

Wildcat Chronicle

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West Chicago Community
High School
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Teen Dating Violence Prevention Team promotes healthy relationships

By Stephanie Bodane
We-go is starting a new program dedicated to helping teens and parents dealing with dating and relationships. After receiving a \$7,500 grant from the state, We-go is participating in a new program, Teen Dating Violence Prevention.

Grant advisor Mary Randle, who jumped at the opportunity when she heard about the state-provided grant, originally organized the program. The program is an organi-

zation of students and staff from in and out of school who will be specially trained for six months about healthy relationships.

A "task force" is being set up at the school including P.E teachers, deans, teachers and administrators, along with outside centers from DuPage County that are getting involved.

In May, the school plans to have a guest speaker come and share his story about his daughter who was

murdered by a boyfriend. This is only one of the activities that the team plans to have at the school for the program.

"Any students can join, we want the participation. We want to assign jobs and let the students decide what to do," said Dan Johnson the program's coordinator.

About half a dozen students have already taken an interest in the team, and around 20 teachers who have responded, Johnson said.

"The response has been overwhelming. We're planning to have a good turn out," said Johnson.

The program also plans to have classes dedicated to helping parents with their child dating. After school, programs and classes will provide helpful information and resources.

If the school continues to meet the criteria for the state grant, and finishes with the six-month training, the state will provide a \$10,000 grant

for programs and the staff. Although there hasn't been a lot of cases of dating violence in the school, counselors can still see things in students that may be questionable.

Johnson said that the school wants to be able to provide some help and resources for teen dating violence and healthy relationships.

The program plans to begin meetings at the first of the year.

WTTT coming to monitors soon

By Mary Beth Selby
Big plans lie in the future for the We-go Through The Tube broadcast production.

Since the beginning of the school year, a few students have been working on creating the first broadcast program, WTTT, West Chicago has ever had.

WTTT is a news and information broadcast that the students produce every month, focusing on school events occurring and coming up.

The first program aired Nov. 21-25 on West Chicago Cable TV's channel 17, said supervisor Steve Kellner.

The show featured the homecoming "Meet the candidates" assembly, pep rally, student life, a movie review, interviews with students of the month Jamie Nadolny and Tom Wojicki, marketing representatives who hosted "It's not midnight, but it's madness" fundraiser, and the marching band showcase.

The broadcast crew consists of 12 students who either work the cameras or are on the air.

Kellner said these students periodically meet after school at the beginning and throughout, each month to discuss stories they will shoot and the progress they are making.

For their December broadcast, which will air all winter break on channel 17 in West

Chicago, the stories include the choir trip to Germany, a feature on the band and orchestra concert, winter rally, Variety Show, Theatre Fest, and an International Club interview.

The students videotape events and individuals involved with their stories for the broadcast before, during, and after classes and school, said Kellner.

They put in a good deal of time and devotion to the production, said Kellner.

Though they have few students, Kellner doesn't want any more students to join the group quite yet because they just began the program this year.

However, he wishes to see it expand more as an extra-curricular activity next year and even a news broadcasting class sometime in the future.

Kellner also wants to eventually create weekly, or even daily news broadcasts that the school can watch in the classrooms on videotape.

Having the broadcasts shown in classrooms is currently not possible because the Media Distribution System is not completely installed.

Since the start of the school year, Community

(See Tube page 5)



Photo courtesy of Challenge
After much debate the chamber choir has decided to travel to Germany for a trip of a lifetime.

Germany trip is a go for We-go's chamber choir

By Suzanne Smith

After many debates, chamber choir will go to Germany, despite initial doubts spurred by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Chamber choir was chosen to represent the city of West Chicago to participate in a cultural exchange with its sister city, Taufkirchen.

The choir will be in Germany from Feb. 23 until March 4.

Choir director Lisa Smith said the parents were called to an emergency meeting to receive input about the matter.

Over half of the 16 parents in attendance had to leave work early to be at the 5 p.m. meeting.

All of the parents at the

meeting supported the trip.

Superintendent Lee Rieck and Principal Alan Jones approved the trip to Germany the next day, Nov. 28.

Smith said, "I wasn't going to go unless the administration supported the trip."

Terrorist attacks on commercial airlines or a travel warning to Germany by the State Department would be the only two factors that would keep them from going to Germany, Smith said.

Eight chaperones agreed to help with the Germany trip. The students and chaperones will live with German families and have the chance to get in contact with them before they go on the trip, Smith said.

Smith said that since they

are going on invitation, the city of West Chicago will contribute half of the students' payment for the trip. Altogether, the students will have to pay around \$300 for airfare.

While chamber choir is in Germany, they will perform at several local German high schools, Smith said.

They will also perform with Taufkirchen's Professional Men's Choir, and in return, the men's choir will come to West Chicago in September, to perform at the fall concert, Smith said.

Smith said chamber choir will also visit historical places including the birthplace of Mozart and neighboring castles and towns of Bavaria and Munich.

Sports award night honors We-go's star athletes

By Michelle Loerzel
Coach Bob Stone presented awards to over 100 fall athletes at the fall sports awards night in November. Stone had senior parent night, honoring senior boys and girls golf, boys and girls cross-country, and girls tennis players. Booster Club gave awards to students with high grade point averages and to other skilled players in each sport. Seventy-nine fall sports athletes received a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater, 44 of these athletes achieved a GPA of 3.5 or greater. Twelve varsity cheerleaders got a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Booster Club also honored 51 students who played in a fall sport all four years of their high school career. Stone gave his appreciation to the athletic trainer Pam Denhof for all her work helping the athletes.

Denhof gave thanks and awards to her four athletic trainers for their time and effort this season, including seniors Heather Lakics and Laura Wilken, and sophomores Jessica Darquea, and Jennifer Veguilla. Stone announced the 13 players that made first team all-conference and who also were state qualifiers. These students will have their pictures put up in school hallways soon. All conference players for cross-country are seniors Ben Keller, and Harold Visser, junior Katy Kostal and sophomore Christy Adduci. Senior Craig Schuda and sophomore Raul Mendoza were chosen as all conference players for soccer. For boys golf, senior Matt Baumrucker and junior Greg Hodge were nominated. Also, juniors Emily Biancalana, Heather Proch-

now, sophomore Jackie Vavrek and freshmen Rachel Slattery were nominated for girls swimming all conference players. Unanimous votes went to all conference players Pete Milauskas for football, Baumrucker for golf and Mendoza for soccer. Fall athletes received individual awards for their sport also. For boys cross-country coach Paul McLeland gave the most valuable award to senior Harold Visser. Most improved award went to senior Billy Inch. Senior Ben Keller received the coach's award. For girls cross-country junior Kayla Halsall got the "most improved" award, junior Katy Kostal got the MVP and sophomore Christy Aducci was named "rookie of the year." "Kostal was our number

one runner on the team in almost all the meets, and is an excellent team leader," said cross-country coach Katerina Boves. In girls golf, senior Courtney Dorn received both the "most valuable" and "best average." Also girls golf coach Mike Cain gave "most improved" award to senior Jackie Walters. Football awards went to seniors Jim O'Hara and Milauskas for MVP of the football season. Seniors Luis Cordero received the "most improved," Josh Kutilek achieved the "Wildcat-award," and Mark Hopkins got the "Randy Jacobs" award in football this season. Kutilek was an excellent player who always had a positive attitude, stone said. Sophomores Andrea Johnson and Krista Johnson both received the "MIP" award for girls tennis this

year. Both have improved a lot from last year and improved rapidly during the season, girls tennis coach Sione Moeaki said. Also, junior Kim Peterik and freshmen Reema Bajaj achieved "MVP," and senior Vanessa Guillen and junior Catherine Iannello received the "coaches award." "Both Guillen and Iannello very skilled in leadership roles, and they have demonstrated a great leadership," said Moeaki. Senior Matt Baumrucker was given the "MVP," for boys' golf season this year. Senior Zachary Deaton received the "MIP" of the year in golf, and junior Gregory Hodge achieved the best average. For boys soccer senior Jon Lim received the "MVP," senior Adam Selcke for "MIP," and senior Mike Masschelin

got the "coaches award." Senior Joey Park was chosen for "MV Defense," and senior Craig Schuda got "MV Offense." For girls diving freshmen Corrine Coffman received the "MVP" award, and "MIP" reward went to Liliana Beiniek. Freshmen Kate Rehbock was named "rookie of the year." Junior Jamie Murphy achieved the "MIP" player of the year for girls volleyball. The "coaches award" was given to junior Joanna Szesycki from girls volleyball coach Kristy Hasty. "Szesycki cares about the future of this program and is willing to sacrifice herself for the good of the team," said Hasty. "MVP" went to senior Heather Prochow, and "MIP" went to Dalielle Zirbes. Freshmen Rachael Slattery was given the name "rookie of the year."

Wellness Committee planning busy spring with speakers

By Marc Berry
The We-go Wellness Committee is preparing for a busy spring, when We-go will be host to speakers and a basketball tournament. The committee is now led by the athletic department chair, Dan Johnson. In recent years, the program was headed up by CDH liaison Kim Brafford and school nurse, Carolyn Pinney. Brafford left, however, so Jones asked Johnson to take over for her. Since then, 13 staff members have volunteered to be on the committee, along with 28 students. Currently, the committee is putting together a speaker's bureau list. The list contains

names of local or in-house speakers on wellness topics. For example, Johnson said one teacher at We-go can teach yoga and another is knowledgeable about weight loss. Teachers will have access to this list once it is completed. For April, the committee has booked Ben Glenn, "The Chalk Guy" to return to We-go to present his unique mix of art and motivational speaking. In May, the committee hopes to have Tom Santoro speak about dating violence. Also in May, a 3-on-3 basketball tournament will be held during the school day. It will require a small fee from

participants, and the money collected will be used to fund future wellness events. In the near future, Johnson said he hopes to have the daily announcements contain wellness facts, similar to what was done last year. Next school year, the committee hopes to have We-go host a health fair. It will be set up convention-style, with different stations and presenters. Johnson said that, so far, the committee has been mostly planning, and most of the activities won't be held until the spring. The committee has already partnered with the West Chicago Youth Commission, and Johnson said the committee hopes to form partnerships with other local agencies. Also, Brafford is still active with the program and works closely with Johnson. "She likes the school and still wants to be involved," said Johnson. Johnson said he is happy

with how the committee has been going, so far. "The nicest thing is the level of expertise of the teachers involved. It's an exciting group to work with. They are very bright and knowledgeable and willing to give up their time," said Johnson. He also said the students involved are nice to work with. "They are exceptional students that bring a real good perspective on things they'd like to see happen," he said. Johnson said that if any students have ideas for activities concerning physical or emotional wellness, they should feel free to talk to him about them. Johnson said he will most likely be in charge of the committee next year, as well. "There's a lot of work and organizing involved, but the committee is so good that they make things a lot easier and get a lot more done," said Johnson.

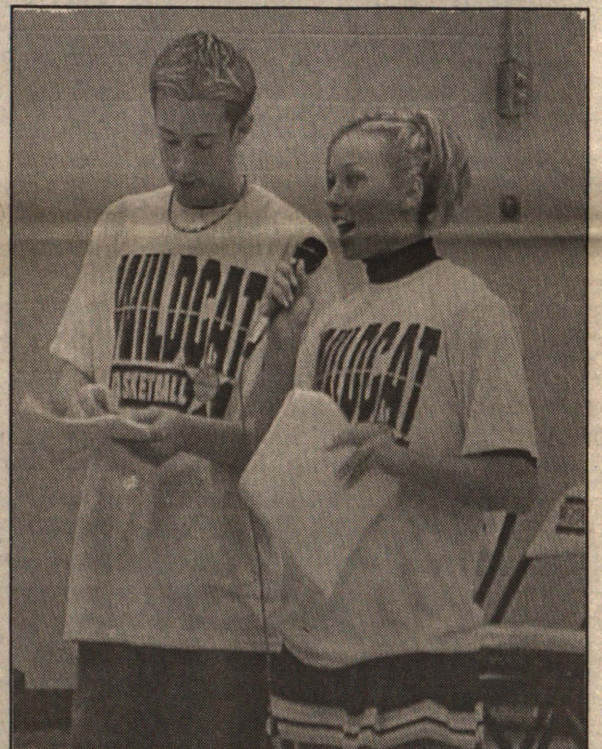


Photo courtesy of Dan McCarthy
Matt Boes and Kim Burkes spiced up We-go's Midnight Madness.

Midnight Madness hypnotizes We-go

By Matt Neumann
Midnight Madness was a night to remember for Community High students who made it to the event. Under the direction of teacher Dan McCarthy, the event had a good turnout as students filled half of Bishop Gym late on a school night. The new yearly event promotes the Wildcat basketball teams while giving students chances to be hypnotized, or win many prizes donated by various sponsors. The MCs for the November event were seniors Matt Boes and Kim Burkes. "It went real well despite

some difficulties," said Boes with a smile. The event raised \$560 for the class of '98's recycling account. The class gift was the recycling fund and it needed more money, McCarthy said. This way the whole school could benefit from the event. Everyone entering the gym was given a ticket and students were randomly chosen for chances to win dozens of prizes. They then won by participating in games after their numbers from the tickets were called. "The night went real well. In the first year of anything (See Madness page 6)

Pep rally closes November

By Lisa Borg
Pep club wrapped up November with a winter sports pep rally. The rally began with the band playing and poms and the cheerleaders performing for the the students. The wrestling team coaching staff and boys swim coaches updated the student

body on the year's play before the girls varsity basketball team beat the female teachers in a quick basketball game. When the male teachers took the floor against the varsity boys basketball players, the game ended in a tie. Pep club meets Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m. in room 186.

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

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the adviser Laura Kuehn in room 320.

Letters to the editor should be signed if they are meant 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.

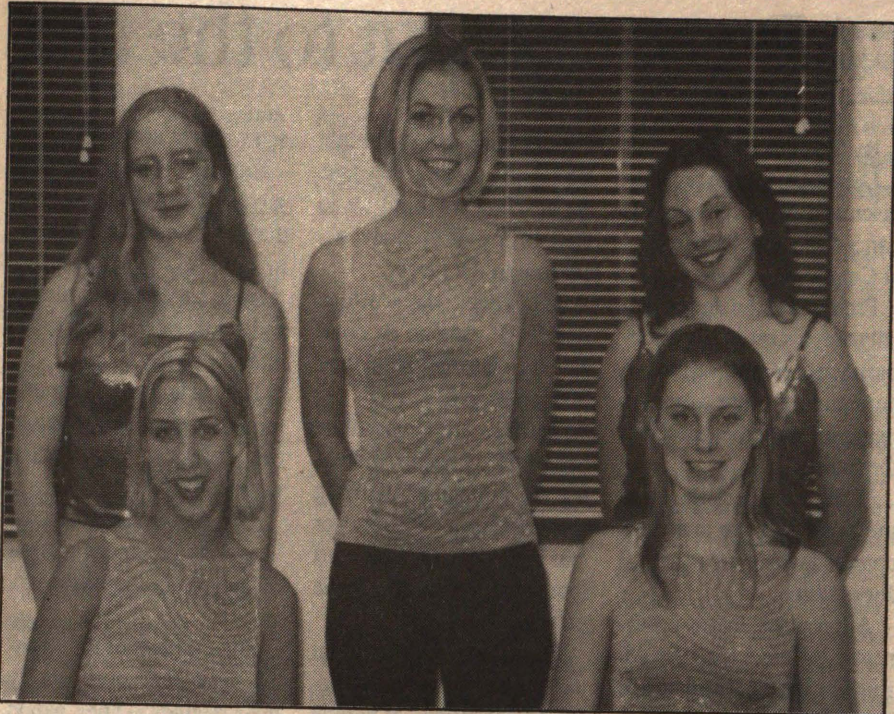


Photo courtesy of Dance Production

Caitlin Riermaier, Kristin Nickleson, Kristi Hall, Jessi Crockatt, and Lindsay Nash will be dancing in "Sweet Dreams" in their January dance production show.

Dance production's asking "Got Dance?"

By Michelle Loerzel

Dance production is wondering if you've "Got Dance?"

Find out if you do by attending dance production's show Jan. 24 and 25.

Each class has choreographed dances to perform. In addition, 10 large group performances are planned including a mixture of hip-hop, lyrical jazz, a can-can number and a number from a Broadway show.

All dancers of dance production will perform in the finale.

The finale will be a mixture of songs with the word "dance," including "Dance Everybody," "If You Can Dance," "Dance with Me," and "Dancing Queen."

Dancers who performed two dances at the Fox Valley Showcase recently will also perform.

Performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. both

nights.

Two groups of girls from dance production danced at the Fox Valley Showcase recently.

Each dance lasted about three minutes and was made by the girls in dance production, said coach Helen Zmhral.

The first dance was "Sweet Dreams," choreographed by junior Hope Vock, sophomore Lindsay Nash and private dance teacher Mary Pilalis. Senior Kristi Hall, juniors Kristin Nickelson, Tatiana Podstavkova, Jessi Crockatt, Nash and freshman Caitlin Riermaier danced in "Sweet Dreams."

This performance was a lyrical jazz dance, danced to the song "Seduce Me." Lyrical jazz is a type of music that communicates a theme.

"This song was a type of longing," said Zmhral.

In the second half, freshmen Monica Pecoraro,

Podstavkova and Riermaier danced to "Everything You Do." Senior Michelle Ott, Pecoraro, Podstavkova and Riermaier choreographed the dance. This dance was filled with jazz moves, including pas de barres.

Children dancers from private schools also attended the showcase.

In November dance production visited the NIU theater.

The girls observed a drama performance at the theater and attended classes.

Girls signed up for the dance classes they wanted to take there.

They chose between jazz, modern, theater, and hip-hop. Professors at NIU or students who are majoring in dance taught the classes to the girls.

Dance production has so far choreographed all their class dances, large group dances, chosen solos, duets, trios and finished their finale.

Community welcome center in debate

By Rachel Rivera

The board of education is considering the possibility of opening a community culture center in West Chicago.

The center could be an add-on to the welcome center that is already here in the school. It could help people who are not involved in many activities and meet other student needs.

The center would offer help in many areas, including school help and language help to people who do not know English coming into the community, as well as people who do not

know Spanish who are already in the community.

In addition it would assist those with psychological problems and even give aid to young mothers and pregnant teenagers.

Superintendent Lee E. Rieck said that this center is something that should be sponsored by the school.

Board member Gerald Landis disagreed because most suggested services are outside jurisdiction of the We-go high school district.

"Why should this be paid for by the high school?" asked Landis.

This is an idea that is still

up in the air and who exactly will be sponsoring it is still also undecided, said Rieck.

Letters were sent out recently to the board members, park district, municipal government, police, schools, and the faith community to ask their input.

The letters propose a meeting to discuss the ideas for the community culture center.

"It will be beneficial to the community if all of us people with these ideas get together and discuss them," said Rieck.

The meeting will be held in January.

International Club experiences cultures

By Sam West

International Club kicked off in September, and since then, a lot has happened.

Currently, they are in the process of planning trips and events.

One trip is planned to the Museum of Science and Industry to see an exhibit on Christmas around the world. Over 30 countries have trees decorated for all to see at the museum.

International Club has visited cultural places since September, as well.

They have already gone to the Mexican Fine Arts Museum to experience Dia

de Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, which is a celebration related to All Saints Day. After the museum, they went to a Mexican restaurant called Lalos.

Sponsor Sarah Bellis gives the International Club ideas and sees if anyone is interested in them.

"I leave it up to them to decide what to do," Bellis said.

There are no officers in International Club, but according to Bellis, everyone pitches in to help out.

With the smaller group of students International Club has, going to locations such as restaurants and trying all

the food there is easy.

It would be impossible to do things like this if there were a lot of people, according to Bellis.

"I think it's fun," Bellis said. "It's a smaller group of students so it's easier to plan."

The purpose of International Club is to explore cultures from around the world.

"(The purpose is) to promote and explore different cultures and ethnicities around the school and the community," Bellis said.

International Club meets at around 7:20 on Monday mornings in Room 401.

No change in sight for graduation standards

By Erica Fatigato

Graduation requirements will remain as they are after a review by department chairs and Principal Alan Jones.

The Board of Education had proposed to increase the requirements, but over 90 percent of students are already meeting the requirements to graduate.

Students are also able to take multiple electives and the classes that they need to graduate.

This allows multiple pathways to try to get hooked on, said Jones.

The diversity of the school population demands that

guidance counselors have multiple options for meeting career and education goals, said Maura Bridges, guidance counselor department chair.

Some board members wanted to see more electives required so students would be forced to try new things.

The board also wanted more classes of science and social studies.

New science requirements would have meant all students at Community High School would have to enroll in one physical science class and one life science class.

"Requirements hope to

teach people that in the future that they'll use it," said Marianna Owens, board member.

The requirements for social studies had been raised in response to a directive to increase students' knowledge of geography, said Jones.

Some board members suggested lowering the social studies requirements and increasing the science requirements to two years.

Changing graduation requirements would cause loss of flexibility in the school day, and change the day's structure, Jones said.

Principal hunt continues

By Sam West

The search for a new principal at We-go continues.

Assistant Principal Kathleen Benton said that advertisements for the job have been running in professional national education journals such as *Education Week*.

"We ran an ad nationally in November and December and I'm waiting for information from the search firm," she said.

The search firm is currently screening candidates and doing background checks on them.

Then they will recommend the applicants they feel are

strongest.

"We should be able to offer the position in early February," she said.

The desirable qualities a candidate should have include having good high school leadership experience and experience in curriculum development.

Once three or four candidates have been chosen, special teams consisting of teachers, students, parents, school board members, and administrators will conduct interviews with them. Benton will set up an interview with the candidates for each of the teams.

Benton said, "I will train each team and tell them what to look for."

The groups will be given a packet consisting of questions to ask.

After the interview, the groups will provide feedback on what they thought of the candidates. Each team will meet each candidate.

The teams include students of differing years in school, people with a variety of studies and interests, and people who are involved in different activities.

We-go's board of education will make the final decision.

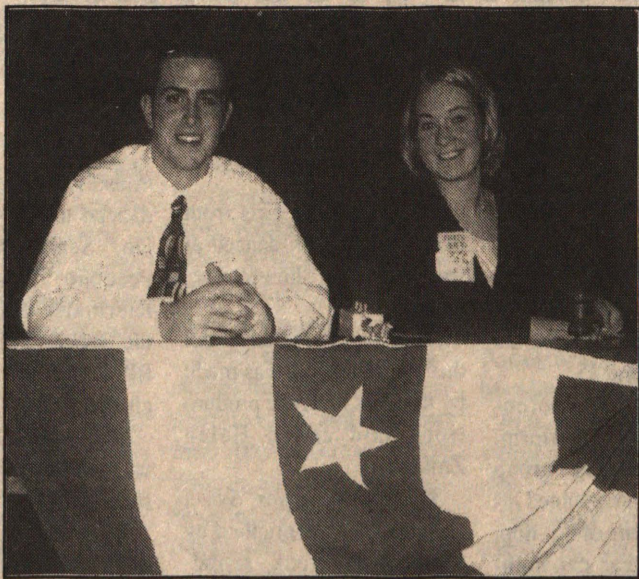


Photo courtesy of Mary Randle

Brad Shelley and Courtney Dorn smile for the camera during a government simulation this month.



Photo courtesy of Mary Randle

Senior Maggie Grossmeyer offers her opinion during the simulations.

Government students debate issues in final session

By Sean McTighe

The second full session for government students was held in the auditorium Wednesday. There were 19 bills discussed in the session.

The ones expecting to start debate were gay rights, abolish capital punishment, legalization of marijuana, birth control on welfare, and hate crime laws. Government students have been discussing the bills online on the blackboard.com discussion board.

All students were required to write a speech on at least one of the bills.

The most controversial bills in the first full session abolished abortion and abolished affirmative action. Both passed.

"I really was pleased with the quality of the debate," said government teacher Steve Arnold. "I hope to see that continue in the second full session."

The committee hearings were held Nov. 20.

Fifty bills came to the committee hearings. Out of those, 27 made it past the committee hearings to the full session.

Among the bills that didn't make it past the hearings were teaching creation in public schools, no drug testing for jobs, and many more.

Eighty-three percent of the Democrats voted and 87 percent of the Republicans voted.

The elected majority floor leader is Geoff Palka, minority floor leader is Nicole Patel, and the speaker of the house is Courtney Dorn.

Elected majority committee chairs are: William Rocha, Alice Hultquist, Craig Shuda, Ed Stumpf, Tiffany Cunnally, Kim Chau, Luke Taylor and Dan Carncross.

Elected minority committee chairs are: Matt Boes, Rosa Garcia, Jeff Raun, Martha Mueller, Elizabeth Deutsch, Maggie Knaak, Claudia Alcantar, and Cop-

per Tuma.

"The government simulation really gives the students a chance to get away from being students, and to become legislators, and adults," said Arnold.

By Erica Fatigato

Key Club's blood drive did not meet their goal of 100 units, but the club was pleased with the outcome.

"Although we didn't get 100 units it served our purpose to make people aware of the need for blood," said sponsor Ward Rau.

Seventy-five units of blood were taken.

Eighteen people were turned down for various reasons, said Rau. Some had low blood pressure, low iron, and others had traveled to certain parts of the world.

The Heartland Blood Center from North Aurora ran the blood drive along with the

AP courses put to the test

By Suzanne Smith

Departments have recently discussed plans for new advanced placement offerings at Community High.

Principal Alan Jones distributed a survey to all departments in the school to determine if there were any new courses being offered in the future.

"I leave the decision up to the department to make AP courses in their department," Jones said.

AP courses that are currently offered include AP English 3 and 4, German and French language, Spanish and French literature, calculus AB and BC, computer science AB, AP statistics, AP physics, and AP chemistry.

According to the survey, the foreign language department did not feel that many of their students are readily prepared to do well on their AP test.

This AP test is made for students who start learning a

foreign language in middle school. By the time they take the test, they should be in their fifth year of study, according to the survey.

However, the College Board AP test can be completed by the students in their fourth year.

The fine arts department has currently been researching the possibility of being able to offer an AP course for music theory and studio art (portfolios), according to the survey.

The survey indicated that the science department believes that instead of having an AP test in biology, they would rather offer their human anatomy and physiology course because it's better for the students who are interested in pursuing an advanced study in biology.

The College Board does have AP tests for courses that are offered in the social studies department including American history, economics,

and world history.

However, according to the survey, "It would be contradictory to our overall philosophy of heterogeneous classes, integrated curricula, and democratic principles to offer AP courses."

The social studies department would rather challenge the students on certain themes and ideas.

The AP test that is offered would involve memorization of facts, according to the survey.

Jones said all of the teachers have been certified by their degrees. They would still have to attend special training sessions to teach these AP courses.

Depending on the college, Jones said some would rather the students take their classes than earn AP credit.

He said colleges are in the business of making money, and they would gain more money if the students took the courses at their colleges.

Chess Team checks out trophies at national tourney

By Josh Winquist

We-go's chess team captured several trophies in the National Youth Action Tournament for chess in Rockford recently.

Junior Derek Smith won five and half matches at this national tournament.

The half of a match means there was a draw against one of his opponents. He ranked

nineteenth in the nation.

Senior Tyler Belding won six games placing him twelfth in the nation.

The team is undefeated so far in matches.

The team's first victory came in November against Wheaton North.

The team is steadily improving, team members said.

"Sophomore Jarett Worth,

Smith, and senior Pat McCluskey have been playing well," said Belding.

The We-Go Invitational Saturday brought stiff competition to the team. Sixteen teams competed at the event, including state championship contenders.

The results of the invitational were not available at press time.

WTC towers included in senior mural

By Suzanne Smith

The senior class mural will include pictures of the World Trade Center towers, senior class student council decided recently.

Senior Dan Bajor will design the senior mural and senior Ed Abante will do the lettering.

The World Trade Center will be drawn on the left hand

side of the mural.

Artists will incorporate themes such as patriotism and diversity on the right hand side. There will be writing along the border of the mural.

Senior class president Jamie Nadolny said the mural needed to have the World Trade Center in it because it's the biggest memory of the year.

It also needed to express the class's diversity, she said.

The senior class gift will be a solid granite stone sign made by Columbus Manufacturers, Inc.

The stone will be placed at either entrance A, entrance C, or outside of the football stadium.

Senior Tom Wojcicki gave the idea of the senior gift, Nadolny said.

The stone sign will have 'West Chicago Community High School,' 'Home of the Wildcats,' 'Class of 2002,' and the Wildcat mascot on it.

Blood drive falls short of goal

Key Club.

The Key Club wanted to move the blood drive up because of the Sept. 11 attacks but Heartland Blood Center could not come sooner.

Rau said the club learned that people were frustrated and felt that they needed to do something after the attacks. The main thing people could do was to donate blood.

Most of the blood was not sent to New York because it was not need. The survivors from the attack had enough blood, so only some blood went to New York.

The remaining blood was used to supply DuPage hos-

pitals in need of blood. The blood will be used to help people that need blood transfusions

Besides the blood drive, Key Club held a humanity service project, said Rau. People collected money during lunch periods to help people in the DuPage area. The money will be given to people under the poverty line, and elders on fixed incomes for buying Christmas and food. \$60 can help a family and \$80 can help a family of six.

"This provides ways to focus ways to help people outside our needs and wants," said Rau.

Tube... (Continued from page 1)

High School has been working on the installation of its new MDS, which allows cable access in all classrooms and commons and the ability to broadcast school-created videos to all the classrooms.

WTTT is an example of broadcast production that will be a possibility with the school's new system.

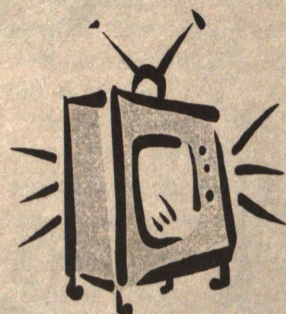
"The newly formed We-go Through The Tube group is an excellent example of a student-organization that has created a video that will be able to be broadcast for all to see," said director of technology Andy Glowaty.

Many of the system bugs have been worked through and corrected in the past few weeks and installing companies and engineers are close to completion.

It has a while to complete the system over because

there is much fine-tuning to be done before any large system is 100 percent up-and-running, said Glowaty.

The MDS also provides cable TV access to all class-



rooms in the school including the cafeteria.

Educational channels, like The History Channel, The Discovery Channel, The Learning Channel, PBS, and CSPAN, and news channels such as CNN, CNBC,

MSNBC, CLTV, and Headline News, will be available.

This feature allows teachers to show their students live footage of a TV show or tape the show and show the tape in class.

This feature has already been tested and security is a necessity.

"When the TVs in the cafeteria were initially turned on for testing, a student or two brought in their own remote control and a wrist-watch remote unit and discovered the ability to change channels from those originally set in the cafeteria," said Glowaty.

"The plan is now to fine-tune the system and set two of the four cafeteria monitors to the daily announcements and the other two systems to the CNN news channel except on the days when in-house videos are being broadcast," Glowaty said.

MDS, when it has been fully installed, will have live closed-circuit feed that will allow the school to broadcast an event, ceremony, or production live and show it in the classrooms.

This allows the school to have its own in-house daily announcements channel.

Channel 94 has been designated as the daily announcements channel for Community High School because it is District 94 and the channel was not in current use by the local cable provider.

When the system is completely installed, daily announcements will run continually throughout the day on channel 94 on all monitors in the building.

V.I.C.A helps stock shelves at local food pantry

By Sean McTighe

V.I.C.A. is closing in on its goal for this year's holiday food drive.

Their goal is to beat the record set in 1997 of 4,141 food items, according to club president Christine Hendron.

They currently have 1,166 items. Last year they brought in 2,177 items.

The food drive runs through Friday, and all food is being donated to a local food pantry in West Chicago.

For every three items brought in students will receive a raffle ticket toward a gift certificate for Stratford Square Mall.

The PE department allows you to bring three items for a PE makeup.

Also, on Dec. 7, V.I.C.A. took part in a regional competition at the technology center of DuPage. Junior Christine Hendron took first place in graphic arts, and senior Ed Abante took third in CAD.

Code word:

Operation Snowball

By Matt Neumann

Teens helping teens is the idea behind Operation Snowball, We-Go's new program that recently started up.

The program is called Operation Snowball because it was created with the hope that as teens in the program help each other with their issues the helping effect will in essence "snowball" among their peers.

Program sponsor, Cathy Thielberg, directed a similar program at Wheaton North High School for nearly six years and hopes to use that experience to help the program here.

"The program was originally started nearly 20 years ago," said Thielberg, "I hope to see the program develop into a place to help teenagers with personal growth as well as leadership abilities."

The program was originally set-up to help teens with substance abuse concerns such as alcohol and drugs, but the program has begun snowballing into much broader issues, Thielberg said.

The group is actually run by teens for teens but it is supervised by adults with about an equal number of youth and adult leaders.

"The members of the group actually run the way the discussions go, depending on what they feel the important issues now are," said Thielberg.

The group plans to have a lock-in sometime in April to try to gain interest in the program. The lock-in will run from sometime after school until later in the evening. The event will also have adult supervision.

The groups leaders hope to reach as many as 125 students at Community High.

"Students constantly bring up many current issues such as teen depression, peer pressure or family communication. The group discussions can revolve around many different topics," said Thielberg.

Some of the other issues up for discussion at the lock-in will be non-prescription problematic drugs, but the lock-in will also have games and group activities in hope to spur interaction among the participants.

"The group is a time allotted for teens to talk eyeball to eyeball and I am really excited to see the program develop," said Thielberg.

Anyone interested in Snowball should contact Thielberg in the business department.

Youth-in-Industry Day provides shadowing experience

We-go students shadowed professionals recently in the third annual Youth-in-Industry Day.

The school, along with West Chicago and Winfield

chamber of commerces, worked together to provide students with the chance to explore careers by spending time with professionals.

Students took mini-tours

along with visiting with brokers, bankers, accountants, and more.

The Dec. 7 event was made possible through an Education-to-Careers grant.



Photos courtesy of Mary Randle

Top photo: Bessie Czernik, left, chats with Judy Malmberg at Jacobsen's Flowers. Below, the West Chicago Fire Protection District paramedics share a moment with Jessica Gallegos and Elizabeth Diaz.

Lincoln school; Could this be the end?

By Mary Beth Selby
Lincoln School's future may be in danger after safety concern issues were raised recently.

A school safety code requires schools to have certain safety standards like sprinkler systems for example, said assistant superintendent for business Gary Grizaffi.

Because it is about 70-years-old, Lincoln does not meet some of those requirements.

In order to fix the safety issue, board members have been discussing ways to

change Lincoln. Current options include ripping parts of Lincoln out, modifying it and adding a second floor, or demolishing the whole building.

"If we modify the school, we plan to address the electric system, replace the boiler, expand, and add a second floor. The only problem with doing all that, though, is that it is very costly," said Grizaffi.

To modify Lincoln, Grizaffi said that it could cost around \$9 million. Demolishing Lincoln is also an option since it would be less

expensive than remodeling.

If Lincoln is torn down, the area will be replaced with athletic fields, including three softball fields and a soccer field.

However, Lincoln is used for many good programs, including nine foreign language classrooms, the Welcome Center, the S.T.A.R.S. program, and the weight room. All of these programs would need to be replaced if Lincoln is removed, Grizaffi said.

"Right now, nothing has been finalized," said Grizaffi.

Pay cuts prompt union creation

By Marc Berry
The Community High School Support Staff is now part of a union called the Support Staff Association (SSA).

Support staff member and special education facilitator, Pat Hjelm decided to look into a union after the 2000-01 school year was cut short by five days. The staff was also cut short of five days of pay. Hjelm said, at this point, she thought it was necessary to belong to a union.

"Without a union, the employer can do anything," Hjelm said.

It was difficult for the staff to get together and discuss the decision over the summer, but they began organizing in the fall.

"It was a lot of work to put together," said Hjelm.

Support staff employees

filled out cards indicating whether or not they were interested in a union.

After meeting with an organizer several times, an election was finally held.

Hjelm was elected president, Brenda Frechman was elected vice president, Monica Piezac was voted treasurer, and Linda Brandt was declared secretary.

There are also four representatives. They are Merna Woodson, Rick Flowers, Karen Rubini, and Judy McDonald. JoAnn Martin is the Region Council Representative.

Rubini is the head negotiator. Rubini said she led negotiations with superintendent Lee Reick, assistant principal Kathleen Benton, assistant principal Gary Grizaffi, and the school attorney, concerning salaries vacation

time, and general contract items.

The members of the union that assisted her in the negotiations include Piezac, Flowers, Hjelm, and Tusin, the representative of all IEA and NEA groups in Illinois. Rubini said the idea of playing a part in the union intrigued her.

"I wanted to be involved in the process from beginning to end," she said.

Rubini also said she is happy with how the union is going and that it has been a good experience.

"I'm really happy we were all able to work together so well," she said.

The support staff is divided into three groups within the union: program assistants, secretaries, and custodial/maintenance.

The union, though just get-

ting started, has accomplished a few things.

They now receive longevity pay, know exactly what they are making from year to year, and are permitted just cause, meaning a certain procedure must be followed before someone is fired.

Although not everyone on the support staff is part of the union, they all pay fair share, because even those that are not part of the union are still represented by it, according to Hjelm. Hjelm said she is pleased with how the union is turning out.

She and some of the other members are attending different workshops and local leadership conferences to help them get their feet off the ground.

"We're a baby right now. But a baby grows," said Hjelm.

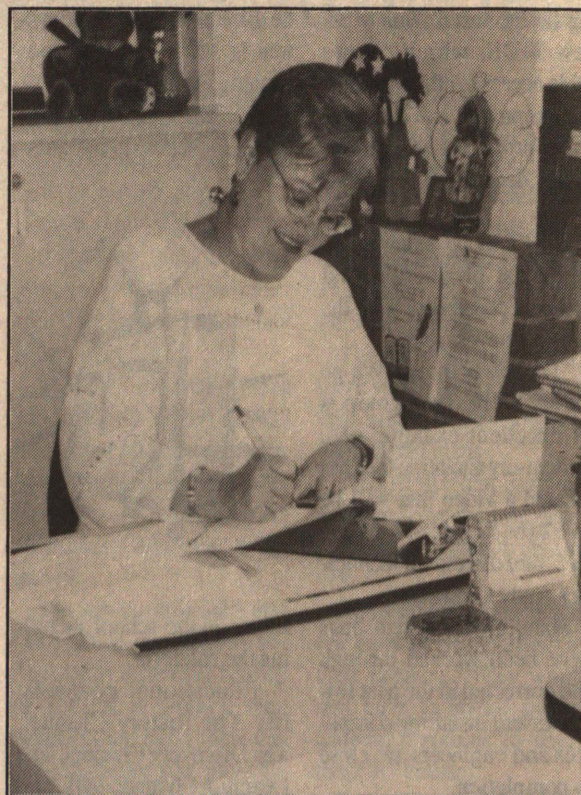


Photo courtesy of Pat Hjelm

Pat Hjelm makes history by signing a contract for support staff.

Voice winner coming soon

By Matt Neumann

This year West Chicago had a record number of "Voice of Democracy" entrants.

Twenty-eight entrants are vying for the large reward. All 28 will receive at least \$25 in monetary prizes.

The two winners will receive about \$1000 each.

"The winners were very difficult to judge, they were all really well done," said judge/We-go counselor Peg Arnold.

There were five judges total Arnold said, and the other four were all from VFW, the group that put together the money for the contest.

VFW gained about \$4500 for the event, allowing for the winners to take home \$1000, and the next three receive \$500.

Others could receive well over \$25.

"A lot of the contestants spoke about the events of Sept. 11th and patriotism, things like that were woven into a lot of the speeches and essays" said Arnold.

The contestants were judged 20 percent on delivery, 40 percent on originality, 40 percent on content.

The two winners, who will be announced in February, will move onto the district competition.

We-go swinging for club

By Lisa Borg

Every Thursday after school students are swinging to different beats in Swing Dance Club.

"New members, and people that are curious, are always welcome to drop in," Gwen Geiger, sponsors, said.

Students who want to join Swing Dancing Club should wear comfortable clothes and shoes to dance in.

Besides dancing, the club talks about business and what is coming up during the club hours.

Geiger said they formed Swing Dancing Club to learn the new dance moves and have fun while dancing.

"I enjoy the students even more than I enjoy the dancing. I have the opportunity to see former students, plus I get to know students who have not been in my classes."

"It is also a special treat for me to interact with students outside of the traditional classroom setting," Geiger said.

The club held an off-campus outing in November to Pheasant Run for swing dance lessons.

After the lessons a live band performed for the club.

The meetings are held on Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in room 147.

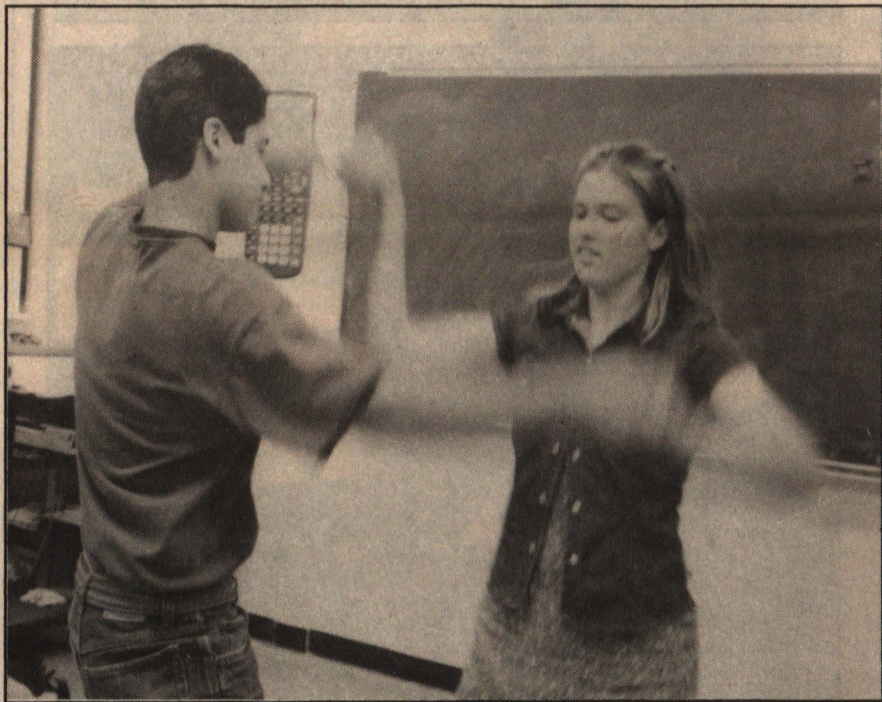


Photo courtesy of staff

Sophomore Jorge Martinez and freshmen Angie Losacco swing dance at We-go's new club.

Madness... (Continued from page 2)

you really don't know what to expect but the audience was great and the event went great," said McCarthy.

DuPage National Bank donated money for a "sticky buns" contest in which students tried to pick up as much money as possible spread out in the center of the basketball court with tape on their pants.

Students won lots of valuable baseball memorabilia along with other prizes, including a baseball signed by Alex Rodriguez.

Other sponsors donated various gift certificates to the cause and there was a chance to win a new Ford Focus.

No one made the half court bomb that was required in order to win the car, even though someone made it up to that point.

"It was complete madness," said senior Joey Park.

The main event was a rare opportunity to be hypnotized by Robinn Lange.

Nearly 30 students were selected for a hypnosis session with Lange.

The goings-on went from creating unique languages to sleeping on command. Others impersonated famous musicians.

"I really had a good time with it," said Josh Kutilek

who participated in the event.

We-go's poms squad and cheerleaders added to the event throughout the night.

Also a teacher karaoke was a big hit. Math teacher Kevin Gimre won the event hands down with his funny rendition of "Respect."

Each marketing student promised to raise \$60 in advertising and to pre-sell 10 tickets to pay for the event.

"Without the support of our corporate sponsors and the students we would never have been able to put on such a well done event," said McCarthy.

Got an opinion? Voice it in the Chronicle!

Why only Afghanistan?

By Matt Neumann

A majority of Americans seem to be happy with fighting the war against terrorism in Afghanistan. After all, the World Trade Center attacks were the worst acts of terrorism in American history.

However, the media has reported that the majority of terrorists were Saudi, not Afghans. So why are we only in Afghanistan? Why are we not seeking other terrorists worldwide?

Also, the government hasn't actually given the American public and the world any solid evidence that bin Laden alone is responsible for the terrorist attack on America.

The government won't disclose information because it will hurt the campaign, but proving bin Laden is responsible for the killing of innocent people would most certainly, unite *the world* to our cause.

All we know is that bin Laden was one of the only men who could organize such an attack on American soil.

Unfortunately, there are people who hate us for what we are, and it's not new. These people are all over the world.

Wouldn't it be prudent for Bush and Capitol Hill to hand over any proof to the American people and the

world that others are involved other than bin Laden?

In waging the war against terrorism, Capitol Hill has promised the war is far from over, but what exactly is it that we are after?

We are only given information that will help us keep support for the war going but what exactly are the reasons for the U.S. to start the war against terrorism in Afghanistan when there is more than likely just as much chance that others are involved?

The reasons and objectives being spewed to the public remain muddy. And can we really trust the judgment of the government?

We have made an alliance to remove the Taliban regime but we have no idea how the Northern Alliance will handle the situation when in power. We didn't know what would happen with the Taliban in power either, but we put them in power and look what happened.

With the idea of Anthrax zapping mail services costing billions of dollars and soldiers dying for a war that seems broader and broader by the day our objectives need to become clear quickly.

As far as the American public knows, we have very little knowledge about bin Laden's involvement, but isn't this and Afghans harboring him the reason we are

spending billions on the campaign?

With the thought of another war abroad like Vietnam looming and thousands of American soldiers preparing to possibly give their lives, Capitol Hill needs to know the best course of action for our country.

With a newly failing economy because of the war and the possibility of American youth getting killed in battle, Capitol Hill needs to make the war much more pinpointed.

This war should not be hurting the strongest country in the world as much as it is.

It seems that one of the reasons we are in Afghanistan is to correct Bush senior's mistakes.

Even officials in the upper echelon of the government are stating in *Time* "Just a week after officials boasted that the Taliban had been eviscerated by the air war, U.S. military officials acknowledged that the war was going slowly at best."

"The toll may not become worth the benefit" and "In the long run we cannot pretend our actions will rid the world of terror, maybe not even slow it..." stated editors from the *New York Times*.

So what exactly has the U.S. set out after? We need answers to this question.

Doesn't the Taliban get the message already?

By Stephanie Bodane

What's with those Taliban people?

It's hard to understand the Taliban. Young girls in America have potential and opportunity. Here women are equal (most of the time) and as a people, women matter. It's hard to imagine any different.

So then there are these Taliban people, this incredibly unique, group of people.

So, ok, they bomb our country, they kill our people, and we're not at all reluctant to say we dislike them. A lot.

What also creates anger is the fact that they treat their women, their own blood, in an unimaginable way.

Afghanistan women are just like American women. They are professionals with careers, and they are mothers and wives.

Or at least that is what they were before the Taliban took it away from them.

The Taliban tries to hide their women. They treat them poorly and unimaginably.

Women are forced to wear burqa's, an outfit that covers the women from head to toe with a small slit to reveal the eyes of these hidden women.

Women are not allowed to work or even go out into pub-

lic without a male relative.

Windows in the homes of the women must be covered so no one can view them. Magazines and the news programs claim how depression is becoming widespread in Afghanistan and the woman's suicide rate has raised considerably.

Normally we'd would be saying, "fight back, revolt. Do something!" It's harder then it may look though.

There is however organizations in which the women of Afghanistan are joining leagues to fight for the their rights.

One group, Muslim Women's League, includes American-Muslims who are still fighting for their freedom.

This group claims that even in the Qur'an, which is the Islam's book about their society, it states: "Men shall have a benefit from what they earn, and women shall have a benefit from what they earn."

The group wants to explain that not only is the treatment of the women inhumane it is also unIslamic.

It's hard to imagine why women would be treated this way. The actual reason that they are is because the

Taliban have had problems with their men being able to "control themselves".

So as a solution (instead of, oh I don't know, doing something about the men) the Taliban decided that they would cover the women up to protect them from "unwanted advances."

Have they heard of self-defense classes, try coming to America?

It's horrible what human beings do to other human beings.

Just last week there was a story of a woman whose daughter was very sick. The family couldn't afford a Burqa for the young girl so they couldn't take her to the doctor.

She died. Someone needs to step forth and make a statement about these women, about this country, about those Taliban people.

They need to say, look in the mirror, look at the American flag, and look at what this country has to offer you.

Look how lucky you are, and how much your country loves you. Then think about how it works in Afghanistan.

Then you'll get the point. What's with those Taliban people?

Guy Fawkes Night: The British version of the Fourth of July

By Brad Larson

A VERY SHORT HISTORY LESSON, PART I:

The British Parliament is one of the oldest functioning governmental bodies in the world.

In fact, none older comes to mind. Over the ages the Parliament has evolved from a council of the British nobility into one of the great democratic bodies of the modern world.

A VERY SHORT HISTORY LESSON PART II:

In the 1500s, when the Pope refused to grant King Henry VIII a divorce, Henry broke with the Roman Catholic Church and declared himself head of the Church of England.

He began a campaign to stamp out loyalty to the Catholic church throughout his kingdom.

He persecuted both clergy and laity who remained faithful to the Catholic Church, sacked and looted Catholic monasteries, and confiscated all church property.

A VERY SHORT HIS-

TORY LESSON, PART III:

In 1605 a group of fanatical Catholic Englishmen conspired to blow up the Palace of Westminster on the fifth of November, the day Parliament was to be opened for the year by King James I, a Protestant monarch.

Up to that point James had been relatively tolerant of Catholicism in England and Scotland, especially in comparison to his predecessors, Elizabeth I and Henry VIII (James' mother, Mary, Queen of Scots, had been a Catholic).

The Catholic fanatics, however, were determined to restore the Catholic Church to its former status as the official religion.

A VERY SHORT HISTORY LESSON, PART IV:

The first of the conspirators to be caught was Guy Fawkes, who had organized the placement of tons of gunpowder in a rented storage room directly under the room in which King James, much of the royal family, and all of the members of the Parliament would meet for the

opening ceremony.

Fawkes was tortured and executed. The other conspirators were caught and executed or hunted down and killed.

Their plan to wipe out the entire government became known as the gunpowder plot.

A VERY SHORT HISTORY LESSON, PART V:

Ever since 1605, the British have celebrated the preservation of the monarchy and Parliament on "Guy Fawkes Night."

The celebration of this night is one of the most important events on the British Calendar.

One of my students told me that, aside from Christmas, Guy Fawkes Night is the best night of the year.

The night of November 5, 2001 was dark and cold in Glasgow.

The clouds rode low in the skies, and from them came, alternately, mists and pouring rain.

None of this had a dampening effect on anyone's good time.

Guy Fawkes Night is celebrated with bonfires and fireworks—big bonfires and lots of fireworks.

There are huge public displays put on by local communities here, just as there are on the Fourth of July in the United States, but many of the British prefer to set off their own fireworks, and they apparently have ready access to lots of fireworks, from sparklers to small bombs.

At least in Glasgow, Guy Fawkes Night really starts about a month before the night itself.

It seems that considerable practice is necessary to properly prepare for setting off fireworks on the big night.

This practice takes place at all times of the day and night and practically everywhere. Many times the booms from this "practice" rang out as I was teaching a class at Penilee Secondary School.

These dry runs, for me, were little preparation for what was to come.

If the weather had been good on Guy Fawkes Night I probably would have gone

out to one of the officially sponsored bonfires/fireworks displays.

I'm rather glad it was not good, as I think I got a better show just looking out the windows of my flat.

Soon after dark a massive bonfire was started, presumably by some of my neighbors, on the football pitch in the park across the street from my Glasgow home.

I don't know what all was

used as fuel for the fire, but I did see several large pieces of furniture that had been hauled out and included in the pile. The park was lit for over two hours by the bonfire. The real show, though, was the fireworks.

The city was engulfed in a dull, rolling roar, frequently punctuated by sharp, nearby explosions, as a continuous, three hour barrage of explo (See *Fawkes* page 8)

I'm dreaming of a German Christmas

By Alex Patin

(Correspondent Alex Patin, Class of '01, is spending the year in Germany as a Bundestag Scholar. She writes a monthly column for the *Wildcat Chronicle*.)

Christmas here in Germany is not completely different, but it is a little different.

First of all, the school has decorations around it and in the halls. There are lights on the trees outside, and there are tiny Christmas trees throughout the halls inside

as well.

Also, there is a large Advent wreath, which is like a Christmas wreath, except that it has candles on it, and isn't just plain, in our school's entrance. The school's choir has a Christmas choir concert, in which they sing just Christmas songs, unlike our concerts, which normally sing non-religious songs as well.

Secondly, the cities have Weihnachtsmarkts, or Christmas markets, which spread (See *Germany* page 9)

Berry's Stuff

The answers are right there

By Marc Berry

So, I was thinking I'd start off with one of those Q&A deals. I thought I'd take all the questions sent in by the Marc Berry fan club (It's fun, easy to join, and you get free stickers. Sign up today!) and do my best to answer them. It'd be like that one column with the old lady, except instead of being called "Dear Abby," it'd be called "Dear Marc," because Abby and Marc rhyme. Sort of.

Like, say someone wrote,

"Q: Dear Marc, what exactly does the "T" in Mr. T stand for?"

I'd write back,

"A: You should know this. A better question would be 'Why is Mr. T stooping to doing commercials for collect calling companies?' It's sad to see someone who was quickly on his way to the top,

lowering his standards for a quick buck. The man once put up a fight against Rocky Balboa himself, and now all he can do is spit out jibba-jabba about paying ten cents a minute. It's not that his pop culture phrases ever get old... It's just that so much more potential lies under those gold chains and mohawk. It's kind of sad, really. I almost pity the ehh, why bother? It's too easy... In conclusion, maybe you should think about asking better questions before you waste my time again."

Or something like that.

And then people's lives would be changed, hearts would be moved, relationships would be healed. My face and words would be put into syndication. Every weekday, families would

gather around the paper to absorb my keen insight and chuckle at my daily inspirational quote.

"Did you read the insight he shared with *Miffed in Mississippi*? It's pretty keen," one member of the family would say.

Another would add, "Yeah, and did you read this? 'Every time a door closes, a window opens.'... That is so true. Chuckle, chuckle."

There must have been some sort of mix-up this month though, because I didn't receive any questions. I've still got a lot of answers, though, so I'll go ahead and use them up.

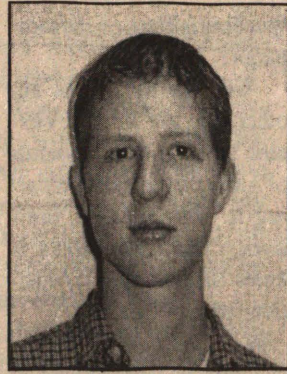
A: Yes.

A: Probably not.

A: Yogurt.

A: No! That's just gross....

A: Only if you look at it upside down and hold it up



There is no news in the news

By Sam West

Why is it that there is no news being reported in the news?

The U.S. is being mugged by news anchors such as Dan Rather and Tom Brokaw every day. It is mugged with the word "anthrax."

Anthrax seems to be the only national story in the news. It used to be that citizens would see the president making a controversial decision, a whole story devoted to the conflict in Israel, or a segment on the wonders of Australia. Now, the breaking news is six more reports of anthrax scares, none of which are true.

Viewers see pictures of people walking around post offices in full biohazard suits, we see frantic mail workers giving interviews telling how frightened they are. Is this relevant to our lives?

Four people have died from anthrax and six more are battling it. That means that out of 272 million people in the U.S., very few have been infected (as of Nov. 6). Much less than one percent of American citizens have been infected with anthrax, so what is the big deal?

Anthrax is something we should all know about, but

we don't need hourly updates that tell that no one new has anthrax, that it was false alarm.

When all the news of anthrax is finally over, there is just enough time to report on what is going on in Afghanistan.

We go to some reporter via videophone in Kabul. There are faint lights falling from Kabul's night sky behind him or her.

The reporter tells viewers in a somber voice that the Taliban might be coming close to coming close to collapsing. But actual details are sketchy. Then they turn around and tell viewers that the lights they are seeing are bombs falling on Taliban targets.

Then it's back to the head anchor in the news studio, there is another short anthrax story, and finally, the newscast is over.

Let's go back to the days of real newscasts. What America needs to "return to normalcy" is for the news to return to normal.

We don't need all the overblown reports of diseases that less than one-half percent of American citizens have, and if the news decides to report about the war, they should at least give us some hard information. All we need is for the news to return to normal.

Are scientists progressing or bored?

By Kyle Bullis

Science has brought us a long way throughout the ages, such as giving us television, medicine, cars, and toilets.

How does science come up with these things? They look for inconveniences, and they invent some weird little gadget that solves the problem, or at least eases it up a little. Now we are in a very, very technical age, where computers control cities, planes soar overhead, children as young as 3-years-old are programming VCRs.

Now, with all these things we have, all the modern conveniences, it seems that science has grown extremely bored. Fairly recently scientists have decided to study how jet engine noises effect pregnant horses.

You probably think this is a blatant lie, but facts can't be ignored. Of course, this is

a very good idea, the whole jet engine thing, because there has been a recent increase of farm animals spontaneously bursting into flames on account of loud engine noises.

Okay, that isn't true, but it sure does seem that that's what these scientists are thinking, because never in a million years would normal human beings actually think of something this bizarre.

It seems like a bunch of men got drunk one night and somehow got a hold of a horse and took it to the airport to listen to loud noises for sheer amusement.

When science runs out of ideas, this is what happens. They still take down data, record observations, and actually think they are doing something for the world while that poor horse is probably going insane inside whatever it is being held in.

You'd think that when those people have nothing to do, they'd return to being normal human beings with an I.Q. of 300, and start applying a soldering iron to a cheap McDonald's toy.

If they enjoy those cheap plastic toys, they could use some other household object on something like a microwave, so that they could end with, say, a Fried McTennis Ball.

Still, if all of this seems a bit extreme (or demented), science could start inventing stuff that would flat out amuse people, but not help them in any way whatsoever. For instance, people seem to have a certain disgust toward wiener dogs, so I propose that science invent a catapult specifically designed to hurl those dogs into the sky.

There are bound to be a few legal things to work out, because this act probably

falls under the category of animal cruelty. No problem, all we have to do is move to a remote island where we can make our own laws! Fling those dogs all we want, and possibly even annoying humans!

It's just a suggestion, just something for you scientist people to start considering. Whenever you are sitting around the office talking about atoms or the particle accelerator that the government just spent \$1 trillion on, remember this.

But until then, science should keep doing what they do best, preferably making life just a little more convenient, a little safer, a little more enjoyable.

Then, when life is perfect, you will not give the Chinese Loud Noises Torture to pregnant horses, but instead build the wiener dog catapult, use it as an attraction, and mail me half the profits.

Fawkes... (continued from page 7)

sives was set off by the residents of Glasgow.

The flashes of rockets and bombs reflected off of the low-hanging clouds.

I had the distinct impression that I had found myself in a CNN videoclip of a war zone.

At one point I wondered if there hadn't been enough gunpowder stockpiled by my neighbors to flatten the entire street had it been set off all at once. I do not exaggerate in this description.

The next day my col-

leagues expressed their own amazement at the proportions this year's gunpowder revels.

Eventually the noise and flashes dissipated, and though the night was still punctuated by sudden booms from time to time, normality returned.

Not all communities celebrated the night in this fashion.

A friend told me of a community in the Highlands in which the schoolchildren made paperbag lanterns and

paraded through the town with them held high on poles.

The procession led to the lighting of the town's bonfire, and officially sponsored fireworks were then set off.

Flying over Britain on a clear bonfire night would, I imagine, be quite an experience.

Just sitting in my flat was quite an experience. The naming of the annual celebration of the preservation of Britain's governmental institutions after the man who

tried to destroy those same institutions is curious, a little perverse, and very British.

The celebrations themselves are a sight to behold.

I can't help observing, though, that in celebrating an explosion that didn't occur, the British annually put themselves in danger of blowing up themselves.

(Teacher Brad Larson is a Fulbright Scholar and is teaching in Glasgow, Scotland for this year as part of that program. He writes a column each month for the *Chronicle*.)

Security improves by easing up a little

By Suzanne Smith

Security guards have made West Chicago students feel more at ease with the atmosphere at school.

Walking through the halls does not seem like such a hassle to students. They no longer feel like their privacy has been taken away from them.

They can comfortably walk through the building without being asked where they are supposed to be.

Last year, security guards were placed at every entrance, outside of commons, in senior hallway, and outside of the music department.

Cameras were set up in stairwells and the walkway to Lincoln. Every move the students made was monitored.

Most of the security guards were older ladies last year. How were the students

supposed to feel protected?

Students knew something felt odd about security at West Chicago because an intruder would not feel as threatened by an older lady guarding the school rather than a middle aged man.

This year, however, security has improved. Students are no longer forced to wear IDs. They can walk around school as if they feel welcome here.

Now, West Chicago has security guards who look somewhat intimidating. They are actually doing their job keeping students and faculty safe during school.

They ask students politely where they are going and let them continue walking to their destination instead of yelling at them for a pass.

Last year, students were yelled at for things as little (See *Security page 9*)

Birthday celebrations too much

By Erica Fatigato

Walking through the hallways you will be sure to find signs on the wall with the phrase "Happy Birthday!"

But now birthday celebrations are going overboard.

Putting one or two signs up around the school is one thing, but putting tons of confetti in and on the person's locker can cause a big mess.

Seeing people with their faces painted and hair all crazy can be fun, but is it worth it for one day?

It's supposed to be a

person's birthday not a day to embarrass them. People may do a lot of things to embarrass their friends.

The signs in the hallways may consist of embarrassing pictures of the person doing weird things.

The friends might go to the birthday person's house early to wake them up and make them wear weird clothes to school. When they go to school everyone knows it's their birthday, so they don't need to make it so noticeable.

Also think of the people that have to deal with the

messes the decorating people make. If confetti is on the floor and signs are never being taken down, then who will do it?

Other times people may bring in cake or cupcakes for the birthday person.

People will attack the birthday person in the hallways because they want a treat. This can also cause a mess on the floor. The people that made the treats might not get their tupperware back.

People sometimes tie balloons on the person back-

pack or in their hair. The balloons are a problem in the classroom. How are other students supposed to learn with balloons in their faces? The person may move their backpack or the balloons in the room but it's still an issue.

People should just do little things to make their friend's birthday special. Maybe putting one or two signs and decorating their locker with no confetti would be better for the school all in all.

It will not cause any problems and distract people throughout the day.

What patriotism really means

By Kyle Bullis

The shirts, the flags, the banners, the symbols, the songs. Sept. 11, one of the darkest days in American history.

Minutes after the terrorist attacks, flags were flown high and people were singing in the streets, all to mourn the dead.

Now it is three months after the attacks, and the sense of patriotism hasn't diminished, but unfortunately some of the action, and the care, has.

We can show our support and help the victims of Sept. 11 in many ways, but some people seem to feel justified only in waving their flags, wearing their shirts, and singing their songs. But when it comes to action, they sit in the dark.

It is very sad that it takes an act of this magnitude to make America realize how lucky it is. Some people do help out. They donate blood, money, or go to New York themselves to clean up the aftermath.

But this message is directed towards those alleged "patriots" who feel that showing floods of red, white, and

blue signifies that they love America, that they feel showing off their colors is enough.

If they love America, then do something to show that love.

This is directed towards those people who claim that they love America with all their hearts, but haven't given a penny or donated an ounce. They know who they are.

Everyone is encouraged to do at least something, so do something for the relief effort, so you know that you are helping and saving lives.

But don't sit there in the dark with your red, white, and blue and tell the world that that you love this country. With love comes respect, and care, and if you care, show it.

On that note, bless the people who have done their part, those who work day and night to clean up the streets of New York City. Bless the people who have given their own blood to someone who needs it. Bless those who have given their hard-earned money to buy another stretcher, another first aid kit, or another bandage. Bless the people who are doing it right now, and those who will do it in the future.

Germany... (Continued from page 7)

throughout the streets. In the markets many people come to buy traditional and not so traditional gifts and food from many stalls.

In Essen, my city, each stall is shaped like a tiny house and painted red and green, and there is music playing from a speaker in every other one.

No matter where you go, you can always smell either chocolate, roasted almonds, bratwurst, or Glühwein, which is a hot drink that you can see almost everyone drinking everywhere.

The last major difference here is that they actually celebrate Christmas on Dec. 24. Most of the people I talk to have no idea that in America we celebrate it on the 25th, so that takes some getting used to.

Other than those differences, Germany is, like the U.S., in such a Christmas spirit that everywhere you go you see lights on the trees and hear music playing.

Sadly, the lines in the stores are not any shorter here, either, for Christmas shopping.

Security...

(Continued from page 8)

as a damaged ID or being in the hallways during a class period. It was taking time away from getting to class on time.

Security at West Chicago has taken a step forward in protecting the school.

School is no longer an institution of fear where students are afraid of getting in trouble for little things like their IDs, but instead, it is a respectful environment for students to learn in.

Letters to the editor

Evolution is the right thing to teach

Schools do indeed need to continue to teach evolution, and for all the right reasons.

Evolution is the basis for studying the history and future of life on Earth. For thousands of years, man has wondered how there was such variety of life on this planet. Their explanation was that God created everything just as it was.

But then scientists in the 17th through the 19th centuries proposed that all life on Earth evolved gradually. That led to Charles Darwin's book "On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection."

It told of the struggle to survive; living things compete for food and space to live. It was right!

Evolution does not mean that we come from monkeys. It does not mean that we have spontaneously been spawned from gorillas. Evolution means that all things evolve naturally to survive.

Think of it this way: evolution is merely change over a great period of time. If organisms don't adapt to their environment, they become extinct. It is as simple as that.

For example, natural selection had a part in the survival of cheetahs. Around four mil-

lion years ago, cheetahs were twice as heavy as they are today. But some smaller (and therefore quicker) cheetahs had better reproductive success than the fat ones did. The smaller cheetahs, over time, became the cheetahs of today, whereas the fat cheetahs all died out.

How do we know that evolution has taken place? Archaeology and paleontology are just two fields of study related to evolution.

The study of fossils, paleontology, tells how old a fossil is by measuring its radioactivity.

Fossils are the record of the earliest life on Earth and the progression over time from simple to complex life.

Fossils do tell that the earliest life forms (bacteria) appeared about 3.5 billion years ago. It has been proven.

The earliest human species had large, strong jaws, long fingers, and faces that came out from the forehead. We know this courtesy of the clear evidence fossils give us.

Evolution is real. It is happening right now, although we can't tell the difference. There is overwhelming evidence supporting evolution. If evolution is false, which it surely isn't, then how did Pe-

king Man come to be? He was a Homo erectus. That means that he wasn't like us, but he was similar to us. We are Homo sapiens, which means that we are related to him. We evolved from his time.

His time was two million years ago. If the world is only thousands of years old, how did he come to be? Science isn't wrong in this case. The earliest humans did live two million years ago.

From radioactive dating we can tell that Earth is 4.5 billion years old, not 6,000, as thought in 1654. There has been debate over how old the earth is for centuries, but now it seems that all scientists agree that the world is 4.5 billion years old.

Teaching evolution is not teaching atheism. The Bible gives us a view of what went on many, many years ago, and it tells us about God and the teachings of Jesus. But nowhere in the Bible does it say that evolution is wrong.

Sure it has creation in it, it has Adam and Eve in it. But what do the names Adam and Eve mean? *Mankind* and *Womankind*. Does the Bible give vivid descriptions of Adam and Eve? No.

How do we actually know

what people looked like at the time of creation?

We should teach evolution in public schools. We should not teach creationism. To teach creationism along with evolution would be conflicting with everything that evolution is.

Evolution is the way of life, and we shouldn't teach against the way of life.

Teaching neither creation nor evolution would be wrong because then we would all be unknowledgeable about how we are and why we are.

Granted, we would have a shortened day without biology class, but biology class is a necessity.

Humans were all created. But humans weren't necessarily created the same way we are now.

When humans were created, we could have looked like Peking Man. Who knows? But we were created to evolve.

Evolution is the cornerstone for modern biology and the way the world works. There is much evidence supporting it.

To argue against evolution is to argue against the way of life.

Sam West

School bathrooms in sad state

Dear editor,

This school is in a sad state.

The bathrooms in this school are so messed up.

The girl's bathroom outside of commons has three problems I have noticed.

First, all the stall doors are so short most people stand a full head above the top.

Second, the wheel chair accessible one is breaking constantly.

Third, the first stall has been missing the door since

last year and the right wall leans into the next stall.

The close door of the next stall you must shove the wall out of the way and close the door at the same time.

The girl's bathroom on the second floor in senior hallway is missing locks.

The bathroom by the library has stalls so small that you can not turn around if carrying anything.

The third floor boy's bathroom is commonly closed.

The third floor girls bathroom and pool locker rooms have sheets of tin instead of mirrors.

In all bathrooms, handles constantly stick-causing water to run for hours on end.

I have heard people talk about how they won't use our school bathrooms.

With problems such as these I can completely understand.

Student Number
23238

Voice Your Opinion!

Write a letter to the editor today!

You should write or type your letter and submit it to Ms. Kuehn in Room 320 or to the Wildcat Chronicle mailbox in the Administrative Office.

Ads give the wrong ideas

By Anna Nubie
Looking at advertisements today you can easily realize the horrible effects they may have on different people. Calvin Klein has a series of advertisements out on their cologne "Obsession." Instead of showing the bottle, they usually show naked women or another example of sexuality. For example, one ad in a magazine shows a man and a woman both standing on a swing. Their pelvic areas are touching and they are leaning back in opposite directions. Harmless, right? Except for the fact that they are both completely naked. In large bold letters above the ad it says the word 'Obsession' and on the bottom, 'for men', then very small and below that, 'perfume'. If you already did not know what 'Obsession' was, you would have no idea what it was advertising. The definition for obsession is a compulsive preoccupation with a fixed idea, often accompanied by symptoms of anxiety. The word alone can only put questions into your mind what this product would be. In addition, the fact that it says "for men" at the bottom raises questions. So this product is something men are obsessed with along with a sexual picture? Possibly not so bad except looking into it you may interpret that men are obsessed with sex.

This is not necessarily true in many cases, although that is what this advertisement for a body fragrance is saying. It is wrong to say men are obsessed with sex. Another effect of advertisements is they can lower self-esteem. For teenage girls especially, ads can be damaging. Nearly anything advertisers can find a way to put a photo of a young girl on, they do: clothes, makeup, shoes, and perfume. In the ad, more often than not, the girl will be skinny and beautiful. She will have flawless skin and the clothes that many girls cannot afford or wear, because they would be unflattering. The ad sets an image of what young girls are supposed to look like. The trouble is many do not realize that these photos are computer enhanced to make them look flawless. According to Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention, Inc, the average American woman is 5-foot-four-inches tall and weighs 140 pounds. The average American model is five-feet eleven-inches tall and weighs 117 pounds. Most fashion models are thinner than 98 percent of American women. Almost half of American elementary school students between the first and third grades want to be thinner. Four out of five children at the age of 10 are afraid of being fat.

Four out of five American women are dissatisfied with their appearance, the organization said. Advertisements do change the way people think. It puts a picture in a person's head even when the person is not aware. It is not only girls though. The image for males is the same. Along with women needing to have the ideal body image, men also do according to advertisements as well. Men and boys seem to always have fit body types giving the idea that this is what a man needs to always look like. In reality men, like women, all look different, whether they are tall, short, fat or thin. There is no way every single person could look as attractive as the people put into advertisements. The only kind of person to be put on an ad is someone attractive in the eyes of the advertisers. Through complaints from viewers, occasionally you will see a more realistic size. Even with this occasional change, many models are still young pretty people in the eyes of advertisers. Consequently, ads should have men and women of all shapes and sizes. No person will be the ideal body type.

By Brad Larson
Glasgow, 1 December 2001
Light is a commodity in short supply in Glasgow right now. As we all know, the days get shorter and shorter this time of year, and continue to do so until the Winter Solstice, when the Earth's angle to the sun starts to tip back in our favor. The shorter days, though, are much more pronounced here than in Chicago. Chicago's latitude is just about 42 degrees north, 3 degrees short of the halfway point between the Equator and the North Pole (90 degrees north). Glasgow, on the other hand, is right at 56 degrees north. If my math is correct (there's a reason I'm an English teacher), that puts Glasgow 14 degrees north of Chicago, and 11 degrees north of the halfway point to the North Pole. What all of this means is that Glasgow is a considerable distance further up the Earth's cur-

vature, and therefore quite a bit further away from the sun than Chicago right now.



It is nearly dark by 4 p.m. every day, and by my rough calculations, we're losing something close to five minutes of daylight per day. At the solstice, by about 3:30 in the afternoon we in Glasgow will be in complete darkness. It is a curious thing to see the sun low above the south-

ern horizon at "high noon." Even the not-so-tall buildings cast long, northerly shadows at midday, and someone who didn't know what direction she or he was looking might mistake the noon sun in the southern sky for the rising sun just having come up in the east. There are, however, compensations to come. Summer is a time of very long days in northerly latitudes. Were you to stand at the North Pole at the Summer Solstice the sun would never set—it would just move in a 360 degree circle around you every 24 hours. June evenings in Glasgow last until nearly 11 p.m. Those long, bright evenings are something to look forward to as the shortest day of the year—a good bit shorter for me than for you—approaches.

Can we force volunteering?

By Sam West
Community service is undoubtedly a good thing. It is helping out your community with intentions to make the world a better place to live. But should we, as students, be required to do this? The answer, put simply, is no. Principal Alan Jones said, "Schools adopt (community service) and then drop it. It is too hard to manage." It is just not feasible to adopt community service. The cost

involved is too much, considering you have to put a class together to adopt it. Jones also said that when you have 2,000 students coming at citizens to help, the community will say that they've been serviced all they need. Why have people give service to others who don't want to have that help? Board member Maria Owens said, "I don't see a problem with requiring it." Well, another problem with requiring community service is that people do have lives, which include doing homework, sports, band, and, strangely enough, community service. Students do community service all the time, even though it is not done through a school project. Community service is done through churches, youth groups, or on your own. Students regularly sign up for projects such as Habitat for Humanity. Are students supposed to give up working for Habitat

for Humanity on their own because they are forced to do something else which might not be to their liking? Board member Bob Lemon stated, "I have a philosophical problem with required volunteerism." There is a philosophical problem with forced volunteerism. It isn't right to be forced into labor and then call it "volunteering." Owens suggested that requiring community service teaches students to volunteer on their own. If you want to teach students to be a person of service to the community on their own, why force them to do it? There is a philosophical problem with that, too. As Mr. Lemon pointed out, the school needs more alternatives for students. Community service could be an option for half a credit. Still, community service should not become a requirement for students at West Chicago.


Wrestling girls deserve respect

By Elliott Tinnes
The 2001-2002 West Chicago wrestling team has several new additions this year. Four girls have joined the team in what is traditionally a male sport. The wrestling team has had girls try out in past seasons, only to quit in a matter of days. However, after many days of practice, these girls have stuck it out and have expressed plans to stay with it through the entire season. Coaches as well as athletes have taken to the girls warmly, treating them as equals and teammates as it should be. Coaches have made it clear that they expect the team to treat the girls as if they were "one of the guys." In return, the girls are ex-

pected to work just as hard as their male teammates. They will not be excused from work and practice because they are girls. The female wrestlers will play a significant role for the team this season. With so few male wrestlers joining, the team must take advantage of every wrestler they have. With so many open spots at various levels these girls can be assured a spot on the JV or varsity squad. Not that girls won't still have it hard. During weigh-ins the girls must sit in the hallway while all the guys weigh in. Then after spending half an hour in the hallway of another school getting looks from people walking by, the girls must strip down and weigh-in in front of several male

coaches. Although it is not meant to be, this can be very demeaning to the girls. Many people feel that wrestling is a "dirty" sport. People believe guys who wrestle always get diseases and like to grope other guys. All these stereotypes can be tough on male wrestlers. For girls, things can be even worse. When people find out that the team has several girls, they are taken back, in shock that a girl would think to wrestle. What kind of girl would want to wrestle, they'd ask. The spotlight falls on them in meets as well. At tournaments with several matches going on at once,

people tend to watch teammates or friends wrestle and ignore the rest. But every time a girl steps onto the mat to face a guy, all attention is immediately shifted. Is it really that unheard of that a girl should wrestle? Evidently these girls do not think so, and it's about time others start thinking that way, too.



It's not too early to think about Valentine's Day!

Beginning in January, you can purchase a Valentine greeting for 10 cents per word and \$2 per photo from Chronicle reporters in commons during lunch hours.

Cooking up holiday cheer

By Chef Sean McTighe

Sugar Cookies

Ingredients

1 cup butter, 2 cups sugar, 2 eggs, 1 tsp. vanilla, 1 tsp. lemon extract, 3 1/2 cups flour, 4 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt, non stick cooking spray.

Directions

In a bowl with a mixer at medium speed, beat butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, vanilla, and lemon extract. Blend in flour, baking powder and salt. Shape dough into ball, wrap and refrigerate several hours. Spray cookie sheets with cooking spray. On floured work surface, roll dough 1/8-inch thick. Use cookie cutters to cut desired shapes. Place on cookie sheets and decorate as desired. Bake in oven at 375F for 5 to 6 minutes or until light browned.

Peanut Butter Kiss Cookies

Ingredients

2 1/2 cups flour, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. baking soda, 1/4 tsp. salt, 1 cup butter, 1 cup peanut butter, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup light brown sugar. 2 eggs, 1 tsp. vanilla, 72 unwrapped milk chocolate kisses.

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 F. In a bowl, combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Set aside. In a larger bowl add butter and peanut butter and with a mixer beat till smooth. Beat in sugar until blended. Beat in eggs and vanilla. Add the flour mixture and beat until well blended. It may be necessary to refrigerate dough to make it easy to handle. Shape the dough into 1-inch balls. Place about 2 inches apart on a baking sheet. Flatten them lightly with a fork. Bake 12 minutes or until lightly brown. Upon removal from oven immediately place chocolate kiss into the center of each cookie. Let cool and enjoy!

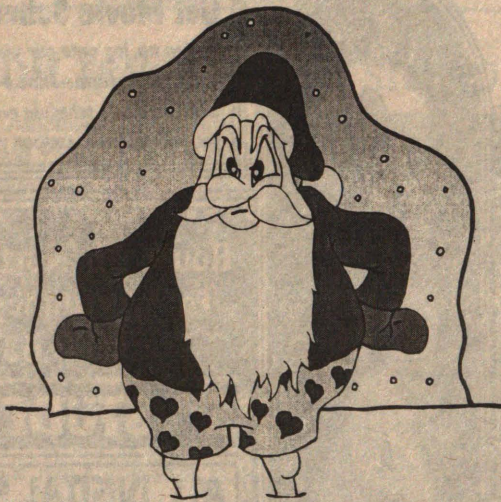
Chocolate Chunk Cookies

Ingredients

2 3/4 cups flour, 1 tsp. baking soda, 1/4 tsp. salt, 3/4 cup butter, 3/4 cup brown sugar, 1/2 cup corn syrup, 1 egg, 1 tsp. vanilla, 8 oz. package of chocolate chips cut in half, 1 cup chopped pecans.

Directions

Combine flour, baking soda, and salt in a bowl. In a mixing bowl beat at medium speed the butter and sugar until fluffy. Beat in corn syrup. Beat in egg and vanilla. Beat in the flour mixture. Stir in half of chocolate chips and pecans. Drop tablespoonful of dough onto baking sheet. Sprinkle with remaining chocolate chips and pecans. Bake in oven 350F for 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned.



Gifts bring smiles

By Suzanne Smith

What is the funniest gift you have received for the holidays?

"My grandma gave me a stick of salami," Joe Caniano, senior.

"My friend got me some silk thong underwear," Matt Weber, senior.

"I haven't gotten a funny gift but my sister got a huge box of coal and the real gift was hidden underneath," Jim Oroni, junior.

"About two years ago, I had a crush on a boy. Since I liked taking pictures I took a picture of him. I put it in my album with all the rest of my friends. On Christmas Day my cousin gave me a picture frame with his picture. He embarrassed me in front of my whole family following a very rude note. They relive it whenever they want because it's on film," Arianna Cortez, senior

"My grandpa wanted to be funny so he got me and my cousins red roses that looked like they had chocolate in them. I opened it and I pulled out these bright red underwear. There was underwear in the rose, not chocolate," Beth Kipp, junior.

"My brother gave me a box of rocks for Christmas," Jessica Warbiany, sophomore.

"My grandfather gave me coal that was wrapped in a bunch of different boxes, to make it look like a huge gift," Jolene Whitlock, sophomore.

"Tightey-whiteys!" Tom Wojcicki, senior.



Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

From the Wildcat

Chronicle Staff

Michelle Joergel
Elbert
Josh Wingquist
Dianne Heck
Marry Beth Selly
Diana Lopez

Rachel Rivera
Ryan
Stephanie Bodane
Amanda Mulice
DERAK Koelsh

Movies for the holidays

By Dianne Keck

"The Santa Clause" will fall into your heart this Christmas. Tim Allen left his tool belt for enough time to fill Santa Claus' shoes.

Allen plays a divorced dad with a son, Charlie. When Charlie thinks he hears Santa Claus on the roof, he and his dad run outside to see what it is. Santa Claus falls off the roof and so Allen puts the suit on, as directed by a business card he found in Santa Claus' pocket. What Allen doesn't realize is that, once he put on the suit he had permanently filled the place of the old Santa Claus.

* * *

The grinch will once again steal you away and captivate your imagination in the classic holiday movie, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"

When a Christmas-hating grinch decides that it's time to put an end to Christmas, he leaves his home in the mountain and travels down to the happy little village below. On Christmas Eve he steals all of the Christmas decorations and presents. The grinch thought his plan would end Christmas for good, but he was wrong...

* * *

"Miracle on 34th Street" is the romantic classic Christmas movie that will make you believe in Santa Claus again. A mother has convinced her little daughter that there really is no Santa Claus. The little girl and her mother know a man who lives in the same building they do. When the little girl and her mother invite the man to have Thanksgiving dinner with them, he tried to tell her that there really is a Santa Claus. Christmas time comes around and the little girl meets Santa Claus. Will she believe in Santa Claus after all?

* * *

"A Christmas Carol" will have you dreaming of Christmas this holiday season.

An old grump, Scrooge, travels in his dreams to see what his past life would have been like if he weren't so cruel. Three ghosts, the Ghost of Christmas past, the Ghost of Christmas present, and the Ghost of Christmas future accompany him. He also sees what his present life is like, and then he travels into the future to see what his future life would be like if he continues being as nasty as he is. The ghosts take him to these places in his life in hopes that he will change his ways.

* * *

"White Christmas" plays the traditional holiday song over and over, but with a bit of romance involved. Two show producers, who are also army veterans, book a Christmas show tour to a ski resort. They, along with some other groups, are the entertainment for the people who are lodging there. The two men also meet two sisters who are another act scheduled to perform over Christmas. Sadly, there is no snow for Christmas and all of the lodgers cancel their reservations. The owner of the resort is the two men's army colonel from the past

The colonel is going to lose his resort because no one is going to come and he won't be able to keep up the place anymore. The two men want to help the colonel keep the resort, but the hard part is just figuring out how...



Suzy Q's Top 10 Christmas Jingles

1. Carol of the Bells
2. Oh Holy Night
3. What Child Is This?
4. Jingle Bell Rock
5. Jolly Old St. Nicholas
6. Grandma Got Ran Over By a Reindeer
7. Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer
8. Silent Night
9. White Christmas
10. Jingle Bells

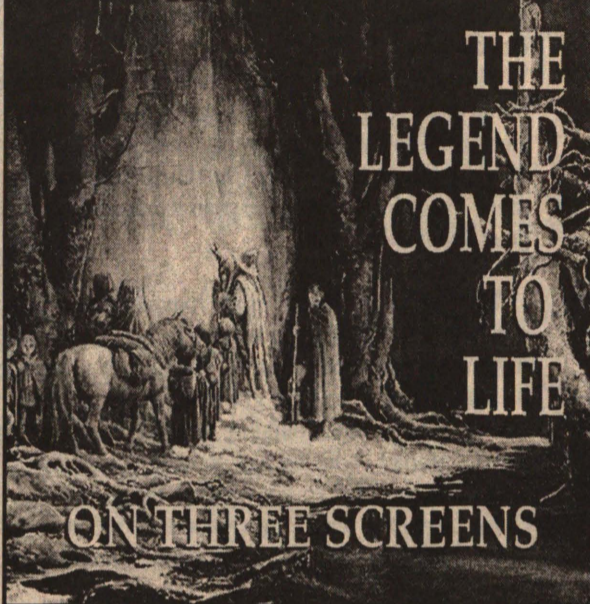
Dianne's Top 10 Holiday Movie Picks

1. It's a Wonderful Life
2. A Christmas Carol
3. Miracle on 34th Street
4. White Christmas / Holiday Inn
5. How the Grinch Stole Christmas
6. The Santa Clause
7. The Year There Was No Santa
8. A Christmas Story
9. Home Alone
10. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

CLASSIC CINEMAS



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THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING



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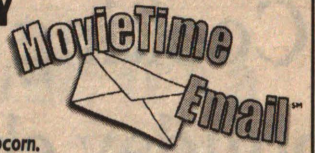
Wildcat Chronicle

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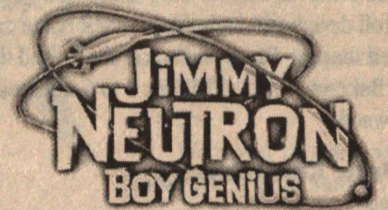
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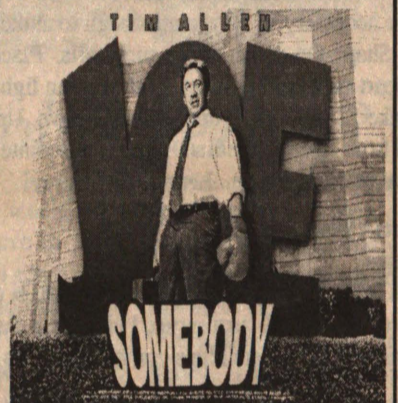
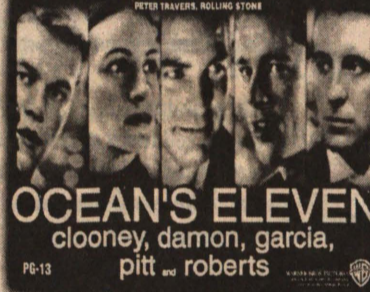
STARTS DEC. 21



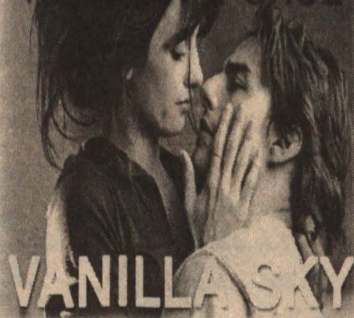
THE IMPOSTER

The year is 2079. The earth has been at war with an alien force for over a decade. Spencer Olham (Gary Sinise) is a lauded governmental scientist whose latest work promises to save the planet. But suddenly he is accused of being an alien spy, and becomes the subject of a nationwide manhunt.

"THE COOLEST THING AROUND!"

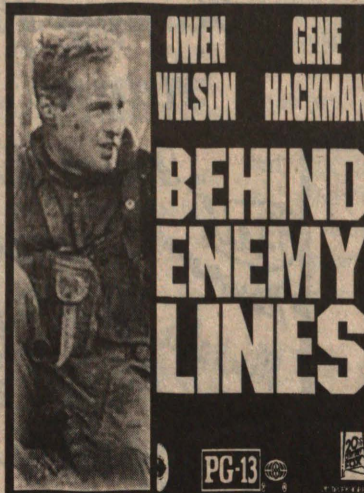


TOM CRUISE
PENELOPE CRUZ



KATE & LEOPOLD

A love affair one hundred years in the making.
Kate McKay is a modern-day executive, a 21st century woman driven to succeed in the corporate world. Leopold, the Third Duke of Albany, is a charming 19th century bachelor. Each has grown weary of waiting for love. But when a dramatic twist of fate lands Leopold in present-day New York, they must confront the prospect of a love affair 100 years in the making.



COMING JAN. 4TH
A BEAUTIFUL MIND
RUSSEL CROWE & ED HARRIS

New Field Museum exhibit reveals true side of "Queen of the Nile"

By Stephanie Bodane

She was known as a vamp, a vixen, and a voluptuous diva. She was the most powerful woman in the world, and the Queen of Egypt.

Cleopatra and her exhibit, "Cleopatra of Egypt; from history to myth" at the Field Museum, has proved to be the most divine piece of Egyptian history.

The Field Museum in Chicago has brought an exclusive exhibit to North America. The Cleopatra exhibit which displays artifacts from 13 different countries and 32 different museums, is an international tour. Chicago, which was the only North American stop, is the last city showing the exhibit.

The idea for the exhibit was first hatched four years ago in Britain. The Field Museum, which has a good relationship with the British Museum, first began putting the show together around two and a half years ago when they were given word of the show coming to North America. After planning, lo-

cating artifacts, creating contracts and transporting materials, the tour was established.

"Every artifact is insured. The pieces were accompanied by security from the time they left their museum (home country) until they arrived here in North America. These are irreplaceable items," said David Foster, the exhibit's project administrator.

The artifacts included in the exhibit include coins, statues, and pottery. The statues are one of the major attractions. They portray Cleopatra, her children, relatives, lovers and enemies, each one shown in both Greek and Egyptian style.

Videos and timelines, plus other art work are also on display.

It was only in the past 10 years that there have been major discoveries in Alexandria, Cleopatra's Kingdom, and it is the first time in the past 2000 years that the remains have been viewed by the public, said Foster.

The exhibit also shows a unique view of Cleopatra in

an American style, a Hollywood exhibit. The exhibit shows how Cleopatra has been portrayed in the movies throughout the years. Here you can see pictures of the actresses, the costumes, crowns and scripts.

"The most accurate film was the version with Elizabeth Taylor. Although it is made into a love story, it is historically accurate," said Foster.

The exhibit itself cost the museum several million dollars, which is the cause for the high admission fee accompanied with the regular admission fee for the Field Museum. The exhibit, which opened Oct. 20 and will end March 3, has a \$10 admission.

"We hope that people who come with certain stereotypes about Cleopatra will leave with a new understanding of who Cleopatra was," said Foster.

For more information about the Cleopatra exhibit and other exhibits call the museum, (312) 665-7400.



Staff photo

Chronicle editors Marc Berry, Stephanie Bodane, and Matt Neumann outside the Cleopatra exhibit at The Field Museum where they attended a press conference.



Staff photo

An artifact at the new Field Museum Cleopatra exhibit.



Staff photo

Erin Henry and Copper Tuma rehearse for "The Children's Hour" before opening night.



Staff photo

Several cast members go through a scene one last time before the play opens to the public.

No lie, "Hour" delivers strong performances

By Sean McTighe

Rumors and lies unraveled in this year's fall play, "The Children's Hour."

The actors pulled in strong performances, lead by junior Erin Henry doing a tremendous job playing the bratty student Mary Tilford.

Other commendable performances include senior Copper Tuma as Mary's grandmother, senior Jeff Raun as Joe Cardin, and senior Nicole Patel as Karen Wright.

"I thought there were tremendously good performances, and the message of the play really came across," said director Mary Hafertepe.

The play was set at an all girls boarding school. Karen Wright and Martha Dobe, played by senior Kathryn Kammes, were head masters of the school.

Karen was engaged to Joe Cardin. Mary Tilford was a student at the school who was always getting in trouble for lying.

Mary did not like the headmasters because she thought they were always picking on her. She decided to leave and go to her rich grandmother's house.

When she got there, her grandmother told her she would have to go back to school after dinner.

Mary decided to tell her grandmother a lie so she did not have to go back. She told her grandmother that the headmasters were lesbians and she saw them kissing once.

Her grandmother asked Mary if she was lying but Mary insisted it was the truth. The grandmother said that Mary did not have to go back

to school and that the school must be shut down.

She called all the other student's mothers.

The school was shutdown but eventually the rest of the class learned all the rumors were lies.

But even though it was a lie Joe was not sure that he wanted to marry Karen anymore.

The couple decided that Joe should go away and decide what he wanted. Neither of them believed he would return.

Martha confessed to Karen that although it was all a lie she had feelings for Karen and maybe Mary had noticed.

Karen told her not to talk about.

After Martha left, a shot rang out. Martha had killed herself.

A wee bit o' the banter...

A compilation of popular Scottish slang, phrases, and expressions

Brad Larson's Standard Grade 4 Class (equivalent to 10th Grade) at Penilee Secondary School in Glasgow, Scotland, compiled this list of common words and phrases in Scotland for We-go students. Larson is a We-go teacher, spending the year in Scotland as a Fulbright scholar.

aye (pronounced eye): yes

wee: small, little

brilliant: awesome/cool, as in "The field trip to Loudon Castle was brilliant."

me: my

the footie: football (soccer to Americans)

mate: friend/pal, as in "Me and me mate were playing the footie."

wee'uns (pronounced

waynes): children, as in "That'll be the wee'uns making all that noise."

awright: all right

um urrnie: I'm not

that's me done: I'm finished, as in "That's me done with me homework."

dynamite: really good

this is us/this is you: *wel* you are, as in "This is us going over the Kingston Bridge into the city centre." Or "This is you looking down the River Clyde toward the new Science Centre."

heid (pronounced *heed*): head, as in "Use your heid."

dingheid: ignored

malkied (pronounced

malkeed): the Glasgow kiss (the banging together of foreheads), as in "Me daft mate malkied me."

winding you up: putting you on, kidding you to get a reaction

a doin (pronounced *do-in*): a beating

knackered: tired out

shattered: exhausted

dunnit: doesn't it

ach (roughly pronounced *ock*): multiple uses—oh, as in "Ach, yes, that'll be the way." Or is nonsense, as in "Ach, he's been giving you the wind up."

mental: off a bit

polis: the police

bouffin (pronounced *booffin*): smelly

dodgy: bad or unfair

sound: good or o.k., as in

"It was sound when you scored that goal."

out of order: shocking, as in "Expecting us to finish this by tomorrow is out of order."

bolt: run away

daft: crazy

I dinnae daeit (pronounced, *eye din-ya day-it*): I did not do it.

I' wasnae mae (pronounced, *I wasneh meh*): It was not me.

nugget: dumb, as in "The daft nugget dinnae bolt before the polis got there."

mangy (pronounced *man-gee*): dirty

boggin: dirty

doggin' it: being truant from school (ditching)

rubbish: trash/litter, nonsense, something not worth your time



Photo courtesy of Brad Larson

Students in Brad Larson's fourth year (equivalent to tenth grade) English class at Penilee Secondary School in Glasgow, Scotland. Front (from left to right): Anna Tait, Graeme Brown, Craig Wilson, Dean McManus, John Binning, Steven Gilmour, Jamie Barr, Khyllie Ramsay; Row 2: Lucy Thompson, Stuart McBean, Allan Young, Ian Gordon, Alicia Parker; Row 3: Neil Sorance Douglas Shand, Joanne Greer, James Dunlop, Pamela Degning, Jenna Thomson, David Armit, Nicola Fraser.

Marching bands showcase their skills

By Marc Berry

Music rang through the air, floating to the ears of spectators sitting on packed bleachers.

It sounds a bit like a football game.

But the football season is over. Instead on this particular fall night, attendees were present for "A Marching Band Showcase."

The event, held in the Bishop Gymnasium, involved the Community High School marching band and color guard, along with the Winfield Middle School, Benjamin Middle School, and West Chicago Middle School bands.

The showcase opened with "The Star Spangled Banner." From there, 2000 halftime show music was performed,

followed by "Copland...A Musical Tribute."

Throughout the night, each middle school performed separately, with Benjamin playing "Thunder Bay March" and "Star Wars"; Winfield blaring "Manchester March," "Peter Gun," and "La Bamba"; and West Chicago rounding things out with "Tequila" and "Livin' La Vida Loca."

Next, We-go took the spotlight performing such pieces as "Flinstones" and "Good Golly Miss Molly" among others.

At the end of the night, all the bands came together to perform "Sousa on Parade," "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and the West Chicago School Song, "We're West Chicago."

We-go's band was already familiar with the pieces performed, having played them throughout the football season, according to Community High School Director of Bands, James Guter.

"It was a culmination of all their performances this year," said Guter.

Guter said the band began their hard work for this school year at the end of July, and they attended band camp in August.

Their efforts were seen by many, as Guter said the gym was packed.

Guter said that there is always room for improvement when working with so many people, but overall, it went well.

He said that the performance was "very well re-

ceived" and that the bands received a standing ovation.

Parents came up to Guter after the show with positive feedback, and he even received a letter praising the quality of the bands from someone who was in attendance.

"I'm really pleased. The showcase gets better and better each year. People look forward to coming to it. It's the highlight of the marching season," Guter said.

Guter said the event wasn't too difficult to direct, as he has lots of experience in the area.

He explained that he used to direct halftime shows at college bowls.

"Moving 3,000 people is more difficult than moving 200," he said.

Wildcat Chronicle reporter, Mary Beth Selby mailed questions to Brad Larson's students at Penilee Secondary School in Glasgow, Scotland. She asked them to describe what school and life is like for them. Here are their replies:

Q: What are some commonly held Scottish beliefs or opinions about America/Americans?

Alicia Parker - That they are extremely loud, well, some anyway.

John Binning - It's meant to be a happy life in America.

James Dunlop - Americans think that everything they have is bigger and better.

Steven Gilmour - They have nice girls in college and beaches.

Jenna Thomson - They all go about in cars shooting each other. Everything is a lot bigger and much better and they don't need to wear uniforms to school.

Anna Tait - That it is a huge, busy commercialized country with lots of people from different backgrounds

and a high crime rate.

Q: How would you describe your school?

Stuart McBean - I would describe my school as old and in need of repair. A new school is being built for us.

Jamie Barr - I would describe it as a good school because you get on well with most of your teachers.

Joanne Greer - I would describe my school as very big, clean, well looked after, and well presented.

Graeme Brown - My school is just like any other secondary school in Scotland. It has its good students and its bad students.

Q: What would you like Americans to know about Scotland/Scottish people?

Dean McManus - We don't go about playing the bagpipes and we don't all have ginger (red) hair.

Douglas Shand - I would like people to know that we don't wear kilts and eat haggis (a meal of sheep innards).

Anna Tait - We are friendly, (See Interview page 16)

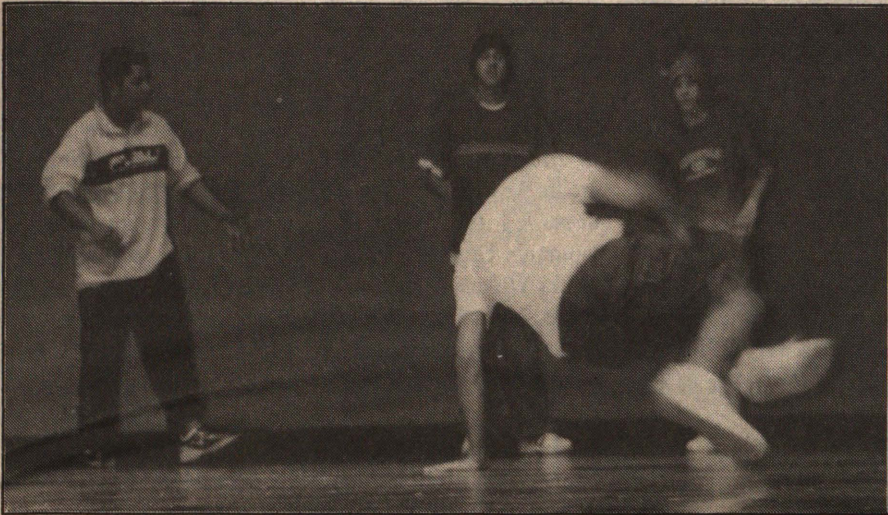
Are all Americans loud? A Scottish interview reveals this and more perspectives

We-go FBLA event shows a variety of talents



Staff Photo

Black Luster performs at the FBLA Variety Show. The band consists of Brandon Becker, Steve Knox, Aaron Becker, and Brian Toms.



Staff Photo

Alberto Allende, Gil Valenzuela, Tony Perham, and Peter Espinoza of "Enemy Squad" show off their breakdancing skills.

By Elliott Tinnes

Laced with bad jokes and talented performances, the F.B.L.A. sponsored Variety Show hit it off recently.

F.B.L.A. packed the auditorium full for two shows that night, featuring acts ranging from solos to original songs, and from local bands to belly dancing.

The night's first show ran a little bumpy. The MCs and stage crew had trouble with songs, lighting, and curtain cues. Fortunately for the second show, technical difficulties were erased and a smooth running show ran for a sold-out crowd.

Black Luster front man Steve Knox ran into trouble when his voice could not be heard over the rest of the band. Drummer Aaron Becker made up for it though with a drum solo that dazzled the crowd.

Becky Wilkening's solo act began with the wrong song playing, leaving her stranded on stage alone until her song, "How Do I Live" started.

Wilkening made it through the rest of her act with no problems after the right song began. Visiting sophomore Jenny Raun, from Glenbard West thought so. "Becky's performance gave me the chills," said Raun.

Javier Cruz, in another solo act, belted out La Media Vuelta, a song entirely in Spanish.

The act Paloma stumbled when only half of the group showed up to perform for the first show. Zayra Pedraza, Carmen Saucedo, Javier Saucedo, and Hugo Saucedo expertly performed their act without the help of the other four remaining members. During the second show the remaining members showed up and tried to run on stage and join their act just as the curtains were opening, only to be caught and escorted off-stage.

The two bands performing stole the show, according to many that attended.

Blind Fate, a local band spun off the late band Cud,

closed both shows. This year was their third Variety Show performance as well as their third year closing the show.

The band played an original song that began with lead singer/guitarist Tom Aguirre on the classical guitar. The use of classical guitar was meant to appeal more to the older people in the audience who were unfamiliar with Blind Fate, said Aguirre.

The band was also trying to tie last year's performance in with the use of the classical guitar.

"I think they (the performances) were both flawless," said Aguirre. "In the first show our bassist Adam Flores fell and bruised his knee, but the second show was totally flawless."

F.B.L.A. made \$2,000 for both nights, according to spokesperson Ernesto Romo.

As is custom with F.B.L.A., all proceeds from both shows go to the March of Dimes, a foundation that helps America have healthy pregnancies.

German exchange student adjusts to life in the U. S.

By Mary Beth Selby

Kristina Hagen wondered what life was like for an American student, so she decided to find out.

Hagen, 17, is a foreign exchange student from Germany who is spending one year in the U.S., "graduating" from West Chicago, then returning to Germany to finish school.

"In Germany, the years are different from the ones here. We don't have seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen. We have 13 years of school before graduating, and I have two more years. I will graduate from this school, but go back and pick up where I left off. If my classes are too hard, then I'll just repeat them," said Hagen.

Schooling in Germany is set up much differently from the American school system at West Chicago, said Hagen.

School there normally goes from 7:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the students don't change classrooms.

They don't choose their own classes until grade 11 through grade 13, so the teachers change rooms instead.

However, kids in the same grade are organized in classroom groups and they stay with those same classmates

until grade 11.

Classes are also an hour long, but German students have 15 minute breaks after every second hour, and the homework load isn't as heavy as here at West Chicago, said Hagen.

Tests are essay tests instead of true/false or multiple-choice tests. The essay tests often take more than an hour.

When she graduates, Hagen will receive a special diploma saying that she finished school here for the year. But her class records from West Chicago have no effect on her school records in Germany.

The reason that Hagen is here for one school year is because she wanted to see what it is like.

Chuckling, she explained that many of her peers in Germany would think American student life involves many parties and little work, yet they didn't know anything about it.

"No one really knew much about America. They would say Americans party all the time and never work. They think this from what they see on T.V.," said Hagen. "But I hate to say anything unless I know about it or have experience. That's why I came here."

Through the Youth For Understanding program, YFU, her host family, the Ribes, who live in West Chicago, chose Hagen to come live with them. The Ribes consist of an 11-year-old host brother, an older host sister, who is a West Chicago graduate, and a 23-year-old host brother, also a West Chicago graduate, who lives in Boston.

As a student at West Chicago, Hagen is taking required courses for seniors.

German teacher Terry Strohm asked Hagen if she would like to take German just for the fun of it.

"It's really fun because I am German. But I don't have any homework, so it's just an easy class to take," said Hagen.

She replaces the course with chemistry next semester.

When she returns to Germany, Hagen plans to finish school and then attend a university or college to study pharmaceuticals.

"Even though my classes here won't count for anything, some things I learn here will help my education all around. There are some things which are important for me at the moment, but I don't want to get bad grades," said Hagen.

Other than education, Hagen is also learning about being an American student.

She said that American life is much different than what she saw on T.V. and in movies.

Life is stricter here, she said.

German students have more parties on the weekends than Americans.

Hagen has had the chance to explore new interests by

joining the girls diving team and planning to try out for the girls soccer team in the spring.

She also takes dance lessons.

She admits that she has changed a bit from her trip so far.

"I changed in my personality when I came here. It's a bit strange," said Hagen.

"I've had a lot of fun in Chicago so far, even if I had a

hard time after the attacks [Sept. 11]. From one moment to the other, the whole situation changed. I was imprisoned in this country and there was no way for me to escape. It was a very strange feeling."

Smiling broadly, Hagen said she is very thankful for the support she gets from her host family, teachers, and friends and, positively, promised she will return to visit her host family and friends.



Photo courtesy of Kristina Hagen

German exchange student Kristina Hagen and her host mother share a moment.

Wojcicki tells all

By Suzanne Smith
October Student of the Month:

Tom Wojcicki

What were your accomplishments and activities throughout high school?

Freshman Year:

Freshman soccer, frosh/soph indoor and outdoor track

Sophomore Year:

Sophomore soccer, sophomore indoor and outdoor track (Academic All-Conference Award and Scholar Athlete Award), concert choir, peer helper, Teens Against Tobacco Use Program, DARE role model, Spanish National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Students, literary magazine

Junior Year:

Junior varsity and varsity soccer (Scholar Athlete Award and Academic All Conference Award), varsity indoor and outdoor track (Scholar Athlete Award, Three Sport Athlete Award, and Academic All Conference Award), concert choir, peer helper, math team, guy's ensemble, TATU Program, DARE role model, IDEA Conference, National Honor Society, Who's Who Among American High School Stu-

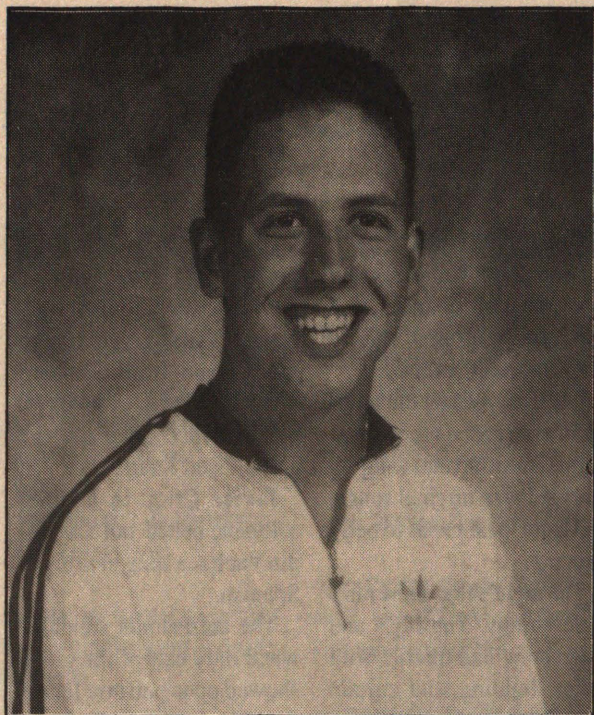


Photo courtesy of Challenge

October Student of the Month Tom Wojcicki.

dent, American Exchange Student, Variety Show, and literary magazine

Senior Year:

Varsity Soccer statistics keeper/manager, concert choir, peer helper, math team, student council honorary member, international club, track and field, and variety show

What is your favorite activity or class in high school?

Activity: Track and field

Class: Concert choir

Where are you planning to go to college and what are

you majoring in?

Either Marquette University to major in exercise sciences or University of Illinois Urbana Champaign to major in kinesiology

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Finishing medical school as a resident

Why do you think you were chosen as Student of the Month?

Good grades, involved in sports, involved in extra curricular activities, involved in community service, good student-teacher relationships, and I get along well with classmates.

Interview...

(Continued from page 14) warm-hearted people.

When you have time to kill, what is there for teens to do in Glasgow?

Ian Gordon - There isn't a lot of things to do apart from going to the cinema, shops or to the disco.

Dean McMannus - There are some youth clubs set up in most areas of Glasgow.

Alicia Parker - Go ice skating, swimming, go to the park or whatever. It's mostly boring, though.

Joanne Greer - Dancing, discos, cinemas, shopping, and hanging out.

What kinds of foods and drinks are most popular with Scottish teens?

Jenna Thomson - Chips, burgers, McDonalds, Irn-Bru, KFC, Chinese and Indian food. Coke and lemonade are popular, too.

Ian Gordon - Fish, chips and pizza. Irn-Bru and Mars Bars. Anything that's not good for you.

James Dunlop - Scottish teens like fast food restaurants, Chinese and Indian take aways.

Anna Tait - Hamburgers, chips, Chinese, Italian, Irn-

Bru, Coke,

How does dating work in Scotland? Is it important/common for you and your friends to have a steady boyfriend/ girlfriend?

Jamie Barr - No one cares.

Neil Slorame - Well, I don't think it's important to them but I think it is for me.

Douglas Shand - It's not all that common. In fact, I have been the only one that at the moment has been seeing my girlfriend for 10 months.

Alicia Parker - It's not important to me, but sometimes it is for my friends.

Jenna Thomson - The dating works in Scotland and it is popular for me and my friends to have a steady boyfriend or girlfriend, considering most of my friends have boyfriends.

What is one question you'd like to have answered by the students at West Chicago.

Steven Gilmour - Are there any of you who have had nice girlfriends who

would be interested in a long-distance relationship?

Stuart McBean - Do you like having a Scottish teacher or would you prefer to have an American teacher?

Neil Slorame - Can you send me a cheerleader?

Douglas Shand - I want the soccer team to play us in a match.

Jenna Thomson - Would you like coming to Scotland for a holiday (vacation)?

Alicia Parker - Is it important going to the mall straight after school, or is that statement actually real?

What are your perceptions/opinions of American teenagers and American teenage culture?

Joanne Greer - I wouldn't mess with you.

Alicia Parker - I think it would be cool to be an American because I like the way they speak and half the time I can't understand it.

Jenna Thomson - I think Americans and America is much better than Scotland.

September Student of the Month

Jamie Nadolny was selected as September Student of the Month.

Nadolny declined to answer the Chronicle's survey about herself and her future.

Orchestra and choir capture Christmas spirit

By Anna Nubie
The orchestra and choir showed their true talents in their performance Sunday.

The show began with the girls ensemble powerfully singing "Angels". Following that was "O Holy Night," a version in which many in the audience spoke of how they had chills at certain pitches in the song.

The string orchestra truly captured the audience's attention. In the first piece the orchestra was lead in solos by Jill Music and Emy Krauspe on violin with Michael Treachler on cello. The final song performed by the orchestra was Spanish style music with joined percussionists Nils Higdon, Susan Lincoln, Erin Madden, Dieter Rudolf, and Bill Winter. The group completed the song flawlessly.

The a cappella chamber choir sang as they walked in through the back doors to the front of the stage giving the audience a surprise. A few visiting parents agreed that

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen Lo, a Rose Er Blooming was an entertaining performance.

During intermission the brass band kept the audience entertained by playing some Christmas songs.

The mixed chorus performed "Kyrie," "Fum! Fum! Fum!" and "Old Toy Trains".

Women's chorale had a strong performance. The song "Jeg Er Sa Glad Hver Julekveld (I am so Glad Each Christmas Eve)" was lead by soloists Kristen Redden and Amy Norman.

The only negative in the performance was it was difficult to hear the girls if seated in the back. The song "Sing a New Noel" accompanied by Treachler on cello got a very positive response from the crowd.

"I feel we did good as a group. We worked hard so we deserved the outcome," women's chorale member Becky Wilkening said.

Leading concert choir and the string orchestra in a sturdy vocal demonstration

performance included: soprano soloist; Julie Volk, alto soloist; Elizabeth Valdez, tenor soloist; Aaron Troy, bass soloist; Tom Wojcicki, and with Anne and Chandler Branch as guest violinists.

The first song was "Lord, My God, Assist Me Now" a song that boomed around the room. The last song, "Trepak Part 3-Nutcracker Suite" was a very well done performance of the song with ballet dance Allen Desterhaft and duo pianist Anna Schwartz and Ron Benner.

Ending the performance all the choirs combined with the West Chicago Middle School 8th grade chorus singing Holiday Favorites, a Christmas Medley including: "Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!" "Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "Jingle-Bell Rock," "Silver Bells," and "Frosty the Snow Man".

The concert ended with the singers showing their personalities a bit, including one student wearing his Santa hat with others dancing.

Band celebrates the holidays

By Dianne Keck
The West Chicago Band expressed their holiday spirit during their concert on Dec. 13 with wonderful help from the chamber choir.

The band executed an arrangement of songs including: El Capitan March, Celtic Ritual, The Most Wonderful Time of the Year, Fantasy on a Theme from Tchaikovsky, and Russian Christmas Music. They also played God of Our Fathers in which the chorus helped the audience sing along with the band.

The band received a de-

served standing ovation for their crisp performance.

"I feel they were great. The kids had much different music to play and they didn't have more than a month and a half to practice. For doing so much in so short of time it showed they put in a lot of work and they really have got something. I am very pleased," said James Guter band director.

The jazz band played following the band. Some selections of theirs were: "Four", "It Don't Mean a Thing", and

"Well You Needn't." Jazz vocalist Amy Koltz sang "Don't Get Around Much Anymore."

The chamber choir, directed by Lisa Smith, accompanied the band. The choir stood in the lobby and serenaded the audience as they entered the building. They also sang songs during intermission for those who chose to stay in the auditorium. The concert was being taped and broadcast by the West Chicago Cable Access Channel, 17.

Palka takes student honors

By Rachel Rivera
November student of the month:

Geoff Palka

What were your accomplishments and activities throughout high school?

Freshmen year:

Pit crew

Junior year:

Orchestra

Senior year:

National merit semi-finalist

All four years:

Volunteer at library and convalescent center, high honor roll, tennis, FBLA, scholastic bowl, band, math team, life-smarts.

What is your favorite class or activity in high school?

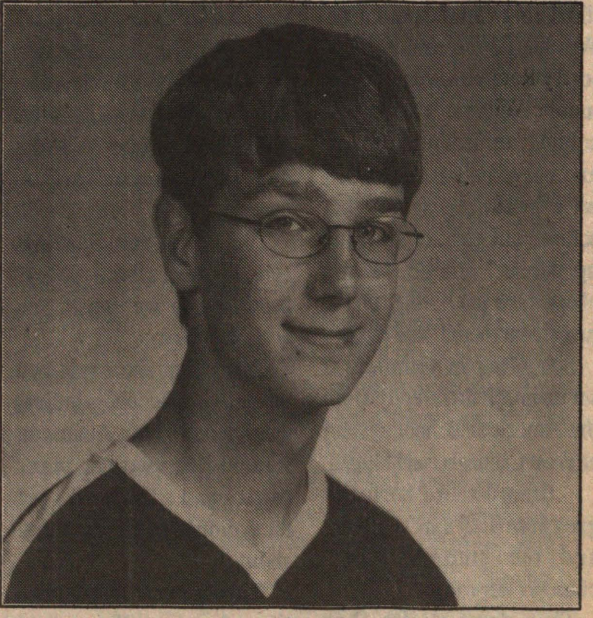


Photo courtesy of Challenge

December Student of the Month Geoff Palka.

Favorite class:
Government. I am acting as a republican majority floor leader.

What college are you

planning to go to and what are you majoring in?

I have been accepted to the U of I but I'm still working on applications.

We-go wrestling team grapples with losses

By Elliott Tinnes

Conference rival Naperville North traveled to West Chicago Dec. 13 to grapple with the Wildcat wrestling team.

West Chicago took a severe beating, though, as the only win came from Gus Detrick by decision 7-0 at 171-pounds.

The first in-conference home meet for West Chicago wrestling was Dec. 7 against the Wheaton-Warrenville South Tigers.

West Chicago rallied through its middle weights with three straight wins from Detrick, Nate Williams, and Derek Boorsma.

At 135 pounds, Tyler Hempel pinned his opponent in only 36 seconds.

Fabian Cruz also had a victory at the 103-pound division.

The wrestling program has suffered heavy losses in the last few weeks, hindering its chances to win any meets while giving up so many forfeits.

A varsity 215-pounder quit the team unexpectedly. The team also lost its 145 and heavyweight wrestlers because of ineligible grades.

West Chicago held the 23rd annual Wildcat Invitational in November against Oswego, Proviso East, and York.

All three team captains, Williams, Detrick, and Boorsma placed in the top three.

Williams and Detrick both held on for the silver and Boorsma took third.

York took the top spot as a team for the tournament.

This year's team is plagued

by its lack of numbers. The team has under 30 wrestlers to cover 39 open spots over three levels.

For its first meet, though, West Chicago faced a team very similar to it.

Elgin High School has only a few more wrestlers than West Chicago, which led to a close meet.

Several forfeits were given to Elgin, putting them ahead from the beginning of the meet.

West Chicago lacked wrestlers for the 112-pound weight division as well as 119.

One 52-pounder, Josh Winquist was also out for the night with a rolled ankle.

West Chicago won five of the eight matches that were actually wrestled that night.

Hempel made his debut on varsity at 130 pounds, pinning his opponent before the end of the first period.

Junior Matt Benson also put six team points on the board by pinning his man in under two minutes.

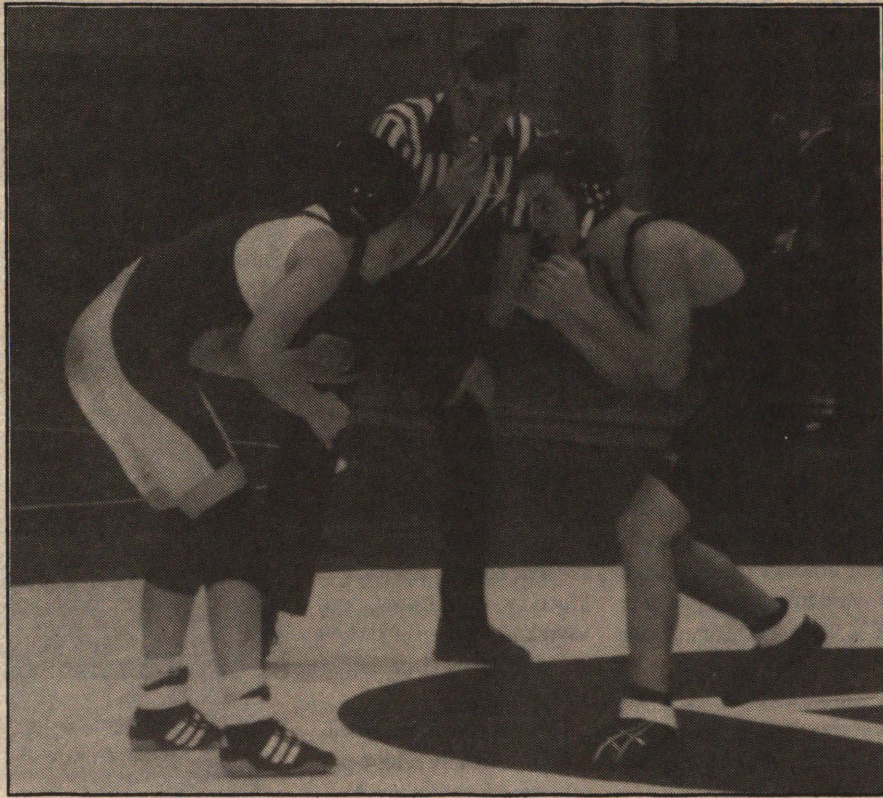
Williams won by technical fault in one of the few full six-minute matches of the night, 17-2 giving West Chicago five more team points.

Boorsma gave a stunning performance as he walked to the center of the mat and received his forfeit.

Boorsma was the only West Chicago wrestler that did not have an Elgin wrestler to pair up against.

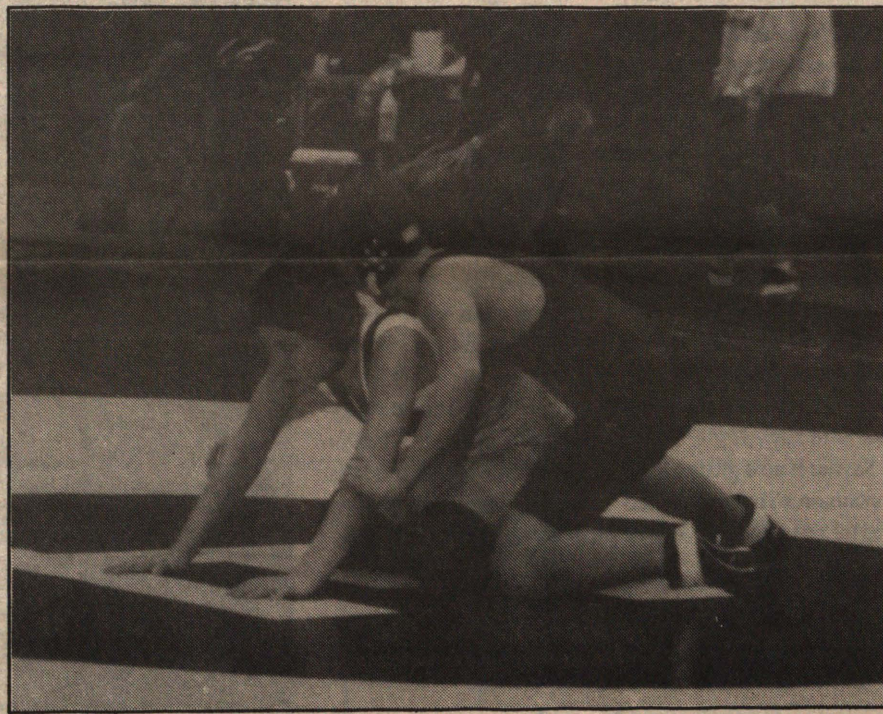
Another sophomore, Mike McNerny, who wrestled at 125, led a close match.

After nearly pinning his opponent, the tables turned and the Elgin opponent pinned McNerny.



Heather Edminson sizes up her opponent.

Staff Photo



At the start of second period, Heather assumes the bottom position while her opponent takes the in referee position.

Staff photo

Girls wrestling with new positions

By Josh Winquist

When you think of wrestling, you think of two guys killing each other on the mat.

Girls are spectators cheering from the sides as they've done since wrestling began.

But all of that is changing.

"I believe any girl can be a wrestler," said freshman Stephany Vasquez.

Vasquez is one of those involved in changing the face of wrestling at We-go.

In the past there have been a few female wrestlers at We-go, but this year that has changed.

Four girls decided to come out for the team this year. Senior Heather Edminson, freshmen Vasquez, and Erika Kane, and sophomore Bryce Wolfe.

Why would a girl want to join the wrestling team? Wolfe said, "I think it will be an interesting experience, I think it will be fun."

What people also need to consider is how guys feel about having girls on the team. Nate Williams said, "I think it is fine as long as they work as hard as everyone else."

Now that the season has started, and the girls have been through practice Wolfe said, "I have much more respect for the sport now."

Edminson agreed, "It's a lot harder than it looks."

The girls are discovering that wrestling is difficult both physically and mentally.

"Having other girls on the team makes it easier sometimes because they know what you are going through, but at the same time you still have to do it for yourself," Edminson said.

Some people think girls do not belong in wrestling at all.

Wolfe said, "They shouldn't be so sexist because we can have as much will power as any guy, it's more mental than physical."

Kane said, "I like wrestling, and I feel I should do what I like."

Some people don't think girls can be as competitive as guys.

Vasquez said, "I (See Wrestling page 19)

Improvement on boys swim team kicks them off to a good start

By Rachel Rivera

The Wildcat varsity boys swim team has won four out

of four meets this season.

They had one second place finish out of teams in the

Wildcat relays.

The team's last meet was on Tuesday at home with

York.

The score was 107 to 79.

We-go took first place in the swim meet, second place in the medley relay was Steve Vandernaalt, Jeff Lesniak, Kurt Fenner and Chris Nelson.

First place in the 50 free was Billy Rocha. First place in the 200 individual medley was Vandernaalt.

"Our times for this season so far are looking good," said head coach Bryan Artel. "We're going to qualify a lot of people for state this year because we have people now that have already made state cuts."

The team has already had their 200-yard medley relay make a state qualifying cut with a time of 1:41.28 at the We-go relays.

The team consists of senior

backstroker Vandernaalt, breaststroker Fenner, butterflyer Henry Somers, and freestyler Rocha.

Somers also made a state cut in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 22.48 and the state qualifying time being 22.49 in the intersquad meet at home.

Managers Heather Prochnow and Casey Connolly said it was fun being part of the team this year, and they said they've watched the boys improve a lot since November and hope to see many of them go farther than conference later this season.

The season will continue through the state meet, which takes place on Feb. 23.

The Wildcat's next meet is this Thursday at Elgin at 5 p.m.



Photo courtesy of Challenge

Steve Vandernaalt takes to the waters for the We-go swim team.

Vavrek captures second in state swimming competition

By Rachel Rivera

Girls swimming season ended with a state qualifier taking second and sixth places.

Sophomore Jackie Vavrek placed second in state in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 23.76 seconds and sixth in state in the 100 yard freestyle with a time of 53.53 seconds.

"I was nervous at state, trying to defend my state title from last year was nerve wrecking but it was all around fun," said Vavrek.

The state meet was held at New Trier High School Nov. 16.

All state qualifiers competed at this meet, however, only the top six finishers in each event carried over until Saturday for the state cham-

pionships.

West Chicago had four members of the girls swim team qualify for state that competed Nov. 16.

Freshman Rachael Slattery, Vavrek, junior Emilie Biancalana, and senior Heather Prochnow competed.

Only Vavrek managed to finish in the top six in two events and move on.

Slattery qualified in 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:00.27 and the state qualifying time is 1:01.09, and the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 24.96 and state time being 25.19.

"Going to state freshmen year was really exciting and I never thought I'd get this far," said Slattery.

Vavrek qualified in the

100-yard freestyle with a time of 53.36, the state time being 54.79 and in the 50-yard freestyle with a 24.01. Biancalana qualified in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 54.63.

Two relays qualified for state. They were the 200-yard freestyle relay of Biancalana, Slattery, Prochnow, and Vavrek, with a state qualifying cut at a time of 1:39.58 and the state qualifying time being 1:42.49. Also qualifying was the 400-yard freestyle relay of Biancalana, Slattery, Prochnow, and Vavrek with a time of 3:41.49 and the state time being 3:44.90.

The team finished the season off officially with a private awards ceremony Nov. 28.



Photo courtesy of girls swim team

State qualifiers (left to right) Jackie Vavrek, Rachael Slattery, Heather Prochnow, and Emilie Biancalana smile along with coach Bryan Artel.

Size and skill concern sophomore coach

By Mary Beth Selby

Though they have some worries for this year's season, sophomore boys basketball hopes to improve their conference standing from last year.

The team's record is currently 1-1 in conference and 5-2 overall.

The major differences with the sophomore team this year are that there are now three freshmen on the team and the team is very small in size, said head coach Dave Sayner.

Thirteen sophomores make up the team and the tallest, Greg Prill, is 6-feet-2-inches.

Sayner sees this as a slight weakness because that makes West Chicago the smallest team in the conference.

However, Sayner is glad to have freshmen Doug Seider, Austin Monroe, and Jeff Gilbert, who is 6-feet-4-inches, on the team because they are good, strong players.

"If some sophomores aren't ready to play, we can go right to the freshmen who are," said Sayner.

Sayner is also glad to have sophomores Tom Grove, Leo Baylor, and Robert Jeffery playing for him this year, also.

"These boys I saw really working hard over the summer to improve. Grove is good at driving [the ball] and is a very physical player," said Sayner.

Size is not the only worry Sayner has for their conference standings. He believes the team needs some work on their rebounding and defensive skills.

Their goals include playing hard against Wheaton Warrenville South and West Aurora, their toughest competition.

Their next game is Friday at Naperville Central.



Photo courtesy of Challenge

After draining her energy, Emilie Biancalana prepares to get out of the water.

Freshmen girls lack execution

By Erica Fatigato

The freshmen Lady Wildcats started off the season strong, but still need to work together as a team.

"The girls have already learned the plays they now need to execute them in practice and during the game," said B coach Jennet Arroyo.

A coach Cindy Stark agreed, "We know what they can do and have the potential to be very good but they need to put things together,"

Playing a non-conference game on Dec. 11 against Schaumburg, both teams lost. The A team was left behind at 12-47 but the B team stayed more in the game with

a 32-20 loss.

On Dec. 8 both teams played Wheaton Warrenville South. The A team lost 28-18 and the B lost 22-34.

The teams played a struggling and frustrating game against Rockford Boylan. The game was played Dec. 1 and both teams were defeated. A lost 55-30 and B lost 35-15.

"We had a whole week off and then a week of practice and the girls' just weren't with it," said Stark.

Arroyo said, "We'll just have to work harder in practice to fix what they had trouble with."

The Wildcat freshmen tour-

namment built up the team's intensity. Both teams were defeated by Joliet Catholic, but were successful when playing Plainfield. A lost 50-9 and B lost 25-23.

The Joliet Catholic got the girls ready for the Plainfield game the next day. Both teams won.

The A's score was 41-22 and the B's was 26-12. The tournament was held in November.

The season started off by playing Oswego at home on Nov. 13. Both teams were defeated but played great games, the coaches said.

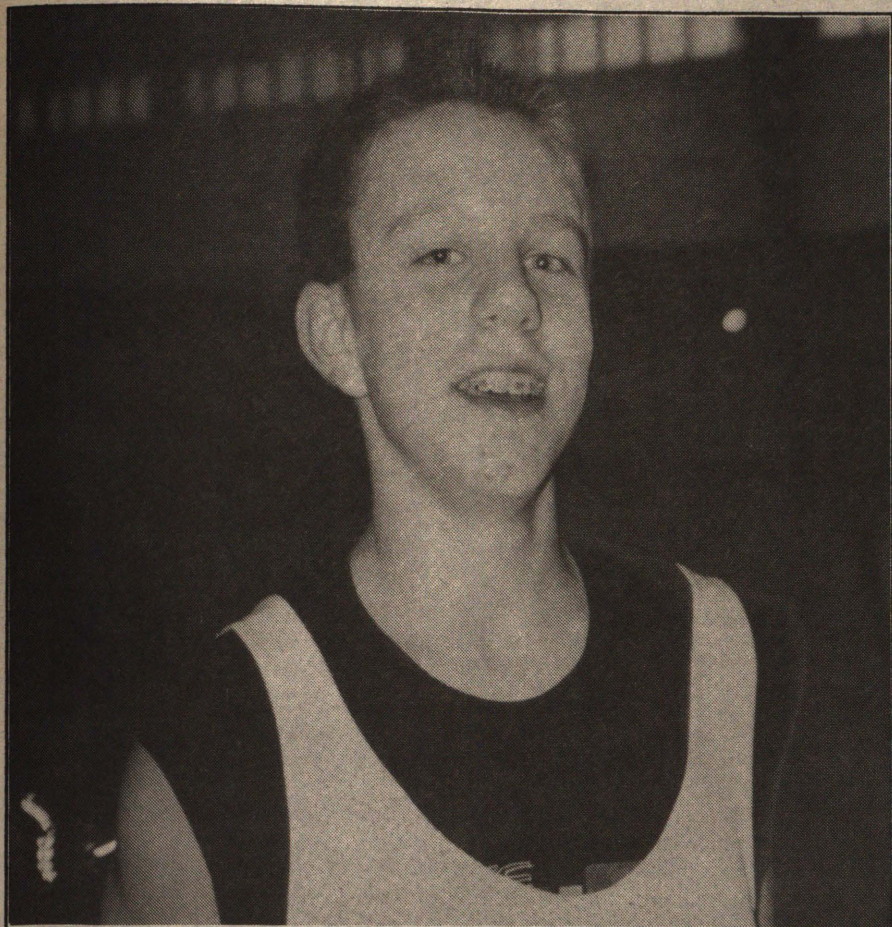
The A lost 33-12 and B lost 22-28.

Give your cutie the best Valentine's Day gift....

A message in the Wildcat Chronicle

Ads go on sale starting January in commons.

10 cents a word, \$ 2 for a picture.



A sophomore basketball player takes a break from practice to give a smile.

Staff photo



Staff photo

The freshmen boys basketball team gets ready for their next game by practicing in the fieldhouse.

Freshmen team needs to follow through

By Michele Loerzel
We-go freshmen boys basketball team lost to Naperville North in double overtime Saturday.

Freshmen basketball coach Tim Martin had to place Nick Doncoes in the game after sitting center Jef Gilbert for his third foul.

A foul was called on Doncoes after he went in without checking in, said Martin.

"This foul is very rarely called even in varsity games," said Martin.

Martin said, after it happened it tightened things up.

The boys lead for most of the game, slightly leading into the fourth quarter. We could have won with a shot in the end of regulation, but couldn't make a good enough pass to follow through, said Martin.

In the first overtime We-go had a chance to take the lead, but missed the shot. The other team was able to pull it out in the second overtime, said Martin. The score ended up being 51-48.

At Naperville North the half time score was 27-22 with the boys in the lead. In the third quarter Gilbert helped the team lead by eight points with a score of 32-24. Nick Lelito led the scoring with 12 points.

"Chris Carrington and Gilbert did a nice job when the ball was inside," said Martin.

We played poorly against a team we should have beat, Martin said about York's game Friday.

We-go was slightly leading throughout the first half. Freshmen boys were down by nine points and made a nice comeback in the fourth quarter, said Martin.

Twenty seconds to go, Gilbert made a lay-up to place West Chicago up a point. Martin said after Gilbert's lay-up, Nick George was called for a questionable technical foul. York scored two shots at the free throw line putting We-go down by one.

West Chicago had a chance at the buzzer, but didn't make it.

The boys lost to Wheaton Warrenville South in mid December.

Carrington scored 12 points and got 10 rebounds.

"There was a great team effort," said Martin.

We-go beat West Aurora freshmen with a score of 44-38.

Gilbert led the team with 12 points and did a nice job controlling the inside, said Martin.

Greg Callahan had six steals and helped the team with 11 points.

"Callahan did a nice job handling the ball," Martin said. "He was there when we needed him."

The freshmen team won against Glenbard North to

open the conference season.

They had good energy and their defense pressure helped them in the game, said Martin.

Carrington helped the team with 12 rebounds. Five guys shot eight three-pointers on Dec. 1. Sam Acosta had 10 points this game.

Gilbert scored a three-pointer 20 seconds to the end to bring Wildcats ahead. Glenbard came back before it ended, and Acosta shot two for two at the free-throw line to win the game.

We-go boys lost their second game to non-conference Joliet Catholic in late November. The score was 48-44.

Acosta kept the team going with 13 points.

Martin said, the team came up a little short this game.

"Joliet made some big plays down the stretch," said Martin.

Carrington helped lead the freshmen boys to win their first game at home this season.

Carrington scored 16 points and retrieved 12 rebounds.

The game was played against Plainfield and the score was 53-47. Lelito has contributed to the team with 14 points.

It was a nice run when we were up by 10 points, said Martin. Plainfield never achieved any closer than six points.

Local hockey team in number one position

By Erica Fatigato
When you put We-go with Wheaton Academy the outcome is a winning hockey team.

This is the team's first year playing at the varsity level in the Illinois Suburban Hockey League. They are in the number one spot with a record of 9-1-0.

"I've organized this team for four years and this is very rewarding," said team manager Nancy Baumrucker.

The leading scorer in the league, Jonathon Shaver, goes to Wheaton Academy. Ronnie Michalek is the fourth-ranked goalie in the

league. Following him Mark Labbs is ranked seventh.

The team has eight We-go players and nine Wheaton Academy members. The We-go players are: seniors Matt Baumrucker and Kyle Wolf; juniors Mark Labbs and Brian Nelson; sophomores Ryan Tomassoni, Ronnie Michalek, and Tyler Piech; and freshman Matt Mahoney.

It's amazing how much the players get along and respect each other on and off the ice, said Baumrucker.

"Sadly this will be my last year helping the team. I'll have to pass the baton down to someone else," said

Baumrucker. Baumrucker encouraged everyone to come out and support the West Chicago/Wheaton Academy Hockey Club over winter break.

The team plays Dec. 23 at Center Ice of DuPage at 9:10 p.m. against Plainfield, Dec. 30 at Center Ice of DuPage at 9:10 p.m. against Glenbard East and West.

The team will face off for two varsity all-star games on Jan. 26 at the Sportsplex in Darien at 6:50 p.m. and 8:35 p.m.

Play continues into February with a game Feb. 3 at 6 p.m. at Geneva.

JV girls basketball improving daily

By Anna Nubie
The girls JV basketball team lost against Naperville North with a suffered loss of 48-18 on Dec. 13. "We've been pretty competitive with most school," said Coach Heather Dunlap on the game.

They had a win of 22-20 against Schaumburg and a loss of 20-16 against Wheaton Warrenville South on Dec. 8.

They took charge over Glenbard North on Dec. 6 with a topping score of 51-36.

Junior Magen Rogers led the girls' JV basketball team scoring 14 points against

Lyons Township although they lost 26-25.

"We were down 12 points in the third quarter and came back, but ran out of time and lost," Dunlap said of the Nov. 30 game.

The girls' JV basketball team started out with a loss of 32-26 at home. They played against Oswego on Nov. 13 down 19-5 by half-time. Dunlap said that they fought back although the clock ran out of time.

"We saw a lot of good things and got ride of those first game jitters," Dunlap said.

This year's team includes five sophomores and three

juniors. "Each day we are improving, which will hopefully help us stay competitive within the conference," Dunlap said.

Wrestling...

(Continued from page 17)

believe any girl can be competitive if they try."

The girls said their goals are to have fun, win a match, learn something so they know what they're doing, and to prove that you don't have to be big and tough to be a wrestler.

By Michelle Loerzel
Sophomore forward Lee Corning helped We-go JV boys basketball win at Naperville North Saturday.

Corning had 21 points this game.

The half time score was 16-12 with We-go winning. Defense played well, said JV coach Eric Lasky.

We-go boys JV basketball lost to Wheaton Warrenville South earlier in December. The score was 46-40.

"We had a good start," said Lasky.

The defense played nicely because the team kept the score down low, said Lasky.

West Chicago won their first game against Glenbard North.

The score was 73-72 on Dec. 1.

Junior shooting guard Danny Calahan had six three-pointers resulting with 18 points.

"We had a very high scor-

ing game," Lasky said.

Junior Johnny Weier scored 10 points in the first quarter, and 18 points altogether.

In the second half Weier scored the winning basketball to make We-go ahead by one point.

Defense wasn't very good, but offensively they were playing great, said Lasky.

Lasky said, "We were letting the other team have too many easy points."

Varsity paces with competition

By Marc Berry

The varsity boys basketball team is 4-5 so far this season.

Their most recent game was on Tuesday against Geneva. The final score was 69-54 with We-go taking the win.

On Dec. 15, they played at home against York.

The Wildcats started off behind but tried their best to stay in the game. They succeeded in this, although they still ended up losing 53-49.

The week was not all bad, however, as the team grabbed a win the night before at Naperville North, with a final score of 62-52.

On Dec. 11, the team traveled to Marquette and ended up losing 57-50.

This loss followed another loss against Wheaton Warrenville South at the opposing team's court.

The game was extremely close and went into double overtime.

Despite the Cats' efforts, Wheaton Warrenville South grabbed the win, scoring 76

points to the Cats' 73.

Jimmy O'Hara led the team in points, with 24 overall.

O'Hara attempted three three-point shots over the night and sunk them all. He also hit seven out of eight of his free throws.

Other high scorers for the night included Mike Paschke and Nick Michael with 14 points each.

The team played their first home game of the season a week earlier and lost to Glenbard North.

The season kicked off with a Thanksgiving tournament at Oswego, with We-go taking first place.

The Wildcats put forth a lot of effort and ended up taking first place, beating Oswego and Yorkville with scores of 65-56 and 63-60 respectively.

The only school able to overtake We-go was Marmion Academy, taking the victory, 46-40.

Head coach Kevin Gimre said that although the team is doing well in many areas,

there is always room for improvement.

"One of our goals is to always improve from our last game," he said.

He also noted a few specific things the team could improve on.

"We need to be more consistent offensively and defensively. We need to work together more as a team... as a unit with one common goal - to win," Gimre said.

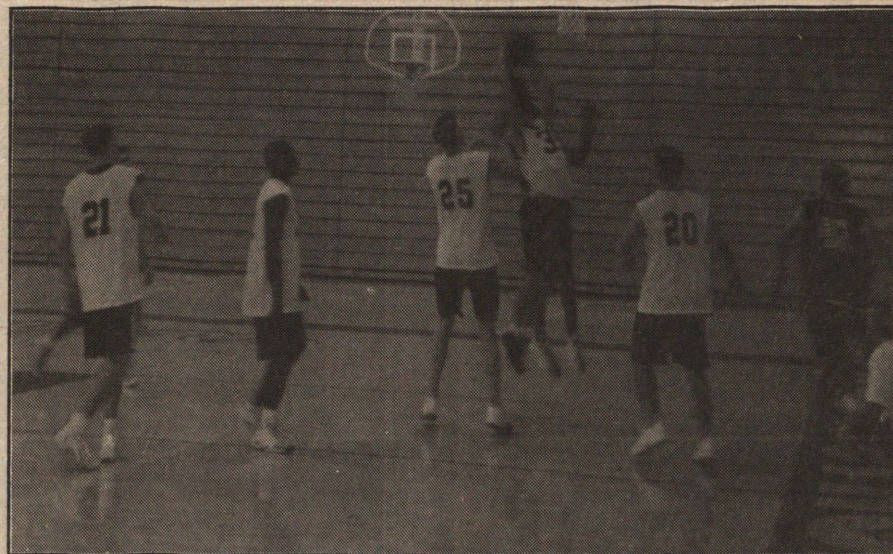
But there are a lot of things that the team is doing consistently, according to Gimre.

"There's always a lot of motion and intensity on the court... For the most part, the players are playing very hard," he said.

Junior varsity coach and varsity assistant coach Eric Lasky also noted some ups and downs of the team.

"The positive thing is that we've been close in every game. The negative thing is that we haven't been winning a lot of these close games," said Lasky.

Lasky said that although



Staff photo

The boys varsity basketball team sharpens their skills in practice.

some people like to blame losses on bad calls by the referees, the refs are not the ones to blame.

"It doesn't matter what the refs say. To win games, we have to hit our free throws, not turn the ball over, and make crucial shots. These are the things that decide games, and against Naperville North we did do these things," he said.

Lasky said he admired the constant effort the team has put forth, though.

"Against York and

Glenbard North, we fell behind quick. We worked hard to get back in the games, and I'm proud of that," he said.

Lasky said this competitiveness has been representative of the team throughout the season.

"Fans that come to our games can expect to see a good game and not a blow-out. We have been competitive against all the teams, and that involves a lot of stress and energy," said Lasky.

Right now, the team is looking ahead to a Christmas

tournament at Waubonsie Valley, where We-go will take on four teams.

"It will be good to play different teams that will also provide a challenge," said Gimre.

Gimre said he hopes the Wildcats will continue to work hard and improve through the tournament and after.

"The road ahead will not be any easier... We just need to keep improving and winning will take care of itself," he said.

Varsity girls basketball team drops the ball in double overtime

By Michelle Loerzel

West Chicago varsity girls lost to Naperville North in double overtime Saturday.

"We had our chances to win, but didn't execute at the end," said girls varsity coach Kim Wallner.

We-go girls were up 36-31 with three and a half minutes left and after that they didn't score again.

Varsity girls led in both first and second over time, but couldn't finish off, said Wallner.

Senior Megan Young broke her finger in second overtime that will hurt the team, said Wallner.

"Senior Lisa Thomas was

fouled out in the fourth quarter. Sophomore Shaina Sullivan scored 14 points.

"Sullivan made some big shots in over time to put us in lead," said Wallner.

We-go lost to Shaumburg 42-27 Dec. 11. The girls were down 21-20 in the third quarter.

"This was a very physical game," said Wallner. "It was a difficult loss for varsity girls."

We-go girls were winning the entire game until fourth quarter. The score was 23-14 at half and 38-31 at the end of the third quarter.

In the beginning of the fourth quarter We-go girls

had the first three shots to put them in lead. After that the girls couldn't score again, said Wallner.

Sophomore Lauren Johnston had 12 points. Johnston made some big shots for the offense and had high percent shooting, said Wallner.

Sullivan had 10 points at this game.

"We did well holding the other team down on defense," said Wallner.

Glenbard North's defense Dec. 6 made it difficult for the girls to shoot.

Two good guards on the other team hurt us, said Wallner.

The girls were down eight points at the end of the first quarter, the score was 18-10.

The game ended when the girls fouled and the other team had 10 for 10 at the free throw line.

Sullivan worked nicely to my expectations, scoring 12 points against Glenbard North, Wallner said.

Varsity had trouble coming out, but had a great come back at Oak Park, Wallner said.

"They could have fallen over and given up, but they didn't," said Wallner.

The girls were down 18-4 at the end of first quarter, and down 32-14 at half.

Varsity was able to hold Oak Park to only four points in the third quarter earlier in this season.

We-go scored 22 points in the fourth quarter, 11 of them being Young. Young had a total of 15 points the whole game.

"Young is our key in coming back," Wallner said.

The girls had a hard time playing against Conant where they lost by 10. The score was 37-47.

Sullivan was a bright spot offensively on the team scoring 13 points, Wallner said.

"They were really never in the game," said Wallner.

We-go was down at the end of the first quarter with a score of 16-3 and down at half with 29-11.

In the fourth quarter we had a little run, and were up by

two, said Wallner.

The girls scored 15 points while the other team only scored seven.

"We fatigued and had a slow start this game," said Wallner.

Younger had her highest shooting score of 31 points in earlier.

We-go lost by one point in overtime, the score was 56-55.

"It was a tough game," Wallner said.

Junior Nicole Skala and Johnston shot eight points each. At halftime We-go was down by three points and Young had 10 baskets.

It ended up with both teams having balanced points.

In overtime the other team had a three point shot and after the girls couldn't keep up, said Wallner.

"The girls looked tired at this game," Wallner.

The team won their second tournament game at Montini, 78-45.

Young made the top score of 17 points.

Four girls had double figures. They included Johnston, Sullivan, Rogers, and Young.

Rogers did a nice job coming in and scoring three three-pointers, said Wallner.

Thirty-two field goals were scored at this game.

"We play great on full court but we need to work on our half court," Wallner said.

Luckily the other team

only made about 50 percent of their free throws, Wallner said, if they would have made more, Montini could of had a chance to beat We-go.

The other team could not handle We-go's defense pressure, Wallner said.

The second game of their tournament was played at St. Benedicts. We-go varsity girls won 75-31.

Young led the team with 26 points, and three assists. Strook had nine points, three steals and three assists. Skala lead the team with seven rebounds.

Again Wallner said the opposite team couldn't handle We-go's defense pressure.

We-go scored 19 out 24 field scores in the first half. All together the girls scored 26 times out of 42.

The first varsity game and first home game was a win for the girls in late November, with a 63-31 score.

Young had 19 points and 10 assists.

Four people had double figures including Johnston, Strook, Young and Skala. Sullivan kept the team going with 11 rebounds and eight points.

Varsity girls scored 27 out of 52 times on their first game, making over 50 percent of their shots.

Defense got 16 steals and quite a few turnovers, said Wallner.

"I didn't have a lot to complain about in this game," Wallner said.



Photo courtesy of Challenge

Meghan Young thinks quick and passes to a teammate during a recent game.