and answer sections. Each tried to out do the previous and make it harder for the next to top their act.

Walsh took home the promising award after the crowd seemed to enjoy his talent section singing a song and

playing on the guitar. Walsh dressed as an old lady and came on stage on a red tricycle. Soon afterward began to sing his ode to We-go about "Lunchlady Land."

First runner-up, Petrik also played the guitar but his song was as he put it, "It's nothing upbeat or fast, but it's slow, smooth and cool." He sang the song "Hang" by Matchbox 20. Petrik received a partial standing ovation for this performance.

Second runner-up, Josh Weidow did a wrestling scene with the help of senior Brian Raymond, Assistant Principal John Highland and Police Liaison officer Tony Quarto. Highland and Quarto added humor to the show with their jokes between them especially Quarto introducing the wrestling official Highland as,

"John, perfect hair, Highland." Highland responded to this by saying Quarto was just jealous.

The Mr. Congeniality Award went to Jeff Belokin. Belokin had talked through his act about keeping freshmen out of senior hall using a nifty gadget he called the sledge-o-matic.

Another contestant Jeff Powell did a skit on "Why chicks don't dig me." The crowd seemed to enjoy it and showed sympathy toward him by awing during the act.

Brian Raymond partnered up with Weidow for a singing duet portraying The Blues Brothers. Upon entering the stage, the duo did cartwheels and received a good response.

Joe Leli sang a rap song was joined by Nick Suezos as backup vocals. Leli near the

end of the song jumped off stage toward the judges.

MC's for the night were seniors Jeff Callahan and Nicole Gomez. Gomez continually angered fans in between acts by being mean to Callahan. At one point in the evening Gomez tried to take over the show and Callahan backed off, to which someone in the crowd yelled, "We want Callahan," and was followed by applause. Gomez said that most of what happened was not planned except for the introduction of the judges.

The judges that night were chosen by the cheerleaders and it was by accident that all the judges were females. The night's events were sponsored by the We-go cheerleaders who also escorted the contestants on stage at the end of the

evening. Admission was two dollars a student and three dollars for adults. The money went to the varsity cheerleader squad. Usually Student Council sponsors the event but the cheerleaders asked for it this year.

The competition was open to all male senior students. Any interested student was required to fill out an application and the final contestants were chosen by the cheerleaders.

Walsh received two free tickets to prom, a \$50 gift certificate for shoes, a pair of sunglasses, and other small prizes. Walsh summed up the evening to me by saying, "It was cool. But I wasn't in it for the competition. I was in it to say thanks to everyone and make them laugh. None of the guys were in it for the competition."

## We-go actors finally "Makin' It"

By Marla D'Aversa

Everyone who 'made it' to the winter play performance "Makin' It" by Cynthia Mercatti which took place February 18-February 20 in the Weyrauch Memorial Auditorium saw a show unlike most high school plays.

It was about how students in high school face today's problems in a realistic drama-comedy play. It begins with all of the characters wanting to be someone or something they aren't, and ends with the discovery that everyone is okay, and ultimately seeking the same things out of life and each other.

The students were classified into their own cliques including sports players, intelligent students, nerdy freshmen, and artists. During the course of the play, every character got his own moment when everyone else on stage was in freeze-frame to explain their situations, home life, and other things that are important to them. Some of the characters had abusive parents, or drug problems and some even had battles with eating disorders.

Major problems the characters expressed included being popular, relationships with the opposite sex, being different from everyone else, eating disorders, bullies, drugs, drinking, and preg-

nancy.

The Saturday night show, which was the last one, had the auditorium at about 80% of its capacity. Only back seats of the auditorium were available, and most of the balcony seats were occupied. The set included two rows of white and gray painted lockers, above which were round table, with stairs on one side. Above the lockers were



Photo by Nicole Medina

Senior Carl Volk and junior Chris Radousky in "Makin' It."

signs about Earth Day, or announcing a school dance. Connecting the scene proved to be a successful idea, and the audience seemed to enjoy it. The performance in general went very smoothly without any big mistakes or line errors.

Sara Knox, junior, who played "Libby," has performed in four We-go performances including musicals. Knox enjoyed "Makin' It" because it "relates to everyone." She went on to say

that the hardest part of acting is "trying not to laugh." Carl Volk, senior, who played Karl Swanson, has performed in six performances. "You aren't always sure what is going to happen," said Volk. He likes this play "because it is high school oriented." The hardest part of acting is "worrying about everyone else."

The play began for the actors on January 11, and for five and one half weeks they practiced everyday after school. English Teacher Mary Hafertepe, who has directed over 30 plays, directed "Makin' It."

"Directing a play is mentally stimulating. You find yourself constantly finding solutions to problems," said Hafertepe. "Like any work of art, putting [it] together piece by piece is a challenge." It is important to the We-go theater to not only have fun, but to teach the basics about performance and educate.

While most of the cast thought that Thursday was the best performance, patrons in the hallway had very positive things to say about the play. Walking around during intermission, everyone was talking about the quality of the acting and the relevance of the play to high school students.

## Scholastic Bowl looks to DVC

By Bart Visser

As the West Chicago scholastic bowl team heads towards the DVC meet this Saturday held at West Aurora, Coach Steve Wroblewski is looking for his team to make some noise.

The Varsity team led under Captain senior Tim Harwood consists of junior Matt Shane, senior Kevin Brown, Junior Brian Miller, and Sophomore Dave Wood. They have had to deal with questions that range from chemistry equation that deal with molecular weight to what was the name of Oscar the Grouch's pet worm.

Wroblewski is very pleased in Wood's performance and said, "J.V. members sophomore Matt Doll and sophomore Mike Wentz have done a real good job and I'm looking forward to them coming up to Varsity next year."

Although the team has struggled in the conference in the conference with devastating losses to West Aurora and very close defeats from the Naperville schools, Coach Wroblewski is gunning for his team to upset.

He will have plenty of optimism with a win last Monday from both Varsity and Junior Varsity in their last DVC match at home against Glenbard North. Varsity had a 354-126 landslide victory over the Panthers as the J.V. won 126-120 in a close match.

Today the teams hopes to head over to Glenbard South

for a win in their final dual match for their first sweep in several years.

Wroblewski has not coached this team alone, as Jane Feeney took the role as the J.V. Coach. "It has been wonderful to have Ms. Feeney to help take over," said Wroblewski. He continued on to say that she has made my job a lot easier by taking a share of the paper work and allowing more time for coaching.

Outside the conference the team has done an outstanding job, since We-go is ranked fifth out of six teams in the regional, the team will have a first round match against East Aurora. If they win they will go on to compete against IMSA. "I feel confident going against East Aurora, but the challenge is IMSA," said Wroblewski.

Harwood said, "The key to winning the regional is to beat IMSA." To beat IMSA would be an incredible upset since all their students are the elite of all students in the Illinois educational system. Students there have to take difficult entrance exams to be accepted, and has made what Wroblewski along with many other coaches as an unfair advantage.

Wroblewski said that he has filed a petition to eliminate the IMSA team and have its scholastic bowl members join up on teams that are in the school districts that they are situated in.

## Student of the Month

By Dan Young

Ten of the best students from We-go are honored with a prestigious award and have their high school career announced over the P.A. system for the entire school to listen to.

Yes, the student of the month award is something students have heard of, but nobody seems to know much about. The award is for seniors only and the recipients should demonstrate exemplary behavior while making a positive contribution in the areas of scholarship, citizenship and leadership, or any senior who has put forth a tremendous amount of effort in an attempt to improve themselves, their school, or their community. "Teachers are given a memo around the 20th of each month," said Assistant Principal Gail Aronoff, "and then a committee of three members meets on the 25th of each month to pick who is going to be the student of the month. The members aren't normally senior teachers and they aren't given the students names, but just their information."

Aronoff also said, "There aren't any requirements really. The only thing that matters is that the student is a senior and normally the students are consistently on the honor roll. We try to look at the overall picture."

Despite Aronoff and the committees efforts to make the students completely unknown, there is no way it can be done. For example, if you were told a certain member of our school played quarterback for our football team, played basketball and baseball, it would be natural to assume the student is Brian Raymond. It's easy to mistake Brian Raymond high school record for Chris Grin's achievements except there are many clues that point to each student.

Aronoff said, "The faculty committee is made up of three people who normally don't know who the students are. We try not to select a teacher who teaches Advanced Placement Chemistry 4 because those teachers are going to tend to have the certain students in their classes, so we chose other teachers."

This is the first thing that doesn't make sense. If the board is made up of people who don't know the students, why not ask local business people to get together and decide who is the student of the month? This makes more sense because the business people wouldn't necessarily know who is the star soccer player and who is the lead in the school play.

"The student who is chosen as Student of the Month is congratulated and they get

a sheet that they fill out with their achievements. Then the student's achievements are read over the announcements and the student is given a certificate. The student is photographed and goes into the newspaper and in the display case near the auditorium. The student also gets a congratulations on the board outside," Aronoff said.

There is nothing to be taken away from the students who have achieved the student of the month honor, for they all earned it. But what is the different weight value for being in the musical versus being a member of the boys lacrosse team?

There's another thing that really doesn't make a lot of sense. What did Molly Saul do so well in the month of September that she was more deserving than Mike Chapin was? Or what did Chapin do that was better in the month of October that Lisa Arnett didn't? Why do they even bother to have it as student of the month? Why not just students of the year or something along those lines? It would be more correct because some students don't have a ton of criteria after one month as they do in the month before. Whatever is done about this, something needs to change to make the Student of the Month award just a bit better.

## Security is for everyone

By Becky Guerrero

I think it's okay to have security guards and cameras in school for student safety, but do we really need this many security guards? I disagree with using my I.D. to borrow things in the LRC, getting into lunch, or to get into school, but I don't mind it. How do you feel about the "eye in the sky," or about being asked for your I.D.?

Why is it necessary for us to have security? Assistant Principal John Highland said, "To keep everyone safe. All schools in this district have security. The parents also want security." There are different methods of security in school. One of these methods is the use of cameras throughout the school, such as one that is located in Lincoln School, another in senior hall and one by the music room. As for the security guards, they are everywhere.

Blake Erdmann, a sopho-

more, said that the students should be trusted and are mature enough to know what not to do in school. In reference to the security guards, Erdmann says, "It's dumb. They just stand there and ask for I.D.'s of the people they see everyday." Then again, could you expect them to remember everyone's face?

"We don't expect them to write referrals, just keep people that don't belong out. Their purpose is to be friendly," said Police Liaison Officer Tony Quarto. I know it is a big school and everyone's face can not be remembered, but people they do remember they still ask for an I.D.

I came into school in my cheerleading uniform and was asked for my I.D. to get into school. I guess that's fine, because it's policy. Quarto said we have a big campus and, "A lot exits to properly supervise."

Let's talk privacy. Is students' privacy being invaded or not? Do you feel comfortable? Donna Walker, a junior, said, "Definitely, they have control over everything! Why can't they give us a little bit back? Privacy is very important, especially to teens!"

Many students say they ignore the cameras and say that they don't notice the security anymore. Quarto said he trusts the students very much. He said the security personnel aren't here as guards, but as resources. Quarto said, "The kids are great!"

"Some security [guards] are okay, but so many aren't necessary. It feels like a prison," said Katie Oen, a senior. An anonymous student said, "It's good to have security. A lot of schools have it and it makes students and parents feel comfortable."

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

(Editor's note: this letter was received on February 18, 1999).

I would like to take this opportunity to bring forth a subject no one has ever cared to address, school spirit.

First off, there is none. Maybe it's because we don't have a lot of winning teams. Well, the We-go Hockey Club is in the league championship game, with a chance to bring home the trophy in their inaugural season, and where are the fans?

We start the state playoffs on February 18, and no one even knows. We are four games away from the state championship, and where are the fans?

I must say, it's not all the students' fault. Our school has not helped in advertising the team. They don't want you to know that we're good. They don't want you to go to the games. Why? They are too cheap to give us any money. We pay over \$1,000 per season to play. We buy our own equipment. They can't even give us a pep rally to get us pumped for state.

All I ask is that next time you see a hockey player in the hall, if you find one, just say "Good job this season."

Derek Dipietro (Class of 1999)

Dear Editor,

What is the busiest time of the year for many seniors? The legislative simulation, that's what.

During the simulation, students are elected to positions by their fellow peers. Why is it that elections are based on the social status of a candidate in school?

There are numerous candidates who would do a good job, but we're probably going to end up with the most popular people holding the positions of committee chairpersons, floor leaders, and even speaker of the house.

Many students don't care what the profiles have to say. It's all a popularity contest. Students are already voting and signing for their buddies, even if they don't agree with their buddies' beliefs. Doesn't anybody care that the best people for the jobs may be forced to drop out just because they aren't popular? This is ridiculous!

No one cared about what the simulation would mean to other people. Unless you're affiliated with the right crowd of people, you don't have a chance in an election. Even though it's the truth, it's a terrible thing to believe in.

All I ask is that everyone read candidates' profiles and make an educated vote. Do the candidates a favor and show some respect.

Anonymous member of the Class of 1999

Dear Friends,

I want to share with you the things which has made my life complete. Without it, I would have been lost in many difficult times. It is the grace of God.

Some people call the gospel, "The good news," and for good reason. Despite some popular beliefs, it's not about rules to follow, ways to act, or even going to church. It is about the love of God. The Lord loves everyone, which is difficult to understand, because no one deserves it. "Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious ideal..." (Romans 3:23) We are imperfect, but God loves us enough to save us from ourselves. Through Jesus Christ, the perfect sacrifice, God has given humanity a second chance. All anyone needs to do is ask for it. In his letter to the Ephesians, the apostle Paul said, "Because of his kindness you have been saved through Christ. And even trusting is not of yourselves; it too is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good we have done, so none of us can take any credit for it" (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

You are probably not satisfied. I would not be. Faith is a difficult thing, but it doesn't have to be blind. If you want to know more, ask. If you prefer not to be associated the "Bible bangers" or "Jesus freaks" (or even the less fanatical Christians), but are interested, you can read about the life of Jesus in the book of Matthew and it's significance in the beginning of the book of Romans. It is the only way to be freed from the meaninglessness of everyday life. Good luck.

In Christ's Love,  
Tim Harwood

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## The fear that comes along with a first date

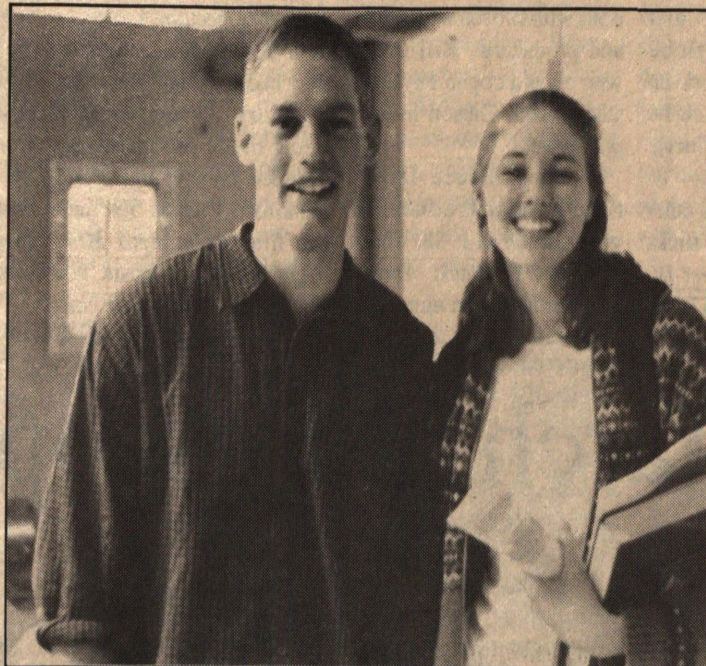
Katie Oen

When you think of being single, do you think of dating? Many people think this way and specifically dwell on first dates. Some see first dates as the doorway to finding someone. Someone to spend the rest of your life with, or someone you want to get to know, or even just someone to have fun with.

A common fear of the first date is the nervousness that comes with trying to understand what your date expects from the date. There are many common thoughts that may fly through your mind. "Do they want a serious relationship?" or "Are they here just to have fun?" "Until you know what's going on you sort of have a guard or defense system up," English teacher, Patrick Clifford explained.

Many guys see it as their responsibility to ask out the girl, but sometimes no one does the asking, as senior Autumn Planek stated, "[The asking and acceptance of a

date] just happens." Most guys admitted they would accept a date from a girl if they were interested.



Kim Ellis and Chris Weston are over their first date nervousness.

Photo by Patty Correa

Many teens see the worst

is when time flies by and they're having a lot of fun. Even if it's something simple and you both have fun, it could be considered a very

think about."

As you date more you'll probably notice that first dates aren't as bad as they seem, as one teacher explained to me, "You can always chalk it up to experience." Many people see the thrill in the first date where they see the newness as the best part of the date.

Being able to know the person in a different environment is very good. You can find out what they're really like and what they think and how they feel about almost any subject.

If a date is going well, most people usually anticipate a good night kiss as a symbol of the success of the evening. If the date went poorly, a lot of people try to find a way to duck out of it or worry whether the other person feels the same way.

A good date does not have to be something expensive and fancy; it could be some-

thing simple. It might be something like dinner and bowling or anything like that. Doing something romantic is good but don't overpower the person too much or you could end up pushing them away quickly. Some people have had the best dates where they had fun and time flew by so fast they couldn't tell what time it even was.

A bad beginning of a date does not necessarily mean that the whole evening will go poorly, as one teacher explained, "My date didn't have any reservations and he was late and everything was going terribly, but he thought up another idea that was even better than the original. It was good to know that he could work under pressure and not flip out. He's currently my boyfriend."

Try to relax the next time you go out on a first date or a second or a third for that matter. It's probably that the other person is just as nervous as you are. You could always gain a good friend if not a boyfriend or girlfriend. And always try to learn something from it.

### Was Valentine's Day romantic?

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

♦Went to the movies and saw, "Message in a Bottle." - Andrea Enger, junior

♦Cuddling on the train ride home from Chicago.- Jeff Tillson, junior

♦Unexpectedly showed up at my house at night surprising me with a teddy bear and a rose.- Edercy" DC" Abante, junior

♦Before I went to work he came over and brought me breakfast at seven in the morning.- Shannon Sperando, senior

♦Surprised me with flowers and a movie.- Erin Lichtfuss, junior

♦Me looking into her eyes, and seeing our future together in them.- Jaime Merlo, sophomore

♦Created a romantic candlelight dinner and exchanged gifts.- D'Angelo Hansen, sophomore

## How does racism affect students?

By Becky Guerrero and Sarah Kochniarczyk

Have you ever walked in a store and been given a dirty look for the color of your skin or your age? Have you ever been an outcast from a group of people, because of the way you dress? Eight of 10 students polled have experienced prejudice, whether gender, race, or religion.

A poll of 55 students asked boys and girls about situations they've been in that relates to racism. The three main questions students can relate to are: What ethnic group is the most racist? What ethnic group do you stereotype the most? On a scale of 1-10, one being the most racist and 10 being the least racist, what do you rate We-go?

Out of 55 students, 26 said that Caucasians are the most racist. "Pride is a huge issue for racist people. Pride is such a hard thing to break from a person's character," said Jeff Tillson, a junior. Out of the other students asked, 15 said everyone is racist, eight said Mexicans, and six said African Americans. Greg Wheaton and

Alex Vergara, both juniors, agreed on how they feel towards racist people they said, "I feel they are ignorant."

The next question was "Who do you stereotype the most?" "Deep down inside, I think everyone is racist against someone or something," said anonymous. "People can't understand why people of certain races do things or customs, because they are close minded," also anonymous. Eight students said Mexicans, eight students said Caucasians, six students said African Americans, and two students said Asians.

The last question was "How racist is We-go on a scale of 1-10, one being the most racist and 10 being the least?" The outcome of 55 students ended up being a three, on a scale of 1-10, meaning We-go is filled with very racist people. No one can make you not racist. Rachel Watson, a junior states, "Everyone's equal! Why does everyone have to bring out points, it doesn't matter!"

good first date. Take camping for example, one teacher described his evening, "We had a huge marshmallow fight around the fire. It was a lot of fun and not really anything to stress out or even

people try to find a way to duck out of it or worry whether the other person feels the same way. A good date does not have to be something expensive and fancy; it could be some-

### Are you a racist? Take this quiz and find out

- If you are in a restaurant with your date and a African American sits in the booth next to you, you.....
  - Think nothing of it and continue on your date.
  - Specifically ask the waiter for another booth.
  - Stay there, but make little racist marks to every thing he/she says.
- You're talking to a friend and they said they found a date for the dance for you, you....
  - Ask what nationality your date is.
  - Ask what you should wear and where to go out to eat after.
  - Ask your friend what religion your friend is and if they dress like you and your friends.
- You're Hispanic and so is your best friend, she/he tells you that she/he met an Asian person that she/he is interested in dating, you.....
  - Tell them you seen a really hot new Hispanic in school the other day and try to interest your friend.
  - Tell them that you're happy for them and hope that they have a good time.
  - Tell them that you're happy for them, but being with a person different from you, you don't think that they will show you a good time.
- You're sitting with your friends who happen to be Caucasian like yourself, and you over hear them talking bad about an Indian that is in one of your classes. You get along fine with the person in your class.
  - You sit there and don't contribute to the subject.
  - Say what your friends want to hear bad about the student to get their acceptance.
  - Tell them the Indian student seems pretty cool when you get to know them.

- Your friend has invited you to go with them to the party of the year you.....
    - You agree to go, because you are pretty sure something cool will be going on there.
    - Trash the party with an attitude all night, because the host is Chinese.
    - Tell your friend that you don't want to go, because it will probably be boring. You say you are pretty sure of this, because your parents said all Chinese are smart so you figured they wouldn't know how to have fun.
1. a-1 b-2 c-3      2. a-3 b-1 c-2  
 3. a-3 b-1 c-2      4. a-2 b-3 c-1  
 5. a-1 b-2 c-3

If you scored.....

#### 0-6 OPEN-MINDED

You're not racist at all. You have learned to accept people for who they are and not by the color of their skin, religion, the way they dress.

#### 6-11 CONFUSED

You're not sure how to accept people that are different from you. You have realized that not everyone is the same and are in the process of getting used to it. You pretty much keep comments to yourself about others, because you do know racism is wrong.

#### 11+ RACIST-HOLIC

You need to wake up and smell the coffee and realize that everyone isn't the same. Everyone can not be like you. You need to accept yourself before you accept others. Everyone is human and you find yourself believing that others are not as good as you.

## Payback given a whole new meaning

By Katie Oen

Revenge is a very common scenario for modern movies. Usually it is the good guy searching for the bad guy who wronged him. This time it's a little different. This time it's a thief, who is ripped off, shot and left for dead by his closest friends.

The thief, Porter, played by Mel Gibson, is a man who was left for dead and now sees his mission in life as getting back the money that was taken from him. Using wit and his own sense of justice, Porter goes on a hunt for the people who did him wrong and to retrieve the \$70,000 that was rightfully his.

Looking for him is his partner in crime, Val Resnick, played by Gregg Henry, who is now working for the Outfit. The Outfit is a very classy group that many people try very hard to join.

The Outfit has a lot of

power and people don't mess with them. That is until now. Porter doesn't let anything get in the way of his revenge. He feels he owes it to everyone involved to feel what he felt as he had lay in a pool of his own blood.

There are many unexpected twists and turns throughout the movie. This is not one of those non-stop action movies where you know where everything is going to happen. Be prepared for the unlikely to happen as this *Payback* occurs. Just when you think you know what's going on, a new piece is added or thrown out.

Gibson does an excellent job and is seen like he's never been seen before. The character he portrays is very dark and mysterious. He has a lot of things up his sleeves and uses these tricks to help him out of a few jams.

*Payback* is the latest install-

ment from the well-known screenwriter, Brian Hedgeland. This was also his first attempt at directing a movie. Hedgeland has many movies under his belt and received a golden globe nomination for his work on *LA Confidential*, which he co-wrote with Curtis Hanson.

Some of Hedgeland's other movies include horror flicks *Nightmare On Elmstreet IV: The Dream Master*, *967 Evil*

and *Highway to Hell*. Hedgeland also wrote *Conspiracy Theory*, which starred Gibson.

There are many connections with Gibson with actors and producers. Bill Duke, who plays a cop in *Payback*, starred with Gibson in *Bird on a Wire*.

Producer Bruce Davey formed Icon Productions with Gibson in 1988, which produced *Payback*. Davey also has produced numerous

Gibson movies, including *Man Without A Face*, *Maverick*, and *Forever Young*.

Gibson (*Lethal Weapon*) teamed up with Henry (*Star Trek: Insurrection*, *Scarface*) to do this movie and together they had excellent onscreen chemistry. Other chemistry being made onscreen was between Gibson and Maria Bello (of TV series "ER" and the film *Permanent Midnight*), who plays Rosie. For instance, you see their con-

nection when Rosie is cleaning up Porter's bloody head.

*Payback* also stars David Payner (*Nixon*, *Get Shorty*), Deborah Kara Unger (*The Game*, HBO's *The Ratpack*), William Devane (*Knots Landing*, *The Monroes*) and Kris Kristofferson (*Blade*, *Dance with Me*). This is a definite must see with an interesting plot, good story, great acting and unexpected scenes. ★★★1/2

## 'Pretty fly' for an album

By Mark Kowal

Dexter Holland, lead vocalist of The Offspring, has done it again. Holland has successfully produced another great CD. The Offspring's new album *Americana* still has their same style of music but with new clever lyrics.

Even though the Offspring's music is alternative rock their music is very different from any other rock artist. Holland has a very unique voice, and when he sings it sounds like he's almost yelling even though he's not.

There is only one rock band that does sound similar to The Offspring and that is Goldfinger. The album includes their radio hits "Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)," and "Why Don't You Get A Job." In addition to the two hits the rest of the album consists of great rock songs.

The album's a theme of lessons, as each song talks about a lesson in life (from Holland's point of view). While one song relates life's feelings another song talks about no breaks in life. In addition to the 13 songs there is a secret song at the end of the CD.

If you keep your CD player on for about two minutes af-

ter the last song is done playing you will hear a Maruichi band do a remix of the song "Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)." No matter what the songs talk about or what the theme of the album is, The Offspring has always produced great albums. Their past albums include *The Offspring* (1990), *Indignation* (1992), *Smash* (1994), and *Ignay on the Hombre* (1997).

All of their albums, including *Americana* have their same style of music that's hard, fast, and upbeat. So if you liked the Offspring's old albums and their old style of music, you will enjoy *Americana*.

The Offspring are presently on tour and will be coming to Chicago on April 14. The show will be held at the UIC Pavilion and tickets are still available.

The Offspring have only made one video from this album and that is "Pretty Fly (For A White Guy)." They will be making a video for the "Why Don't You Get a Job," in the summer but until then they will be touring. So if you liked The Offspring's older music or you are a new fan, try their newest album *Americana*. You won't regret it. ★★★

## March Horoscopes

By Arlete Penafior

### Aries (March 21-April 19)

Take a vacation you deserve it. You've been under a lot of stress lately, and you don't know what to do about it. Simply take it easy; don't stress yourself out over insignificant things. If something is meant to happen let it happen; only time will tell the results. So go ahead and give him/her a chance, they are definitely worth it. Your love match is Capricorn and your main focus this month is change.

### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Be more cautious about who you trust. People have become envious of you for some reason. Keep your eyes open for deceptions from those you trust. This is your moment to shine; the stars are in your favor. Take advantage of this before the move on. Prepare to meet someone new, he/she is exactly what you've wanted. Your love match is Pisces and your main focus this month is Trust.

### Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Don't try to be someone you're not, people will like you for who you are. Give it a try you have nothing to lose. Treat yourself to a day of fun and relaxation, you've been too busy lately to think about yourself. Try scheduling your time more wisely to avoid having too many things to do at once. Be more open with that special someone. Communication is the main thing in making things go right between both of you.

Your love match is Libra and your main focus this month is relaxation.

### Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Try taking your health more seriously. You've been feeling very tired lately, like you don't have energy to do anything. This is because you haven't been paying attention to what you eat and you don't get enough rest. Being more aware of your health will help you get through the day with more energy. Things will finally turn up with that certain someone. Right now is the best time to take a chance and tell them what you really feel. Your lucky love match is Aquarius and your main focus this month is health.

### Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Don't make any big decisions concerning your future now. If you do, things won't turn out exactly how you have them planned. Wait until the stars are in their right position to make any big decisions. You will know when it is time as your gut feeling will kick in. Trust that special person more his/her feelings are genuine for you. Your lucky love match is Scorpio and your main focus this month is decisions.

### Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept. 22)

Friends will be a great help as you will face some hard times. Things will look gray for a while but when you least expect it things will turn around. This will cause you to get in touch with

what is really important to you. Give it a lot of thought before you assume anything. Get out and meet new people you never know you might actually meet someone you are interested in. Your love match is Sagittarius and your main focus this month is true feelings.

### Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

Things will finally start going your way. You've been putting in the effort you need to succeed, and you will. Take a day off from all of your pressures. Treat yourself to a day of relaxation you deserve it. Don't move into any new relationships too soon; try taking it slow for a while. Your love match is Gemini and your main focus this month is luck.

### Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 24)

Don't be such a bore, have some fun. Try going out some more instead of being such a couch potato. You could use some sun right about now. Hit some parties, you won't regret it. You owe yourself some time to kick back and relax. Your love match is Leo and your main focus this month is fun.

### Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Be more aware on how much money you spend. Believe it or not you spend your money on things you really don't need. Make a weekly budget on what you can and should spend. This will solve your money problems. In the romance department things

aren't looking very bright for you. Don't worry things will change after you give that someone a chance. Your love match is Virgo and your main focus this month is budget your money.

### Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Don't be so selfish, it's time to stop thinking about yourself so much. Your selfishness has hurt other people's feelings. Try making it up to those people, it's for the best. View your options before you settle with anyone romantically. When the right person shows up the fireworks will begin to go off. Your love match is Aries and your main focus this month is giving.

### Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Don't be scared of change. Just try to go with it instead of trying to avoid it. Put a little bit more effort into your schoolwork. You've been slacking lately and that's not good. Prepare to meet a lot of new people that will be interested in being more than friends with you. Your love match is Cancer and your main focus this month is the future.

### Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

It's time to deal with those long overdue matters of the heart. Think about your true feelings for that person, and let them know now. Don't beat around the bush anymore, tell them already. Before it's too late and you lose him/her forever. Your love match is Taurus and your main focus this month is the truth.

## Office Space filled with laughter

By Jeff Goluszka

Everybody knows somebody who hates their boss and their job. In the new film *Office Space*, that somebody actually does something about it.

The story is centered on Peter Gibbons (played by Ron Livingston of *Swingers*), a computer programmer at the Initech Corporation.

Peter is so stressed about his job that it's ruining his life. His girlfriend takes him to see a hypnotist, but while he's under the doctor keels over and dies, leaving Peter in a carefree, selfish state.

He spends the next few days in bed, not caring about his job. When he finally goes into work, he recruits two of his co-workers, Michael Bolton (David Herman of television show "Mad TV") and Samir (played by Ajay Naidu of *Suburbia*), to run a computer virus that will steal money from Initech.

In the middle of all this, Peter (with his new carefree personality) asks out his

dream girl, Joanna (Jennifer Aniston of TV sitcom "Friends"). Things are good between them until Joanna learns of the virus, which ends their relationship.

The virus isn't just because the three guys don't like their boss, it's because the whole company is cheating its employees. Their superficial boss Bill Lumbergh (played by Gary Cole from *The Brady Bunch Movie* and *In The Line Of Fire*) has begun a downsizing campaign, and everyone is expecting to be axed.

Employee Tom Smykowski (Richard Riehle of *Free Willy* and *Prelude To A Kiss*) is one of the first to be fired. After a losing his job, he tries to commit suicide by running his car in his garage, but his wife catches him. He immediately pulls out into the street where he's hit by another car, which meant a lawsuit, which made Tom a millionaire. And it all happened because he got

fired.

And then there was Initech employee Milton (played by Stephen Root of the TV show "Newsradio"), who has had his paychecks cancelled and his office moved to the basement storage room. Whenever Lumbergh does something Milton doesn't like, such as stealing his favorite stapler, Milton always mumbles something about "burning the building," but the other workers never took him seriously.

Finally we are introduced to Peter's slightly dumb neighbor Lawrence (Diedrich Bader from TV's "The Drew Carey Show"). Since he can hear through Peter's walls in the apartment complex, he automatically becomes involved in all of Peter's problems. Lawrence's overmasculinity and dumb sense of humor make him one of the more humorous characters in the film.

*Office Space's* satirical humor was written and directed

by Mike Judge, best known for creating, writing and doing the voices of Beavis & Butt-head. This was Judge's first live-action film, and it features many of the same elements used in his past works. Dumb, yet hilarious humor (such as Peter, Samir and Michael taking an annoying fax machine to an empty field and destroying it with a baseball bat), vulgar,

yet unoffensive language, and a lewd, yet truthful look at the 25 to 30-year old working generation make this film both innovative and enjoyable.

*Office Space* does appeal to a younger set of viewers, with its excessive use of crude dialogue and sexual overtones.

The acting in *Office Space* is freshly talented. With

Aniston the only actor to have played a major movie role before, the rest of the cast is full of new faces who offer surprising, witty and entertaining support to the film.

Overall, *Office Space* was generally enjoyable, and a good, blunt look at society. If you can't catch this one in the theater, definitely rent it in a few months. ★★★

## Luther College worth its weight in gold

By Dan Young

Dave Matthews Band has struck again with the release of another live CD, *Live At Luther College*. The CD is a concert featuring Matthews and guest guitarist Timmy Reynolds playing live on January 6, 1996.

The disc includes 23 tracks. Among them are four new songs along with old favorites like "Crash into me," "Tripping Billies," and "Ants Marching."

The four new songs are "Deed Is Done," "Stream," "Little Thing," and "Granny." "Stream" is a song written and performed by Reynolds alone. The guitarists play several songs from every CD as well as their new songs that have yet to be released.

This entire CD is great for the ear as the songs are addictive and the guitars are amazing. Tim Reynolds "Stream" is so good that sophomore Matt Wdowiarz couldn't believe there was only one guitarist playing. Few bands sound better live than in the studio and the Matthews-Reynolds combination excels in many areas.

The two-disc set starts with

"One Sweet World," one of the few songs on the live release from *Remember Two Things*. The lyrics to this song are exceptional and the song sets the tone to the entire disc. It seems the song gets better and better and the guitars are remarkably clear without the rest of the band.

During the entire CD, Matthews makes a lot of comments that are quite funny to the crowd. His attitude is joking and the two guitarists really get the crowd into it. There are a few suggested songs, like a call for "Christmas Song."

Matthews accepts the challenge with a, "Right, I'm going to do it for you, but first I'm going to do this one real slow." His voice is constantly changing and the two guitarists break into a slow rendition of "What Would You Say."

"What Would You Say" is great and both Matthews and Reynolds slow everything down extremely. The two of them solo and shift directly into "Minarets," which is another good song. The lyrics are quite powerful and

sounds of Reynolds guitars are mind boggling.

The opening of the second CD starts with Matthews talking to the crowd again. Then he and Reynolds jump into "Typical Situation," which sounds excellent. If you are into guitars and you can stand acoustic playing, then this is one of the greatest CD's to listen to.

Matthews and Reynolds continue throughout the rest of the CD with some more great songs, including "Ants Marching," "Halloween," and the brand new song "Granny." "Granny" is a beautiful piece about three and a half minutes long and the lyrics are quite powerful.

This is one of the best CDs of all time. It ranks among other immortals like Metallica's self-titled album and *Abby Road* by The Beatles. Reynolds and Matthews are amazing throughout the CD and the entire thing is sensational. This is a concert I wish I didn't miss and you should try it out. ★★★

## The power of love

By Arlete Penaflor

Love really can conquer all.

However with the happiness of love comes the harsh reality that sometimes things don't always turn out, as they seem. This is something William Shakespeare (Joseph Fiennes from *Elizabeth*) realizes when he falls head over heels in love with Viola De Lesseps (Gwyneth Paltrow from *Great Expectations*).

*Shakespeare in Love* takes place in 1593, when a young writer by the name of William Shakespeare is writing a play for the Rose Theater, one of the Elizabethan theaters at the time. When he suddenly runs into a problem, he loses all inspiration for writing his recent play, romantic comedy entitled *Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter*.

He should be busy at work on this play as he has been working on it for more than two months. Will suddenly realizes the reason he has writer's block is because he has nothing to base his writing on. He is lacking the one thing that motivates him to write; being in love.

Will decides to go out and look for the muse he needs to complete his play. He seeks counseling from the town's psychologist in search of advice for what he should.

He realizes he already has a women in his life that could be his inspiration, his on and off love affair Rosaline. Will suffers a deception when he finds Rosaline in the arms of another man, and once again he is left without a muse to finish his play.

During a theatrical performance for Queen Elizabeth (Judi Dench from *Wetherby*), Viola sees Will for the first time. She instantly falls in love with him. He does not notice her because he is overwhelmed with the feeling of deception due to Rosaline's betrayal.

When he least expects to fall in love he meets Viola during an audition for a part in his recent play. Viola is eager to act, and she will do anything possible to obtain this. Since women were forbidden to act in those ages, Viola decides to dress as a man so she can try out for a part in the play.

When they meet Viola happens to be dressed as a man for the auditions. Will is captivated by his performance and hires Viola for the part. When Will finally discovers who Viola really is, he begins to experience true love despite the fact that he's already married.

After weeks of writing his play the title takes a significant name change. From

*Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter, to Romeo and Juliet*. He bases the play on their love experiences, especially in the sorrow of them not being able to be together despite their love.

Their economical backgrounds keep them apart, and the fact that Viola is engaged to be married to Lord Wesser (Colin Firth from *Circle of Friends*). As the story begins to evolve things begin to fall into place. As you are introduced to things in Wills life that led to this romance classic. Every character in his life had something to do with his play *Romeo and Juliet*.

This movie helps you take a closer look into what inspired William Shakespeare to write this all time favorite play. Although this movie is fictional it helps you use your imagination and wonder what really did inspire him? The performance of the cast is splendid they combine the right attitude and charisma to make a great movie.

It's no wonder this movie has been nominated for thirteen academy awards.

I recommend this movie to anyone who really wants to get an inside look on what inspired William Shakespeare. ★★★

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## Our safety

By Alexandra Patin

They stand at the cafeteria door, checking for IDs as people walk through to lunch. They are also the ones who stroll the halls, with a walkie-talkie in their hands. These people are the security guards who were hired by the school administration to "keep kids [and staff] safe," according to associate principal John Highland, at West Chicago High School.

The security guards at We-go are not a new idea, there was a different company last year. However, that company was let go because of communication, attendance, and location problems, according to dean of students Miguel Arroyo. The new company, Andy Frain, was hired because it met all of the criteria and was the least expensive out of all the companies that bid for the job.

Companies have to bid for the position of security for the school. The state requires the school to choose the lowest bidder that meets the standards the school administration sets in order to be hired.

Later in the spring, the administration will decide whether to keep Andy Frain next year, or to look for another security company to hire in place of Andy Frain. Highland said, "At this point we are pretty satisfied with the quality of work being done."

However, no matter what company is hired by the school, Highland says the school will probably always have security guards. He said that there are different problems now in schools than there were 10 or 15 years ago, and security needs to be able to handle those problems.

Jeff G., a senior, says he doesn't believe the security guards make much of a difference in the safety of the school.

There are seven security guards and four deans' assistants employed by the school administration. Arroyo oversees all the security at the school. Arroyo is the one who gives instruction to the security guards, and informs them of the expectations of the school and anything needed from the guards goes through Arroyo.

Arroyo tells students that "You earn respect when you give respect." Any respect problems, such as using any profanity towards the guards is considered a major offense, and strong action will be taken. He said the course of action against a student depends on severity and escalation of the problem. All in all, Arroyo said he gets about 10 problems a week, and up to 40 problems a week.

Dona Moore, a security guard at our school, has been here since January 4 of this year. She said she enjoys working here. The school needs the guards, she said, because "kids expect us to keep order." She says she has run into just a few major problems, but those have been quickly solved.

Like Highland, Moore said there are a few different problems in this school than when she went to school, and she highlights the drug and gang problems. Moore also said that she believes both the students and staff appreciate her efforts. On a scale of how much the school needs the security, from one to ten, she says she would definitely rate need of security as at least a seven.

Dr. Alan Jones, principal, said that he believes that other problems are of even greater significance than drugs and gangs at We-go.

The most common problem that students are disciplined for is being rude, said Moore.

## Just how important are the ISAT's?

By Heather Fenderson

The ISAT tests are here, but are you ready for them?

Sophomores, juniors, and freshmen have been taking these new tests instead of the previous tests. The state of Illinois had recently been issuing, the IGAP. According to the State of Illinois website (<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/accountability/isat/FAQ.htm>) the switch to the ISAT from the IGAP came when the Illinois state board of education decided to update their standards. Also, according to the website the purpose of the tests is to "measure individual student achievement

relative to the Illinois learning standards." But what do the students at We-go have to say about them?

Many seniors did not seem to know or care about the ISATs. Some of them had no clue at all that any new tests had even been administered to the lower grades. Asked about what his feelings were on the ISAT tests, senior Aric Hyde replied "On what?"

This seems to be the basic response of many seniors. Most likely this is because they do not have to take them. According to the website, other test subjects will be

Marla D'Aversa

For seniors, your days are numbered. Not only is graduation little over three months away, but so is deciding what will come after high school. It might be college, the armed forces, or working full time, or maybe you aren't sure yet.

In a recent survey, 97 West Chicago seniors were asked about what their plans are after graduation.

Of those who plan to attend either a two or four year college, 49 are planning to stay in Illinois, while only 17 will leave the state, most staying in the Midwest. There were 28 students who were waiting for acceptance letters, or trying to pick which school to attend. Most of the seniors know exactly where they are going. For the rest of them,

the search continues.

A lot of seniors applied for scholarships, 76 out of 97. The majority, 33 people, only applied for one scholarship. However, 25 applied for 3 or more. However, most seniors weren't concerned very much with scholarships at all. The attitude a lot of students had, was they wanted to get into a good school no matter how much it cost, scholarships or not.

The college bound seniors seemed more concerned about the quality of the school they want to attend more than any other characteristic when it comes time to pick; 39 out of 68. Location was important too. 18 wanted to either be as close or as far away from their families as possible.

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

Real life situations being talked about in school. These discussions, and situations are getting kids involved in classes they never thought of being part of before. Getting deep into how children feel, and what students think.

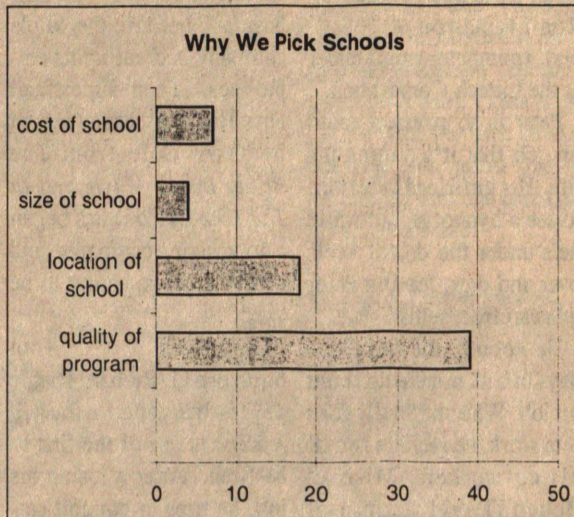
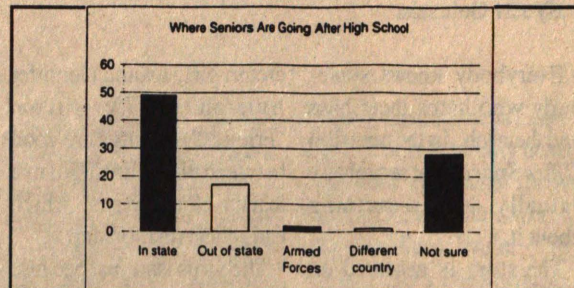
Patti Kozlowski of the Family and Consumer Science Department and Carol Wolf of the English Department decided to reach out to the high school kids by having them read a book called *A Child Called It*. The author, David Pelzer, is a nationally known figure who speaks to groups about his childhood as a survivor of abuse. His case was documented as one of the most severe ones in California.

Wolf, during first semester, had her class read and studied this book. The class was assigned to write poetry

about how they feel about abuse, and propose questions to the Child Development Classes, who were also reading this book. Kozlowski had her students concentrating on the developmental process of a child who experiences such trauma.

Kozlowski's Child Development class has been working with a program every year where the students take care of kids ages from three to seven, and plan the days for activities the kids can do. This program helps interact with the children, and get to know how kids see things.

Reading the book in class and working with the children made the students realize how cruel parents can be. The one question the students don't understand is "Why?" Wolf and Kozlowski classes wrote poetry to each



## Relating our real life stories

other, and responded to what their thoughts were on the poems and questions.

Both teachers said that the students found it difficult to believe that a child could be treated so badly and were angry that some parents can treat their children in this manner. With almost every chapter students asked, "How could David's mother do this to him?" and "Why didn't his father do some-

thing?" Some of these questions may possible be answered in the sequel *The Lost Boy*. Pelzer is working on part three of this series the name is not known yet.

Some of the students would like to share their poetry with others in hope that more people would get interested in reading the books and learn from the experience.

## Poems

### Hopeful

By Adam Buenz and Adam Mertes

Happy that he is free  
Others know now his pain—

Pain from the past  
Enveloped him once.  
Forever he will remember

Using it to warn others.  
Soul

By Rog Guzman and Rob Bridgeforth

### Shining

Outgoing  
Utilizing all strengths  
Life everlasting

### Abused

By Jimmy Ibarra

All because I was born she said  
Because, because that's all she would say.

U never knew.  
She said she had to,

I couldn't see why  
Endangering my life,  
that was all.

Damn woman, she never  
knew why.

Freedom  
By Jeannine Ogorek

Free to be safe from  
mom  
Rescue from mom

Escape  
Exhilaration

Determined to live  
On top of the world—a  
Man for life

### Help Me

By Jennifer Davidson and Megan Carter

He yearned to be free but  
Everyone turned away.

Nobody would  
Listen to his  
Plea for help. His  
alcoholic  
Mother did horrendous  
things and  
Eventually lost the game.



## The Sniper faces the end

By Dan Young

She was the wife of the Legend, but she never took his name or that of a Mrs. either. She hadn't really been involved in anything dirty before, but the rumors where that she wasn't dealing well with the Legend's success. Rumors also included that the relationship was over and the two had alienated each other's bands. The Legend had made some comments in a rock magazine about how her band sucked and how they shouldn't even bother to go on tour. This had made Miss Legend angry, but she took her band on tour anyway. Too bad for her the tour didn't go well at all and now she was really upset. She even threatened him during a meeting with the press and things had been on the rocks for a while. Then they seemed to have made up, but now that idea wasn't positive anymore.

Miss Legend looked up at the Sargent from her cigarette and the Sargent knew something was up. Her blood shot eyes told a story all by themselves and the scowl sprawled across her face wasn't exactly inviting. The Sargent knew better than to be intimidated by a witness or a suspect, but this one was tougher than normal. This wasn't any normal witness, this was a highly successful woman who had many fans. "However, life must go" on the Sargent though as he checked his notes.

He began with the usual greeting and then went on to other petty things like the ratings of Miss Legend's band. Then he came to his subject, saying, "You know that your husband is dead, don't you Miss Legend?"

"Yeah, I heard that on the radio and all. Don't know what happened to him and I thought he better security than that, but if it happened, that's an awful problem you've got on your hands."

"Well Miss Legend, we figured that too until we caught the guy who did it," the Sargent said quickly.

"You've got him. I'd like to say some things to the, the..." Miss Legend broke into tears and began to sob. "I don't know what to say, but I really loved him. I'm not dealing well with this problem, so please give me a few minutes to collect myself."

"Well Miss, I kinda figure this wouldn't be the best for you, but there's not going to be too much collecting for you. You might want to sit

down for this, because you have the right to remain silent and anything you say or do may be used against you. You have the right to an attorney and he may be present when you are being questioned. If you can not afford an attorney, then an attorney will be appointed for you, although I doubt you'll have that problem."

Miss Legend blinked a couple of times and the Sargent waited for the truth to sink in. But Miss Legend recovered quiet quickly and she immediately requested her lawyer.

The case moved quiet quickly through the judicial system as the Sniper listened for it on a portable radio he had been given from the Sargent. The facts where that the Sniper had a lot of requests that he had made and the Sargent had helped him out as best he could, trying to give him an even deal before he was to die.

Finally, the trial started and the Sargent had planned to use the Sniper against Miss Legend as soon as the situation merited. But they were both part of the defense, and for this reason, both Miss Legend and the Sniper had the same lawyer. The state had appointed one of its finest to be the lawyer of the trial for the Sniper, but it really didn't matter. The Sniper already admitted guilt and therefore, the fact that he was there was just to be a witness. The Sniper requested to be at the trial the whole time and his request was granted. He sat on a bench semi-near Miss Legend, but far enough away that they couldn't talk.

The effect the situation was beginning to show on Miss Legend, who's tired eyes and lack of energy could be easily seen throughout the courtroom.

"What a great setup," the Sniper thought as he sat there, listening to what Mark Anthony, Miss Legend's lawyer, was saying about Miss Legend. It was probably pretty relevant to the trial, but it really didn't matter. When the guy who commits the crime speaks about who hires them, that person normally gets buried and it doesn't really matter if that person was or wasn't guilty. The Sniper knew that he was guilty and he had decided to take Miss Legend down with him.

The Sniper drifted his attention from his thoughts back to the trial because Anthony had finally finished

with whatever he had been talking about. The young attorney had decided to call an extra witness and that witness was the Sniper. At first, the Sniper didn't react. It didn't quite registrar what he would have to do now. He didn't quite understand the logistics of this idea. He was going to have to remember everything Miss Legend had said during her speech. He slowly raised and walked up towards the stand, mentally rerunning the trial through his head.

The bailiff quickly finished his repetitive job and the Sniper was sworn to telling the complete truth. The Sniper sat down and quickly scanned the courtroom to see whatever he could. He tried to gather his thoughts, but his mind was spinning a web of entrapment. This was the big opportunity for him to get Miss Legend for once and for all. Of course, this could be the moment of huge failure too and the Sniper knew he had to watch his step. It really depended upon what Anthony would ask the Sniper. This whole thing would be a huge chess match for Miss Legend's career and her life. If the Sniper won, then Miss Legend would die right beside him.

Anthony, however, had different ideas for his client. He seemed to know something extra and there was a little glimmer in his eye as he started his questioning. At first, it nothing out of the normal happened. The background was asked of the Sniper, who didn't give much away. He never told anything of his training or what he did. He just skipped around by saying he didn't know anything. Then Anthony began to dig in, asking the tough questions about when the Sniper met Miss Legend. Fortunately, the Sniper had Miss Legend a few times and he had arranged future meetings where he was to "meet" Miss Legend at a party. Of course, Miss Legend had admitted to meeting the Sniper earlier and now the Sniper just followed her lead. Anthony couldn't quite shake the Sniper on this information, so he changed subjects and started talking about the evening of the shooting. The Sniper answered as honestly as he could without giving up his real employer. He didn't give up any information and Anthony began to get frustrated. Then Anthony found his last chance. He smartly smiled and asked the Sniper

were he got his weaponry from. The Sniper shook this question off with a shrug and told of his usual pick up off the black market. He quickly glanced over toward the prosecution table and saw the District Attorney writing down everything he had just said. The Sniper laughed inside, knowing the cops wouldn't be able to get through the elaborate defense system his employer had set up. Besides, the cops didn't quite realize that they actually worked for his employer anyway and it wouldn't matter if they found out who was behind the crime.

Anthony just stood there, shocked that he couldn't get the Sniper to admit his clients innocents. Then Anthony made the biggest mistake of his young law-practicing career. He asked an open-ended question that allowed the Sniper to talk about whatever he wanted to. And the Sniper made his move. The long, round about tale the Sniper wove trapped Miss Legend for good. Anthony realized his mistake as soon as the Sniper began to answer and he seemed to be crushed. His shoulders dropped in the realization of his failure and he was finished. When the Sniper finally finished with his long story, Anthony quickly gave up his witness. The Attorney General smiled and refused to ask any questions.

And so the end of Miss Legend came before her time. She refused to go out quietly, though, screaming profanities at the Sniper as she was taken out in her handcuffs. The Sniper pretended to care, apologizing to her but he felt so good inside. He'd finally reached the annex of his mission.

And weeks later, as he walked down to his death, his smile remained plaster on his face. The executioner didn't quite understand why the Sniper didn't stop smiling. He didn't take anything, he just waited to be finished. Miss Legend was killed the week before the Sniper and as his life flashed before his eyes, he smiled quietly again. And as the electricity flashed through his body, stopping his heart and destroying the gift God had given him, the one thought remained. The one and final thought was this: "I have served my President and my country well. GOD BLESS AMERICA!"

## Reality Bites

By Katie Oen

Have you ever had one of those days?

The one where you overslept, skipped breakfast, forgot your homework on your kitchen table, were late for your classes, and that was just before noon.

Working at a place for over 18 months, I felt secure in my job. Though the tasks may have changed, the familiar people were always there. Until one day, I found myself standing in a whirlwind as our store manager told us that the land was up for sale.

Not quite sure if anyone would be interested, I did my job as usual except that I kept my eyes open and my ears plugged into all conversations around me.

Some may think of this as drastic, but rumors had spread the previous year that our owner was trying to sell the store. This seemed to be the perfect opportunity for him to do so.

These fears hit last May, but resided at the end of June. Sales were not doing as well, considering they only had three to five salesmen at a time employed the past month or so.

Then news came of General Motors bidding on our land and also another anonymous company was also making offers. Panic hit the entire store at this time. Our store manager repeatedly told us he'd tell us more later in the month.

Soon, the middle of July came around and there was still no news. We considered ourselves to be mushrooms. In this context, they were keeping us in the dark and feeding us a lot of bull.

Soon other companies were calling us, asking if we were out of business or offering us jobs. Eventually it came to the point where our service manager was receiving offers he just couldn't refuse.

Not knowing whether or not he'd have a job with us the next month, he gave his notice and was gone soon afterwards. It was very difficult for him to leave since he'd been working there for over 20 years.

He'd been there the longest, followed by a truck mechanic with 18 years of experience. Some of the guys had been there a long time, usually three to eight years.

I tried to help out all I could. This meant more hours and more responsibilities. Before my manager left, I started service writing. Not much at first, but it piled on by the time he'd left. In fact, it was another woman who did warranty work and myself to do all the service writing. It came to the point where I had to ask a truck mechanic to come up and be a writer. This was hard because we only had two truck mechanics and it wasn't his job, even though he knew it front to back.

Wanting to be paid like a real service writer, I talked to one of my managers about a pay increase and commission like a regular writer. In our meeting, I was told that it wasn't my place to try to do "such a difficult task with minimal experience" and also that I was a girl. In other words "you're too young to do it and you're a female but thanks anyway."

This frustrated me beyond belief. I was working from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and being paid less than I should be. Within a month that our service manager left, we received our termination letters that the store would be closing. The guys told me these letters were on their time card clock. They couldn't even give a personalized "you're fired."

Previous to this, I had given my notice to leave because I could tell it was coming. We all knew it. I was ticked off because I was close to everyone and I knew what they were in for, as well as what I was facing. These guys were great and all of them had families and bills to pay. To see these people treated this way disgusted me, but as they say "it's part of the business."

You can't fight it and that's what killed me. To give so much of yourself and time and effort, that you can't even save your job if you tried. They send you home and say they're sorry and they appreciate your loyalty. In the end, it doesn't do much. It won't put food on the table or pay the bills, but it'll teach you that things change.

I changed a lot while working there. Partly influenced by the people I worked with, I found a better me. I can handle change and tough times, and I can joke and laugh and see the brighter side.

It still hurts, but with time I can sit back and remember the good times, the jokes, the people who knew me well like family, and another place I called home.

Boys Basketball

## Boys track dashes towards conference

By Marla D'Aversa

## Boys basketball challenges IMSA for regional spot

By Daniel B. Young

The West Chicago boy's basketball team took its first and final conference game at home verse Glenbard North on February 26.

The Cats, lead by senior Jeff Callahan's 26 points and senior Jerry Evan's 17, outscored the Panthers 44 to 36 in the second half to pull out the victory. This game gives We-go momentum into the regional game vs. IMSA. Coach Dan McCarthy said, "It had to be a momentum builder. I'm just so happy that they won because they deserve it. They've got great chemistry and they have kept together through the season."

The Cats played against IMSA on February 29, but results were unavailable at press time. McCarthy said, "They [IMSA] are a really tall team. They've got a 6'5" point guard and two 6'7" guys on the block. They aren't extremely quick, but they have big kids who can shoot."

In the game against Glenbard North, We-go opened the first quarter with Callahan driving and scoring on a baby hook. Then Evan's drained a jumper and We-go tied the score at 4. Sophomore Brian Howard split a

pair of free throws after a Panther bucket and We-go trailed by just one. But the Panthers put on a little run and took a 14-5 lead. Brian Howard scored a bucket for the final We-go score as the Panthers led 16-7.

The second quarter opened with senior Andrew Merrick knocking down both free throw attempts and a Brian Raymond jumper found it's mark. Callahan scored a free throw and a three to cut the score to 20-15. Merrick scored again and Evans hit a three. After junior Robby Rohrback score, the Panthers made another run. This time it was for nine points and the Panthers grabbed a 32-24 lead.

Evans and Howard scored three free throws and Callahan hit another three-point bomb. Then, with just seconds left, sophomore Brad Olsen tipped in an errant jumper to cut the lead to 34-32.

Merrick again opened the scoring, this time with a free throw as the lead dribbled down to one. Then, after a Panther bucket, Callahan knotted the score with a jumper. Merrick scored again as Wego took its second lead. The Panthers an-

swered with a deuce and then a trey, but Evans nailed a three to retie the game. The Evans hit another three and We-go found the lead it would maintain for the rest of the game.

Callahan scored again, then Merrick hit two free throws, then Callahan again as We-go built an eight-point lead. Callahan scored another bucket after a Belokin three and Olsen scored a free throw to end the quarter with Wego up 56-48.

Evans opened the fourth and senior Chris Grin scored two points. Raymond scored, then Callahan, then Raymond twice more. Evans hit another pair of free throws, as Wego went 26 for 30 from the line. Merrick hit two more free throws and Callahan scored four more. McCarthy said, "I don't know if we could have played a better game in the second half. We executed real well when they extended their zone."

McCarthy said, "This is such a great group and they deserve something positive. I'm just so proud of them. Everybody stepped up (on February 26) like Rock's threes and Jeff Belokin's ballhandling."

The varsity boys track team opened the season on February 12 in a four school meet at Rolling Meadows High School. They ended in third place behind Rolling Meadows with a score of 71.5, and Maine West who ended up with 76 points. Elgin finished last with 20.5.

Junior Tim Keller ran a particularly outstanding performance on the 3200-meter race in 9:34. This is a fieldhouse record, and under state qualifying time. Other varsity first places went to seniors Bart Visser for the 800 meter run, Bryan Franckowiak for the 400 meter dash and the 200 meter dash, and Keller for the 1600 meter run. All together, the boys had more first places than other teams at the meet.

The junior varsity boys came in second place with 56 points behind Rolling Meadows who scored 74.

Doug Hampton, Mike Nubre, Jim Smolucha, and Joe Park took first place in the four-lap relay. The second place Maine West team was just 0.22 seconds behind them. Hampton took first in the 55-meter dash and the 200-meter dash. In the triple jump Salutric jumped 30 feet 11 3/4 inches for first.

Ten year varsity coach Paul McLeland is very optimistic, and said he believes the team will do very well this year. "There are four distance races, and West Chicago holds [the fastest times] for three of them. We are looking to beat those records this year." McLeleand wants to

try to break the record for scoring the most points in West Chicago history.

Boy's track returned the top six people from last season. McLeland doesn't mind that five happen to be seniors stating, "Seniors are more passionate, because this may be their last year in track."

Look for Keller at the meets. He is a very promising junior with times "at or faster than Dan Horyn," according to McLeland. Keller ran a mile in 5.08 and six miles in 32 minutes at practice before the Rolling Meadows meet.

The biggest competitors for the boys this year will probably be the Naperville schools or Wheaton Warrenville South, who took fourth in state last year.

## Sports Schedule

Badminton

Monday, March 15 vs. Riverside Brookfield  
 Tuesday, March 23 vs. East Aurora  
 Wednesday, March 24 @ DeKalb  
 Monday, April 5 @ Streamwood  
 Tuesday, April 6 vs. Naperville North

Baseball

Monday, March 23 Varsity @ Bartlett  
 Tuesday, March 23 F/S vs. Bartlett  
 Saturday, March 27 Varsity vs. St. Francis  
 Saturday, April 3 Varsity @ Waubonsie Valley  
 Saturday, April 3 F/S vs. Waubonsie Valley  
 Monday, April 5 F/S vs. Batavia  
 Monday, April 5 @ Batavia  
 Wednesday, April 7 F/S @ Plainfield  
 Wednesday, April 7 Varsity vs. Plainfield

Girl's Soccer

Wednesday, March 24 JV/V vs. Wheaton Academy  
 Thursday, March 25 F vs. Larkin  
 Thursday, March 25 S/V @ Larkin  
 Wednesday, March 31 V @ Downers Grove South  
 Thursday April 1 V @ Downers Grove South  
 Saturday, April 3 V @ Downers Grove South  
 Monday, April 5 FB @ Lake Park East Campus  
 Wednesday, April 7 F vs. Wheaton North

Softball

Friday, March 26 F/JV @ Bartlett  
 Friday, March 26 V vs. Bartlett  
 Wednesday, March 31 F/JV/V @ Main East  
 Thursday, April 1 F/JV vs. Glenbard West  
 Thursday, April 1 V @ Glenbard West  
 Saturday, April 3 F/JV @ Waubonsie Valley  
 Saturday, April 3 V vs. Waubonsie Valley

Boy's Track

Tuesday, March 9 S/V vs. Larkin; St. Francis  
 Thursday, March 18 F @ Glenbard North  
 Friday, March 19 V @ Glenbard North  
 Tuesday, March 23 F/S @ Fenton  
 Monday, April 5 start of outdoor track season

Girl's Track

Saturday March 13 V @ Fenton  
 Friday March 19 JV/V @ Lewis University  
 Thursday, March 25 JV/V vs. Plainfield  
 Monday, April 5 Start of outdoor track season  
 Tuesday, April 6 JV/V @ Glenbard East

Boy's Volleyball

Tuesday, March 23 F and S/V @ St. Joe's  
 Friday, March 26 V @ Hoffman Estates  
 Saturday, March 27 V @ Hoffman Estates  
 Tuesday, April 6 F,S/V @ Naperville North



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## Brinn sidelined by injury

By Alexandra Patin

The Wildcats will be one player short for the rest of the season. In girls basketball, starter Kathy Brinn suffered a fractured sternum when an opposing player elbowed her in the chest, causing a fracture in her sternum.

Brinn will be out for the rest of the winter basketball season, but she said she will probably be in the spring league of basketball. Her teammates will have to play without her for the winter season, though, and she has some words of advice for them: "Play every game like it's your last," Brinn said.

She also said that Tuesday was one of the nights that she wasn't following that philosophy. Even though she played a good game, Brinn said she just assumed she'd have more games left.

This injury has taught Brinn something. Even though she hates being off the court, she says her attitude is going to be different when she comes back to playing on any sports team. "Once you sit out you want to get back into it," she said, she also said she is going to play harder.

Even though the team

will be emotionally affected with Brinn not there, she says that they all know what she is going through, so the team is really helpful and supportive. She sits on the bench for games she is missing to cheer her team on. She is wishing them luck with every game, and said, "You really take things for granted [until they are gone]."

Even though she doesn't like her injuries, Brinn is no stranger to them. Last year she sprained her ankle and fractured it the year before.

## Girls track team jumps off right foot

By Katie Oen

With strong returning runners and throwers, there is a great chance for advancement to state.

Coach Aaron Carper said, "[about throwers] In comparison to previous years, we have a lot more potential. Girls are already approaching state qualifying marks, about an arms length away but they have a lot of work to get there."

There are many experienced runners who have returned to the team and that will almost double the number of players they had. On the transition for the girls to go into the track season, Carper commented that they should have no trouble adjusting to the running they did in basketball.

In the February 25 meet against Streamwood and Rosary, the team took second with 48 points. They were seven points from taking first. This was the first meet that the entire team was present with numbers added from the basketball teams. Jocelyn Schineller scored high with a shot putt of 34'3.5". This is an improvement from last year of over four feet.

In the February 18 meet against East Aurora and Larkin, the girls overall took first place as a team. Final scores were We-go 80, East Aurora 32.5 and Larkin 9.5. The shot putters threw further than

previously and some of the runners cut times from their previous meet times.

In the February 13 meet against Oswego, Naperville Central, and Neuqua Valley, the varsity team did not place very well, scoring only five points as a team. These scores reflect the absence of a thrower and a small number of runners. The junior varsity did better with a team total of 29.5 points.

The girls varsity track meet went on Wednesday February 10, 1999 was won by one point. Not having the 12 athletes that were still playing on the basketball teams made the girls try as hard as they could.

Junior Terri Jensen did very well in the meet placing in three track events and once in a field event. Coach Kolasa said of Jensen, "She's our most experienced one out there." Kolasa said that she's expecting Jensen to do very well this season. Jensen said of her own performance, "I'm glad I picked up from last year, so now I can just move forward. I'm going to try and improve my triple jump for [the next] meet."

As a team, the wildcats are very strong in field events. Returning from last years team are seniors Jami Shanks and Jocelyn Schineller and junior Jes-

sica Tonchick, who are all throwing four feet further than they were when they started the last season. Coach Aaron Carper said he contributes this with their off season weight lifting that they are doing voluntarily.

Carper said that it was hard getting the team morale up with only half a team there, but once the whole team is there he thinks the chemistry and teamwork will be there.

Preparing for this season, Carper said, "The girls have been getting in shape and working hard. There are a lot of building steps to take and it all depends on the effort given day by day."

Kolasa thought it was a great first meet. She talked to the girls about their next meet and said, "Don't go in scared. Focus on things you can personally change to help better out the team. Saturday's a total team effort."

The final score was a 49-48 win over Bartlett High School.

Terri Jensen jumped 30'4" in the triple jump and she said that any jump she makes over 30' means that Kolasa will buy her ice cream. Jensen said she is going to focus on the triple jump to go down state with.

All throwers Schineller, Tonchick and Shanks threw over 30 feet.

### Girls basketball

## Wildcats season ends at regionals

By Alexandra Patin

The varsity basketball team had a disappointing end to a good season, according to sophomore Kathy Brinn. However, she said the season was fun overall.

The last game of the season was disappointing, because the team wanted revenge on Wheaton-Warrenville South; however, they lost the game. Brinn said the team had wanted revenge because last year the team had also lost their last game of the year.

Brinn also said that if anything could be done differently, it would be to play the entire game well, instead of just playing one or two quarters well. Brinn said that the games could have been won more easily, and the team's

goal was to win 10 games, which they didn't meet.

But another goal was to play at a varsity level, which the team did this season, Brinn said.

This year the team's overall record was 7-21, compared to last years record of 12-14. The DVC record was 2-12, compared to last years 6-8.

The sophomore girls bas-

ketball team won the DVC with the best record in the conference. In this game there was much at stake, because We-go was playing to break a tie.

The team played against about 8 other teams, said sophomore Cathy Wilken. She also said she was completely satisfied with the way the team played.



Photo by Robyn Leary

The girls basketball team prepares for a game.



Photo by Aubrey Hurn

The We-go girls basketball team awaits a free throw attempt



Photo by Aubrey Hurn

The We-go bench cheers for their team.

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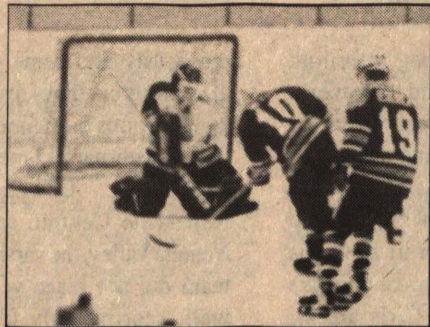
## Hockey club grabs attention with a few victories

By Mark Kowal

The West Chicago Hockey team lost the league championship to Oak Forest in overtime. In a desperate attempt the Wildcats tried to score in overtime but fell short losing 3-2. The first goal scored was in the first period by Hillary Brown was her first goal of the season and the second was scored by Matt Baumrucker in the third.

Even though the Wildcats lost, they were still awarded the second place trophy in the Junior Varsity High School Hockey League. Not only did the Cats get to the championship, but went in style being the only team in

their league that went undefeated in the playoffs.



Senior Josh Wetzel attempts to score during a playoff game. Photo by Katie Oen

There are many reasons why they got this far in their league, but Rick Hertz coach of the hockey team, said the main reason why they got

this far in their league was their dedication. Although they had the second best season record of 12-4-2 they did a lot better in the post season.

Hertz said that the team's turning point for their great playing was when senior Brandon Lanners came back into play towards the end of the season. Hertz said the

team has been playing better since he came back.

They won against Hinsdale South 5-1, then Driscoll 3-1, shut out Glenbard North 3-0, and only needed a tie against Marist to guarantee the championship game. They didn't just tie but beat them 4-2. Even though they could have won or lost the fifth game, the hockey team played their hearts out with a 5-3 victory.

It didn't come easy, as both teams played rather rough as there were six penalties and seven checks. Although Hertz can't pick out any specific improved player before

the championship he said that the team is playing well enough to win.

Even though the Hockey team has beaten Oak Forest in the playoffs, he still thought that they would be a challenge in the championship game. Hertz' strategy was to keep the puck in deep get less turnovers and keep the game a little bit cleaner. Assistant coach Ken Flicks said, "Both teams played rough," in game five.

Neither coach has problems with the officials since they're making fair calls. Hertz thinks that they need to improve on their zone

playing and their power plays. All the players on the team played in the championship even though Derek Dipietro got hurt in game five when an Oak Forest player tripped him and took out his knee. After the game he said that he felt fine Derrick said, "its just a old hockey injury."

Even though they did lose the championship game. There is going to be an all-star game this Saturday in Orlando Park at 11:10 A.M. Kyle Wolf, Josh Wetzel, Darek Dipietro, and Matt Baumrucker will represent West Chicago and play for their league.

## Wrestlers end season at sectionals

By Becky Guerrero

"Things on ups," says Varsity Wrestling Coach Manning in his response is to the end of the wrestling season. Freshman and sophomore get another chance at state this year. WCCHS is hosting sectionals in a couple of weeks and for now the wrestlers are practicing. If you have any questions see Manning. The varsity Wildcat wrestlers didn't send anyone to state this year, but send 2 cats to sectionals. The team has shared victories as well as losses. They have improved on their individual abilities and as a team.

The varsity team finished the season with 3-16 record. Varsity competed in a Regional on Saturday, February

6. Nate Aye, a freshman, placed fourth with two wins and two losses. Ben Stevens, a junior, placed third. Luis Aguado, a senior, placed first. Out of eight teams, the team placed seventh.

"We've improved," said Manning. "We had our first Conference Champion in three years, which was Aguado. We had our second Regional Champion for two years in a row, which was also Aguado. JV took third place in regional conference." Steven's match at regional was a 5-2 victory over Wheaton Warrenville South. He wrestled very aggressive against Addison Trail, he struggled on bottom, worked with his legs and got a rever-

sal with a 9-2 victory.

Aguado on the other hand had a bye first round at 275lbs. His second match wasn't such a pleasant victory. He wrestled a Glenbard North wrestler who had injured Aguado's shoulder in a past meet. In the second period, his opponent tried to cradle, but Aguado came back strong and aggressive for finals with a 7-2 win over Wheaton North. He came home with first place for WCCHS.

These two wrestlers Stevens, and Aguado were the Cats sent to sectionals. Unfortunately, they didn't make it to state, but hope is that the wrestlers come back even stronger next year.

## Swimming dives into state

By Bart Visser

When West Chicago's freshmen and sophomores step on to the blocks, it looks like a J.V. race, but when they leap off and tear through the water, they are the ferocious Wildcat varsity team.

Despite coming out of the Waubonsie Valley sectional with sophomore Joe Lureau as the only one state qualifier, coach Chris Hall's Wildcats put on outstanding performances that not only displayed a series of personal best but a wide range of new West Chicago swimming records.

To qualify for the state meet the Wildcats had to either take first place or swim a time that was equal to or faster than the state qualify-

ing time.

Lureau qualified in two events placing second in the 200 IM and the 100 breast stroke in both events. Swim team manager Danielle Lureau said that it was the toughest sectional in the state and it makes it harder for the team to qualify other members.

The 200medley relay team consisting of Lureau, senior Mark Gottlieb, sophomore Joe Hamlin, and freshman Henry Somers missed state qualifying time by a heart-breaking tenth of a second with a time of 1:42.19 placing fourth in the meet. All was not lost because the boys were able to walk away with a new varsity record.

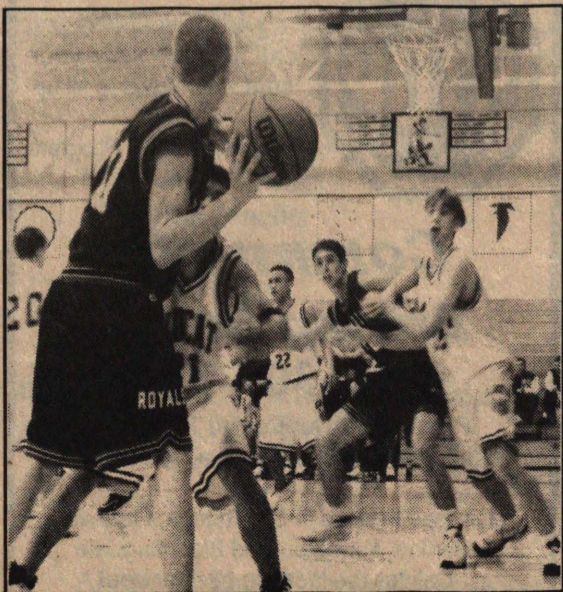
Another close qualifier

was Somers in the 50 free missing the state cut by two tenths of a second with a time of 22.74 taking third place. His personal best of one second earned him a freshman record. He then went on to break another freshman record in the 100 free with a time of 50.03 that earned his second third place.

When the sectional was over the Wildcats as a team score 129.5 points earning fifth place out of nine teams in the sectionals finishing behind Saint Charles, who won the meet with 311 points.

Over all Coach Hall was disappointed with the only one state qualifier, but the team as a whole earned personal bests in every event.

## Basketball regional watch: find it here on pages 11 and 10



Basketball on page 10.

Photo by Sarah Kochniarczyk



Senior Jeanette Arroyo looks to dish to one of the sophomore twin towers Beth and Kathy Brinn. Page 11.

Photo by Aubrey Hurn