

# Wildcat Chronicle

## What's going on around you?

### West Chicago

The West Chicago Park District had its Spooky Trail for all ages at the Park District.

### Winfield

The Winfield Middle School had its annual Family Fun Fest for families from the school.

### Carol Stream

The Carol Stream Public Library just held its Spooky Tales for children, as well as the Spooky Tales parade. The turnout was good, with most children between two and three years old, said librarian Kathy Kelvig.

### Around the nation

Presidential campaigns are running at full speed and both sides are edging for their candidate after three televised debates. Almost each poll taken reports a different result for Gore and Bush voters. You can find more info on page 6.

### Around the world

The Mideast is exploding in violence as Palestinians and Israelis clash. As Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yassir Arafat fights to gain control over Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Ahud Barak fights to keep the city in Israeli land.

Check out what's in this issue:

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Stereotypes page 9  
Hockey page 16

## West Chicago Community High School

Volume 32, Issue 2  
Friday, October 31, 2000

## Budget tops \$20 million: school board approves largest budget ever

By Alexandra Patin  
The Community High School Board of Education recently approved a budget over \$20 million for the upcoming school year.

This is the largest budget ever decided at one meeting, said Superintendent of Business Gary Grizaffi.

The budget of \$21,293,000 is an increase over last year's budget because of the addition of eight new teachers and large hikes in health insurance premiums for teachers and maintenance workers, as well as construction and maintenance costs.

Under current We-go policy, teachers and maintenance workers receive health and dental insurance.

The increase is also because of a large increase of tuition for special education, said Grizaffi.

However, another large part of the budget was an increase in capital outlay expenditures, which are items outside of the regular budget and which total over \$500. These include new band uniforms, a new pool scoreboard timing system, and science equip-

ment. Grizaffi said that these expenses are part of the education fund, which is the largest fund in the budget following the construction fund.

The construction is almost finished on We-go, and a budget of \$6,468,000 was approved for the remaining costs.

Under the new budget, the education fund receives \$16,440,000 plus money for capital outlay

The \$2,022,000 operations and maintenance fund covers any custodial and maintenance costs, utility costs, and all supplies or materials needed to maintain the building, said Grizaffi.

Some other expenses were new chalkboards, field house curtains, girls' pool lockers, and new washers and dryers, he said.

The cost of busing students to school has also gone up because of an increase in gas prices.

Also, the district added two new bus routes because of increased enrollment.

"It's a plan and really isn't etched in stone... You have to look at it as

(See Budget on page 3)



Photo by Sandy Weiss

Horticulture teacher Carol Walksler and some horticulture students lean over an oak branch. Walksler, who is retiring at the end of this year and the only certified horticulture teacher, will signify the end of the horticulture class at We-go.

## The end is near for horticulture class

By Laura McQueen  
This year is the last year the horticulture elective class is available to students at We-go.

This decision was a result of the retirement of the school's only teacher certified to teach horticulture, Carol Walksler.

Closing the program was suggested last year, because this year would be Walksler's last at West Chicago, according to Principal Dr. Alan Jones, although Jones said he's been questioning the program for the last five years. Walksler said that she officially informed the school in 1998 of her retirement plans.

"No teacher in the department has expressed an interest in enrolling in the specialized courses necessary to become certified in the area [of horticulture]," said Jones. Low enrollment and the high number of students who drop the class also played a large part in the decision.

Also, new state tests require students to know more information covered in a botany curriculum, and not horticulture. State standards emphasize the study of plant anatomy and physiology, and colleges prefer students take a botany class, Jones said.

The school is keeping the botany course, which is more in-depth and faster paced than the horticulture 1 class.

The botany class covers basic plant anatomy and physiology, plant identification and propagation and the application of design principles, the areas of vegetable gardens, flower borders, floral design and landscape design. Horticulture 1 is a less in-depth version of botany, and horticulture 2 is a more detailed class, which works more in the greenhouses and with plant propagation.

"The emphasis of this school's horticulture curriculum is not geared to finding a specific career interest. It is designed for anyone who would ever own or live in a home or condo that had a yard or green space. The second year is designed for students with specific career interests in horticulture. The loss of a practical, applied science is a real loss for the school's curriculum and, as a whole, a loss for the community," said Walksler, who started the program in 1973. "Schools today are not offering enough special interest programs, that students really get into and love doing. Unfortunately our goal today is to satisfy a list of re-

quirements that the state of Illinois has. [Horticulture] is a very specialized field much better handled at College of DuPage. The school credential system doesn't lend itself to that kind of specialization. Are we preparing students for a specialized field? I don't think that's our mission," said Jones, who is in support of closing the program.

The school plans on using the horticulture room for botany next year, according to Jones.

Before the Board of Education meeting officially closed the program at the Oct. 17 board meeting, Jones said that there would be no repairs to greenhouses in the near future because the school is looking at more construction in the next three to five years. "There's no point in putting the money into something that might not be there in a couple years," he said.

However, new plans have been made to revamp one of the school's two existing greenhouses. Plans for the repairs were discussed in a science department meeting Oct. 24. The school plans on

(See Horticulture on page 3)

## Board meeting sparks reactions as teachers and students collide

By Marc Berry  
Several Community High School students voiced their disapproval of the impending removal of the horticulture class at the Oct. 17 Board of Education meeting.

The decision is due to the end-of-the-year retirement announcement by Carol Walksler, the only We-go teacher qualified to teach the course.

The yearly decline of enrollment in the course also contributed to its likely departure.

Students who were interested in the class will



Photo by Heidi Carballo

Senior Melissa Garcia spoke at the Oct. 17 School Board meeting about horticulture.

(See Meeting on page 3)

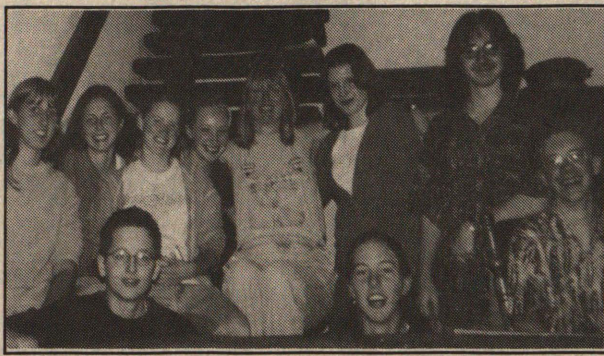
be advised to take botany instead.

Christina Campos, a second year horticulture student and president of the horticulture club, argued that horticulture is a unique class and that no other class will be able to take its place. She said there are reasons that attendance is dropping in the class. "Counselors have not been making it known to the students that

## Dance Production takes to the road

By Mike Mroz

The dance class traveled to Northern Illinois University on Oct. 20. The students took various dance classes, and watched Northern Illinois University theatre performances.



German potluck dinner on Sept. 12. Photo by Alexandra Patin

## Jazz Band rocks the house

By Mike Mroz

Yes, the Jazz Band is definitely expected to rock this year.

There is a Jazz Fest coming up at Waubonsie Valley, many will enter, few will get the chance to compete.

Secondly, don't forget about the annual holiday concert, on December 10, in the auditorium.

## More activities planned for German Club: Pingu fest just around the corner

By Steve Taylor

On Oct. 17, the German Club, accompanied with Spanish and French Clubs, visited the Art Institute of Chicago.

On Nov. 2, German Club will view Pingu movies.

Pingu movies are German claymation movies starring a mischievous penguin named Pingu, which means penguin in German.

The potluck dinner was held on Sept. 12 at Dawn Barzo's house.

## Pep Club started up the crowd for homecoming

On homecoming week Pep Club ran coronations and decorated every fall sport athlete's locker.

The 10 finalists that were elected for homecoming court were Amy Arroyo, Trisha Bozich, Monique Castelvechi, Amy Kreml, Megan Leston, Javiar Contreras, Dennis Janek, Paul Novak, Nick Romanelli, and

Tim Yormark.

Castelvechi and Contreras were nominated as king and queen. On the Friday of the homecoming week Pep Club ran the Pep Rally.

There were various competitions such as the tug-of-war, egg-toss competition, dance competition, and a competition for which class could sing the school song the best.

Also the cheerleaders and poms performed then the senior cheerleaders and poms did performances with the senior guys.

The Spirit Stick for the Pep Rally was awarded to the seniors.

The next big event coming up for the Pep Club is Parent Night for the senior fall athletes.

## Wildcat Cheerleaders take a break: the team awaits basketball season

Oct. 20 marked the end of the football season and the Wildcat Cheerleaders last game until basketball.

"The girls get along real well and always come up with new routines," said sponsor Patty Clifford.

The next fund-raisers for the cheerleaders is scheduled for January 6, 2001.

Kitty Clinic will also be held this year to help freshmen learn the cheers and routines used by the cheerleaders for the upcoming basket-

ball season.

The money raised from the fund-raiser and the clinic will be used to help pay for new uniforms for the team.

There are 16 sophomore and 18 varsity cheerleaders on the team this year.

## SADD tries to inform students of dangers of drunk driving

By Steve Taylor

The week of October 23 was Drunk Driving Awareness week, and SADD was in the action, said sponsor Diana Alcalá.

Red ribbons were handed out at lunches on Oct. 23 to make students think about the dangers of drunk driving, said Alcalá.

SADD generally tries to inform students of drunk driving and drinking dangers through means of a float during homecoming and assemblies throughout the year, as well as special activities such as the handing out of red ribbons.

## Spanish Club keeps the year going with activities

By: Sarah Assian

The Spanish Club will once again serve as a way for students to learn about their Spanish classes.

The club gives students exposure to Spanish outside of the classroom, said sponsor Sue Junkroski.

The club takes many trips throughout the year, trying to squeeze in at least one activity outside of school per month, she said.

Junkroski said these trips to Spanish-related places are a great opportunity to bring the language alive by creat-

ing an actual physical link students can relate to.

Meetings are held at least once a month in room 403 on Wednesday mornings.

Check the Spanish board in any of the Spanish classrooms for further information, or contact Junkroski.

## Key Club getting ready for annual blood drive

### The facts about blood:

- **Less than 5%** of eligible donors in America choose to donate blood
- **32,000 units of red blood cells are needed** "on any given day" in the U.S.
- **12.6 million units of blood** by eight million donors are given each year and four million patients receive blood each year
- The average donor is a "college-educated, white male, between the ages of 30 and 50, who is married and has an above average income"
- Women and minorities are steadily increasing in donors
- Donors have to be 110 lbs., and in most states, 17 years old

Courtesy of the American Association of Blood Banks at <http://www.aabb.org>

Key Club will be sponsoring the annual blood drive at We-go again this year on Nov. 14.

Key Club secretary Melissa Garcia said the club is in need of people to help with the event.

Garcia said the club needs help not just donating blood but also to help with registration, passing out refreshments,

and general tasks to make the drive go more smoothly.

The drive will start at 7:45 a.m. and will go throughout the day until 2:45 p.m.

Students may not come without an appointment, and must come during their P.E. or study period classes.

As the holidays approach the supply of blood usually lowers and with a current shortage already, hospitals in the area are in need of blood, said sponsor Ward Rau.

The blood drive will be held through the Heartland Blood Bank in Aurora, and will supply 33 area hospitals, including Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield.

For more information, contact President Jennie Eagles, Vice President Justin Kallas, Secretary Melissa Garcia, Treasurer Heather Runions, or sponsor Ward Rau.

## Challenge staff reflects on the past issue, looks ahead to the next

By Marc Berry

With a variety of additions and planned improvements, this year's *Challenge* staff hopes to put out the best yearbook yet, said Advisor Brad Larson.

The yearbook staff meets fourth hour to work on the yearbook. The staff is able to meet during the day because yearbook is a class and each staff member receives credit.

Every double page spread of the yearbook is assigned to two or three students who are responsible for placement of photos and summaries.

Larson oversees the creation of the book, and his roles include teaching layout, design, theme development, graphics, journalism instruction and computer training. He is also the final editor of the yearbook, and makes the final check to see if everything is done correctly.

The staff decided that the theme for the coming yearbook will be "Paws to Reflect."

Larson said much discussion was put into this decision and that several ideas were presented before a final vote was made.

This year the class has moved to the new computer lab on the third floor that was set up over the summer.

Larson said he is excited because virtually all of the work will be done on computers, as opposed to last year when computers were only used for word processing.

This will enable them to print out pages before they are sent to the printer, in order to see exactly what they will look like.

"I'm hoping this change will have a big effect on the quality of the book," said Larson.

Junior Jason Woodbury is looking forward to this year's production as well. "We had a lot of fun putting it together last year. This year we hope to continue to have fun, while creating an even better yearbook."

Another new addition concerning the yearbook is the option for seniors to have their yearbooks mailed to them. During registration, each senior was given the option of paying an additional fee so they would not have to come pick the book up.

The staff is off to a slow start, however, due to the late

setup of the computers, but Larson believes they can catch up, and has already set goals for the upcoming year.

"We should build in more continuity. Certain elements should remain the same throughout the book. Also, we need to improve the quality of writing so [pages] don't sound the same," said Larson.

The yearbook for We-go's 99-00 year was released last month with the theme, "Destination Unknown."

There were various changes from the previous year's effort, bigger page size and the large number of drawings scattered throughout, mostly created by Ryan Hammer, who graduated last year.

Larson, said that the effort put into the book paid off.

"I'm very pleased with how it turned out. Naturally, as a teacher, I can pick stuff out that could have been improved a little, but overall, it was very nicely done," he said.

The creator of last year's cover was Amanda Lens, who received a free yearbook due to her work. The deadline for this year's cover contest is the first week in November. Entries should be

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### Editors:

News Editor: Alexandra Patin  
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Entertainment Editor: Mary-Megan Kalvig  
Correspondents: Mary Beth Selby  
Sean Reynolds

Advisor: Laura Kuehn

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 the majority of the staff or student body.

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the advisor Laura Kuehn in room 317.

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, and has the right to edit letters for space.

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

## Meeting (continued from page 1)

this course is available," Campos said.

Principal Alan Jones rebutted the argument.

"There are 93 electives in this high school. Counselors do not have the time to go through each and every one of these courses with their students. Our main focus is to make sure they are prepared... to take the state tests. Botany contains a lot of subjects found on these tests. Horticulture does not," Jones said.

Senior Heidi Carballo said, "I had a lot of fun and learned a lot." She also stated she

knew someone whose life was changed and started a business around horticulture because of the class' inspiration.

Sophomore Justin Hoshaw agreed with Carballo. "Everyone needs to know landscaping," he said.

Science department head Jo-Ann Tunt also supported the decision to abandon the program, often voicing her opinion and responding to the questions of students.

"Mrs. Walksler is a special person and we will miss her, but she is one of the few people qualified to teach

horticulture," she said. She also noted that botany could expand to fill some of the desires of horticulture supporters and that horticulture club will still continue.

Other public participants included Robin Caldwell, a 1987 graduate of Community High School.

She said she received a degree in landscaping and makes a living from it now. She said that she would not have had the confidence to attempt these accomplishments if she had not taken the horticulture class.

Despite school board presi-

dent Rich Nagel's attempts to move on with the meeting, students continued to carry on with their arguments, noting factors such as the lack of support for the program shown by the poor care for the greenhouse and the fact that there are teachers in the area who are qualified to teach horticulture and are looking for jobs.

Jones made it clear that there is little chance of horticulture class continuing.

"We can't turn our back on the state. We have to act responsibly by preparing students for its tests," he said.

## Construction continues with end in sight

By Mary-Megan Kalvig

At last the end of construction is within reach.

Construction crews should finish work the end of Oct. since only one percent of installation is left. Testing and balancing will be finished by December.

"The renovations are mostly transparent to students and staff because it is contained behind walls and in the ceiling," said Assistant Superintendent of Business Gary Grizaffi.

One of the most important improvements was the addition of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, or HVAC, Grizaffi said.

HVAC was added throughout the whole school except for the field house and pool area, said Grizaffi.

Grizaffi said since the athletic area is so large, it would be too expensive to cool the whole area.

The main task left is to finish the HVAC, said Grizaffi. Workers need to combine the water and air controls so they all work. Teachers will also be able to control the thermostat in the classroom themselves.

"The biggest problem has been renovating a building of four separate additions," said Grizaffi.

Unforeseen conditions with the drawings caused problems with renovation, Grizaffi said. He said such problems have occurred in structural support beams, plus electrical and water feed, all of these problems have been corrected.

Over the summer, construction crews worked on replacing the plumbing throughout the school, said Grizaffi. That included the administration area, the 1926 building, the math and science section, the pool and the field house.

The electrical work was also updated. Electricians updated the power and data for the installation of computers in 85 classrooms.

Grizaffi said all of the construction work has been done within the budget of \$29.8 million, and a surplus of \$1.4 million is expected because of earnings on investments.

## Toronto is next: We-go choirs prepare for competition

By Alexandra Patin

The We-go choirs will attend the Toronto International Music Festival, from March 1-4, said Choir Director Lisa Smith.

Smith said about 90 percent of the choirs are participating, totaling approximately 120 students in all grades.

The students must pay \$399 in order to go to Toronto and other sites along the way. The students will see a production of the musical "The Lion King," as well as visit various tourist sites in and around Toronto, including Niagara Falls, said Smith.

Smith said they will also perform with a children's professional choir in Toronto, visit a Toronto high school, and visit Eastern Michigan University for a singing clinic.

The competition will feature other schools from around the U.S. and Canada, and will give awards to outstanding choirs, said Smith.

"It's a learning competition," said Smith, and said she hopes the choir will learn new techniques while on the trip.

## Recycling starts after delay at We-go: Science classes take the job

By Mary Beth Selby

After a delay, recycling started recently at We-go.

The school was waiting for the delivery of class bins and the big bin outside.

According to the recycling program supervisor,

Jody Donovan, the recycling system is part of Science 1 class.

Recycling is one of their units in the class and students are graded on their performance in the program.

Once every week, the students will pick up the recycled objects and take them



Photo by Sandy Weiss

Some recycling students help out as a part of the Science 1 class at We-go. The class will receive money for being a part of the program as well as experience in an area of science, while helping the environment.

outside to the bin.

The Science 1 class receives money from the recycling company.

They use this money for field trips and to buy blue bins for next year's recycling.

But getting money isn't the only reason that Science 1 chooses to be a part of the

recycling program.

"We have to be responsible for our own wastes.

"Landfills are no longer a good alternative. By recycling we save energy and resources. But by helping out, you earn some money as a reward for a good deed," said Donovan.

## Horticulture (continued from page 1)

having a professional look at the greenhouse to help decide what needs to be done, according to Jones.

Many students are upset because the program is ending. "I want my little brother to be able to take this class. I love this class. I could just stay here all day," said junior horticulture 2 student, Bessie Czernick.

"If they won't find a replacement for Mrs. Walksler, then I will, how's that. They can't just close down the program, it's not fair to anyone who wants to take the class in the future," said junior horticulture 2 student Christina

Campos. Campos led a protest to save the program, and started a petition in support, as well as spread the word about the horticulture situation.

Many students and alumni of the program appeared at the school board meeting Oct. 17 to speak on behalf of the program. "That really impressed me. The students that came to the meeting knew what they were talking about.

"That interests me, I listen to that stuff. I think that's great. Students should be more assertive about how they feel about programs in

school," said Jones.

Science department chair JoAnn Tunt supports closing the program.

"It's not like we're chopping the program. We're just turning it into an after school activity," said Tunt. Jones credited the horticulture club plans to the interest of the students.

The school plans on keeping the horticulture club with the sponsorship of Ball Seed. Tunt said, "This way the students will get experience that teachers don't know how to teach with the involvement of a real agriculture based company such as Ball Seed."

## End of year schedule decided: seniors out no earlier than anyone else

By Marc Berry

The last day of student attendance is now June 5, and the last day for teachers is June 7. The District 94 School Board made this decision at its Oct. 17 meeting.

Originally, students were scheduled to attend until June 11, and teachers were planned to attend until June 13.

The seniors' last day is still May 31 and commencement is June 2.

We-go's number of snow days remains the same, and whether or not they are used will not affect these dates.

According to Principal, Dr. Jones, some staff members were going over the calendar and discovered that there were more attendance days than the 176 that are required.

"The state has various requirements as to what are counted as attendance days and what are not. Hopefully the interpretations received by the state will help us avoid these problems [of making the calendar] in the future."

## Scary stories for this year's fall play

By Jamie Nadolny

West Chicago High School's fall production was held Friday, Oct. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 28 in the Weyrauch Auditorium.

This year's theme, "Boo! 13 Stories for Halloween," was a collection of short dramatic pieces.

"We wanted to have the shows on Friday and Saturday so that more children and adults would have an opportunity to see the production. Most children and adults have school or work

on Thursdays, so we tried to avoid conflict by changing the dates," said sophomore actress Heather Coakley.

"Everyone is really looking forward to the show. We still have a lot to practice, but I think the audience will really enjoy the short pieces. It's neat to have a Halloween theme this year, because it's been a long time since We-go has done something like [have a holiday theme for a drama production]," Coakley

(See Play on page 4)

## Budget

(continued from page 1)

living, breathing document," said Grizaffi of the budget. He stated that the budget is also made to keep expenditures in check throughout the year. Most likely, however, the budget will not change in the next year.

Each year, the law requires the school board approve the budget by Sept. 30, which is the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year.

## Freshmen student council starts up

By Joe Kelly

The student council for the freshmen has many upcoming events.

They have elected officers. The president is Jacky Vavrik, the VP is Fabiola Leal, the treasurer is Rebecca Wilkening, the secretary is Kim Mueller. Representatives are Anna Nubie, Patrick Vrnich, Brooke Bachelor, Andrea Johnson, Jory Vlach, and Christina Orda.

Some upcoming events are visiting senior citizens, and the community service committee will be collecting canned goods and pop tabs for charity.

## Chess team starts thinking

By Joe Taylor

The annual West Chicago Chess Tournament has been set for Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000.

Practice begins this Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. and goes until 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. All players need to attend.

Currently the chess team is looking to improve and they would like to encourage you to join the team, said sponsor Joe Splinter.

Right now is the best time to join because it is still early in the season, therefore it is important to come as soon as possible so you can receive instruction and experience through participation, he said.

## Mind's Eye tries to recruit writers and artists

By Sarah Assian

"The Mind's Eye" Literary Magazine started publicizing with postings throughout the school for submissions of poetry, short stories, and artwork.

Advisor Andrea Cipcich said not only are students welcome to submit their written and artistic works, but any staff member may submit as well.

Along with trying to recruit work, the magazine will also be publicizing "The Mind's Eye" itself. Cipcich said she "thinks the student body is not fully aware of the magazine and the purpose it serves at the high school."

"The Mind's Eye" is a publication where students and faculty can express themselves, Cipcich said.

"We're very open-minded when it comes to submissions this year," said Cipcich. Students and faculty may submit anonymously also. If you submit anonymously, you must hand your admission in, person, to Cipcich.

## C.O.D. holds career fair for students at We-go

College of DuPage is holding its annual Career EXPO on Nov. 2 at the campus during school.

In the EXPO, We-go students can learn about different careers and fields of interest through representatives at the college.

The EXPO will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will pick up again from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The program will be held in the Student Resource Center 2800 at the C.O.D. Glen Ellyn campus.

Students who wished to

attend had to stop by the guidance office to pick up permission slips, since the EXPO would be counted as a field trip.

Both the guidance department and the business department have planned the field trip and are running it.



Photo by Heidi Carballo  
Horticulture club students seniors Sergio Jimenez and Christina Campos prepare and organize the upcoming even for the club. For more on the club and the horticulture class, see pages one and two.

## This year's fall play is meant to scare: thirteen spooky stories from all genres for both children and adults hits the stage at We-go

By Jamie Nadolny

West Chicago High School's fall production was held Oct. 27 and Oct. 28 in the Weyrauch Auditorium.

This year's theme, "Boo! 13 Stories for Halloween," was a collection of short dramatic pieces.

The first show was held on Friday at 7:00 p.m., and two shows were held on Saturday at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

"We wanted to have the shows on Friday and Satur-

day so that more children and adults would have an opportunity to see the production.

"Most children and adults have school or work on Thursdays, so we tried to avoid conflict by changing the dates," said sophomore Heather Coakley.

"I think the audience will really enjoy the short pieces. It's neat to have a Halloween theme this year, because it's been a long time since We-

go has done something like [have a holiday theme for a drama production]," Coakley said before the performance.

"Boo! 13 Stories for Halloween" was aimed at young children, but the production also appealed to older audience members, as well, said director Mary Hafertepe.

"Generally, more students have opportunities to perform in one-acts than traditional plays, and the size of the cast is the greatest influ-

ence on the size of the audience.

"The short pieces are a nice change of pace for the fall production, because not only do we have a variety of students in the cast, we also bring in a larger audience," Hafertepe said.

Auditions for the fall performance were held last month.

Students interested in acting in the short pieces filled out applications before try-outs, as well.

## Forensics ready for first meet: and first ever meet held at We-go

By Robert Whitman

The forensic speech team is holding its first tournament at We-go this year with 25 schools and over 700 students on Nov. 4, said sponsor Steve Kellner.

Kellner said this will be the first tournament ever held at We-go and will have 27 schools and over 500 students competing.

The tournament is the annual We-go North tournament, and is held in conjunction with the Glenbard North speech team, said Kellner.

Almost all the rooms in the school building will be used because the number of students competing in each of the 13 speech categories averages 55, said Kellner.

Rooms in We-go will be used for speeches, with students from each category using separate rooms.

In past years, the We-go North tournament has been held at Glenbard North, with We-go helping out.

The tournament will run from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., said Kellner.

Kellner said he feels great about the competition and said it will gain recognition for the school. He also said since there is no construction, the school looks better.

Anyone is welcome to come and watch friends' events or events they are interested in, he said.

This is the first speech tournament in the season for We-go, and from Nov. 4 there are tournaments every Saturday until Feb.

Kellner said membership is still open for anyone who wants to join the club.

The team generally has to leave around 7:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings and returns around 6:00 p.m.

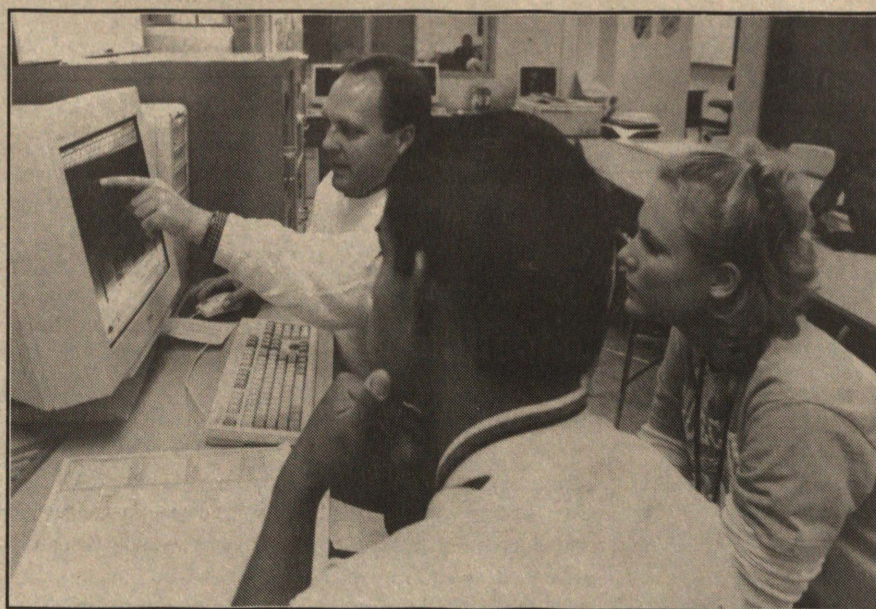
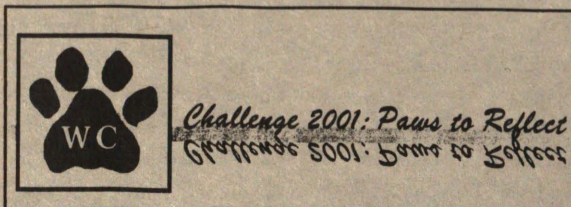


Photo by Sandy Weiss  
Yearbook advisor Brad Larson shows his students how to layout some pages. See more about the yearbook on page 3.



The 2001 Challenge logo states the theme and the year for the yearbook. For more information on the yearbook and next year's theme see page 3.

Get your paws on the Wildcat Chronicle and find out all the information you need to know. What's going on here at We-go? Find out with your copy today!

Do you have a homesick sister or brother who has gone off to college? Buy them a subscription of the Wildcat Chronicle for Christmas and send them back to school happy!

## Pluggin' into the future: West Chicago's amazing electric automobile revs up

By Mary-Megan Kalvig  
Cindy Bedford, Special Educator in the Science department at We-go, is one of the first owners of an electric car. In fact, she is the first owner in the Midwest, and the third owner in the country.

In August 1999, Bedford filled out a survey for Toyota, which made her eligible to test drive the electric car.

"Questions centered around my driving needs, personal hobbies, career responsibilities, my familiarity with computers and technol-

ogy, and any interest in environmental issues, etc.," Bedford said.

Her answers were compatible with the survey and in September, Toyota picked her out of 20 Chicago families to test the car.

From October to November, the electric car was her form of transportation. First she took a defensive driving course and recorded the family's reaction to the car.

"The car is unique. It cuts down on air pollution is environmentally safe, and the company insists the car can be returned to them when it's no longer useful to be totally recycled - no junk yard," Bedford said.

This summer, the cars were available to purchase online only. As a demo driver, Bedford had an opportunity

to purchase a car. She bought the car for \$19,995.

While the car is electric, it's not plugged in. In fact, it charges itself as it runs. The car has two engines. One is gas powered while the other is an electric motor. The amount of work each engine does is divided up so the gas use is equal to the electricity use.

"The car has good fuel consumption and the only cost to run the car is the gas," Bedford said.

The car uses regular unleaded gas and averages 40 to 50 miles per gallon with an 11.9-gallon tank. The car travels an average of 60 miles per charge.

The electric car has an onboard-computer, which controls the engines. The (See *Electric Car on page 6*)

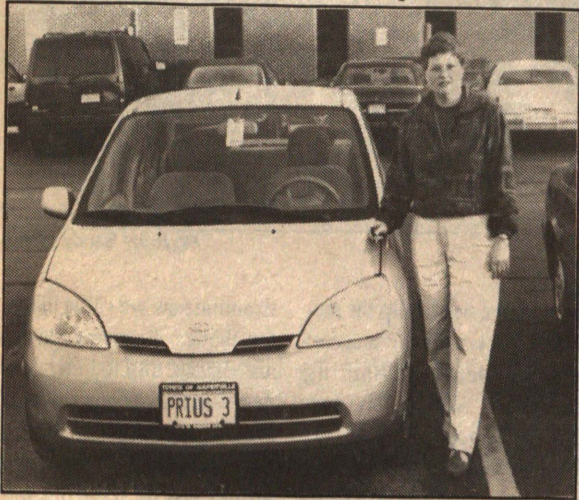


Photo by Sandy Weiss

Bedford showing off her hot new wheels.



Photo courtesy of Laura McQueen

Second grade class of 1993 show off their costumes in the halls of Evergreen Elementary school.

## Top ten celebrity Halloween costumes

10. Carrot Top: Dye your hair orange and don't brush it for at least a week.
9. OJ Simpson: Buffalo Bills jersey and a black glove.
8. Stevie Wonder: Sunglasses.
7. Michael Jackson: It's unisex, and, "It don't matter if you're black or white."
6. Hanson: Another great unisex costume.
5. Mancow: Practice using your best loud and obnoxious voice.
4. Fabio: The biggest wig you can find.
3. Oprah: One size fits all.
2. Cher: Four square inches of dress, and five gallons of hairspray.
1. Britney Spears: Some toilet paper and lots and lots of make up.

## A little Halloween history

By Sean Reynolds

The past greatly influenced our modern Halloween, starting with the Celts and moving through the start of Christianity.

Thousands of years ago, the Celts worshiped nature and had many gods in northern France and Great Britain. They believed the sun god made the earth beautiful and their crops grow.

The Celts celebrated their New Year on Nov. 1. That date marked the end of "the season of sun" and the beginning of "the season of dark-

ness and cold."

The Celts believed that during the winter the lord of darkness, Samhain, took their sun god prisoner. On the eve before the New Year, Oct 31, Samhain called together all the dead and they would take different forms.

On Oct. 31 after all the crops were harvested and stored for the winter, the Druids (Celtic priests) would meet on the hilltop in the dark Oak Forest, which they considered sacred. There they would offer crops and animal

sacrifices to the gods while they danced around fires. Then the transition from the season of sun to the season of darkness began. The next morning, each family would receive an ember from the fire to keep their homes free from evil spirits. This event was Samhain and honored both Samhain and the sun god. It would last for three days and later become known as Halloween.

During the first century, Romans invaded France and Britain and brought many of their customs. One of them



was Pomona Day, which was named for their goddess of fruits and gardens. It was celebrated around the same time as the Celts celebrated Halloween and Samhain. After many centuries of Roman control, the holidays were integrated into one major holiday.

(See *Halloween on page 8*)

## We-go around the world: 2000 European history tour

By Marc Berry

History is a lot more exciting when it is experienced rather than simply read about. This is what 25 Community High School students discovered last summer on the 2000 European History Tour.

The trip, entitled European Carousel, included visits to the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Italy, France, Scotland, and England, and lasted from June 20 until July 8.

Social studies teachers Barbara Laimins and Mary Ellen Daneels, and Nancy Blume of the business department acted as chaperones for the duration of the tour.

"It was the best trip I've ever been on," said Laimins. She noted that good feedback was also received from the students.

"I think they enjoyed see-



Photo by Lauren Nickelson

Angela Skags, Amanda Czech, Lesley Leary, Alaine Ellis, and Annie Wilkovic on a ferry to Venice.

ing places they'd learned about come alive and learning... about other cultures," said Daneels. She also said that the students were surprised at how the places looked compared to what they had heard and read about.

A variety of historical sites were seen, including the Palace of Versailles, Stirling

Castle, Anne Frank's home, and the Tower of London.

Sightseeing was not the only activity involved, however, as the students were able to participate in activities such as rock climbing on the Swiss Alps and riding in a gondola through the canals of Venice.

During their travels they spent the night at various

hotels, dividing the group into different rooms for the night. The students got anywhere from four to eight hours of sleep depending on when they arrived at the hotel.

According to Daneels, distance was traveled by either bus or on foot depending on how far away the destination was. Many took the bus rides as opportunities to catch up on lost sleep.

During the day, breakfast and dinner were eaten at the hotels, while the students were free to decide where they ate lunch and try a variety of different dishes.

The best and worst of foreign societies were displayed to the travelers throughout their stay. While visiting Dachau, a concentration camp from the Holocaust located in Munich, there were Germans standing outside trying to convince onlookers

## This year's Halloween Thumbs up, Thumbs down

By Laura McQueen

**Thumbs up to:**  
Carving pumpkins for Halloween  
Trick or treating with your baby brother  
Lots of treats  
Haunted houses  
Giving out candy and dollar bills  
Classic horror flicks  
T.P.-ing houses  
Having a party  
Warm weather  
Awesome Halloween costumes

**Thumbs down to:**  
Smashing Jack O'lanterns on Halloween  
Trick or treating with your parents  
Lots of tricks  
Lame spook trails  
Giving out those nasty orange and black candies that nobody wants to eat  
Cheesy slasher movies  
Egging houses  
Having a chaperone  
Rain and snow  
Not knowing when you're too old to quit trick-or-treating

that the Holocaust never really happened. Daneels and Laimins agreed that that was an interesting experience.

Overall, the tour comes as highly recommended.

Senior Alaine Ellis who attended "European Carousel" said, "It taught me how other countries run their societies and how different our culture is from others."

Senior Amanda Czech agreed. "It teaches you about other cultures, the way they live, eat, sleep, go to the bathroom! It is so different from here," she said.

The next tour, tentatively set for June 18 to July 3 in

2001, is called Europe at Leisure. The trip will include visits to England, France, Switzerland, and Italy and highlighted sites include the Vatican, Sistine Chapel, and the Coliseum. If enough students are interested, the tour may be extended to July 6 in order to visit Pompeii.

Laimins said students will visit fewer countries but spend more time at each one, hence the name of the tour. About half the time will be spent in Italy alone.

Anyone interested in signing up for the trip or finding out information should visit Daneels in room 197.

## “X” marks the spot: David Exner is teacher of the month

### Classes you teach:

Currently, I am teaching four classes of 3D design 1 and of art survey 1. In the past I have taught art survey 1 and 2, 3D design 1 and 2, Ceramics 1 and 2, 2D design and independent study classes.

### Years at We-go:

This is my twelfth year at We-go.

### Years as a teacher:

I have been teaching for over 21 years.

### What do you like best about your job?

There are a lot of reasons that I like what I do. I have the opportunity to interact with a lot of great people who have wonderful ideas... among those people are my students. The best part is seeing them discover that they have so much creativity and potential. When they sur-

prise themselves as to how well they do something, it is tremendously gratifying!

### What do you like least about your job?

I find that people too often sell themselves short. They don't give themselves enough credit for being creative and capable of meeting challenges. When people say, "I can't" before they even think about making a serious effort, they are setting themselves up for failure. That is really a shame because they never realize their full potential. Accepting the challenges we are presented with on a daily basis is how we can build confidence and character. It is also how we can accomplish our goals and make a positive contribution.

### Why did you choose to be an art teacher?

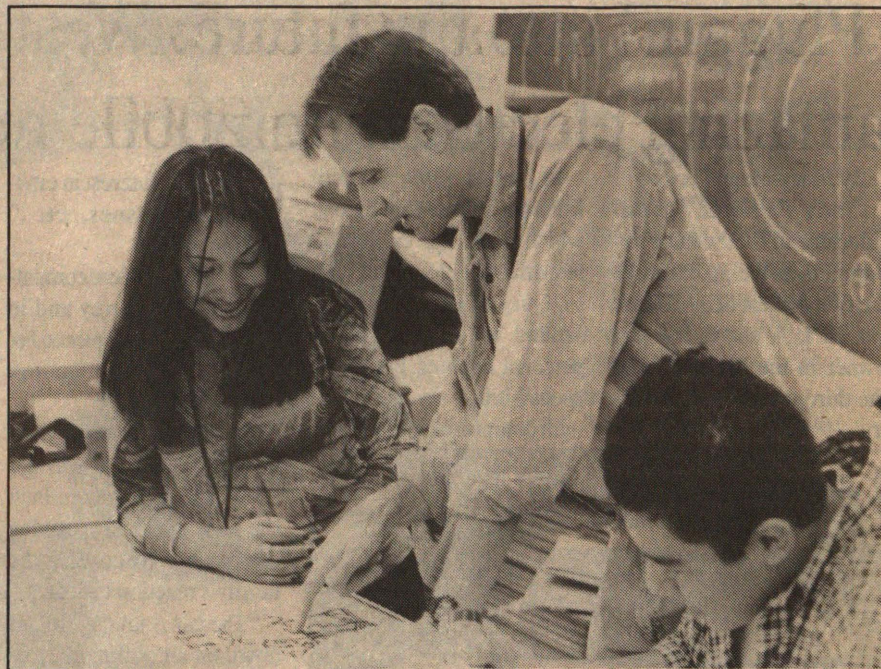
I feel tremendously blessed and lucky that I absolutely

love what I do! I get the opportunity to share my love of art with people who are interested (usually). Together we explore the many facets of art and how it influences so much of what we do and how we think and feel.

### What have you learned from your students?

This could be a very long list, but I'll try to condense it; my students have taught me:

- to have a sense of humor
- to be a better listener
- to be more patient
- to reach for greater understanding
- to *never settle* for less than my best effort
- that organization does matter
- that every answer leads to another question
- you can always learn more about something
- motivation + determination go a long way towards



Mr. Exner in action.

Photo by Sandy Weiss

success

### What makes your class different from other electives?

I think that all of the school's electives are designed to meet the special interests of students. In the art

classes we try to help the students to have fun, be successful and learn something about art. We explore how art influences the way we look at objects, issues, our feelings, and our environment. Studying art helps us

examine how we value things (aesthetics), to appreciate our art heritage and to better understand the various ways art is made by making art. In the process, what we learn about art informs us about the big picture—LIFE.

## Secrets of academic success: student of the month Melissa Garcia tells all

By Jamie Nadolny  
Melissa Garcia

### Activities:

- Art Club: 3
- Badminton: 3,4
- Basketball: 1,2
- Softball Manager: 3
- Choir: 2,3
- European History Tour: 3
- Fall Play Cast: 4
- Fall Play Crew: 4
- Forensics/Speech Team: 1,2,3,4; Captain: 4
- High Honor Roll: 1,2,3,4
- Host (Costa Rica): 4
- Key Club: 3,4; Secretary: 4
- Music Crew: 2

National Honor Society: 3,4

Spanish Club: 1,2,3,4;  
Secretary: 3; Vice-president: 4

Thespians: 4

VICA: 4

Volleyball Manager: 2

How did you get involved with so many clubs at West Chicago High School?

*Most of my friends convinced me to join clubs, and I was even invited into a few of them. After awhile, I just realized I like being a part of*

*them, and I began to join more.*

How do you stay organized while participating in so many activities?

*I can't survive without my planner! I have everything written down, because I know I'd forget everything if I didn't have it. The only way I stay organized is by keeping my planner available.*

Why do you think students should join clubs at West Chicago High School?

*I think there are a wide variety of activities that you can get involved in at West Chicago High School. Participating in extra curricular activities is important to me, because they help me understand myself better. I discover new things about myself every day.*

What is your favorite extra curricular activity?

*It's really hard to pick just one club or activity that I enjoy, because they're all important to me. However, if I had to pick just one activity, I would say the fall play. The other students in the drama department are absolutely wonderful, and we have a lot of fun.*

How did you feel when you found out you were chosen as Student of the Month?

*(See Student on page 7)*

By Alexandra Patin  
At the beginning of the month, a U.S. News and World Report cover story read "Can Bush bounce back?"

As Democrats cheered at George W. Bush's falling behind Al Gore, Republicans faithfully stuck by Bush and campaigned for his rebound.

So what's been happening since the beginning of one of the most critical months, if not the most, in the slew of campaigns and promises? Here's a closer look.

October 3, 2000

Bush and Gore confront each other in a prime time debate. It's their first televised debate since the campaigns started and the candidates butt heads on most issues.

However, as Chicago Democratic consultant William Daley said to the Chicago Tribune, "All Bush had to do was show up on the stage and 'not drool.'"

While Bush never drooled, he did stutter on the issues at times and grew visibly rattled when Gore contradicted his future bills.

One specific example was Gore's tirade against Bush's proposed tax break to the "wealthiest one percent" of Americans.

October 11, 2000

Bush and Gore face off in a second debate, this time at a different location and with a more informal attitude. This time, instead of standing behind podiums, the two candidates are seated at a table

with the mediator, Jim Lehrer, seated between them.

While both candidates disagreed on many things, they did agree on the Mideast situation. Both sided with Israel on the Israel-Palestinian conflict, and both said they would stand by the country in times of need.

The candidates were in strong opposition over health care in the U.S., however. Gore rebuked Texas for having one of the worst health care systems out of all the states. Bush countered his statements by saying that Texas had already improved its health care system while the national health care system was in decline.

Environmental issues came up again in the debate, with Bush wanting to use more coal resources in environmentally precious areas. Gore proposed protecting those areas and finding new forms of energy instead of heavy coal and oil usage.

October 18, 2000

The final debate between Bush and Gore was held with a much more informal format than the first two. In the debate, the two candidates answered questions from an audience. The audience had been pre-selected based on their undecided stance on the election.

During this election, the Mideast situation as well as foreign policy in general was not covered as completely as in the previous election, and more focus was put on health care and education, and other social issues in the U.S.

Gore said his first bill to Congress will be the McCain-Feingold bill, supporting campaign finance reform.

Bush did not specify what his first bill would be if elected, but he said he would work on energy and fuel sources as well as health care. He said in the case of energy sources, that he would use coal and fuel sources from Alaska instead of more foreign imports.

Gore denied that this would be the better action, and said that the U.S. needs to move into the future with new environmentally friendly fuel and energy sources without routing through important ecological sites.

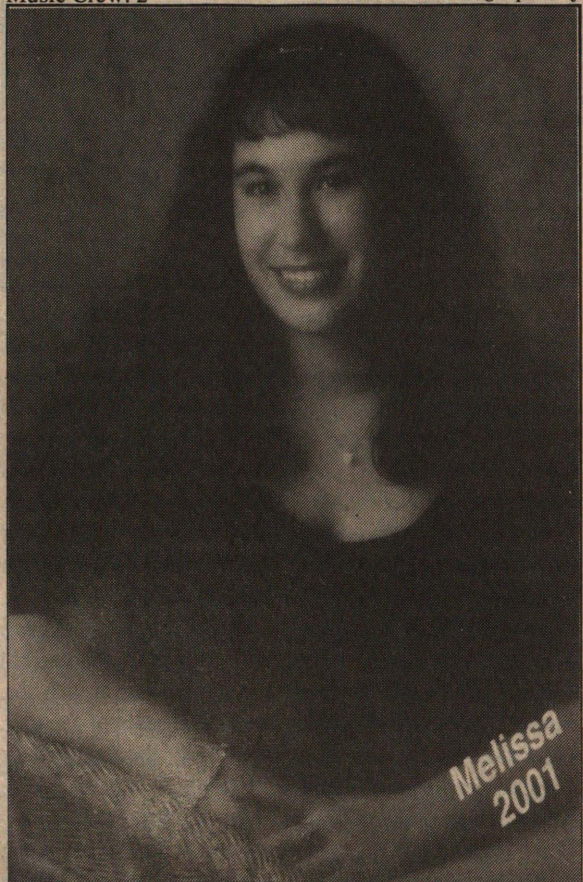
People registered to vote will be able to go to the voting booths on Nov. 7.

### Electric car...

*(continued from page 4)*

computer decides when to use the electric or gas engine, or even both, depending on driving conditions such as accelerating, Bedford said. The computer also indicates where the energy is coming from, the amount regenerated into the battery, and mileage. The radio station, CD information, and global position are also on the computer. The steering wheel is also electrically operated to save fuel.

The car comfortably seats five people and has a good amount of storage space. Since the car is small, it maneuvers easily. While the car is a bit "out-of-this-world," it is realistic, Bedford said.



Student of the month Melissa Garcia

Melissa  
2001

## School spirit makes for a great Homecoming 2000

By Jamie Nadolny  
West Chicago High School's homecoming dance was one of the most successful dances the WCCHS student council has sponsored, according to student council president Cathy Wilken.

"I was really pleased with this year's homecoming. During homecoming, students have the most school spirit. It was exciting to see everyone get excited about the dance. The entire week went extremely well, and it was a huge success," said Wilken.

The dance was held on Saturday, Sept. 30, and it

lasted from 7-10 p.m.

Seniors Javier Contreras and Monique Castelvechi were crowned homecoming king and queen during the pep assembly on Oct. 29. This year's homecoming candidates included seniors Amy Arroyo, Trisha Bozich, Castelvechi, Amy Kreml, Megan Leston, Contreras, Dennis Janek, Paul Novak, Nick Romanelli, and Tim Yormark.

This year's homecoming theme was "We-Got Game," with each of the class themes relating to board games. The senior theme was Monopoly; juniors, Battleship; sopho-

mores, Candyland; and freshmen, Clue.

The homecoming dance followed an entire week of school spirit events, including the annual window painting competition, which took place on Oct. 23. The juniors placed first, followed by the sophomores, seniors, and freshmen.

Oct. 23 also marked the beginning of We-go's float building competition. Overall, the seniors placed first in the float competition and the overall homecoming competition, followed by the sophomores, juniors, and freshmen.



Photo courtesy of the Wildcat Challenge

Chris Buckles-Haley leads the marching band at the homecoming half-time show.



Photo by Brooke Adams

Cheerleaders look on as juniors and sophomores play tuq-of-war at the pep rally.

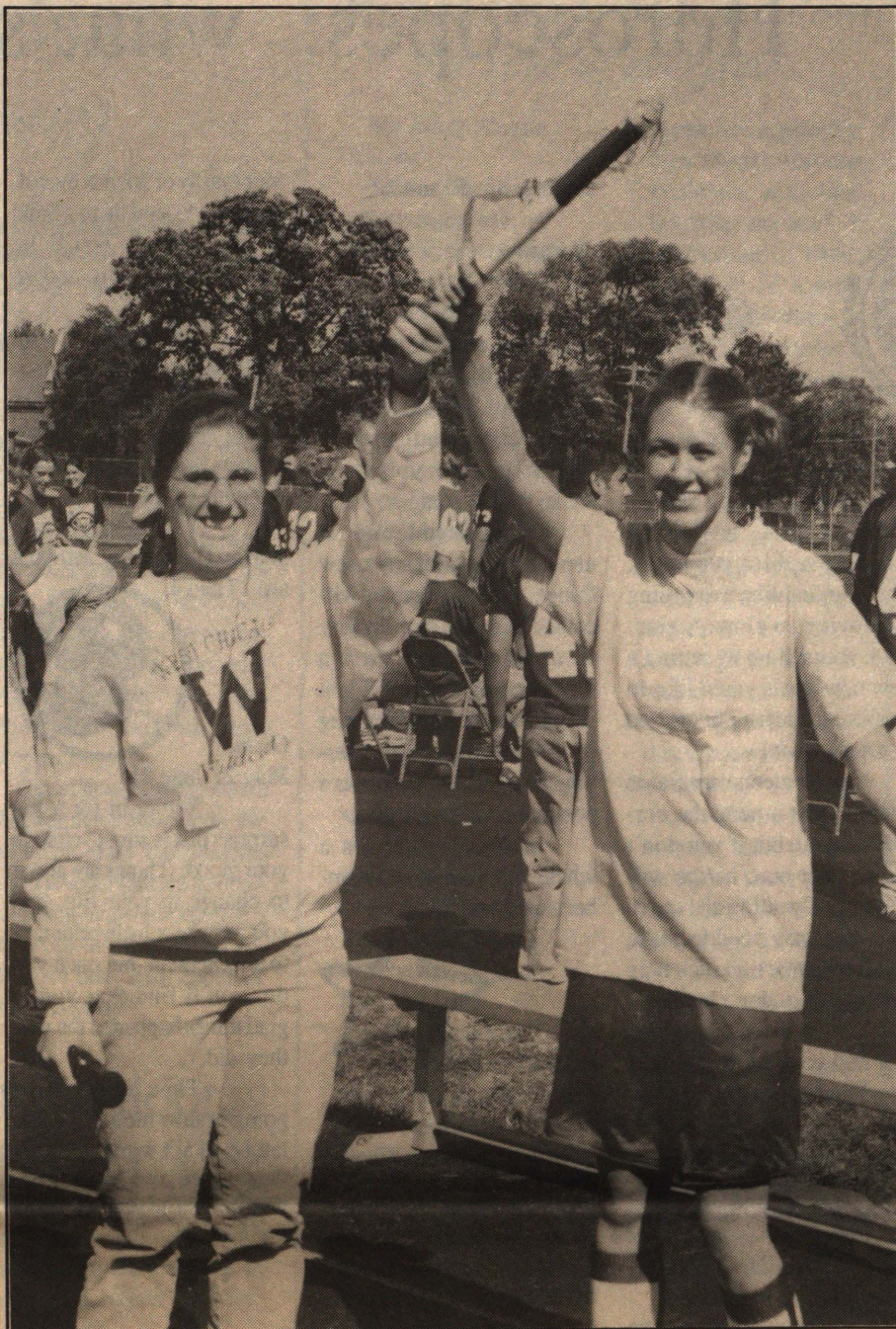


Photo courtesy of the Wildcat Challenge

Ms. Pelleteir rewards senior Shannon Sterne with the hard earned spirit stick after the senior class won the Homecoming spirit contest.



Photo by Kyle Hempel

Seniors Brad Olson and Mitch Strohm take a stab at crossdressing at the homecoming pep rally.

### Student...

*(continued from page 6)*  
Actually, I was shocked. When Dr. Jones did tell me that I was chosen as Student of the Month, however, I was really excited. Even though I had three tests the day I found out, I still had a grin on my face the entire time.

Have you already made plans for when you graduate from West Chicago High School?

*I know that I'm going to a four-year university, but I have not decided which one yet. I'm planning on majoring in bilingual education.*

## Pregnant?

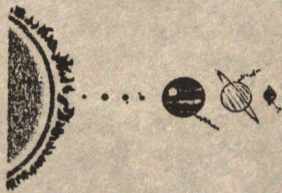
Need someone to talk to?

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OF DUPAGE

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6711 Cass Avenue Westmont, IL 60559

## Horoscopes: what's in the stars for you?



**Scorpio**  
Oct. 24-Nov. 24

Time has been standing still for you lately, and you feel like everything is moving in slow motion. Pick yourself up by setting a few new goals you'd like to achieve in the near future and get a move on!

Someone special is waiting just around the corner for you, but if you don't move your butt, he/she will get sick of waiting and move on. You may need to make the first contact, so suck it up and go for it, don't be shy.

Your animal is a tiger and your lucky numbers are 3 and 8.



**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 25-Dec. 21

You've always been a loyal friend, but very soon you're going to be put in a situation that will test your devotion. Step up to the challenge. Your friendship will grow.

There's someone that you really want to reach out to, but they don't seem to want to open up to you. The person is not ready to accept a relationship with you yet. Give some time and space and wait for him/her to come to you.

Your animal is a deer and your lucky numbers are 6 and 13.



**Capricorn**  
Dec. 22-Jan. 19

Lately you've been putting all of your energy into one activity. It's great that you are so dedicated, but keep in mind that there are other things in life you could be enjoying if you just took a break every once in a while.

Things are definitely looking up for you. Don't be too sensitive to constructive criticism. People just want to help you with suggestions, they aren't attacking you.

Your animal is a penguin, and your lucky

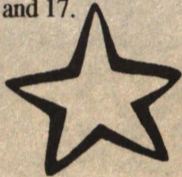
numbers are 10 and 12.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20-Feb 18

Careful planning is key to reaching the goal that you have for yourself. Be patient and stick to your plans. Have confidence in yourself and you will achieve your goal.

Be flexible and get used to adapting to new things. A big change will come about in your life very soon, and you can make it a lot easier on yourself if you accept it instead of fighting it. Your attitude will determine whether the change is a positive or negative one.

Your animal is a whale and your lucky numbers are 5 and 17.



**Pisces**  
Feb. 19-March 20

You don't always have to be perfect. Whether you make a mistake or not, your friends will not turn their backs on you. Relax a little. You might surprise yourself by having a little fun without trying so hard to be accepted.

Don't be afraid of stepping back a little from your life just to figure out for sure what you're doing and where you want to go from there.

Your animal is a skunk and your lucky numbers are 4 and 15.

**Aries**  
March 21-April 19

Everything seems to be moving along just great, but don't start to slack off, especially after your great start to the school year. You have a lot of potential so use as much of it as you can. Don't think too far ahead yet. Live a little in the moment, don't worry so much about 20 years in the future.

Your energy level is really up there right now. Keep up your enthusiasm during your activities and almost any task can be made enjoyable.

Your animal is a donkey and your lucky numbers are 14 and 1.



**Taurus**  
April 20-May 20

You've been feeling very guilty about something lately. Instead of crying about it, work yourself out of the hole. Help out some of

your family or friends by volunteering to lend them a hand in something. You'll be happy that you did, and so will they.

Remember you don't have to take responsibility for everything that goes wrong around you. Things happen, and it's not always someone's fault.

Your animal is a goat and your lucky numbers are 17 and 4.



**Gemini**  
May 21-June 21

You're in for a big surprise that is sure to change your mood. Things are about to change in your life, and you may be a little reluctant to accept them, but once you do, you'll find that you're glad things happened the way they did.

Time seems to be going in slow motion for you lately. Don't worry, take advantage of your leisure moments because soon time will be flying by.

Your animal is a snake and your lucky numbers are 13 and 0.

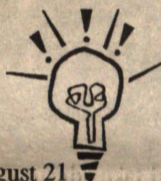


**Cancer**  
June 22-July 22

Your luck is about to change. Even though in the past, things haven't seemed to go your way too often, something you've been waiting for for a while is about to come your way. Take advantage of it and enjoy your run of good luck while it lasts.

You'll be in high spirits and look at things differently this season, try to keep your optimism as long as possible, you'll need it in a few months.

Your animal is a flamingo and your lucky numbers are 20 and 11.



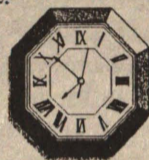
**Leo**  
July 23-August 21

You have a lot of

pent up energy lately. Don't just sit around on it. Do something new and exciting, and bring along a couple of friends.

Night time is especially a peak time for you, but you're going to be needing energy in the mornings, so don't be partying too hard at night. Be responsible in your actions or this month could be a dangerous one for you.

Your animal is an eel and your lucky numbers are 24 and 2.



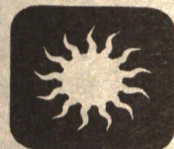
**Virgo**  
Aug. 22- Sept. 22

Lately you've felt a little under appreciated. Don't become too bitter, soon your starvation for affection will end with the coming of a new person who will actually make you feel a little bit smothered. Wait out both of these periods and you'll be feeling just fine.

You're going to find out you have an original talent that you've never

noticed before. Make sure you show it off. Use it to your advantage, and to help out some other people too.

Your animal is a koala and your lucky numbers are 4 and 18.



**Libra**  
Sept. 23-Oct. 23

You had your share of fun so far this school year, but now may be the time to start focusing on your classes. Buckle down and stop procrastinating, and your work will become a lot easier for you.

You may just be getting over a relationship. Give yourself time to heal before jumping back into the dating pool. If you're now involved with someone special, keep it cool. There's no need to rush into a serious relationship so soon.

Your animal is a rabbit, and your lucky numbers are 6 and 10.



## Foreign exchange goes tropical: three exciting weeks in Costa Rica

By Alexandra Patin  
Swinging 150 feet above the ground from tree top to tree top hanging from a cable was just one of the many things this year's exchange students to Costa Rica were able to experience over the summer.

A total of 13 students went on the exchange which took place from June 10-July 13. The group stayed with host families in San Jose.

Junkroski said students went whitewater rafting, horseback riding, on a twilight hike through the cloud forest, and visited a butterfly farm.

Everything was great in its own way because although some of the students had gone horseback riding or whitewater rafting, they hadn't had the chance to go through the forest or to a tropical place, said Junkroski.

"While we were whitewater rafting we saw toucans, just sitting there," said Junkroski.

The cloud forest is called that because instead of being close to sea level, like a rain forest, it is high in the mountains, and hikers walk

through the clouds, said Junkroski.

"If you stand really still you can hear water dripping everywhere," she said.

Another highlight of the trip was standing on the Arenal volcano.

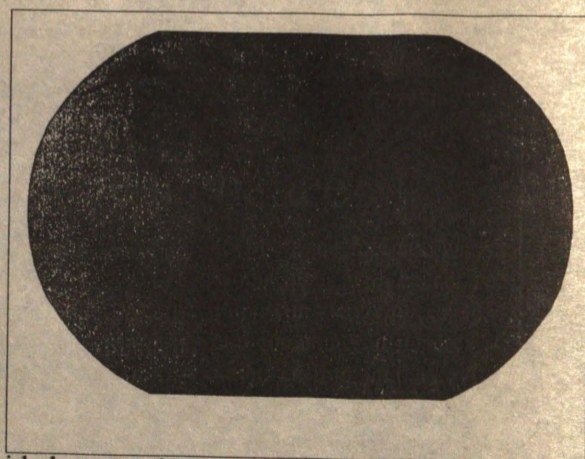
The group could feel the volcano "burp" about every 45 minutes to release pressure from underneath, said Junkroski.

The students also went on a twilight hike through the forest and were able to see nocturnal luminescent insects and other nocturnal animals.

This year marked the largest group ever to go to Costa Rica under the exchange program, said Junkroski. The traveling crew consisted of three boys and 10 girls.

Some of the students opted to receive a quarter credit for going, said Junkroski. In order to do this, they had to keep a journal during their stay, attend meetings before they left, keep a list of 50 new vocabulary words, and upon their return, make a presentation to Spanish 1 and 2 classes.

Students who go on a foreign exchange with the Span-



ish classes can choose to visit either Spain or Costa Rica. The students may visit both countries. The trip alternates from Spain and Costa Rica every year.

**Halloween**  
(continued from page 5)



The next big change to this celebration came with the spread of Christianity throughout Europe. The church turned these holidays into All Saints Day, celebrated on Nov. 1, a day to honor all the saints. Several years later the church made Nov. 2 a holy day and called it All Souls Day in honor of the dead. People celebrated with bon fires, parades, and dressing up as saints, devils, and angels.

But even after all these influences, people still did not forget their earlier customs. They still continued to celebrate the festival of Samhain and Pomona Day on the Eve of All Hallows. Over time, these customs combined into one holiday, and Oct. 31 was known as All Hallow Even. Years later, it became All Hallow's Eve, then Hallowe'en, and eventually Halloween. Over the years, Americans picked up the custom of handing out candy after kids recited, "trick or treat."



## Benefits of horticulture make it too valuable to simply throw away

By Laura McQueen

Guess what? You know that horticulture program that the school's had since 1973.... Oh wait you probably don't.

Carol Walksler started horticulture and has led the class for almost 30 years. It's a class where basic landscaping, flower arrangements, how to operate greenhouses, how to grow and cut plants, and anything else having to do with the color green is learned.

But the class is more than just out of the book information. You get more hands-on action than almost any other class here. You develop team skills, dedication, and responsibility, which are things that teens desperately need.

Unfortunately very few students know about the pro-

gram now. Barely anyone knows about the class and what it is all about, and consequently enrollment is low. Horticulture has been pushed back into a far corner of We-go next to the field house, with no other classes around it and has been basically forgotten.

So what's kept the horticulture program alive? Students who are dedicated to learning and taking advantage of the opportunity they have to take a class that they are really interested in. Horticulture is not a blow off class, and the students who take it really care about the program. The teacher is even more dedicated, and has put more into that class than I've ever seen.

The students and teacher keep the program up and in

the best condition possible considering that no one else seems to care about it. Unfortunately this year is Walksler's last at We-go, and as she leaves, so does the program.

Apparently, to the school, it's expendable.

Expendable.

The horticulture program is anything but expendable to the people who have been through it, or students who want to learn all the things that no other class could come close to teaching. Ask one of the many former West Chicago students who have pursued careers in horticulture or landscape design, if the program is expendable.

It's true, students don't really need to learn all the responsibility, teamwork, and heart that it takes to run a

green house, create a landscape design, or even arrange flowers. But the students who want to should have that option.

Sure students could always try to take the class at College of DuPage. They'd just have to drive half an hour for every class and give up a few hours after school. But most students don't have time for that. Putting in all that effort to take the class is unnecessary and unfair, especially when it's not too late right now to save the horticulture program.

The idea of shutting down the program is ridiculous. No other program has students and a teacher that are so dedicated and hard-working. It's survived all these years because of that. How could we throw it away?

## At high school, check sibling rivalry at the door

By Laura McQueen

"What? You talk to your brother? In school? You couldn't pay my brother to even say hi to me!" Sadly enough, this is a common reaction to many close relationships between siblings.

Why is it so difficult for students at our high school to be close with their siblings? It should be a time for siblings to get closer. As teenagers, it's at this time that we have the most in common

with our brothers or sisters. You have the same family, the same school, and surely many of the same problems too. As teenagers, it's time to mature enough to put aside your differences and get to know your sibling as more than just the annoying person you have to live with. Like it or not, you're stuck with him or her for the rest of your life.

A lot of the time students just get sick of their siblings

being around so much. However, why not be optimistic and take advantage of your time together? You may be surprised to find out later in life that you miss being around your brothers or sisters. Maybe you even miss their little quirks and the stupid arguments you have.

If you're really having that tough of a time giving your relationship a chance, start small. Talk to them civilly when no one else is around.

You need to be the bigger one and take the first step. Most siblings argue less when there is no one is around, because there isn't anyone to witness or referee their actions.

High school students really need to be mature enough to take advantage of time with their siblings. If you already are close with your brother or sister, more power to you. Keep on setting a good example for your peers.

## Stereotypes don't give people a chance

By Jamie Nadolny

"Don't hang out with her. She's a brain."

"That guy is so dumb. He's such a slacker."

"I saw that girl the other day, and she was hanging all over another guy. What a flirt!"

Walk through the halls of West Chicago High School, and that's what you might hear.

Stereotypes.

If there were one word that applies to every single student at We-go, that would be it.

Everyone has been labeled before. We've all been called a jock or a nerd or maybe a freak. We've all been called a prep or a geek or maybe a skater.

All of these terms are related in some way. They all stem from assumption, observation, and generalizations. They're all degrading.

Students at West Chicago Community High School can

be categorized in only a few seconds. Going to school and being dubbed one of those titles is just a part of everyday life.

But should it be?

Individuality is often taken for granted by adolescents. Our society lives and thrives in a country where freedoms are possible. Sure, the first amendment grants U.S. citizens freedom of speech, but students often take that right one step too far.

Our right to individuality is often and ironically diminished by our lack of self-control and self-discipline. Opinions should be respected, yes. Undignified comments aimed at hurting other students, however, should not be.

Just the other day, I was riding in the car with one of my good friends and a person I had never met. Striking up a friendly conversation, I was excited about the oppor-

tunity of meeting someone new.

After introducing myself, this person responded harshly with, "Oh! I've heard about you."

Their reaction immediately shocked me, and I was disappointed that the person actually fell into the trap of stereotypes and false-accusations. After desperately trying to continue the conversation and show the person my true personality, I gave up any hope of ever changing this person's mind.

Although I should have been offended and angry at their response to my introduction, I was greatly disappointed and discouraged. I realized that stereotypes had erased any open-mindedness that this person might have had about meeting someone new.

It's obvious that stereotypes can quickly get out of control. Adolescence is a fragile time when teens want

to fit in and feel accepted. Going along with friends is important to a lot of people, and sometimes it results in name-calling and harassment.

However, it is this need for acceptance that also results in the frustration students feel when they are made fun of or beleaguered. Because adolescence is such a fragile time, harassment can also be devastating to teens.

Stereotype is a word used every day in the English language, and most people don't realize the impact it leaves on other people. In truth, stereotypes aren't even realistic. How can a person fit into one of those categories when a human is much more complex than a one-word slur?

There's one simple resolution.

Respect.

It's time for some students at West Chicago High School to start expanding their vocabulary.

## Movies need to be toned down for sake of everyone

By Mary-Megan Kalvig

When watching advertisements on television or looking through the newspaper for a movie, you might realize most movies are rated R. It gets annoying when you want to see a movie but are underage.

On Sept. 11, the movie industry publicly announced it targeted R-rated movies to children during family programming. What is the purpose of advertising when many viewers aren't old enough to see the movie?

The industry has stopped marketing to the youth. R-rated movies will no longer be advertised as trailers before G and PG movies. There will no longer be ads when the audience is 35 percent or higher under the age of 17. Now the trailers will have logos stating why the movie is rated R.

While a plan has been made, the industry has yet to address the topic of movie violence. Informing me why the movie is rated a certain way does nothing to prevent me or encourage me to see the movie.

The best way to get a 16-year-old to go to the movie legally is to drop the rating. The best way to drop the rating is to take out the violence, sex, and language.

"They insisted that a total ban on such advertising would deprive studios of the right to market to teenagers such movies that would have redeeming educational or social values despite possible R ratings," wrote Michael Kilian of the Chicago Tribune about studio representatives.

That studio comment is a bunch of baloney. First off, if the movie is for teenagers, half cannot even see it because it's rated R.

Second, if the

movie is supposedly educational, why are violence, sex, and language needed? I understand a little violence in a war movie, but does it have to be so graphic? Whatever happened to the audience's imagination?

One thing I never understood about movies is the swearing. Why is there so much? I'm not talking about one or two words in a burst of anger but the use of swear words in everyday conversation. For example, in the movie *Gun Shy*, an actress said the f-word at least five times in a five-minute conversation. That is enough times for the word to be imprinted in young people's minds. Then, in one conversation with their parents, that word might pop up. Next thing they know, they are grounded for something they heard in a movie.

Another problem is the sex and nudity. Why do we have to view two people having intense sex? What is that huge kick?

The sex scenes encourage making love before you are married. Movies make it to be an every day activity, more of a sport than something loving between a man and a woman.

Movie producers have promoted sex to the young. People wonder why there are so many teenagers getting pregnant.

Producers do not know the impact they have on viewers. People hear swears and pick them up; they watch violent scenes and think they are exciting. Next thing we know, the people are fighting in school, on the streets and acting out scenes from movies they have seen.

The only way to solve the problem of the results of R-rated movies would be to stop the sex, violence, and swearing. Then the ratings can be dropped and everyone can go and see a good movie.

## Vibrolush: a second attempt at success leads to innovative ideas and new style

By Jamie Nadolny

For music lovers wanting to desert the sounds of monotonous rock-alternative bands, there comes a group that evades ordinary expectations and false excitement. The new act is named Vibrolush, and they're out to rule the music industry.

The band is made up of four songwriters and musicians who are devoted to oddly designed pop compositions and arrangements that are unlike those of typical rock-alternative groups.

Now, vocalist and guitarist Phil Vassil, guitarist James Mazlen, bass guitarist Steve Bonacio, and drummer Tobias Ralph are waiting for their second album, *Touch and Go*, to rule the music charts.

Success wouldn't be surprising for the group, considering their first single, also entitled "Touch and Go," is already ruling the airwaves across the nation.

The group originated in the mid-90s after Vassil and Mazlen met while working on their own projects in New York City. The two hit it off immediately and soon began writing lyrics and background music.

"We're very different, [and we have very different] personalities," said Vassil during an interview with Interscope Records. "That's one of the

things that keeps this exciting. From the moment we met, we seemed to be on the same page musically. I'd been doing my own thing for a long time, but James [Mazlen] was the missing piece to the puzzle."

The duo later formed Vibrolush with Bonacio and Ralph. Within a year, the group signed with independent label Iguana Records. In 1997, Vibrolush cut their debut album with Interscope Records.

After little success, the group finally landed a deal with veteran producer Steve Thompson (Korn, Rollins Band, Guns and Roses) and V2 records.

"Steve's a very hands-on producer—he's not afraid to tell you what he thinks. He definitely makes you take another look at what you're doing as a band and encourages you to top yourself," said Vassil.

The group recorded *Touch and Go* over four different sessions last winter.

"We liked recording that way. It gave us the opportunity to go back over what we'd done and tweak. We ended up experimenting with more instruments, using lots of keyboards, and things like tabla," said Vassil.

Vibrolush's extra effort was well worth it, however. Their sophomore album mixes

edgy pop-alternative hooks with epic rock leads. The 12 tracks on the group's second album also combine computer generated sounds with classic guitar riffs for a result that's pure intensity and innovation.

Sounding like a mix between Collective Soul and U2, Vibrolush is an ingenious group with good ideas and impressive talent. Their creativity is evident in songs like "Long Way Down," "Crush," and "Claim to Fame."

"I'm a great believer in songs, but there's also a lot of variety on this record, from classic rock influences to programmed deep grooves. Some people don't get that, but when there's so much good music out there these days, it's not enough to do just one thing," said Vassil.

There is a bravely present theme throughout the album's tracks as well. Individuality tends to surface in songs like "Right on Time," "Joker," and "Special." The songs deal with verbalizing and finding yourself, and the lyrics teach you to embrace being diverse.

Overall, Vibrolush's unique style and mellow dramatic lyrics will haunt you. Their innovative sophomore album is the epitome of perfection.



For music lovers wanting to desert the sounds of monotonous rock-alternative bands, there comes a group that evades ordinary expectations and false excitement. Check out Vibrolush's (above) sophomore album for unique style and mellow dramatic lyrics will haunt you.

Do you have an idea for the Chronicle? Have you seen a movie lately that you want to review? What about a book or CD you are just dying to tell people about? The Wildcat Chronicle is open for ideas or articles to be published. This is your time to be heard. Drop your ideas in the Chronicle mailbox in the office.

## The boy band from Ireland is going to be the next big hit in the U.S.

By Mary-Megan Kalvig

Boy bands such as Backstreet Boys, 'NSYNC, 98 degrees, and multiple others following in their footsteps are taking over the United States

One band, Westlife, is a good addition to the boy band craze.

Westlife comes all the way from Dublin, Ireland, but their CD has been released in the United States. Their soft harmonizing and sweet lyrics are a great addition to the music industry.

The group is made up of five boys, Shane Filan, Mark

Feehilly, Kain Egan, Bryan McFadden, and Nicky Byrne.

When the five came together, they toured with Boyzone, who is managed by the same person, under the name of Westside. However, they were forced to change their name to Westlife because of how popular Westside is in the U.S.

According to a Westlife Online website, Westlife had wild success in Dublin. In fact, their first single, "Swear it Again," brought in the biggest single sale ever in Ireland.

The band has what it takes to make it big in the States with their boyish charm. All of their songs are about the joy of love and the agony of the loss.

Their lyrics are completely genuine. Unlike a lot of songs, there is no swearing or sexual references in these songs.

One draw back about this CD is the lack of fast songs. Since all of the songs are love songs, they are all for slow dances. Don't expect to see any intense dance moves from these young men.

Westlife has their own ver-

sion of the song, "More Than Words." They keep the song slow and loving as they sing about how love is more than words. They sing about love and the feelings and emotions you express in other ways.

In the song, "Flying Without Wings," Westlife talks about the joy found in love. "You find it in the deepest friendship/ The kind you cherish all your life/ And when you know how much that means/ You've found that special thing/ You're flying without wings."

Their song, "Can't Lose

What You Never Had" talks about the obsession sometimes involved in love. They sing about how you find that one person whom you love, but you know is out of your league. Then the inner love drives you crazy so you just have to tell that person how you feel. In the end though, rejection is okay. Westlife explains that by saying, "Doesn't matter if it turns out bad/ 'Cause I've got no fear of losin' you/ You can't lose what you never had."

Another song, "Fool Again," says sometimes you get so caught up in love that

you miss what is going on around you. "I should've seen it coming/ I should've read the signs/ Anyway.... I guess it's over/ Can't believe that I'm the fool again/ I thought this love would never end."

Besides the deep meanings and great lyrics, the background music is also soothing. The music includes both keyboard and guitar riffs, unlike the usual drum and keyboard in most boy bands.

Westlife is a great addition to the boy band craze. They have a uniqueness that is all their own. Their words explain true love and will really touch your heart.

## Mikaila, newest Britney Spears wannabe enters into the music industry while being "So in Love With Two"

By Laura McQueen

Torn between two significant others who you feel equally attached to, and unable to break either relationship off. It sure sounds like a Britney Spears song, but it's not.

"So in Love With Two," is by a new artist who seems

to be really hitting it big. Mikaila has already opened for Britney Spears, and will be at B96's Halloween bash. The song has also broken into the 96.3 top nine at nine.

Her single, "So in Love With Two," is pretty good the first few times around, but it probably will quickly be-

come overplayed. The pressure will be on this new artist to make another single fast.

Mikailah also sings "So in Love With Two" in Spanish on the single. The Spanish version is a little better than the English, because the words match the rhythm better. However, the beats are

the same so it's not too much of a difference.

Mikailah's music should be listened to sparingly if you're not into the Britney Spears type music, but if that's your style, then check out her new CD. The CD deserves only three out of five stars.

**Just a fraction of our time watching movies could help bring many happy endings.**

It's so easy to help your community, when you think about it. Millions of people have helped make five percent of their incomes and

Give Five. *What you get back is immeasurable.*

five hours of volunteer time per week the standard of giving in America. Get involved with the causes you care about and give five.

## Students at WCCHS rate scary movies for the Halloween season

Halloween is a time to be scared and what better way than to watch a scary movie. As a reminder of what freaky movies are out to rent, the *Chronicle* staff wrote up a summary of just a few suggestions to rent for a scare. The scores are from one to four. One is the least scary, while four is the most freaky.

### Final Destination

Alex Browning (Devon Sawa) had a dream the plane he was riding in was going to explode. When he and six other passengers got off of the plane, they cheated death's plan for them. Now death is coming back to finish what it started, because it only has one thing on its mind. Browning and his friends must find a way to outwit death's scheme before it's too late. The movie was suspenseful, maybe a bit gory, and made you wonder if death really does have a plan for all of us.

#### Student Ratings:

"Three," sophomore Eddie Pineda.  
"Probably a four," junior Brian Toms.

### The Haunting

Dr. David Marrow (Liam Neeson) is conducting a so-called study of insomnia in a haunted house called Hill House. His three subjects (Catherine Zeta-Jones, Owen Wilson, and Lili Taylor) realize he is really studying their reaction to fear. Suddenly Nell (Taylor) is emotionally drawn to Hill House and its secrets behind the walls. While the story might a bit predictable, there are some interesting effects and scenes.

#### Student Ratings:

"One point two because I found it hilariously comical," junior Beth Deutsch.  
"Two," senior Tim Axelrod.  
"Four," sophomore Christine Hendron.

### Prom Night

It's prom night and everyone is getting ready for the night of their lives; but there's a problem. A serial killer is on the loose and he's got a grudge against the prom queen, king, and some of their friends. It has all the great elements of a horror movie. Suspense, a jealous ex-girlfriend, and a psycho killer are what the director uses to get the audience good and scared, and with Jamie Lee Curtis playing the lead role as prom queen, you can't go wrong.

#### Student Ratings:

"Three plus," senior Elissa Dupree.  
"Three," senior Bemnet Yigzaw.  
"Four," senior Anders Walker.

## Lost Souls: more than lost with lack of excitement and sunshine

By Mary-Megan Kalvig  
*Lost Souls* did not follow through with the potential it showed in the previews. I expected more than it delivered.

to be dark and gloomy to add to the mood, but this was a little too much. Almost every day in the movie it was raining and everyone was wearing black. I did not see a single pink shirt in the movie. Then, when the scene went bright, you were blinded from the transition.

The movie also seemed dirty. Not a physical dirty, but the editing looked grimy. The movie didn't show the softened, clean look you get in most movies. This, again, might be to add to the mood, but it got a little annoying.

I thought this movie was going to be an edge-of-your-seat movie with surprises around the corner. However, there were only a few scenes that made you jump in surprise, but it is not enough to keep the viewer interested.

*Lost Souls* lacked energy and had no real big climax.

There was no peak of real excitement except for the very end.

While the movie started out having a surprise ending, it just died. The ending just went *bang!* and it was over. You sat there waiting for it to continue. It had a great possibility to continue into a climatic peak.

The characters also could have been developed a lot more. An interesting part about Maya, introduced in the beginning of the movie, was never explained. The point could have been very important in why she acted a certain way, but they never brought it up again.

*Lost Souls* lacked that certain "umph" it seemed to have in the previews. It was a definite disappointment and should be saved for video viewing only. I would give it a two out of five stars.

### Find these words in the Halloween word search

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H A U N T E D H O U S E I R G I I H T P S
S O O H H J A E O Q R A S E F E S E R E D
D T A E R T R O K C I R T B H N S L R N H
J M W K R N F S N B T T D O O R C L E I E
R S N I G H T M A R E S Y T U H A T S T N
E J X R T D J F A U E A E C W T R S A F B
D N B E C C D P L V R L N O U N Y L K D A
I Y E H S I H U A I E K V L T V O I N N O
C A N D Y A B E D K T U K J B C A H K F C
E E O K C U L K S G K Y A G O B L I N S O
L R T Q G T Q A O S L U O H G B A A H Y S
P J S A G O P M Q S J J C J J S I U T N T
P B E Y S W S P M C E E Y R K C R T M H U
A V V R E I M M B M K L G Q R B T U D A M
C N A N R U Z X C F S L P S D K T V H K E
K X R A I M U B W E S A R P R U N A A V S
S L G K P U R A D R L K O O A I V O R N A
G U K C M M Y I K E G N R O C Y D N A C L
S E I I A M R D J T L J R K U H F O I R D
G H G S V Y K R V S V V E Y L N B F N E K
I J H K A M N I O N J J T B A C A S A H F
W F J H M V K G H O S T S F Y A A T D T S
L H F I K B S J R M T L G O S L W S S N C
    
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Candy  
Sugar  
Taffy apples  
Costumes  
Ghosts  
Goblins  
Witches  
Curse  
Scary  
Monster

Dracula  
Vampires  
Make-up  
Wigs  
Skeletons  
Ghouls  
Mummy  
Trick or treat  
Candy corn  
Haunted house

Grave stone  
Autumn  
Hay rides  
October  
Nightmares  
Terror  
Spooky  
Apple cider  
Leaves  
Chocolate

## Remember the Titans brings an exciting new life to tired genre

By Marc Berry  
I'm not a big fan of "inspirational" sports movies. You know the kind-- the ones where teams surmount overwhelming odds; where they start off their season playing horribly but gradually improve; where the whole movie comes down to that final crucial play in the big game where they pull together and win an "unexpected" victory. Yeah, those movies.

However, I thought I'd give the new film *Remember the Titans* a chance and to my surprise it managed to go beyond the popular cliches of this genre.

Denzel Washington stars as Herman Boone, an African

American football coach. He becomes the head coach of T.C. Williams High School, the result of combining a white and a black school. This angers many residents of the community who are strong supporters of the white football coach Bill Yoast (Will Patton), who is a very successful and experienced coach. He is angry at the situation, but he agrees to work under Boone as an assistant coach.

The film is basically broken into two parts. The first part covers the team's training camp. It is there that all the characters are introduced and each of their distinct personalities are revealed. The group includes the cocky all-

state captain (Ryan Hurst), a wannabe preacher nicknamed "the rev" (Craig Kirkwood), a Californian beach bum (Kip Pardue), and a slow but good-hearted player named Lewis (Ethan Suplee). These are the sort of stereotypical characters found in many movies of this genre, but they seem to work here. Each has something about him that makes him stand out from the rest of the team.

During camp, the players are not only taught about football, but the importance of getting along with one's fellow man, despite his color. Boone drives his point home by forcing the team to participate in rigorous training

and activities that allow them to get to know members of the other race.

Washington does an excellent job of portraying a man who appears rough and mean spirited but has the team's best interests in mind. Yoast is more sympathetic towards the team, however, and cannot see why Boone puts them through the difficult exercises.

It is interesting to see how two men, who both have good intentions, act towards the team, and both actors do a fine job of making the viewer see his character's point of view.

The second part of the movie follows the team's season after they return from

camp. Once they arrive, they find the discrimination in town has only worsened since their departure.

The team, however, begins to bring the town together through its successful playing, and the football games seem to unite the citizens. The games are shown nicely and are not made too cheesy. They are used simply to move the story along rather than being used as the center of the story. Because the movie is based around the people -- not the game.

Although football is a large part of the movie, there is a more important issue at hand, which makes it stand apart from previous high school sports films. Even if the au-

dience is not a fan of football, it makes no difference because anyone can appreciate the theme of overcoming racial bigotry. Each character has his own way of dealing with it, and it is moving to see how one team gradually changes the views of an entire town.

The drama, humor, and feel-good moments in *Remember the Titans* are all well implemented and keep you entertained. The football aspect is good, but the human aspect is better. The movie will reach out to more types of audiences than any movie in recent history, and will keep them entertained. I would give this movie four out of five stars.

## “Pieces” creates breakthrough in the future of fiction

By Jamie Nadolny

Finally, I have discovered a novel that combines fantasy with reality. A shockingly intrepid, but ironically pragmatic, collection of fiction, the book contains exciting stories written by literature's new voices. *Pieces* makes a shocking debut in provocative fiction, and it also stimulates the imagination.

The book was edited earlier this year by movie maker and author Stephan Chbosky, who sets up a significant short-story collection that will fascinate you. Chbosky introduces the novel with a personal account of the frustrations that go along with fictional writing.

“There is a possibility for [the authors]. And for you,” Chbosky writes in the introduction. “And I congratulate all persons involved. Because whether you picked up this book because you love short stories, are interested in young authors, thought the cover looked good, or want to hate it, you have it. It's in your hands right now. And there is a possibility that somewhere in these pages, you may discover something special. Something honest. Well crafted. Messy.”

From the beginning, *Pieces* is fundamentally uncensored and enticingly creative. The winners of MTV's “Write Stuff” competition share their attempt at short story writing. The results are amazingly absorbing and modern.

The opening story, “Scoring,” is based on a man's addiction to an antidepressant. The troubled main character desperately seeks prescription drugs from a psychiatrist, only to find out that the doc-

tor has given him sugar-pills. Although somewhat depressing, the story also gives the reader plausible hope for the man's better tomorrow.

Edgy tales like “Petty Theft,” about a store clerk's encounter with a shoplifter, deal with real-life, obscure situations. They offer an entirely new and unanticipated outlook on reality.

Stories like “Day of the Dead,” about a doomed relationship between a young couple, and “Next Time,” about a housewife's encounter with a gunman, will change your outlook on love and life. The stories have unexpected conclusions that will haunt you even after you have finished reading the book.

Although most of the stories deal with mature subject matter, including “Pinball,” about a young male's hidden sex life, any teenager or adult with the capacity to analyze and enjoy will understand this glimpse into the future of fiction.

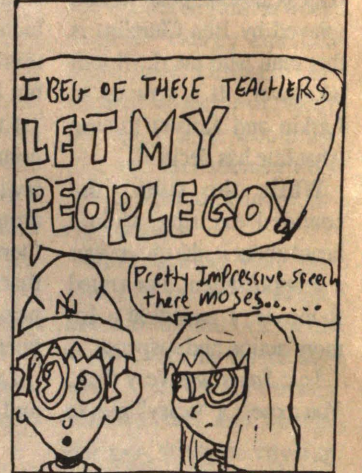
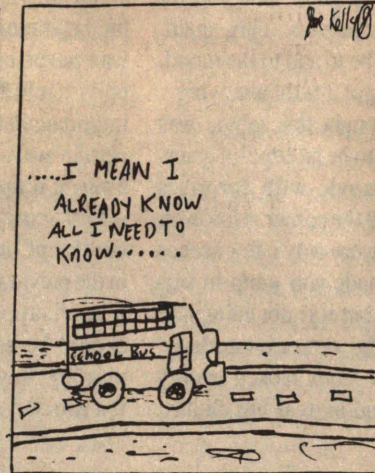
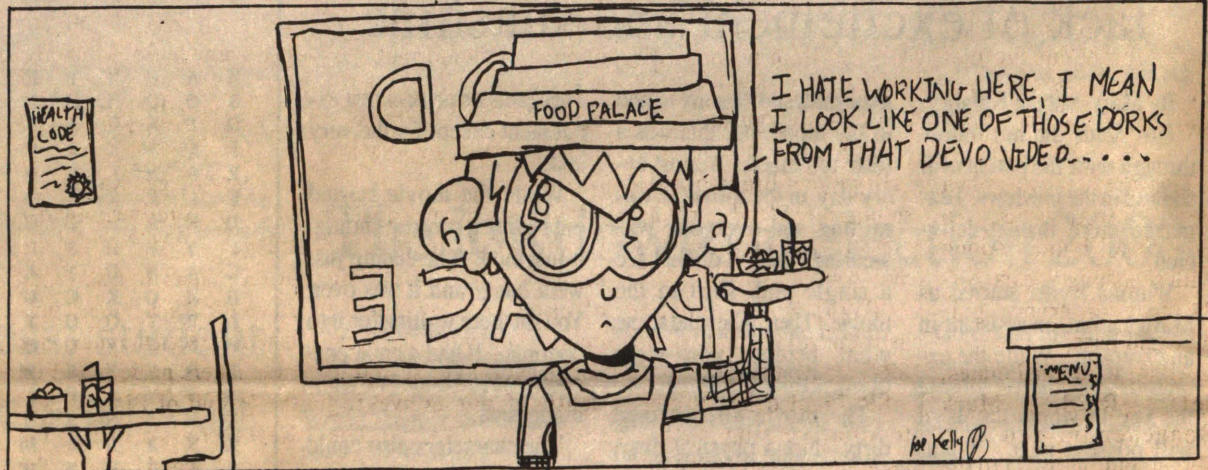
By the end of the novel, we see the 15 new writers maneuver through a world of love, drugs, friendship, and responsibility. In *Pieces*, a prevalent theme of diversity and boldness interlocks the fictional stories.

Chbosky has edited an ingenious masterpiece that almost all teenagers and adults can appreciate. *Pieces* is filled with a breakthrough of creativity that no other short story collection has illustrated before. It is a collection that I would recommend to anyone with an interest in the imagination, because it is pure brilliance and perfection combined. *Pieces* is a must read book.

## Riddles for the person who enjoys a challenge

- A man gave his young son the opportunity to receive \$1,000 if he could accomplish the following task. The father gave his son 10 envelopes and \$1,000, all in \$1 bills. He told his son, “Place the money in the envelopes in such a manner that no matter what number of dollars I ask for, you can give me one or more of the envelopes, containing the exact amount I asked for without having to open any of the envelopes. If you can do this, you can keep the \$1,000.”

When the father asked for a sum of money, the son was able to give him envelopes containing the exact amount of money for which the father asked. How did the son distribute the money among the 10 envelopes?
- This is where you go to have fun. But if you have too much, They may do this to you. You can also try to raise this, And some people belong to it. What is it?  
By Travis Blinkenberg
- There was a green house. Inside the green house there was a white house. Inside the white house there was a red house. Inside the red house there were lots of babies. What is the house? Hint: A fruit  
-Ancient Riddles
- This can be carried, though it has no weight, and you can do it to a radio to help you play one. What is it?  
-Travis Blinkenberg
- Rearrange the following letters to make just one word. USTOODWERNJ  
"Runs over fields and woods all day Under the bed at night sits not alone, With long tongue hanging out, A-waiting for a bone." Hint: It's something very close to you.  
-Ancient Riddles



## One book with all you need to know on about surviving life all in ten chapters.

### Ten Things I Wish I'd Known - Before I Went Out into the Real World

By Mary-Megan Kalvig  
*Ten Things I Wish I'd Known - Before I Went Out into the Real World*, is a great book for high schoolers or college students. High school and college is the time right before you take that big step into the world. This is when you decide what you are going to do with your life and when you get your first job.

Author Maria Shriver gives the reader good advice on going into the world. Shriver looks back at her experiences getting started in her career.

I first thought, “What does she know about getting

started in the real world? After all, she is a Kennedy cousin, married to Arnold Schwarzenegger, and is a news correspondent on TV.”

However, she has a lot of insight in the way the world works. The book has 10 helpful hints to making life easy and enjoyable. As you read the book, you realize there were more than 10 hints. The 10 chapters are the basic rules followed up by more advice. At the end of the book, she gives a brief summary of all of her points. If you do not read the whole book, be sure to read the list.

Her 10 helpful hints are

common knowledge people just forget. She reminds the reader to be willing to fail, to laugh, to work at marriage, not to over rate perfectionism, and more.

This is a self-help book but is not a “do this, do that” book. The book is set up like a persuasive paper: claim, example, and explanation.

Shriver might seem to be bragging about the life she has, but she is completely honest. The stories are not the buttered up ones where everything is sweet and cheery. Her stories are ones of what went wrong, including a lot of her failures.

Her stories are also human. They did not seem fake, or Hollywood style like you might expect from someone married to a movie star. If you ignore that and the fact that she is working in television, she experienced things just like you and me. She experienced criticism, failure, disappointment, and gained the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

Her 10 things are also down to earth. They are not saying “Go off and marry a millionaire.” Instead she says “Don't expect anyone else to support you financially.” She did not say aim directly for

the president of the business. She did say, “No job is beneath you.” All of her lessons are ones anyone could follow.

One fun part about this book is the humor. It is not the phony humor of someone trying to make a story interesting. It is honest humor. Such lines as “And I'm determined to go online, which is as scary to me as going naked into a tornado on a unicycle,” or, “No, that high pitched sound you hear is not whining, well, maybe a little,” prove her humor.

When reading this book, you have to realize that it is

not meant to be an instructional book alone, it is meant to be enjoyable. It started out as a speech she was giving at a college graduation. While it does give instructions on life, it is pleasant to read.

This book is not a 300-page it takes you forever to get through. In fact, this book is only 125 pages. Since it is short, yet informative, you can read the book in three hours.

*Ten Things I Wish I'd Known* is a good book for anyone to read. It has helpful instructions on getting started in the real world, but is interesting and fun to read.

## Now You See Inside gives an inside look into SR-71's rocking music

By Mary-Megan Kalvig  
What is SR-71? While the fastest plane that flies to outer space at Mach 3.2+ is called the SR-71, we are not talking about that. In fact we are talking about the Baltimore band called SR-71. Their music is clever, tuneful and very energetic.

SR-71 formed five years ago and has been rising in popularity ever since. With their new debut, *Now You See Inside*, they are soaring to new heights.

"There's nothing worse than a writer with nothing to say," said Mitch Allan, the lead singer and songwriter.

SR-71's music is made up of strong songs written with endless intelligence. They sing about the disappointment of love and how society forms relationships.

They are however, not a boy band, but a rock'n'roll band. Along with smashing vocals, SR-71 includes drums, guitars, and bass.

Allan, with band mates, Jeff Reid, Mark Beauchemin, and Dan Gavin, put their CD to the test. *Now You See Inside*, was produced in Bearsville, New York, and London's Church Studio by Gil Norton who has worked with Pixies and Foo Fighters. The band's appreciation of English music is reflected in their choice in studio and sound.

Bassist Reid said, "People say there's a British sound to our music. It probably has to do with our respect for bands like

the Beatles, Queen, the Police, and Duran Duran."

While multiple bands influence SR-71, they have an original voice that makes them stand out. Allan is the main songwriter, whereas Beauchemin is an experienced tunesmith, and each member adds the form to every song.

The CD starts off with the high-tension song "Politically Correct," which expresses Allan's bluntness.

"People tiptoe around so often, but you can't have any integrity without occasionally irritating people," Allan explained.

Songs like "Right Now" and "Another Night Alone" give a helpful dose of brain power with SR-71's ricocheting solos and crushing guitars.

"She clings to me like cellophane/ Black plastic submarine/ Slowly driving me insane but now it's over," sings Allan.

"Right Now," about a broken relationship, is SR-71's first single.

SR-71 also has a contemplative side with a punch in songs like "What a Mess," "Go Away," and "Empty Spaces," which was co-written by Beauchemin and Melissa Etheridge guitarist John Shanks.

The song, "Last Man on the Moon," shows the band's sense of humor when they describe the laziest man alive.

"Fame," on the other hand, imitates Queen's harmonies with a portrait of a glitterati wannabe. "Paul McCartney" ex-

presses the Paul-is-dead story with a lesson about fate and redemption.

SR-71's themes about big dreams all come from the ones that brought the band together. Allan and Reid met back in the 90's by a matter of chance. They grew close because of their musical tastes. The two then met Beauchemin and Garvin to form a band originally called Honor Among Thieves.

When their popularity grew, they recorded a self-produced, self-distributed CD, which sold along the East Coast due to the band's do-it-yourself motto.

By 1998, their performances in New York and impressive demos got majors interested in their work. Within months, SR-71 was signing up to work with RCA.

"We grew tremendously in the year before we signed. Something clicked. And we were coming up with our best songs ever. I get scared to death of not conveying my point. As I write, I'm always asking myself if I'm getting it across," Allan said.

The band's main goal is to write great songs which in the end paid big time on the new CD. Once the new CD gets going, SR-71 is sure new followers will be entering the fan club.

Overall, SR-71's creative lyrics make for an enjoyable, British inspired CD.

Information courtesy of RCA Records press release.



SR-71 takes a break from their music to strike a pose for a quick picture. From left, Dan Gavin, Mark Beauchemin, Mitch Allan and Jeff Reid.

## A quick preview of some upcoming movies to see

By Mary-Megan Kalvig  
*Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2*

In the sequel to last year's *The Blair Witch Project*, millions have seen the video tape filmmakers made based on the legend of Blair Witch. Now there is a tour of the haunted woods where the witch exists. When four tourists camp in the forest, terrifying things start happening and they are no longer alone. October 27, 2000 Rated R.

*Bounce*

When a man switched plane tickets with a stranger, something went wrong and the plane crashed. The man then hunted down the widow of the stranger he switched tickets with and then a love relationship formed. However, she does not know the true

connection between him and her late husband. Starring Ben Affleck and Gwyneth Paltrow. November 17, 2000 Rated PG-13

*Little Nicky*

Nicky's father, Satan, sends him to New York to look for his evil brothers. With the help of a bulldog named Beefy, Nicky tours New York. He soon falls in love and starts liking life on Earth a little too much. When his family finds out, all hell breaks out, literally. Starring Adam Sandler and Patricia Arquette. November 10, 2000 Rated PG-13.

*Lucky Numbers*

Los Angeles weatherman has been having bad luck so he convinces his co-worker to rig the lottery numbers so

they can make a little more money. However, the plan starts to go wrong. Starring John Travolta and Lisa Kudrow. October 27, 2000. Rated R

*Red Planet*

When the possibility that Earth might not be suitable for humans, astronauts explore Mars to see if it is livable. Soon things start becoming dangerous, including a bad landing which damages their equipment, and tension between the crew. Starring Val Kilmer, Benjamin Bratt, and Tom Sizemore. November 10, 2000 Rated PG-13.

*Unbreakable*

When one man is the only survivor of a train wreck without a scratch, he meets a stranger with a bizarre explanation. From the director of the *Sixth Sense*. Starring Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson. November 22, 2000 Rated PG-13

## How to make the boring suburban weekend a little more interesting

Nine helpful hints on what do to when you have a free weekend and do not know what to do

Living in the suburbs may not provide much entertainment. However, there is much more to do than sit at home and twiddle your thumbs.

If you have the weekend blues (you know the kind, you are stuck at home and you can't find anything to do, and even your cat looks to be having more fun than you do) have no fear. There is much to do, even if it's not the first thing that comes to mind.

**Go out to eat.** Get together with your friends and go out to eat. If there's nothing else in DuPage county, there are restaurants.

So get your friends to-

gether for a lunch at your favorite deli or that great Chinese place you've been meaning to try down the street.

**Just get together with friends.** If you do not have the money to go out to lunch, make a lunch. While it may sound cheesy, make it interesting. Grab all of your friends and make a picnic or make up interesting recipes.

**Go to the movies.** Movies are one of the most popular activities for teenagers. As students, you usually get a discount so it will only cost about \$5 for some good entertainment.

**Go to the mall.** When you go to the mall you do not just

have to go shopping. If you do not have any money, still go. It never killed anyone to go window shopping. The mall is also a great way to hang out with your friends.

**Get on the train.** West Chicago was formed because of the railway, and that railway is still there today. So use it! For a small fee you can take the train almost anywhere. In just under an hour you can get to the city, where there is plenty to do.

An added bonus: going somewhere on the weekend gives you a weekend pass for a reduced price.

**Visit a museum.** While that may sound boring, some-

times they can be very exciting. They are a great way to impress your teachers with the knowledge you have acquired. There are also some exciting exhibits to view downtown.

**Go to the zoo.** What better way to spend your weekend than watching some animals make fools of themselves? Think of it as live television that might smell a bit.

**Take a walk by the lake.** While this is not the most logical activity for the winter, it is real romantic during the spring and summer. It also looks real beautiful at sunset.

**Take a hike or go for a**

**bike ride.** Railways are not the only thing that is rampant in West Chicago, as well as being present in all the surrounding neighborhoods. There are also lots of parks, trails, and forest preserves around that will give you the peace you might need over the weekend after a stressful week at school.

Just pack your gear and plan to return to your high stress life feeling completely relaxed. Remember to pack the bug spray.

These are just a few ideas to make the suburban life a little more enjoyable. Now you no longer have an excuse for a boring weekend.

Answers to the Riddles  
Be sure to read to following after reading page 12 because this holds the answers to the riddles, and what fun are riddles if you already know the answer?

1. The contents of the ten envelopes (in dollar bills) should be as follows: \$1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 489.
2. A club
3. A watermelon
4. A tune
5. Just one moment
6. A shoe

## 2000 Fall and Winter Sports Schedule

### Boys cross-country

Saturday, Nov. 4 V State Finals (away)

### Girls cross-country

Saturday, Nov. V State Finals (away)

### Football

Friday, Nov. V Second Round (away)

Friday, Nov. 10 V Quarterfinals (away)

Friday, Nov. 17 V Semi-finals (away)

Saturday, Nov. 25 V State finals (away)

### Boys Soccer

Tuesday, Oct. 31 V Super Sectional (away)

Friday, Nov. 3 V State Finals

Saturday, Nov. 4 V State Finals

### Girls Swimming

Saturday, Nov. 11 V Sectionals (away)

Friday, Nov. 17 V State Finals (away)

Saturday, Nov. 18 V State Finals (away)

### Girls Volleyball

Tuesday, Oct. 31 V Sectionals (away)

Thursday, Nov. 2 V Sectionals (away)

Saturday, Nov. 4 V Super Sectionals (away)

Friday, Nov. 10 V State Finals (away)

Saturday, Nov. 11 V State Finals (away)

### Boys Basketball

Monday, Nov. 6 V, JV, S, F Season starts

Tuesday, Nov. 21 V at Oswego (Thanksgiving tournament) 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 24 V at Oswego (Thanksgiving tournament) 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 25 S 12:30 p.m. V at Oswego (Thanksgiving tournament) 6:00 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 2 FA, FB Joliet Catholic Academy 5:00, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 1 V Naperville Central 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. S 6:00 p.m. FA, SB, FB, J Naperville Central 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 FA, FB at York 6:00, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7 V at Geneva 7:00 p.m.

S at Geneva 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8 V at West Aurora 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 9 FA, SB, FB, JV at West Aurora 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 V Ottawa Marquette 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

### Girls Basketball

Monday, Oct. 30 V, JV, S, F Season starts

Tuesday, Nov. 14 V at Oswego 7:00 p.m.

F, S 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 15 JV, SB Geneva 5:30, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 17 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 18 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 21 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 22 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 24 V at Willowbrook (Thanksgiving tournament) 7:30 p.m.

S 6:00 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 27 V at Glenbard South 7:00 p.m.

S, F 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 28 V Schaumburg 7:30 p.m.

S, FA 6:00 p.m.

FB 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2 V at Rockford Boylan 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7 V, S Naperville Central 6:00 p.m.

FA 6:15 p.m.

FB 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 9 V, S at West Aurora 3:00 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

JV 1:30 p.m.

FA 1:45 p.m.

FB 12:30 p.m.

### Boys Wrestling continued

Saturday, Dec. 2 F at Glenbard West w/Woodstock 9:00 a.m.  
V at Woodstock w.Hersey and Glenbard West 9:00 a.m.  
JV1, JV2 Glenbard West, Hersey, Woodstock 9:00 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 4 F at Oswego 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8 V, JV West Aurora 7:30 p.m.

F 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 9 V at Oak Park River Forest 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 F Waubonsie Valley 4:30 p.m.

All fall sports:  
Wednesday, Nov. 8 All Fall Sports Awards Night Bishop Gym 7:30 p.m.

### Boys cross-country gains experience at end of season

By Marc Berry

The boys cross-country team finished their season coming in last place out of the eight teams in the DVC. Most recently, they attended regionals where they placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of 12 teams.

On Oct. 13, the DVC Invitational was held and the team placed eighth out of eight teams.

On Oct. 7, the team competed at the Benet Academy Invitational at Lisle Community Park and came in seventh out of 14.

The meet on Oct. 3 took place at Glenbard North High

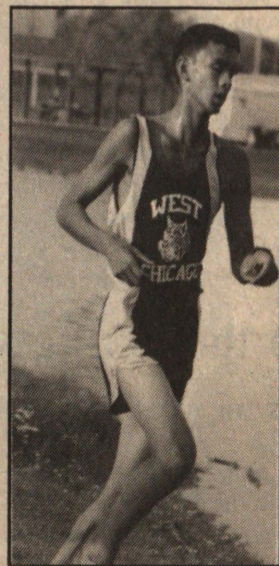


Photo Courtesy of Mr. Weiss

School against both Glenbard North and Wheaton Warrenville South. We-go was unable to defeat either school.

The Lisle Mane Invitational event was held Sept. 30 and the team placed 14<sup>th</sup> out of 29 teams.

We-go competed at home on Sept. 26 and competed against Wheaton North and West Aurora. They came in last.

Sept. 23 saw the team heading to the Belvidere invitational where they placed fifth out of nine teams.

Coach Paul McLeland said that even though they had a bad season, the team put forth a lot of effort.

"This was a year to gain experience. Ten out of the 17 runners on the team were new this year, but they worked very hard, and we hope to do better next season..."

"We need to be like the phoenix. We were defeated this year but next year we hope to rise up out of the ashes," he said.

### Boys Swimming

Monday, Nov. 20 V, JV Season starts

Friday, Dec. 1 V, JV Larkin 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 V, JV Oswego 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 7 V, JV Benet Academy 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 9 V Wildcat Relays-Diving 9:30 a.m.

V Wildcat Relays-Swimming 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 12 V, JV Hinsdale South 5:00 p.m.

### Boys Wrestling

Monday, Nov. 6 All Season starts

Saturday, Nov. 25 F-S at Wauconda Take Down 9:00 a.m.

V 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wildcat Invitational 9:00 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 1 V, J at Naperville Central 7:30 p.m.

F 6:30 p.m.

## Rising stars in We-go athletics: Students excel in swimming, golf, and cross-country

### Girls Swimming- senior Jenny Cwiak

1. What type of responsibilities do you have in swimming this year, and how have you handled your responsibilities?  
*Being a senior captain has not been easy, but I feel this situation will only help me in the future. Our head coach, Chris Hall, resigned during our season. It's been rough, but we have all pulled together and as a team, we are improving more and more. My responsibilities vary, whether it is cheering a teammate on or listening to a problem.*
2. What has been your greatest motivator in swimming? How did you decide to join swimming, and how did you first become interested in swimming?  
*My greatest motivator has been success. I work hard and push myself to my limits, because I want to succeed and go to state. I have always been involved in swimming as a little girl, but I didn't become competitive until I was eleven. I started swimming on a swim team because I wanted a fun past time.*
3. What is your favorite/worst memory of swimming at We-go?  
*My favorite memory was last year at sectionals when I was a part of the 200 and 400 relays that qualified for state. And then being able to compete at state. My worst memory was my freshman year when I couldn't swim sectionals because I got the flu the day before and could not compete.*
4. Why would others want to join swimming? What are three positive aspects of swimming that might be beneficial to someone wanting to join?  
*There is an event for everybody, whether it's 50 yards or 500 yards. Positive aspects: you develop great friendships, your hard work pays off, it's fun (especially at crazy toga parties!)*
5. How do you prepare yourself for the swimming

season? Do you practice every day and if so, for how long? Does swimming involve a lot of dedication? How have you had to adapt your life to swimming?  
*I basically train all year round for my high school season. I only get about two months off the whole year. During the high school season, we practice every day from 3:30-5:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We also have morning practice from 5:30-7:30 a.m. and then we run and lift weights after our afternoon practice. Swimming does involve a lot of dedication, because you have to eat healthy and get a lot of sleep. I have given up ice cream and other junk food during the season. There have also been times when I had to stay in on a Friday night to prepare for the following day's meet.*

6. What is the most important thing that you have learned from swimming?  
*I have learned to manage my time wisely and to work hard, because in the end, you will succeed.*
7. What are 3 goals/ambitions that you have for this season?
  1. Qualify in the 50-free (state cut 25.19 seconds)
  2. Place in the top 12 at state and obtain the school record in the 200 free relay. (Relay consists of Jackie Vaverik, Emilie Bilancalana, Heather Prochnow, and myself)
  3. To finish off this season and have no regrets
8. Is swimming an individual or team sport? Do you have to get along with your coach and all of the other swimmers?  
*Swimming can be both depending on how you look at it. You personally have to have a positive attitude in order to perform well. However, in order for your team to succeed, you must come together and help each other. It's important to get along with your coach and teammates, or else problems occur which causes the team to divide. The best thing to do is compromise.*

### Girls Golf-Senior Angela Skaags

1. What types of responsibilities do you have in girls golf this year?  
*There aren't very many responsibilities in golf. It is really important that you show up to practice and respect other people who take golf seriously.*
2. What has been your greatest motivator in girls golf? How did you decide to join golf?  
*I never really new anyone who played golf, but after my sophomore year, Kelly Quarto and I decided to join together because we heard that there are a lot of guys who play.*
3. What is your favorite/worst memory of the girls golf season?  
*Favorite: Three of my friends and I stopped a golf cart then flipped it. Worst: When our coach Mike was yelling at us afterwards.*
4. Why would others want to join girls golf?  
*Other girls should join golf because it's a very easy way to get a scholarship, and you meet a lot of people while having fun. It's a good sport because you can play it when you are old and use it in business!*
5. How do you prepare yourself for the girls golf season? Do you practice every day, and if so, for how long?  
*No, I never really practice over the summer or on my own. Now that I know how to play, I sometimes feel like going out and playing a few holes, however.*
6. What is the most important thing that you have learned from participating in girls golf?  
*I learned how to make a boring sport fun.*
7. What are three goals that you had for the girls golf season?
  1. Become a better player
  2. Have fun
  3. Have more fun
8. Is girls golf an individual or team sport?  
*It's pretty much an individual sport. We don't think of it as playing teams/people, we think of it as playing the course.*

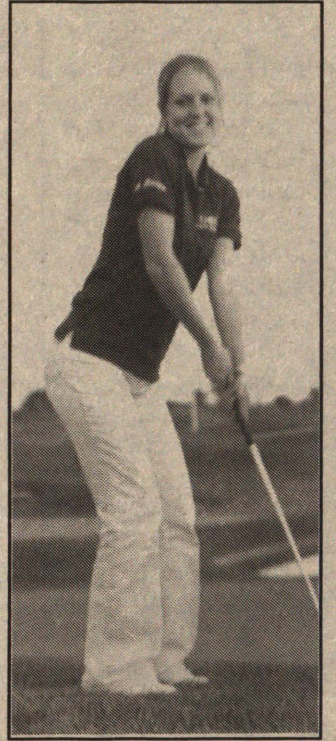


Photo by Lauren Nickelson

Senior Angela Skaags poses for a picture before taking a swing on the golf course.

### Girls Cross-Country-Sophomore Katy Kostal

1. What type of responsibilities do you have in cross-country this year, and how have you handled your responsibilities?  
*I've had to step up and be more of a leader this year, since the old seniors are gone and almost half of our team is new freshmen. I think that I've set a good example of how to handle the sport.*
2. What has been your greatest motivator in cross-country? How did you decide to join cross-country, and how long have you been running?  
*To be in the middle of a race and be amazed instead of scared is a huge motivator. You don't freak out and slow down. Instead, you get happy and crank up your pace for the heck of it. I wanted to get into shape for speed skating by joining the school's summer running camp, and I wanted to stay with the team. I've been running since the summer of eighth grade, and it's times like those where I'm happy I'm in cross-country.*
3. What is your favorite/worst memory of the cross-country season?  
*Favorite: Once again taking first at Kaneland and getting a medal at the Falcon Invite. Worst: The people who honk at us when we run. It's distracting, rude, annoying, and we remember license plates...*
4. What makes cross-country better than any other sport?  
*It's the most basic form of competition- ever. All you need is a top, shorts, and shoes to run, even less if you're a boy. And succeeding is both an individual and team victory. There's never been a sport I've participated in that comes close to cross-country. Oh yeah, and the semi-annual clubbing!*

5. How do you prepare yourself for the cross-country season? Do you practice every day and if so, for how long?  
*Summer running, trying to go cold turkey on pop, and team bonding with lots of t.p.ing! We practice every day, but it's not really a matter of time. We usually base our practice on distances, and we run anywhere from 4-8 miles. Sometimes we'll run 10 miles on slow days after meets.*
6. What is the most important thing that you've learned from participating in cross-country?  
*How to be myself and not care about things. Getting nervous is the biggest waste of energy, and I've learned to overcome it.*
7. What are three goals/ambitions that you have for this season?
  1. Getting a medal at the flighted meet (already done)
  2. Win Kaneland (already done)
  3. Go to state
8. Is cross-country an individual or team sport? Do you have close bonds with all of the other cross-country runners?  
*It's both. You run by yourself and can get medals by your place- and can advance in sectionals, state, etc. Or you can work as a strong team who can put a lot of their runners in top places at meets can earn low scores and advance while getting trophies or other recognition. We're all very close, open, and LOUD!*
9. What are you looking forward to most about this season? How do you feel the team is doing as a whole?  
*Not the end of the season! Big meets, pasta parties, bus rides, and the trip to Great America are all things I was looking forward to. Now, there's only two or three meets left in the season. As a whole, we're doing great, and I'm sad to see the season end.*

### Girls golf ends winless season

By Mary Beth Selby

Girls golf ended its season winless, with a sixth place finish in the conference.

At an invitational and in the regionals, they placed 10 out of 13 other teams. The regionals were Oct. 4, and the winning opponent was Lion's Township. We-go also played other schools outside of the DVC.

The team's invitational was Sept. 26-27, with opponents including Plainfield,

Batavia, Geneva, Elgin Larkin, and both Wheaton schools.

Coach Mike Kain said, "They were a good group to work with. They should've started playing in their earlier years for more experience as juniors and seniors, but they improved through the season and they seemed to have a lot of fun. I hope they all enjoyed the game and will keep playing."

## Girls swim team ends successful season with a new head coach

Swimmers adjust to new head coach

By Mary-Megan Kalvig

Halfway through the girls swim team season, the swimmers had to adjust their routine with a change in coaching.

Assistant coach Mary Beth Zarndt took over coaching when former coach Chris Hall decided to leave.

Hall resigned after he was not asked to coach the Sharks Youth team. He could not be reached for comment.

Coaching swim teams is nothing new to Zarndt. She has been coaching the Sharks since 1987. Zarndt also was the head boys swim coach from 1991 to 1994. She coached with Dan Johnson for seven seasons and was an assistant to Hall for 10 years.

"I was happy to be able to be with the girls so they would not have to finish off the season with someone new," Zarndt said.

Zarndt said she tries to keep to Hall's routine, but sticks to what she feels is best for the team, even if it means having them swim more yards.

By Mary-Megan Kalvig

The girls swim team is swimming their best, even after a coach replacement mid-season. Swim coach Mary Beth Zarndt took over coaching Sept. 22, after ex-head coach Chris Hall left when he was not rehired to coach the Shark's youth team.

At the Oct. 21 meet at Deerfield, varsity swam against seven different schools. The final arrangement was Rosary Beads, Stevenson, Naperville North, Freeport, Oak Park River Forest, We-go, Deerfield, and Unit 5 Normal CO-OP. The end tally was 269-265-254-190-164-129-101-23, respectively.

On Oct. 17, the girls swim team went up against St. Charles and Wheaton. Both varsity and JV came in third place. St. Charles won the varsity event with a final score of 122-114-94. Wheaton won the JV event with a final tally of 137-86-79.

At the Oct. 14 meet against Naperville Central and Lake Park, neither We-go team finished first. Varsity placed second behind Naperville Central. The race ended with 113-103-87. JV lost both of its races; while Lake Park placed second in both. The final scores for both events were 162-92-16 and 137-124-33.

At the same meet, varsity made the state qualifying time in the 200 free style relay. Senior Jenny Cwiak, junior Heather Prochnow, sophomore Emily Biancalana, and freshman Jackie Vavrek swam a time of 1:42.36.

The state meet will take place on Nov. 17 and 18.

On Oct. 7, the team went up against four teams at the Barrington Invitation. The teams included Lyons Township, Glenbrook North, Barrington, and Fenwick. The final order for varsity was Barrington, Lyons Township, Glenbrook North, Fenwick, and West Chicago with a tally of 344-301-251-219-210. JV's final order was similar except Lyons Township was first, then Glenbrook and Barrington. Final scores were 412-328-294-177-120.

At an Oct. 3 meet against Benet Academy, varsity won 117-65; however, JV lost 113-65.

At an earlier meet this season on Sept. 26 between Naperville North and Fenwick, both We-go teams lost. Varsity managed second place ahead of Fenwick with a tally of 154-102-73. JV placed third place, with Fenwick in second. The final score was 135-123-61.

## Diving strives for excellence

By Mary Beth Selby

"The girls diving team continues to work toward great goals," said coach Janet Culloton.

"I have a very good group this year. They work hard to improve, though back dives seem to stay as our weakest area. Diving is still a really good sport because anyone can dive; no experience needed. It's a lot of fun and it makes me want to keep coaching," said Culloton.

This year, the team is hoping to reach a score of 100 or more for 6 dive meets.

"So far, only three people have accomplished that goal," said Culloton.

The team wants to reach 200 for 11-dive invitational meets. The team has 192 and 188 now.

The team consists of three girls from each of freshmen, sophomore, and junior years and only one senior, Beth Gottlieb. Culloton lost four seniors from last year's team.

"It's good that I have more young inexperienced girls on my team this year, because they're easier to mold into great divers. I'll be able to keep them on the team for awhile before they graduate," Culloton said.

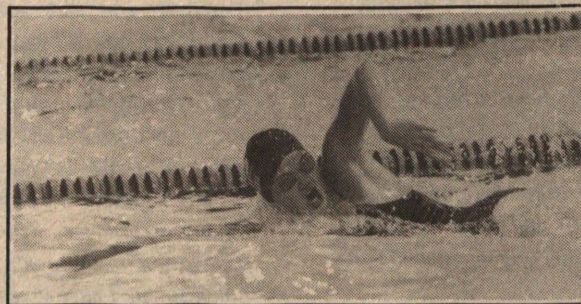


Photo courtesy of Sandy Weiss

A West Chicago High School swimmer glides through the water during a meet against Naperville Central and Lake Park. The meet ended with We-go placing second with 103 points.

## Hockey continues winning streak

By Sean Reynolds  
The West Chicago hockey team continued their winning streak defeating last year's hockey champions, Oak Forest, 7-2 on Oct. 8.

"I'm impressed with their performance so far. They play well as a team and win games by huge margins," said Coach Jeff Mederich.

The team is experiencing great performance from everyone, including freshman goaltender Brandon Herbert, Mederich said.

The 20-week season, which started Oct. 1, consists of 20 plus games. The first seven

games are crucial and determine where we stand, Mederich said. The coach and players are optimistic about the upcoming games.

They play Bradley Bourbonnais Nov. 5, and the Glenbard teams of East and West, Nov. 12.

The 14-member team is led by senior Eric Mederich and junior Matt Baumrucker plus four other We-go players, as well as seven others from Wheaton Academy.

The team plays home games at Center Ice in Glen Ellyn and in Addison, Geneva, and Darien.

## Football finishes with 1-6 DVC record after surprising season

By Jamie Nadolny

The West Chicago High School boys football team finished the season with a 1-8 overall record and a 1-6 DVC record this year. Their last game was on Oct. 20 at Glenbard North High School.

We-go's last home game of the year was Oct. 13 against Wheaton North. The final score, 22-0, was in favor of the Falcons.

"The game was a disappointment for the kids, because we were out-hit. Wheaton North was more physical than we were. We had good plays and strong athletes, but we just didn't follow through," said defensive coach Josh Chambers.

West Chicago struggled offensively during the game. Senior Matt Raymond gained 18 yards on eight carries during the game. Juniors Morris Barber, who advanced the ball seven yards on four carries, and Corey Coleman, who toted the ball three times for four yards, also had trouble gaining yards during the game.

The team's senior quarterback Brett Dieter was 4 of 14 for 84 yards before throwing an interception in the first half. A fumble by Dieter also set the ball on the Falcon 39-yard line during the second quarter. The play also led to a 10-yard gain for Wheaton North with 2 minutes, 10 seconds remaining in the second half.

Wheaton North's second touchdown was during the second half while back-up quarterback senior Brian Campbell was in the game.

Defensively, the Wildcats played well against Wheaton North. The Falcons scored 13 points in the first half with only one touchdown. Their second touchdown was during the second half while back-up quarterback senior Brian Campbell was in the game.

"The two sides just don't balance out. Last year, our senior offense players were successful. We're frustrated with the offense this year, because they haven't really been able to move the ball all year. It's flip-flopped, since the defensive players have had a great year," Chambers said.

## Golf places ninth out of eighteen teams at regionals

By Marc Berry

The West Chicago boys varsity golf team finished their season on Oct. 3 when they attended regionals, placing ninth out of 18 competing teams.

Regionals followed the DVC tournament, which took place Sept. 28. The team placed third at the tournament, scoring enough points to allow them to place third for the season, as well.

Also at the tournament, sophomore varsity player Dan Pazar placed third individually.

Pazar and junior Matt Baumrucker made all-conference and senior Tim Warren received an honorable mention.

The frosh/soph team placed sixth at the tournament and sixth for the season.

Earlier in the season, the team competed at Orchard Valley against West Aurora, where they lost.

The planned Wheaton Warrenville South frosh/soph invitational was rained out Sept. 23.

The meet against St. Francis on Sept. 22 was also rained out.

On Sept. 21, Wheaton North played at We-go's home course of St. Andrew's. We-go eventually won after the meet went to its seventh scorecard. Junior Zack Deaton led the team, shooting par for the course.

Assistant coach Eric Lasky is looking forward to next year. "We're looking at having another good season. Seniors Tim Yormark, Mike Wenz, Tim Warren really came through this year, and we're going to miss them, but I'm expecting next year's returners to come back even stronger," Lasky said.

Junior Joe Caniano is also hopeful. "We had some great players who won't be back next year, but there are some good sophomores who will be coming up to take their place."

Lasky said he believes the team could be even better with more consistency, but overall, he is very proud of the way the team golfed.

## Boys soccer ends winning season

By Laura McQueen

Boys varsity soccer ended their season with a loss against Bartlett and a score of 1-0. It was their second sectional game, which took place on Oct. 26.

The team won their first sectional game against Wheaton North 1-0. Junior Raul Mendoza scored the team's only point.

"We got up for the game, we played as a team," said senior Chris Salutric.

"As long as we play like a team we do great, but sometimes we get ourselves out of the game. We need to focus more," said junior Mike Masschelin.

"We're working to solidify our defense a little better," said Owens, prior to the loss. Owens also said that senior goalkeeper, Dennis Janek was a valuable strength to the team.

The Wildcats tied with Wheaton Warrenville South for fourth in conference, bringing home an overall winning record.

They finished their conference season with a win against Glenbard North on Tuesday, Oct. 17, 4-2.

Junior Mike Masschelin scored two goals, senior Jesse Salazar scored one goal and senior Philippe Perez scored one.

The Wildcats were showing some signs of struggle in the conference, losing three tough games. "All of our games we played really good soccer with the exception of Wheaton North," said Owens.

They finished the season with a 4-3 conference record. Their losses were to Naperville Central (1-0), Naperville North (2-0), and Wheaton North (4-1).

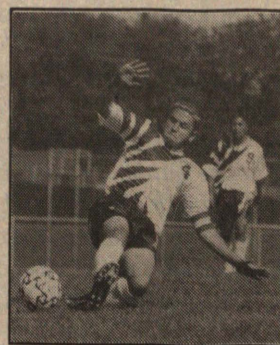


Photo courtesy of Sandy Weiss

Senior Philippe Perez dives to save the ball during a soccer game at West Chicago High School.