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Wildcat Chronicle



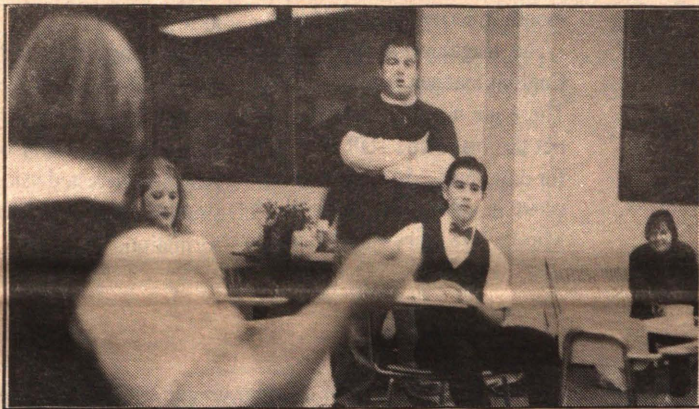
West Chicago Community High School

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The world's a stage for *The Foreigner*

By Sarah Kochniarczyk
Besides the performances of *The Foreigner* presented in the auditorium the play has been selected for Theaterfest in January with 3,500 other plays around the state.

The cast consisted of seven members who made their characters come to life in the play *The Foreigner* on November 11, 12, and 13. The play had so many different roles ranging from a big oaf, to a



Students in *The Foreigner* listen as English teacher and Play Director Mary Hafertepe gives a pep talk

reverend, to a pregnant lady, to a lonely man who becomes a foreigner. In order to make the setting and all the props, the crew had to spend numerous hours working on it. According to Hafertepe about 50 hours were spent on construction. Besides all the time spent on the props, the crew had to be worrying about time changes and be-

ing prompt between stage changes.

"Emily Giermann and Deanne Volk did an exceptional job in between stage changes. They added to the quality of the play," said Hafertepe

however the cast acted as if it was supposed to happen or it didn't even happen. Not once did they forget their lines or character.

The cast had lots of energy and always focused on bringing their characters to life. However, at times it was hard to hear their voices and what they were saying. Hafertepe, who's been working with the plays at West Chicago for 17 years, felt they could work on timing, because it's comedy, and they can always improve on diction.

Although there were a few things to work on, overall the cast did a great job.

"I'll miss their good work ethic, how they came prepared, they accept feedback openly, and the respect they have for one another," said Hafertepe.

The play had a lot of comedy and that held the audience's attention throughout the two hours and half show.

During part of the play on November 12, Friday night, the lights started to flicker, but the show went on. The lighting wasn't the only mishap the cast had to work with, a few cast members were making their way up the stairs and tripped. This happened more than once,

One concert out of two successfully played

By Alexandra Patin

The London Benefit concert did not go as scheduled because of lack of performers, said Director of Bands James Guter.

The concert was planned to have a couple of professional bands or performers however one group wanted too much money to perform and the other one was double booked and couldn't make it, Guter said.

"It just didn't work out the way I would have liked it to happen," said Guter. However, he said that the students have raised \$50,000 through fundraisers with their parents, such as soliciting on the streets for donations. The students have also done individual fundraisers, such as selling tupperware and candy, said Guter.

The students will have to pay about \$1400 per person instead of the original \$1900 before fundraising. The money was due on Thanksgiving for the trip to London, which will last seven days and seven nights, said Guter.

The band will be playing some of the pieces for the London concert at the holiday band concert on December 16.

By Alexandra Patin

The choir concert was moved this month, for the concert on December 5, at 3:00 p.m., to the Edmund Chapel in Wheaton College.

The location was moved because of fire concerns and crowding in the auditorium. Due to the construction at We-go, there are no fire exits on the side of the auditorium and the balcony is not accessible, said Choir Director Lisa Smith.

"We'd have to say to 50, 60, 80 people 'you can't come in,'" said Principal Alan Jones who also had concerns over the crowd in the auditorium. He added, "It's a very well attended event."

The chapel did come with a few conditions. For example, the concert would have to be free of cost, and it had to be made clear that the concert was held by We-go, not Wheaton College. We-go did have to pay a fee for using the chapel.

The new location has caused some of the choir members anxiety, such as junior Heather Runions, who said that the size is disconcerting because it's so big.

This is probably the only concert that will be held in the chapel, said Jones, because next year the balcony is scheduled to be open.

Upcoming Events for We-go

What	Where	When	Time
Choir Concert	Edmund Chapel, Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois	Sunday December 12	3:00 p.m.
Winter Play Auditions	We-go Auditorium	Tuesday December 14 Wednesday December 15 Thursday December 16	3:00 p.m.
Booster Club meeting	We-go	Tuesday December 14	7:30 p.m.
Band Concert	We-go	Thursday, December 16	7:30 p.m.
Last day of school in 1999	We-go	Friday December 17	3:30 p.m.
First day of school in 2000	We-go	Monday January 3, 2000	7:45 a.m.
Dance Performance	We-go	Friday January 14, Saturday January 15	7:30 p.m.
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day- No School	We-go	Monday January 17	

The West Chicago Community High School Music Department Presents:

'Tis a Joyful Season for Singing

A Holiday Choral Concert

Sunday, December 12
3:00 p.m.

Edman Chapel, Wheaton College
Admission is Free -- Reception Following

Transportation will be provided for Senior Citizens from West Chicago High School Cafeteria Entrance. Shuttles will depart at 2:00 and 2:30 p.m.

Call Mrs. Austin for more information at 231-4270. Edman Chapel is on Wheaton College Campus on Washington Street.
(This is not a function of Wheaton College)

Chess Team

West Chicago's chess team has started their season, competing in two meets. They made it through the entire meet close to victory, but lost by one game. Their next meet is Saturday, December 4, for freshmen and sophomores.

Math Team

The math team went to their last meet for the North Suburban Math League December 2 at Proviso West High School.

They competed against Proviso West, Highland Park, Lake Park, and St. Ignatius. Freshman covered linear equations, while sophomores focused on right triangles with trigonometry. Juniors participated in the analysis of polynomials, and seniors directed their attention to complex numbers.

The team's oralist, Misha Shemlakin competed with a question about linear transformations of a plane. Meets are held in a classroom-like atmosphere, and there are separate rooms for each of the different classes of students while competing.

Participators are usually given 5 questions with 30 minutes to answer all of them. The top 3 students at each level with the best scores at the end of the meet, plus the oralist's score combined, equal the teams total score.

Spanish Club

Besides the fact that Spanish club got stuck on the train for about an hour because of engine problems in attempt to head down town, they still managed to have fun at the Art Institute, said Susan Junkroski. Their restaurant trip to the Cuban Copa Cubana also went well.

They plan to hold a holiday party where all the language clubs will gather to celebrate on December 6. Because the arrival of the Costa Rican students is just around the corner, they will hold a concession stand December 4 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the home wrestling meet. The Costa Rican exchange students are expected here around January 5.

Students Against Drunk Driving

SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) will be putting on their Christmas campaign "Lights for Life" on December 17.



photo courtesy of SADD Senior and president of SADD Jessi Oliver paints a window with Junior Jessica Gutierrez

It is described as "a symbolic headlight observance designed to focus attention on the impaired driving issue." Drivers will be encouraged to drive with their headlights on during the day, in remembrance of all the people who have been

killed or injured as a result of drunk driving.

Advisor, Diana Alcalá, says she also plans on hanging fliers around the school that discourage driving drunk and submitting announcements that include statistics on drunk driving, to be read at the beginning of third hour.

SADD is also continuing to work with the West Chicago Youth Commission in order to gain a grant that would help them bring the "Fatal Reflections" program to Community High School.

This program will give students a first-hand look at what a drunk driving accident is like. However, they may not know if the grant will go through until the spring.

If you would like to take part in future activities, see Alcalá in room 118.

We-go Forensics

The Forensics team is off to a tremendous start; the Halloween Tournament brought home two award winners.

Beau Brown in Radio Speaking and Anders Walker in Declamation were the tournament placers.

At the We-go/North Tournament, Walker was the Tournament Champion, and West Chicago placed eighth overall out of thirty teams.

Copper Tuma won an award in the Special Occasions event, and the team of Meredith Moore and Tuma won in Dramatic Duet Acting.

As the team prepares for the Naperville Central Tournament of the Roses on December 12, advisor and history teacher Steve Kellner says, "The team is making steady progress and they are improving every week."

"This year's group is very dedicated and supportive of each other."

FBLA

Students interested in joining the Future Business Leaders of America, or FBLA, can still attend meetings.

FBLA meetings are held on every second and fourth Thursday of the month in room 226 at 7:15 am.

"FBLA is a great experience, and I strongly encourage students to join the club," says junior John McPheters, vice president. "It gives underclassmen and upperclassmen a chance to get to know each other."

FBLA also gears students towards business education and free enterprise systems.

Upcoming FBLA events include a trip to a fitness center to promote team building. Also, the club will be adopting a family during the winter season. They will provide goods and gifts for the family during the holidays. Anyone interested in joining FBLA should contact sponsors Cass Streicher and Joe Crickard.

International Club

The International Club is planning on doing some fundraising. They also hope to have a dance sometime this year.

They will be learning different cultural dances such as the salsa, and swing dancing. The International Club meets Wednesday mornings at 7:30. New members are still welcome. See the advisor, Spanish teacher Sarah Bellis, for more details.

Thespians

Thespians held a meeting November 30th to discuss their trip to Theater Fest on January 6, 7, and 8. West Chicago's *The Foreigner* was recommended for Theater Fest and accepted.

People who view a variety of high school productions select performances for Theater Fest. *The Foreigner* will be performed on Friday, January 7th.

This year's winter play auditions will be held on December 14 and 15.

Student Council

The student council is busy working on many of their up and coming programs for December. The Senior class is making Sr. T-shirts, the Juniors are planning a three-on-three basketball tournament, the Sophomores worked on the Teacher Appreciation gift, and the Freshman class is busy making T-shirts and organizing fund raising.

At the November 10 meeting, the Problem Committee met with Mr. Highland, and discussed getting straws for milk, renting cameras to put outside of the bathrooms, installing more outdoor lighting and the fluctuations of the heating and cooling

system. Mr. Highland says to write letters to the lunch company for complaints or suggestions.

The Community Service Committee is planning a visit to the Terrace Nursing home here in West Chicago. It's planned to take place during the last week of school before Christmas break, though no specific date has yet been named, and everyone is invited to come.

The Com Ed Committee ran checks on any light bulbs that needed replacing in the school. They get a budget from Com Ed that is used towards fixing broken bulbs throughout West Chicago High, and also for getting a new auditorium floor.

Mind's Eye

Students interested in writing short stories and poems for The Mind's Eye, West Chicago's Literary Magazine, can still attend club meetings two or three times a month in room 180 at 7:15 am.

The magazine is sponsored by English teacher Andrea Cipcich. There are no officers in the club, but the magazine staff is looking for extra help. If anyone is interested in submitting work in The Mind's Eye, they should contact

Cipcich for more information. At this time, the Literary Magazine staff is collecting work from students. They are collaborating it into the magazine, which will be distributed in May.

The Mind's Eye staff is also planning fund-raisers this year. They are hoping to raise money for club T-shirts and field trip opportunities. Anyone interested in joining the staff should contact Cipcich for more information.

Seniors

The senior class is looking to have tee shirts after winter break. If you are a senior interested in doing the mural, talk to Sara Knox.

The seniors are also thinking about what to give for their senior gifts. The senior class is planning what they are going to do for hall decorating.

Also, during Winter Wonderland week the seniors are bringing back the frozen tee shirt contest. The senior winter wonderland game is Thursday, December 16. The game will be held in the commons before school.

Sophomores

Sophomore class currently has a few places in mind for prom of 2001, but they are keeping the options a secret.

They are planning to fundraise this winter by working the concession stand at an upcoming basketball game.

In February, sophomore class is running a market day event, also to raise money for prom. For Winter Wonderland week, the class is running a sock skating game before school on Tuesday the 14th.

French Club

French Club ventured to the Art Institute in Chicago on November 10 to see the works of French impressionists, surviving a two hour train delay on the way home.

Members also enjoyed a trip to Fermi-Lab for French folk dancing.

The next planned event is a holiday party with both the Spanish and German Clubs, to be held at John McPheters' house on December 7.

Senior and secretary Allison Brown said, "We're all looking forward to next year where we'll have some movie nights and our annual French dinner at the Bistro Banlieu."

Corrections

The Wildcat Chronicle would like to apologize for the mistakes from the last issue. We would like to correct our mistakes.

The total cost for the London trip is \$190,000, or \$1,900 per person.

Griff Powell was the former superintendent, not Allen Powell.

Leroy Reick's name was improperly spelled as Rieck.

The We-go students in costume were junior Tim Yormark and junior Dennis Janek.

The mix up with senior Sara Knox who was the groovy girl, and senior Michelle Lasky who was looking retro.

Tonsil hockey not allowed

By Sarah Kochniarczyk
A minute left and the bell is about to ring. The clock is ticking away, but you decide to go for the goal. All of a sudden you stop, look her in the eye, lean in, and score!

However, as you stand in the middle of the hallway making-out, many students are in a rush to get to class. Your inconvenience causes students to walk and run around your kissing game. I'm sick and tired of always running into people who must make out in the hall. Get a room!

As soon as we enter the building anyone can spot a couple doing their business and it's only seven in the morning. Hey couples, it hasn't been a lifetime since you've last seen each other.

"I think it's repulsing and sick," said junior Ashley Link.

No one wants to see people making out, whether they know you or not. Seeing my friends go at it,

makes me want to walk the other way.

You are only going to be away from your loved one for an hour or two at the most. Do our eyes have to see people groping in the hall? I prefer not to have an upset stomach the rest of the day.

What I don't understand is why you must perform this make out time at school, in front of classrooms, and in the hallways. We don't come to school to learn about kissing, we come for an education.

The hallways are hard enough to get through already, but add three couples playing tonsil hockey, and it's like trying to make your way out of a maze.

We need to act our age, be mature, and control our hormones during school.

There is a policy against public display of affection.

In our handbooks we receive in the beginning of the year there are shown the consequences of PDA. You can go

from a teacher-student conference to even a suspension. However, Mr. Highland said within his 19 years of being here that he has only had to have the parents come in for a conference once. Why don't they enforce it? They feel we are old enough to act our age, and I must agree, I do believe people can go without making out during school. However there are those who aren't mature enough and don't feel the need to control their hormones.

We're always complaining about how we want to be treated like adults, but we forget at times that we must act like adults.

The teachers and staff members aren't playing hanky panky in school, neither should the students. It's inappropriate.

The making out, groping in the halls, and the tonsil hockey moments need to stop. Get a clue! Be respectful to your school, peers, and most of all yourself.

Security makes students feel hassled, not safe

By Cathy Wilken

Ever since Columbine, schools have stepped up security measures, hoping to prevent other incidents from happening.

Well, many of the security steps taken really don't make much sense.

Forgot your ID at home? It's okay, put on your favorite pair of ripped blue jeans, a dirty T-shirt, and top it off with a hard hat. Instant access to WCCHS. No identification needed, no questions asked.

Quite a number of students enter our school during the morning through entrance A, and beware of the security guard there. If you think you can get by without hearing "Good morning," at least fifteen times in the ten seconds it takes you to enter the doorway, you better try entrance C. Maybe they use this monotonous phrase as an incentive to keep people from going to this entrance for temporary ID's.

ID's are required to be worn by all faculty and students. Basically you can get by with wearing any type of plastic card. (I'm sure a parent's Master Card would do just fine.) But if you do forget it, make sure you go to entrance A. Not C, it has to be A.

Once there, stand patiently in line, or else get chased down the hall by the school's numerous security guards.

Wait in line, smiling at the security guards for ten minutes or more, and get a string with a blue not card, a.k.a. a temporary ID.

The security guards working at our school really do not physically fit their jobs. If there really were a problem at school, I'd feel safer being protected by the freshman football players than the school's security guards. The guards are middle aged or much older, and I am almost sure 90% of

them couldn't hold me, 130 pound, scrawny girl down if I were a threat to other students.

The new section of WCCHS is monitored by these security guards, who watch everybody that comes into and out of our school. While waiting in that same temporary ID line, you come to realize that some administrator chooses this method of security to keep the concerned parents of the community off their back.

Anybody who wanted to could easily run past this security guard, knocking their frail body to the ground, and gain access to the main part of the school within seconds.

Meanwhile, "newly improved" video surveillance cameras would be watching the whole thing. These cameras have been positioned throughout the school and are cheaply camouflaged, painted brown and tan to blend in with the brick background.

One important point about school security and the subject of ID's, should not be overlooked. All school shootings in recent history have been inside jobs.

High school students who have access and are even required to have these ID's have committed them. They would have easier access to school than anybody else.

All this school security, and for what? Kids will always get in fights, students will always bring weapons and drugs into their schools, and school authorities will continue to overlook the real problems.

And at the rate West Chicago is going, students will always spend more time in the hallways being hassled by security guards than in the classroom learning.

That is the way the high school experience is all about, right?

Give the gift of giving during the holidays

By Jamie Nadolny

Everyone has heard the story of Everybody, Somebody, Nobody, and Anybody. When there was an important job to be done, Everyone was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody should have done it, but Nobody did.

When Nobody did it, Everybody got angry, because it was Everyone's job, and Everybody thought Somebody would do it.

So it ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place. The point of my story is simple.

With the holidays quickly approaching, most students at West Chicago High School are getting too wrapped up in the "I want's" of the season. The moral of my story is get involved!

Instead of creating long holiday wish lists, students should be dedicating their time to a less selfish cause. The fact is, during the holidays, most community-service based organizations are looking for volunteers to brighten the season.

It isn't hard to take a few hours out of your winter vacation and spend it doing something good for the community.

These are a list of organizations that would appreciate volunteers:

-Give the gift of life and donate blood to the American Red Cross. Call (800) Give-Life for a location near the high school.

-Adopt a friend in need at Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America. Call 682-1802 or visit their web-site at national@bbbs.org. Also, try making a donation to the Kids in Need Foundation and call 654-1914.

-Get in touch with the Humanitarian Service Project and help wrap gifts and deliver canned goods to the less fortunate. Try calling 231-1542 for the West Chicago Department.

-Volunteer your time at PADS, an organization made to feed and shelter the homeless in our area. Dial 682-3846 for times and locations.

-Get your friends together and visit your local Nursing or Retirement Home. Senior Citizens will enjoy your company during the season. Try the Windsor Park Manor in Carol Stream. Call 682-4377 for more details. Or visit the Winfield Woods Center at 668-9696.

-Make a new buddy at the Deicke Home for the mentally retarded. Call 629-5212 for more information.

-Spend time with man's best friend while volunteering at an animal shelter. Try calling Pet Rescue Inc. at 893-0030 for more information.

-Be a candy striper at Central Dupage Hospitals and help those with medical conditions. Try phoning 752-9887 and ask for the volunteer department.

-There are lots of other ways to make small, positive changes in your community. Take out a senior citizens trash, shovel your neighbors driveway after snow, or baby-sit for a young mother free of charge.

These are only a few ways to be an active citizen in your community. There are lots of other places to volunteer in West Chicago, as well. Try moving off of the couch for once and look in the phone book for more ideas.

Instead of being a couch potato during Winter Break, think about making someone's season happier. You might find that volunteering isn't as bad as it might sound. Who knows...you might actually have fun!

We-go plans to party into 2000

By Becky Guerrero

A lot of talk has been going around with the Y2K bug. While many people are at home building bomb shelters and panicking, We-go students are getting prepared to party.

"I'm going to watch the world fall apart. Ha, Ha. We're going to party until we collapse." -Seniors Rachel Lawrence and Leena Patel

"Get into a good college. I just don't get the whole New Year's thing. I will change my name to Bob and start a farm in Kentucky and call it the Millennium Farm." - Senior Rich Belcher

"No idea." -Senior Ryan Hammer

"No comment." -Sophomore Mike Svast

"I'm going to lose thirty lbs, and be a red head with curly hair." -Junior Heather Runions

"I haven't even thought about it." -Junior Shannon Masschelin

"Going to lake Geneva." -Junior Lilli Szafranski

"Have fun with Lilli." -Junior Ruth Kueker

"I'm going to be a blonde and act like one." -Senior Jessi Oliver

"Not die. Party like it is 1999." -Junior Meghan Burlison

"I'm going to Colorado with family, but I'm not coming back until the 1st. I'm not taking chances with the Y2K stuff." -Secretary Lynn Knutsun

"I'm going to party and have a good time." -Sophomore Mike Smith

"I'm going to get A's in all of my classes." -Freshman Heli Escalante

Long school days become a bore

By Copper Tuma

It has been the topic of studies, debates, and school board meetings. It may never be agreed upon, but it will most definitely continue to be a topic of discussion. It is... our eight our school day.

When we think of school we think of learning, homework, friends, and preparation for college. Then once we have of these semi-pleasant things we think of the other ever-present aspects of our school life.

These are issues that fuel the debates at household dinner tables across West Chicago, Winfield, and Carol Stream. These items of concern are sleep deprivation, and one of the longest school days in the state.

The effects of these issues are many, and varying in severity, but they are definitely there. Sleep deprivation is just one major repercussion of the long school days. It is a rare morning when I walk into school and see a majority of happy bright-eyed faces.

If you take the time to look, you will see that people constantly struggle to stay awake in their first hour classes. In most cases this is not because the students don't care, it is because a teenager works on a different body clock than an adult.

Recently studies have been done that have shown that teens function better at night, not at 7:00 in the morning. Since this has become almost common knowledge, one would think that something should be done about this.

As every informed student at West Chicago knows, our school has one of the long-

est days in the state. In my opinion, this is not something to boast about.

Having an eight hour school day means that, in many cases, we teens are working as many hours as our parents. Sometimes even more.

There are a few key differences though. They get paid- we don't, they are older- we are young and still need some time to revel in our short-term freeness.

One problem that this long school day poses is that it can take away from some of life's most defining moments.

If a teen spends eight hours at school, and then they have a sport or club after school, not to mention homework, how are they going to fit in friends, or more importantly- family?

So much emphasis is placed on factual knowledge, but life is made up of so many other equally important things. Education not only needs to occur in the classroom of a high school, but in the classroom of life.

Now that may sound corny, but it is true. In high school most teens are trying to define who they are, what they believe in, and what they want to do. However, if they have no time to explore these things on their own, how can they make up their minds about these things? Believe it or not, there are more important things in life than school.

I guess what I am trying to say is that our long school days may be holding us back, not giving us an edge. If you feel the same way, I urge you to try to do something about it. It may end up being one of those defining moments that I was writing about.

where: school, friends, making decisions. And what about those decisions? It's like nobody can believe that I can make the right decision, like I haven't figured out the difference between right and wrong. If you think keeping me from doing anything will prevent me from making the wrong decision, then you're wrong! I need to go out there—whether dangerous or risky or whatever—and adults should allow me to make my decisions. Just because other people my age go out and make the wrong decisions doesn't



A typical day in the West Chicago student parking lot.

If you snooze - you lose

By Lauren Nickelson

It's 5:30 on a school morning, and you're awoken by the horrible sound of your alarm clock. The reason for getting up at the crack of dawn? Perhaps you'd like a parking spot.

Of course, this is just an average day in the life of a West Chicago student driving to school.

Something just doesn't add up in my opinion. Why is this race to get to school for parking still going on? After all, we did just get a new addition to the parking areas. By 6:45, the lot is filled and if you snooze, you lose.

A brief five minutes can make the difference on whether or not you'll be wandering the blocks for what seems like hours in search of a spot. Even then, everywhere you look, there are either NO PARKING signs (or you'll be towed), reserved Church parking only boundaries, and teacher parking lots.

That's another issue. In a school where there are half as many teachers as there are students, why do teachers have more parking?

Students used to be able to park just outside Lincoln school and across the street from Lincoln school. These have now been restricted to teacher parking only areas. We are left with no choice and are no longer given these options.

However, teachers should be allowed the right to their own parking spaces. Maybe a new way of running things would solve the problem. If each teacher was assigned a number according to where they will park, I think available parking spots would open up. Then we could run on a "first come, first served" basis.

My point is, is it really fair to us as students to continue arriving at school at such an early time, even before most teachers get here, only to find that parking is filled? It's such a disappointment.

After this realization, you either find a spot on the street, or you don't. Then you have no choice, off to Kerr-McGee it is, and it's a long walk compared to what you hoped you'd find in the student lot.

Should we learn to accept this or attempt to find a solution? It doesn't seem right that in a world where there should be many more important things than parking on your mind, that it is something that has such a big effect on both you and your daily routine.

mean I will. Don't punish me for their mistakes. The more you keep someone from something, the more they will want it. The more they'll argue about it, the more they'll fight it, and eventually they'll do what they want to do anyway, despite what the adults say.

And if I do make a mistake? Boo-hoo. I learn from it. That's all. It's not going to kill my parents if they give me more space. So what's the problem?

I'm young now. And I want to have fun with my friends while I still can. High school is four short

years, and even if the days seem to drag on forever, before we know it we'll be off to college or off doing what we want to do with the rest of our lives. We may never see our friends again—with the exception of high school reunions. Some of us pour our heart and soul out to our friends for guidance and support, and it will be hard to say goodbye. Adults often tell me "enjoy your youth while you still can." The most appropriate way to respond is to simply say, "let me."

-Sophomore Arlene Smothers

It's the end of the world as we know it

By Carrie Zeffield

We are all doomed as the New Year rolls around. We have less than 30 days. Time to shut the computers down, turn off all of the power, avoid your phone, get lots of canned foods, and hide in a bomb shelter.

That's right, the year 2000 is going to kill us all.

Or is it?

Many of us are running around making big deals about what the new millenium is going to bring. Many people think that death and suicide are going to become a big thing that night when the clock strikes twelve.

Others think that the Y2K bug is going to wipe out all of the most important and significant information that humans use everyday, like the Internet.

And while the Y2K bug is making people paranoid, others are assuming the end of the world. People have put up web sites to help those that need survival gear for when the world is to supposedly end.

For all of those paranoid people out there, if you Ask Jeeves where you can find survival gear, it will give you many places to look. It will give you everything from survival tips, to what Y2K is.

I was listening to the radio the other day. Many were calling in, stating what they were doing to prepare for the end of the world.

One woman is trying to talk to NASA in a request to fly her to Mars.

One man is spending all of his life savings to explore the world before it withers away into a sorrowful nothing.

Are we all so crazy to think that we are going to parish from this world?

What about people who survived the coming of the new Millenium from 999 a.d. to 1000a.d.?

Or the century changing from 1899-1900?

I honestly cannot understand this. But I can understand one thing, as long as we keep making a big deal about the world ending and Y2K and bomb shelters, we are doomed.

Enjoy the time now, and have a safe New Years, and don't make a big deal out of nothing, until we get the signal from authorities (or aliens from the other worlds) to become worried about our lives.

Wildcat Chronicle

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

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the advisor Carrie Mocariski in room 230.

Letters to the editor should be signed if they would like to be printed. The newspaper has the right to exclude any letters that are inappropriate or will not fit in a particular issue.

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

To be or not to be that is the question

By Becky Guerrero

Sometimes relationships work great and easily, other times hard and we wonder is it worth it?

Fights break out between couples all the time and they usually have a "reasonable explanation." To have a healthy relationship couples don't have to fight and makeup so often. In love people find intimacy, friendship, and safety.

Many students said trust is needed in relationships and jealousy is the main problem. Another big problem is when other people get involved in others relationship. "When a guy is talking to one of his 'girl-friends,'" said junior Vanessa Spencer. However, senior Steve Lewis thinks

the problem is, "Girls love talking about their ex-boy-friends."

Another reason a couple may break up is that, "Sometimes people just grow apart. Feelings change and nothing is forever," said senior Ami Pirela.

When does forever end? Breakups lead to possible death, suicide or act of intentionally destroying oneself. When a person sees the relationship as a life or death situation this is a main sign of suicide feelings. Three women commit suicide to one man.

There are many reasons why. One being troubled relationships. Feelings of be-

ing loneliness, shame for being dumped, or guilt for cheating.

These feelings are not healthy in a relationship. To test your relationships think of these questions.

Are you getting your wants in the relationship?

Can you compromise or sacrifice things with your partner?

How important is the person to you?

Do you depend on the person?

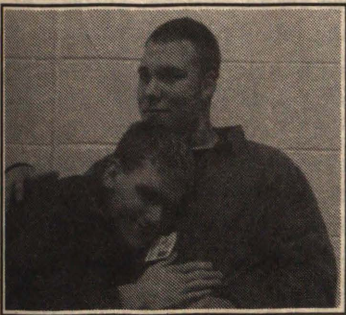
If you answered yes to most of these questions, your relationship is pretty healthy if the feelings are mutual. However, if you depend on your partner too much that can cause problems.

'Tis' the season for getting presents

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

The holiday season is right around the corner, and presents are what we all our looking forward to. The season brings joy to many people and gifts show care for many as well. Wonder if this years present will match up to those in the past.

"Spending the night next to a warm fire with Jeff Tillson," senior Bobby vanGorkom.



Seniors Jeff Tillson and Bobby vanGorkom show their appreciation of each other.

"Rubbing Bob's belly next to a warm fire all night long," senior Jeff Tillson.

"Pink Barbie car under the Christmas tree with a big red bow," junior Nicole Morissey.

"Fireball island the board game," senior Sean Peterson.

"My nephew- he was born in December of last year," Student Service Liaison Kim Brafford.

"TV," sophomore Katie Walker

"Axis and Allies," senior Bryan Kelsey.

"A drumset in seventh grade," Science teacher Aaron Carper.

"The whole kitchen set of Barbie," junior Ruth Kueker.

"My He-Man castle," senior Dinorah Flores.

"A box of chocolate covered peanuts in sixth grade," sophomore Nicole Patel.

"The Nintendo my grandparents gave us," senior Leah Kueker.

"Rollerblades," senior Kristy Reser.

"A cool Hawaiian Barbie," senior Katy Covarrubias.

"I love the homemade Christmas gifts my children gave me when they were younger. They're oh-so-precious and implacable," English teacher Judith Minor.

"When my family from out of state came and surprised us," senior Jenny Hahs.

"When I was 18, I was in Marine Boot Camp from October 1 through December 28. On Christmas Day, we were allowed to watch *Full Mental Jacket* and *Platoon*. I don't ever remember needing or appreciating a Christmas gift more than that," English teacher Patrick Clifford.

"My husband had been out of work for over a year. My paycheck barely made the house payment. We went without heat, any extras, rode my bicycle to work, and decided no gifts for Christmas. My younger son decided to sell cards door to door to win some prizes so we would have a gift at Christmas. We sat around the fireplace (our only source of heat), ate hot dogs, roasted marshmallows, sang, opened the one gift my son gave us, and went around and told each other what we were thankful for. We may have been low on funds but it was the richest Christmas we ever had," Child Development teacher Patti Kozlowski.

Feature Teacher

Gimre shines in students' and teachers' eyes

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

How do you feel knowing that the students chose you as their favorite teacher?

I am honored and I want to thank those students who recognized me as their favorite teacher.

Have you always wanted to be a teacher, even when you were young? If not- what did you want to be?

No, I always thought I would go into some field of engineering like my father and two brothers.

Why did you choose to become a math teacher?

Math was always my strongest subject in school.

What is your goal as a teacher every school year?

For students to enjoy and have fun learning and communicating mathematics.

Three words to describe you?

Family man, sports fan, and hopeful.

Favorite part of math?

My favorite part of math is trying to get my students to enjoy learning and communicating mathematics. This might just mean doing something unusual in class.

Three words to describe Mr. Gimre:

"Energetic, caring, and intelligent," Math teacher Rick Cazzato

"Funny, Energetic, and neat," Math teacher Stacey McGrath

"Great person, great sense of humor, and intelligent," Dean and baseball coach Miguel Arroyo

"Funny, dedicated, and encouraging," Math teacher Gwen Zimmerman

"Caring, funny, and dedicated," Math teacher Gwen Geiger

Craziest or funniest thing you've seen Mr. Gimre do:

"All his goofy faces," Math teacher Stacey McGrath

"One year I received flowers, Mr. Gimre picked up the flowers from the front office and then paraded back and forth outside my classroom, until both my student and I noticed. According to my students my face were as red as the roses," Math teacher Gwen Zimmerman

"I did not see this per-

sonally, but I've seen photos and rumor has it there is a video recording of this incident. Mr. Gimre, in class, stood on his desk and sang "I'm a Little Teapot," com-

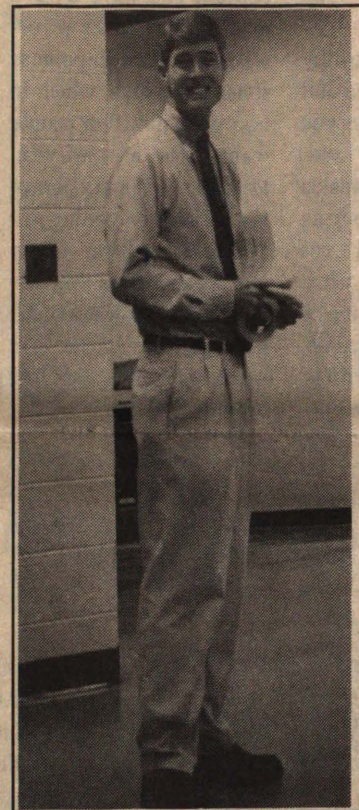


Photo by Christian Ruiz

Math teacher Kevin Gimre stands in the new hallways

plete with arm movements," Math teacher Gwen Geiger

"I love to make him mad. His form of swearing is funny Jiminy Crickets or Golly gee," Dean and baseball coach Miguel Arroyo

"Skipping down the hallway," Math teacher Rick Cazzato

Best quality of Mr. Gimre:

"His sense of humor," Math teacher Gwen Zimmerman

"He is an outstanding human being and he does a tremendous job with his students," Dean and baseball Miguel Arroyo

"His sense of humor," Math teacher Gwen Geiger

"Mr. Gimre is very approachable to talk to," Math teacher Rick Cazzato

"His sense of humor," Math teacher Stacey McGrath

The most stressful time the year

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

Low on cash, don't know what to get anyone, not enough time to get things done? One word describes what you're going through stress. This is probably the most stressful time of the year. The holiday season!

"Trying to pick out presents for everyone," junior Laura McQueen.

"Trying to meet the expectation of everyone else (gifts, celebrations, etc.)," Counselor Ward Rau.

"Making everything perfect," junior Ruth Keuer.

"So many music performances and so little time to

reflect on Advent and to shop," Music teacher Lisa Smith.

"What to get your family," junior Danielle Kogut.

"The only thing that really stresses me out around the holiday season is other people stressing out about the holiday season," English teacher Patrick Clifford.

"Getting my shopping done, and knowing what to get for each person," junior Ashley Link.

"It stresses me and frustrates me if we haven't taken the time to do for others. That's what it is all about," Child Development teacher Patti Kozlowski.

"Broke," junior Nicole

"People telling me they want a present, when I got no money," senior Katy Covarrubias.

"Squeezing over 30 gifts into my budget," Science teacher Aaron Carper.

"Money to buy gifts," sophomore Katie Walker.

"Eating Christmas sweets," senior Tracy Erickson.

"Getting all of the shopping done early for family and friends. I once got caught shopping on Christmas and it wasn't any fun," English teacher Judith Minor.

Horoscopes: Moments waiting to cross your path

By Carrie Zeffield

Aries (March 21- April 19)

The moons of Saturn are in full force and are spinning with lots of energy. This shows that you are very energetic and have lots of spunk. You are going to be determined to get your way and prove others wrong. But don't go too far. Get your point across and go from there. The special someone in your life needs your help to guild him/her through some hard times. Look to the stars for your answer in order to help. Happiness surrounds you with the color green. Your love match is Capricorn and your lucky stone is aquamarine.

Taurus (April 20 -May 20)

Jupiter is a sad looking planet when it turns to a dull winter gray. This shows you are going to hit some road-blocks, but don't let that stop you from accomplishing what you can. Your friends are not going to play a major part in your life right now because you seem to be concentrating on other things. You find happiness in music and literature. Your love

match is Libra and your lucky stone is Opal.

Gemini (May 21 -June 21)

Uranus is silver and in full speeds. People are going to recognize how active you are and how motivated you are to accomplish your goals. Get a friend into high gear, they really need a friend right now and you are the one who can help. Go out and enjoy the times while they are still around. 1999 only happens once, so make the best of it. Your love match is Pisces and your lucky stone is garnet.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Meteorites are steady in space and will be small. This shows that you are content and have a very nice holiday to look forward to. Your happiness shines on others, which in turn will show that people want to be around you. Emotion isn't a big part of you. Things are going just as you want them. Enjoy the season. It isn't every month Cancers get a break for happiness. Your love match is Sagittarius and your lucky stone is ruby.

Leo (July 23-August 21)

Mars is flaming red this month. Keep your temper at a cool because this will only bring more trouble into your life. Life is not going the way you want, but things will get better. A loved one is looking for your guidance, so be one the look out for them. As the holidays approach, you begin to relax and rest more. Laughter and smiles of family and friends will help you calm your anger and temper. Your love match is Aquarius and your lucky stone is emerald.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sept. 22)

Earth is white, which is going to represent the feelings you will be expressing for every one. Giving will be the things you do best. When the holidays are here, your spirit and love will help others around you to indulge in happiness also. Your purity and love will help you through a challenge this month. The challenge will hit you with surprise. Be wise in what you do and help the people involved. Your love match is Scorpio and your lucky stone is tigers eye.

Libra (Sept. 23- Oct. 23)

The sun is in your hands.

This means you will be more domineering and controlling then normal. People may have a tendency not to understand, but calmly explain what you are doing for the protection of the ones you love. You have a valid reason for everything you do, so be strong and do what your heart tells you. You will also be smiling much more when a wonderful gift is given to you. Share this gift with those around you. Stay close to the ones you love. Your love match is Taurus and your lucky stone is pearl.

Scorpio (Oct. 24- Nov. 24)

The moon is bright during the night but dull during the day. This means that days are not the best for you or anyone around you. Nights will be better for you and those around you. Go out at night and have fun. School has been a drag lately, but when break comes around, you will be bringing in the new millennium will joy and happiness. You may not be a real family person, but try to get along with those around you during the day. Your love match is Virgo and your

lucky stone is rose quartz.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Neptune is orange. Orange is a very pleasant color. Show yourself and be happy. You have a lot to smile about. There is a special someone in your life that wants to spend some quality time with you. Money is not all that great for you. Your friends are not very happy, but with your happiness and smiling, you are going to make their day a lot better. Your love match is Cancer and your lucky stone is diamond.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This is your month. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year! Capricorns around this time are typically high strung and very outgoing. People like this because they are usually quiet and keep to themselves. This holiday season is holding many challenges for you. Mercury is hot and moving wildly around its orbit. This shows that you are always going to be on the move. Enjoy your season and remember to have fun, you are the leader this month. Your love match is Aries and your lucky stone

is sapphire.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Many challenges are in store for you. Since the moon will be out of sight most of, so will you. There are many things that you need to be aware of. These things will confront you like something never before. Keep cool and make careful decisions. Remember that for every choice, there is always a consequence. Remember that your friends are there for you and because you are an Aquarius, a person who has been there for others and now they are here for you. Your love match is Leo and your lucky stone is amethyst.

Pisces (Feb. 19- Mar. 20)

You are in for a real treat. No more relaxing for you, it is time to get up and work. Because Pluto is closer to the sun, this means you are going to be more sociable. Blue is a good color for you. It will make you stand out more, and it is perfect for your outgoing attitude. Have fun and bring your friends along. Your love match is Scorpio and your lucky stone is Lime stone.

Open the book to hidden love secrets

By Becky Guerrero

By the end of a long weekend in the new movie *The Best Man*, everyone will have re-evaluated their honesty within their relationships, and a couple will have to decide for better or for worse.

A committed writer Harper, (played by Taye Diggs), writes a novel about himself and his best friends in college, revealing personal, juicy details by replacing his friend's real names with character names. Digg's also played in *The Wood* and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*. In all three movies he shows great talent, but the best character he played had to be Harper in *The Best Man*.

Jordan (played by Nia Long seen in *Stigmata*, and *Love Jones*) is one of Harper's old college romances and a really great friend. Hearing about his book being published, she decides to get a sneak peak before the book was really supposed to be released. She then lets the rest of her college buddies know about the book.

It is a story and test on what friendship really means. Vows are about to be exchanged between Lance and Mia. Lance (played by Morris Chestnut in *G.I. Jane* and *Under Siege 2: Dark Territory*), and Mia (by Monica Calhoun also in *The Player's Club*

and *Ernest Green Story*) are the couple who plan to exchange vows. The wedding day is approaching and what is a wedding without the traditional bachelor party?

Harper is very nervous about reuniting with his friend's at the bachelor party, when he hears that Lance has a copy of his book. He has reason to be nervous, because in his book he reveals his steamy night with the soon to be wife, Mia. Taking desperate measures on keeping Lance from finding out, this will be a bachelor party that Harper will never forget. Does the wedding go on?

The Best Man is a drama and romance that is Rated R with a running time of 1hr. and 58 minutes. The acting and plot are great. The plot is so realistic for today's times. You get the impression that the actors have been in the situation that they act out. You will find yourself confused on whose side to take when Lance and Harper get into a little conflict.

They are both good guys in the movie, and it hurts the audience to see them fighting. You cannot leave the movie without a tear in your eye or some sort of sympathy for the characters. *The Best Man* has romance, comedy, mystery, and what would a good

B*witched is climbing the charts

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

Music history has had many one hit wonders and especially B*witched, who hit the U.S. back in December 1998, with *C'est la Vie*. I'm sure people thought Edele Lynch, Keavy Lynch, Sinead O'Carroll, and Lindsay Aimaoy would be added to the list.

However, *C'est La Vie* made the top ten in the U.S.

This new wave of music is all the same. The hip-hop up beat is all I hear everyday. Though different artists sing this type of music the tune all sounds the same. Cheery, sweet toned, uplifting music, easy to dance to, and to be goofy with.

Even though some teenagers may have doubted this Irish group, they produced the song *Roller Coaster* in September of 1998.

This new tune soon faded away, but this didn't destroy the girls talent.

With confidence the four girls hit the U.S. with two new songs: *To Belong to You* in December 1998 and *Blame it on the Weatherman* in March 1999.

All these songs are on their album *B*witched* which was released in October of 1998. This album went triple platinum in the U.K. and has sold three million

copies worldwide.

They are back and with a brand new song making their way on the charts with *Jesse Hold On*. *Jesse Hold On* is currently being heard on Radio Disney. Disney has been the spark for B*witched fans. They have every song play on Disney first and eventually on MTV and VH1.

However, making music videos isn't the only way these girls are being heard.

B*witched has made their own movie

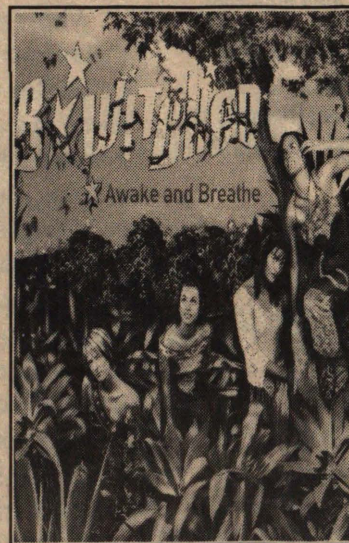
called "We Four Girls Are Here to Stay." This reminds me of the Spice Girls movie. Just looking for more fame and more fans.

B*witched took the chance to tour with N-Sync and 98° making this group even more popular in the U.S.

Their tune is uplifting and cheery, but it's nothing new in this decade. I doubt B*witched

will be around too much longer in the U.S. Their sound will soon start to get annoying just like Britney Spears.

By next year start looking for the new CD called *Awake and Breathe*, which will contain *Jesse Hold On* and more hip hop tunes.



West Chicago Park district host shopping trip for teens

The West Chicago Park District will host a shopping trip for teens to Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg on Monday, December 20. This will be a great opportunity to get last minute shopping done and hang out with friends.

Registration is open to teens in grades 7 - 12. The park district will provide transportation. The bus will leave the park district office at 157 W. Washington St. at 10 am and return approximately 4:30 pm. Cost is \$3/ residents, \$5/

non-residents. To register stop by the park district office at 157 W. Washington St. Office hours are Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 6 pm, Saturday 9 am - noon. For more information call 231-9474.

The Wildcat Chronicle is continuing a new section. We will be selecting a few athletes from various sports and highlighting their opinions about their sports and their common interests.

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

Wrestling with Blake Erdmann

Biggest goal for you this season?

To impress my girlfriend because she got me into this sport.

Three words to describe wrestling?

Adrenaline rushing sport. Why did you choose to try-out this year?

Becky Guerrero, is my girlfriend and her dad, Coach Guerrero, talked me into trying out.

What runs through your mind before your meet?

Things that make me mad. Such as people who mess

with other peoples things, "Like keying someone's car," - "Angelica Garcia."

What's something you learned about wrestling that you never knew?

That everyone has to work for their own, and you have to encourage other people to work hard.

What do you like most about wrestling?

That it is a very physical sport, and you have to be able to take a beating. How the coaches yell and encourage you to work harder.

Cheerleading with Lindsey Anders

Favorite moment in cheerleading?

Well it all started the day Amy K. called me and said, "You're a cheerleader!" Ever since then it's been nothing but fun.

How do you feel about the spirit in our school?

As the homecoming pep assembly showed juniors rule! But on a whole we seem very supportive towards each other.

Favorite Cheer?

"Oh where oh where is my underwear? In my drawer."

What do you like most about cheerleading?

I love wearing my skirt, doing my jumps, and per-

forming a dance that I have worked so hard on, and looking into the crowd to see all my fans, esp. my fam.

What do you like least about cheerleading?

Sometimes I just don't want to practice but then when I get into it and realize how cool it's going to look in the end I shut up and strut!

What can your squad work in/improve on?

Gossip! But other then that we get along and have fun!

Three words to describe cheerleading?

Considering it took me three try-outs, I'd have to say "worth the wait!"

What do you like most about basketball?

The people in the stands screaming.

Biggest strength on this years team?

We have a lot of team speed.

Three words to describe yourself?

Quiet, friendly, and energetic.

How long have you been playing basketball?

Six years, I first started playing in sixth grade.

How do you get pumped up for your games?

I picture myself making big plays in the upcoming games.

Any superstitions?

No, I'm too excited to think about anything but the game.

What runs through your mind before the game starts?

The game plan the coach tells us the day before. I get very nervous/excited.

West Chicago Park District British soccer camp

The West Chicago Park District is taking registration for a British Soccer skill development mini camp. Registration is open to children ages 5-16. The camp will run Monday - Wednesday, December 20-22

from 1-4 p.m. each day at the West Chicago Community High School Fieldhouse. The program will be an intense program of skill building practices, small-sided games

West Chicago special events program

The West Chicago Park District is looking for teens to serve on a teen committee. The committee will help park district staff plan special events, programs,

and other activities for teens. Times and dates the committee will meet will depend on committee members. If interested call MaryAnn Leitherer at 231-9474.

Teen ski trip

The West Chicago Park District is hosting an overnight teen ski trip to Wilmot Mountain in Wisconsin on Friday and Saturday, February 4 and 5.

Only teens will be allowed in the ski area, so it will be a great opportunity to hang out with friends.

Registration is open to teens in grades 6-12. The park district will provide transportation.

The bus will leave the park district office at 157 W. Washington St. at 9:45 PM on Friday and return at approximately 8:30 AM on Saturday.

Cost is \$23/lift and lesson, \$38/lift, lesson, and rental. Bring money for food and beverages. Registration will begin Saturday, December 18. Registration deadline is Friday, January 7.

To register, stop by the park district office. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-6 PM, Saturday 9AM-noon.

Registration may also be taken over the phone with a MasterCard, Visa, or American Express. Registration will not be taken over the phone on Saturday, December 18.

For more information call 231-9474.

❄ Winter sports schedule ❄

Boys Basketball

Fri, Dec. 10, 1999	S/V	vs. West Aruora	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 11, 1999	FA,SB/FB,JV	@West Aruora	9:30 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 14, 1999	S/V	@Ottawa Marquette	6:00 p.m.
Fri, Dec. 17, 1999	S/V	@Glenbard North	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 18, 1999	FA,SB/FB,JV	@Glenbard North	9:30 a.m.
Mon, Dec. 20-23 1999	V	@Waubonsie Valley	1:30 p.m.
Mon, Dec. 27, 1999	FA	@Streamwood	TBA
Mon, Dec. 27-28 1999	S	@Minooka	10:30 a.m.
Wed, Dec. 29, 1999	FA	@Streamwood	TBA
Wed, Dec. 29, 1999	S	@Minooka	10:30 a.m.
Mon, Jan. 3, 2000	SB/JV	@Geneva	5:30 p.m.
Tue, Jan. 4, 2000	S/V	vs. York	6:00 p.m.
Fri, Jan. 7, 2000	S/V	@Naperville North	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Jan. 8, 2000	S/V	vs. Glenbard East	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Jan. 8, 2000	FA,SB/FB,JV	@Naperville North	9:30 a.m.
Mon, Jan. 10, 2000	FA,SB/FB,JV	vs. Glenbard East	4:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball:

Thu, Dec. 9, 1999	FB,FA,S,JV/V	@Naperville Central	5:00 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 11, 1999	FB,FA,S,JV/V	vs. West Aurora	1:00 p.m.
Wed, Dec. 15, 1999	F/JV	vs. Montini in small gym	5:00 p.m.
Thu, Dec. 16, 1999	FB,FA,S,JV/V	@Glenbard North	5:00 p.m.
Mon, Dec. 27, 1999	FA	@Streamwood	TBA
Tue, Dec. 28, 1999	V only	@Mother McCauley	TBA
Wed, Dec. 29, 1999	FA	@Streamwood	TBA
Wed, Dec. 29, 1999	V only	@Mother McCauley	TBA
Tue, Jan. 4, 2000	FA,FB,S,JV/V	@Wheaton North	5:00 p.m.
Thu, Jan. 6, 2000	FB,FA,S,JV/V	@Naperville North	5:00 p.m.
Sat, Jan. 8, 2000	FA,FB,S,JV/V	vs. Glenbard East	1:00 p.m.
Sat, Jan. 15, 2000	FB,FA,S,JV/V	vs. Wheaton Warr. South	1:00 p.m.
Mon, Jan. 17, 2000	JV/SB	@Geneva	10:30 a.m.

Boys Swimming

Thu, Dec. 9, 1999	JV/V	@Benedictine University	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 11, 1999	V only	Wildcat Relay- diving- swimming	9:30 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 14, 1999	JV/V	@Hinsdale South	5:00 p.m.
Thu, Dec. 16, 1999	JV/V	vs. Crystal Lake Central	4:30 p.m.
Thu, Jan. 6, 2000	JV/V	vs. Elgin	4:30 p.m.
Tue, Jan. 11, 2000	JV/V	vs. York	4:30 p.m.
Thu, Jan. 13, 2000	JV/V	vs. Naperville Cental; West Aurora	4:30 p.m.
Wed, Jan. 26, 2000	JV/V	@Lyons Township	10:00 a.m.

Boys Track

Mon, Jan. 17, 2000	F-S/V	First practice	TBA
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Girls Track

Mon, Jan. 17, 2000	JV/V	First Practice	TBA
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Wrestling

Sat, Dec. 11, 1999	F	vs. Bartlett	10:00 a.m.
Sat, Dec. 11, 1999	JV1/V	@Sycamore weigh-in	9:30 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 14, 1999	F	@Waubonsie Valley	4:30 p.m.
Thu, Dec. 16, 1999	F,JV/V	vs. Glenbard North	6:00 p.m.
Fri, Dec. 17, 1999	V	@Hinsdale	4:30 p.m.
Sat, Dec. 18, 1999	S	@Bartlett	9:00 a.m.
Tue, Dec. 21, 1999	JV	@Sycamore	1:00 p.m.
Wed, Dec. 22, 1999	F	@St. Laurence	10:00 p.m.
Thu, Dec. 30, 1999	V	@Downers Grove South	9:00 a.m.
Fri, Jan. 7, 2000	F,JV1-2/V	vs. Naperville North	6:00 p.m.
Sat, Jan. 8, 2000	V	@Geneva	9:30 a.m.
Sat, Jan. 8, 2000	F	@Hinsdale South	9:00 a.m.

Lady Wildcats finish season with a splash at state

By Leslie Shambo

The Girls' Swim Team returned from State with a fantastic season behind them. Led by coach Chris Hall, the girls qualified in three events for the State competition, and achieved personal best times.

Prochnow swam the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:42.06, placing second overall, and topping the state qualifying time by .83 of a second.

Freshmen Betsy Drzal placed third in the 500-yard

and Grant clocked in at 3:45.37 in the 400-yard freestyle relay. The state qualifying time was 3:45.49.

Tracey Drzal said, "We came off with an exceptional Sectional meet. Every girl swam lifetime or season best times. By competing against the top teams in the state we were able to push ourselves to compete at a higher level."

The team competed against the undefeated St. Charles Saints, who placed first at Sectionals and won the State Championship. Yet the Lady Wildcats don't feel as though they had much of a disadvantage. Junior Cathy Wilkin stated, "We had a big advantage because Chris Hall is the coach, and we've put in a good season of hard work."

State finals were held on November 19 and 20 at New Trier High School. "We were confident and prepared going into State. We had already qualified, which is the hard part, now all we had to do was swim our best. Which is exactly what we did. We went into State and proved we deserved to be

there," Tracey Drzal said. Wilkin added, "Coming into the season we knew we had the chance to do great things, we just didn't know how it would all lay out."

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, Biancalana, Cwiak, Grant, and Prochnow finished with an outstanding time of 1:43.57. Grant placed 16th overall, with a time of 1:08.37, in the 100-yard breast stroke. The team of Biancalana, Cwiak, Tracey Drzal and Grant finished the 400-yard freestyle relay in 3:50.99.

Tracey Drzal stated, "We



Photo by Katy Coffman

Junior Jenny Cwiak and Emily Biancalana are ready to swim at state.

The team placed fourth with 170 points at the Sectional meet held on November 13 at St. Charles, although the meet did start with a bit of disappointment. The first relay, the 200-yard Medley of junior Shannon Sterne, freshman Emilie Biancalana, and seniors Abby Grant and Tracey Drzal, missed the state qualifying time of 1:54.09 by .01 of a second.

We-go received a lift when the team of Biancalana, junior Jenny Cwiak, Grant, and sophomore Heather

freestyle while Sterne swam the 100-yard backstroke with a superb time of 1:04.75. Sterne also came in fifth place in the 200-yard IM, with a time of 2:24.77. Senior Katy Coffman swam the 100-yard breast stroke with a fabulous time of 1:15.51.

In the 100-yard breast stroke, Grant placed second overall with a time of 1:07.87, beating the state qualifying time of 1:09.89.

The final event also proved exciting when the team of Biancalana, Cwiak, Drzal,



Photo by Katy Coffman

Junior Jenny Cwiak, Senior Tracy Drzal, and Freshman Emily Biancalana qualify in a relay at sectionals for state in the 400-yard freestyle.

acted as a team this year. We didn't have any fights, and everyone was cheering for the other girls in the water. We supported each other through our triumphs but more importantly, in our defeats."

Girls basketball defeats Glenbard South

By Carrie Zeffield

West Chicago's varsity girls' basketball team took an astonishing 63-40 win over Glenbard South on Monday, November 29.

Starters were seniors Kim Olsen and Michelle Lasky, and juniors Allisa Mildebrath, Beth Brinn and Kathy Brinn. During the game, the most points were scored by Beth Brinn and Olsen.

Sophomore Meghan Young, Kathy Brinn, junior Shannon Masschelin, seniors Missy Krueger and Natalia Sienkowiec finished the game, We-go walked away winners.

The girls played Oswego in a home game on Tuesday November 16. We-go finished the game in a win. The most points were scored by

Kathy Brinn with 16 points and Beth Brinn with 14 points.

The season started out with a five-day tournament at Willowbrook. Other teams participating were Montini, St. Benedicts, Willowbrook and Conant. We-go beat Montini, but lost to Willowbrook, Conant and St. Benedict.

So far the season has gone fairly well for the girls, winning 4 out of the 7 games played.

"We are going to be a tough team. If we show up ready to play our butts off, we will have a chance at winning every game we play in," said Olsen.

The girls next game is at Naperville Central at 5:00 p.m.

Boys basketball win tournament

By Sarah Kochniarczyk

The Varsity basketball team has started the season off with a great start, however they are nearing trouble. They have been competitive, successful with their effort, and have gotten the fans excited about this year. Although the last two games has caused an upset.

Friday night on December 3, the Varsity team played Naperville Central. The first half the score was pretty close, but after halftime the Cats began to struggle. Naperville took the win with a score of 63-37.

Tuesday night November 30, the Varsity team played a tough game against Geneva high school. The starters senior Robbie Rohrback, senior Justin Hall, junior Steve Gilbert, senior Dan O'Hara, and jun-

ior Brian Howard started off the game with a fight. Back and forth the teams went, each team scoring points. Gilbert was playing a smart offensive game. Scoring throughout the entire game.

On November 23, 24, 25, and 26 the Varsity basketball team played in the Oswego tournament. Taking it home by sweeping the teams away with winning the tournament.

This win has gotten the Wildcats fired up. Watch out the next few games the Cats are on the prowl.

The sophomores have been playing hard and tough inching every game closer to a win.

Come watch and cheer on the Wildcats on Friday, December 10 at home playing against West Aurora.

Wrestling takes a few pins

By Becky Guerrero

Fifty boys and one girl came out for the wrestling team this year. The team is practicing strong and showing their strengths and weaknesses.

The wildcats hosted a quad on Saturday, December 4. The team scores were Woodstock Blue Streakers and We-go 40-28. We-go with the win. Hersey Huskies by 60-7 and Glenbard West Hilltoppers 46-18 defeated we-go. Pins by the wildcats include: Junior Blake Erdmann for 125 pinned in 2:18, Sophomore Josh Winquist 140 in 5:01, Senior Ben Stevens 152 in 3:06, Junior Derek Boorsma 171 in 3:54, and Senior John Millner 275 in 1:59 all against Woodstock.

On the third of December the wildcats wrestled against Naperville Central. Freshman Heather Walsh the team's only girl had an expedition and pinned her first match at 119 on JV2. Other pins include junior Rob Whitman 152 in 4:36, and junior Eddie Cruz, and freshman Mike Spencer 1:35 in JV2.

The varsity wildcats also hosted an invitational on Saturday November 27. "We had a great crowd at the invitational. The cheerleaders did a great job, they are very supportive and the whole tournament was a good group effort," said varsity Coach Josh Chambers. The invite consisted of eight teams. Those were: We-go, York, Fenton, Minooka,

Proviso East, Oswego, Lemont, and Crystal Lake Central.

West Chicago placed third at that invite tied with Minooka. Placing third at the invite was a great success for the wildcats due to the fact that they placed either seventh or eight the past three years. "It was our best turn out and tournament in a long time," said Chambers.

At the invite first year on varsity, freshman Noah Fitzenreider placed first for 112. Other places include 152 senior Ben Stevens with first place, 145 senior Pete Serrato with third, and junior Dennis Kirschke with first place for 119.

Luis Aguado one of the seniors, who graduated last year, is a strength that the team has lost. Coach Chambers said that he was very pleased with the performance at the invite. "One of our strengths that we have, is also one of our weaknesses. We have good young kids that are very talented, but need more experience."

Coaches are for Varsity Josh Chambers and assistant Bob Guerrero, the Junior Varsity coach is Bob Guerrero and new addition to the team Coach Anthony Doyle who is the coach for the freshman team.

"Our number one goal as a team is to continue to get better gain experience. Individually, a couple of kids have a chance to do well, they just have to realize their potential," said Chambers.

Congratulations to senior Tim Keller for placing second in the cross country state meet.

Good luck next year.