

Wildcat Chronicle

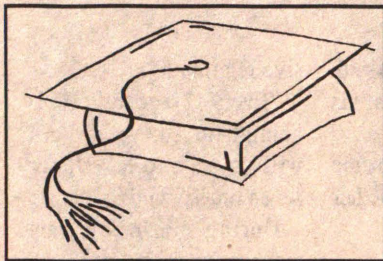
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West Chicago Community
High School
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Kozlowski wins Distinguished Service Award

By Sam West
Patti Kozlowski teaches many subjects including Clothing, Child Development, Food and Fitness, and Consumer Education. And she is being honored for all of her work.

Kozlowski won the Distinguished Service Award for Illinois. The award honors people in Illinois school districts who have made education better for staff, parents, students, and the community.

"I was really totally surprised," said Kozlowski on winning the award.

Kozlowski also said that she was very proud to have won. She didn't expect such recognition.

"You don't go into teaching for money or recognition," Kozlowski said. "You do a lot of work and you don't always get recognized and when you do get recognized, it's special."

Art teacher David Exner nominated Kozlowski for the award. Exner said that there were many other teachers he could have nominated, but chose Kozlowski for her community relations and the number of programs she runs.

Exner said, "She looks at education in a very holistic manner." Exner also said that Kozlowski doesn't only teach a subject.

Rather, she teaches life skills through a subject. Also, she teaches how people can contribute to society.

Community Relations Coordinator Mary Randle said that Kozlowski won because of her background in building good relations between the public and the school.

Randle belongs to the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association, which distributes the award to only two people in each of various categories, including administration, faculty, and support staff.

"I would have been awfully surprised had she not won," Randle said. "I was not at all surprised she was chosen."

Randle also said that there were two other people nominated for the award in the administrative and support staff areas.

Superintendent Dr. Lee Rieck was nominated for the administrative area and Nikki Hayley was nominated for the support staff.

Randle added, "I am very proud of our other nominees."

According to Exner,

FBLA heads to nationals

By Erica Fatigato
Ten students will represent We-go in the FBLA National Leadership Conference held in Nashville, Tenn. June 29 to July 3.

"We are expecting the students to do the very best that they can in each of their events," said sponsor Maria Wirth.

The students will be attending workshops, regional meetings and special events, such as the opening and closing ceremonies, and a dance during the conference. They will also have some free time (See FBLA page 2)

Chronicle scoops up another award

By Kyle Bullis
The Wildcat Chronicle garnered a Silver Certificate at the Northern Illinois School Press Association award ceremony held in April.

Out of a possible 200 points, the Chronicle managed to snag 161 points, 19 points away from achieving a Gold Certificate.

Overall, the judges of the contest thought that the



Staff photo

The Distinguished Service Award winner, Patti Kozlowski, is surprised by the honor from the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association.

Kozlowski's Child Development classes read stories at local public pre-schools and elementary schools. They also work with at-risk and special education students.

Her food classes bake cookies and more for the school board meetings. And Kozlowski and her students volunteer at festivals like Railroad Days.

Exner said that Kozlowski is caring and always has time for people. He said Kozlowski is the person who best represents the school and its philosophy.

"When I grow up, I want to be at least half as good as Mrs. K," Exner said.

Kozlowski creates a lot of projects for the school and community. She said that she does a lot of projects with literacy and reading.

She also is the VICA adviser, where VICA organizes food drives, football concessions, and this year, four students will be going to national competitions.

"That's a first for us," Kozlowski said.

Next year, she is going to form a business with the new computerized sewing machines. They will be open to the community where people can make pillows, blankets, and other special projects.

The community will also sell what they make and part of their profit will go to the VICA scholarship fund.

Kozlowski said that she also does things in the community. She works with the elementary schools, with the local library, and with the (See Mrs. K page 5)

Chronicle was put together professionally.

"A noteworthy strength of the Wildcat Chronicle is the plethora of information, news, entertainment, and opinions presented in each issue," said one of the judges of the contest.

Adviser Laura Kuehn said, "The staff deserves this award. They are an awesome staff with a lot of talent."

Next year the staff will

continue to work to improve their writing and page layout skills.

"The staff came back from the conference with a lot of ideas for improving the paper in the fall," said Kuehn. "I am anxious to see how they implement their ideas."

The Silver Certificate comes on the heels of the first place award the Chronicle received from the American Scholastic Press Association.

School says "no" to Blind Fate

By Jessica Myers and Melissa Stevens

Blind Fate has moved their performance to Synergy after the school board shot down their plans for a concert at the high school.

The band presented their case to the school board at the May 7 Committee of the Whole meeting.

The band, made up of senior Ric Miner, juniors Tom Aguirre and Brad Sabathne, and graduate Adam Flores, wanted to perform a concert in the auditorium on the last day of school.

They planned on using proceeds from the concert to take a trip to Germany to perform at the end of June.

When Brad Sabathne approached associate principal John Highland about their plans, he received a list of requirements needed before they could perform.

The band would need a school-oriented sponsor that the proceeds would go to, adequate security, and a \$1 million insurance policy.

After the meeting, the band approached social studies teacher Barb Laimins for help.

With Laimins' help, National Honors Society agreed to sponsor Blind Fate's concert for a portion of their profits for the work.

They also planned on hiring off-duty police officers for security during the show. The insurance policy was in the works.

When they approached Highland again, Highland told them that having a rock band play in school was too risky.

"We abided by their policies, but they still denied us," Brad Sabathne said.

David Sabathne spoke on behalf of his son at the school board meeting.

He responded to Highland's decision with, "this band and bands in general have been stereotyped."

The members of the band are all good students, David Sabathne said.

For weeks, band members had spent every night in the (See Blind Fate page 5)

“Dear Lisa” brings audience to tears

By Stephanie Bodane

A visual presentation of a girl growing up flicked on the screen, her first baby picture to her graduation picture, to her tombstone.

That's all that's left of Lisa. She was murdered.

Tom Santoro, father of Lisa Santoro, visited We-go to help spread his message on healthy relationships and dating violence, while talking about his daughter. He was sponsored through the Teen Dating Violence Prevention Team.

The presentation known as “Dear Lisa,” explained one father's mission to carry on his daughter's voice, and help prevent dating abuse.

“I pray to God that nobody ever has to go through what I went through,” said Santoro.

Santoro spoke on the verbal, sexual, and physical abuse signs that can be visible in a relationship.

Santoro gave real-life situations that helped listeners relate to what being in a violent relationship is like.

It was the story of his daughter Lisa, however, that

brought tears to audience members' eyes. It was in 1994 that Lisa was beaten to death with a baseball bat by a former boyfriend. After dating for five months, Lisa and

in the driveway. Santoro said, he knew right there that his daughter was dead.

Santoro said, “For him, the statement if I can't have her no one can was true.”

sive relationship.

“Every 12 seconds a girl is being battered, yet the girl will go back to her abuser seven times,” said Santoro.

During ninth hour, art teacher David Exner made a special impression on the audience. Exner made a touching speech, thanking Santoro for being strong and said how Lisa will live on through his message.

It was then that Exner removed his shirt, imprinted with the words “I love you Daddy,” which his daughter had made for him.

He gave it to Santoro, saying that he felt that it was Lisa saying she loved him more than anything, and that she will live on.

Santoro has traveled to many different schools to teach students, teachers and parents about the different types of abuse that can occur in a relationship.

He has spoken to over 200,000 students and visited over 200 colleges and high schools across the United States, for the past five years.

Along with this, Santoro has appeared on Channel 2 WBBM in Chicago, on the Montel Williams Show, and on the Oprah Winfrey show.

“He's a very powerful speaker, very moving. There isn't a dry eye in the place when he's done speaking,” said Dan Johnson, Wellness Committee Coordinator.

The following are signs that you or someone you know may be in an abusive relationship. These “red flags” are provided from the Family Shelter Services in Wheaton.

If you have any questions regarding these signs you may call (630) 221-8290.

- Jealousy
- Controlling behavior
- Very demanding of the others' time
- Blames others for his/her problems
- Uses intimidation to make the other do some thing
- Holds rigid ideas about male and female roles
- Cruelty to animals
- Verbally abusive (says hurtful things, degrades or humiliates the other)
- Sudden mood swings and unpredictable behavior
- Isolates the other from activities with family and friends
- Makes threats or uses force during an argument (shoving, slapping, grabbing, or holding the other down)

her boyfriend broke up.

They later agreed to meet to exchange some letters they had written. An hour after Lisa was supposed to be home, Santoro went to the boyfriend's house where an ambulance and police car sat

Throughout Lisa's relationship, however, there were no signs of abuse. Santoro explained how relationships in which one partner may become controlling, violent, easily jealous, or verbally violent, may turn into an abu-

FBLA... (Continued from page 1)

for sight seeing, shopping, and having fun.

“I think that the conference will go very well. We have extremely talented students attending the conference this summer,” said Wirth.

Ten students will represent We-go. Jeff Cisowski came in first place for Business Math in the state. Also coming in first at state was Erich Musick for Technology Concepts, and Matt Shambo, Brian Nelson and Paul

Majchrowski for Entrepreneurship Team. Kurt Fenner took second in the state for Accounting along with Jeff Cordina for Marketing. Brianna Nadolny took third in the state for Introduction to Parliamentary Procedures. Hilary Blanchard and Heidi

Colliander will compete in Parliamentary Procedures.

“They are all very excited about their achievements at the state conference. Because of this enthusiasm, I believe that each one of them will bring home an award,” said Wirth.

Junior prom promises a night to remember

By Mary Beth Selby

Junior student council raked in the people, and cash, and are hoping to produce an amazing prom night Friday.

In total, the council sold nearly 700 tickets to both students and teachers, collecting about \$28,000. Decorations, catering, and the Carlisle expenses will be deducted from this amount.

“We are going to rock the house,” said prom chairperson Maggie Wdowiarz. “This year is going to be the best. We have been working so hard, organizing everything, and getting ready.”

Wdowiarz said the student council even hired a profes-

sional balloonist to decorate the hall.

“The decorations are going to be great,” said Wdowiarz. “We've put so much into it. It's like its my wedding.”

The tickets were the same as last year, small picture frame keychains, which were also the party favors, said Wdowiarz.

“It's going to be a very big deal and very formal,” said junior student council president Nick Bernard.

The DJ scheduled for prom is from the company A Cut Above.

Bernard would not give any information regarding (See Prom page 4)



Photo courtesy of Sarah Meyerholz

Sarah Meyerholz

Meyerholz heads to Germany for a year with scholarship

By Suzanne Smith

Senior Sarah Meyerholz will go far with her future plans next year.

Meyerholz received the Congress-Bundstag Scholarship, where she will go to a secondary school or college prep school in Germany for a year.

Meyerholz said, “I'd been thinking about it after Harold Visser went his sophomore year. I thought, why not?”

According to German instructor Terry Strohm, the German and the United States government's sponsor the scholarship.

Together, they work to pay for the trip and the only thing the students have to pay for is any spending money they might want bring.

Meyerholz said she sent in an application for the scholarship. The results took an extra month to figure out because so many students had applied for the scholarship.

Strohm said the officials for the Youth for Understanding interviewed Meyerholz after she made it to the semi-finalist round. They came to Meyerholz's house to interview her.

According to Meyerholz, her acceptance was based upon her attitude from the interview, general knowl-

edge of the German language, and the recommendations she included in her application.

Strohm said, “I'm very proud of her. She'll be a great representative for us.”

Meyerholz leaves July 18 where she will participate in a language camp with other students who have also received this scholarship.

Three other students from other schools also plan on going to Germany on this scholarship as well, and they will have an orientation July 16 and 17.

Once she arrives in Germany, Strohm said Meyerholz will live with a German family that is close to the school she will attend.

At the language camp, they will be able to determine which school Meyerholz will go to.

According to Strohm, Meyerholz will not be able to find out who her host family will be or get in contact with them until she actually gets to Germany.

Strohm said Meyerholz would be placed in 11th grade due to her language ability.

While she is in Germany on this scholarship, Meyerholz said she plans on making a lot of new friends, speaking German, and having fun.

Meyerholz said her own family is German, so it will be interesting to learn more about her heritage.

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

Choir a success in Parks Festival

By Suzanne Smith
Concert choir, women's chorale, mixed choir, jazz choir, and the orchestra brought several trophies back after recently competing and performing in the Music in the Parks festival.

The choirs performed at the United Methodist Church in Evanston and the awards ceremony was held at Six Flags Great America later in the day on May 4.

The jazz choir, which was originally chamber choir, scored first place, receiving 96 points out of 100.

Choir director Lisa Smith said, "They've been rehearsing vocal jazz for a month, and they weren't feeling as confident in vocal jazz as they were with classical music."

After placing first with such a high score, Smith said they finally realized they could do well with jazz.

She said the judges liked their performance.

"I knew they'd (chamber choir) receive a superior rating if they were performing a capella chamber music, but I wasn't exactly sure how the judges would rate their vocal jazz," Smith said.

Concert choir received an "excellent" rating by the judges and that earned them first place in their division.

Smith said she thought there was a difficulty directing so far away from where the piano was placed.

She said, "It was hard for us to be cohesive."

Smith said she thought the

choir recovered well during one of their songs, "Daemon."

"I can't wait for "Daemon" to be performed at the final concert because they do such a great job," Smith said.

According to Smith, the judges thought this was a difficult piece and they didn't realize choir learned it so quickly and easily. They thought the choir handled it well.

Women's chorale won first place in their division with a "superior" rating.

Junior Melissa Lund played a French horn solo in "Heart We Will Forget Him."

"I thought they did very well," Smith said.

They competed against Addison Trails High School and Wallace Lake High School.

Smith said, "It was really hard for the last piece. It hit me that it'd be the last festival I'd take this choir to."

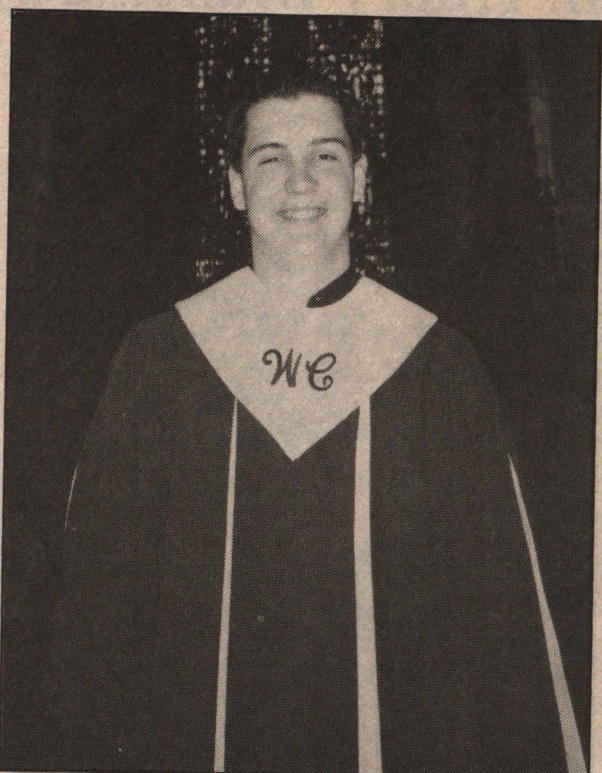
Mixed choir received a "good" rating and they performed such songs as "Sail Away," "Be Happy," and "Sing in Celebration."

Smith said, "They've grown a lot this year, and they received a lot of good comments."

The orchestra received an 'excellent' rating and won second place in their competition.

The final choir and orchestra concert will be held on Tuesday, where the choirs and orchestra will perform some of the songs they did for their competition as well as new songs.

Smith said she thought the



Staff photo

Mike Treachler was one of the participants at the Music in the Parks festival.

Vocational students lend hands for walk

By Kyle Bullis
The National Ovarian Cancer Coalition recently benefited from the efforts of Mike Koulos' Vocational Lab program.

Special education students recently participated in an assignment sponsored by the Chicago Tribune.

The students were assigned to pack 3,000 package bags with various items for the participants of the fifth annual "Walk for the Whisper" program, which was held on May 4.

The items included nutritional bars, soy nuts, flower seeds, and different coupons from local businesses.

Eleven students worked to help fill all of the 3,000 pack-

ages over the course of five days.

"I knew my students would enjoy the challenge of a big job such as this. They all worked together as a team on this project and completed it in plenty of time. Everyone had a sense of accomplishment when it was done," she added.

Walk for the Whisper is a walk-a-thon to fundraise money to help the patients with ovarian cancer.

Whisper refers to the subtle symptoms the victim develops over the course of the disease.

Walk-a-thons were held in Naperville, with 2,500 participants, and Niles, with 500 participants.

Busy Leo Club hoping for more student members

By Mary Beth Selby
The West Chicago Leo Club participated in the Downtown Garden Festival Saturday.

To help at the Garden Festival, the Leo Club planted flowers, sold plants, and participated in a craft fair.

The Leo Club is a community service program run entirely by kids or students and sponsored by their district Lions Club member.

The West Chicago Leo Club has 12 students, which include president Jessica Day, vice president Emily Saviano, and secretary Dana Lawrence.

The West Chicago Leo Club sponsor is West Chicago police officer Rich Theodore. Theodore is a member of the Lions Club.

The West Chicago Leo Club began this year just af-

ter winter break, said Theodore.

Since the start, Leo Club has tried to become involved in community service projects in West Chicago.

Their first big project was collecting eyeglasses. To receive a greater response, the Leo Club asked P.E. department chair Don Johnson for help.

Johnson proposed that students turn in one pair of eyeglasses for one P.E. make-up.

Theodore said that nearly 250 eyeglasses and cases were turned in.

Everything collected was sent to the West Chicago Lions Club for them to give to the needy when the drive ended May 14.

Next the Leo Club will be involved with the West Chicago Railroad Days held July 12 and 13, where they will

Clothing students open for business next year

By Kyle Bullis
Next fall Clothing 2 students will be selling clothes as part of a new business.

The class will run both semesters and be headed by Clothing 1 teacher Patti Kozlowski and a few new teachers who will be joining the school next fall.

The students will make specific items, and customers will order them and pick them up during the selling period which will run for a few months.

The class will also put out fliers to advertise the business and inform potential

customers where to order and pick up their items.

"The students are going to decide what to name the business and what it will specialize in," said Kozlowski.

The class might also put out a survey to the students to get feedback on what would be the best item to produce for the class.

The money made from sales will go towards contests the class will enter, as well as VICA and other school curricula.

"A certain percentage would also go to the students too," said Kozlowski.

Students may pay more in food line

By Suzanne Smith
District 94 is considering renewing their food service management contract with Quest Food Management for next year.

The Board of Education had planned to renew the contract Tuesday but it was tabled for further discussion.

According to assistant superintendent of business Garrick Grizaffi, Quest decided to return under the same terms that have already been in effect for the past four years along with several changes.

With the contract, the ala carte prices will increase at an overall rate of less than four percent.

The lunch special, consisting of hot dogs, small hamburgers or peanut butter and jelly, with a small french fry, and small drink, will increase from the current \$2.00

to \$2.20. All value meals and daily specials will remain the same at \$2.75.

District 94 will save \$10,080 by not billing additional cashier positions. Also, a 13.5 percent rent charge will begin for all cafeteria sales.

According to Grizaffi, the school's food service program is suited to fit the student body.

Grizaffi said he feels Quest has accomplished what their job requires by appealing to the majority of the students, serving quality products.

Grizaffi said he has heard much positive feedback from the staff about the variety of food and quality of food that has been served in the faculty dining area.

There have also been few complaints about prices and quality of food.

Color added to senior mural after complaints

By Nicole Patel
The 2002 senior class mural will undergo a change that promotes racial diversity.

The mural, created and painted by senior Dan Bajor currently has two white students in it.

Assistant principal John Highland asked Bajor if he could make one of the students a darker color because some students had complained that the mural was not racially equal.

Bajor estimates the color change will take approximately two hours to correct.

"I don't mind changing it, to be honest it never even

crossed my mind to make one of the students of color. I guess I didn't really think about that," Bajor said.

Although Bajor does not have a problem with changing his artwork, he just wishes he had known sooner.

"A lot of other students are annoyed or upset that I have to change this, but it's not that bad," he said.

Currently, Bajor comes in after school and works on painting the mural for a couple hours.

He also spends about five hours on the weekend painting it. "I'm just trying to leave my mark on West Chicago," he said.

Key Club works in the rain

By Erica Fatigato
The Key Club ended their year with a very wet service project clean up on May 11.

They started the morning cleaning up the Prairie Path and the outside of Pleasant Trail Home Park.

They ended their clean up early due to the rain.

Only two of the members showed up for this project.

"Two faithful workers who showed up for everything were Melissa Prusko and Me-

lissa Heron," said sponsor Ward Rau.

On May 9 the Key Club held their last meeting where they decided officers for next year.

Heron is president, but only for half the year because she will be graduating early.

Tom Grove will be vice president and then take over president after Heron graduates. Prusko will be secretary and Tyler Hemple will be treasurer.

Student of the Month: Hilary Blanchard

By Suzanne Smith
Hilary Blanchard is the April Student of the Month.

What were your accomplishments and activities throughout your high school career?

Volleyball (9, 10, 11, 12); student council (10, 11, 12), president (12), Parliamentarian (11), homecoming chair (11); FBLA (9, 10, 11, 12); Area Parliamentarian (11), Variety Show coordinator (11), Eighth place in National Parliamentary Procedure; choir (10, 11, 12); girls' ensemble (11, 12); spring musical (11, 12); track and field (9, 10); basketball (9); Lifesmarts (12); All-American scholar; Who's Who; Illinois State scholar.

What is your favorite activity/class in high school?

My favorite activity has to be the spring musicals. I would never give up any of the experiences I had in any

activity, but the community of the musicals makes it an amazing memorable environment every single moment, from the first rehearsal to the last curtain call.

Where do you plan to go to college, and what are you going to major in?

Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. I am studying biochemistry/general engineering, in the Oxford scholars honors program.

Why do you think you were chosen student of the month?

I'd like to think that I've left my mark at We-go. I am extremely grateful for this honor. I think the award serves to motivate younger students and convince them of what they can achieve. As an underclassman, I recall looking up to the honored students as role models. If I can inspire one person to achieve their potential, I will have left my mark.



Photo courtesy of Hilary Blanchard

Student of the Month Hilary Blanchard.

"Inkredible" writers put ink to paper

By Marc Berry
Community High School participated along with District 33 in the Inkredible Ink writing contest.

English teacher Judy Minor heard about the contest from Differentiation/GATE Program Coordinator Peg Ryan during an articulation meeting.

Ryan asked Minor if District 94 would be interested in participating in the contest. Minor cleared it with English Department Head Thomas McCann and Assistant Principal Gail Aronoff.

"Everyone liked the idea. Everyone said that any way to celebrate student writers is a good thing," said Minor.

One winner was selected from each grade level start-

ing at first grade and going up to juniors.

The winners from District 94 included junior Melissa Stevens, sophomore Dennis Birtcher, and freshman Becky Bonarek.

Students by themselves, their teachers, their parents, other educators, or other students could enter a submission.

Andrea Cipich, adviser of We-go's literary magazine, The Mind's Eye, submitted works of many students who submitted poems to the magazine.

Nominations were judged based on originality, depth of emotion, depth of understanding, depth of insight to self or work of another artist, or exceptional use of writer's craft.

Writer's craft includes plot, theme, visualization, hyperbole, similes, and other devices used by authors to enhance their work.

Nominators were to make clear on the nomination form which criteria they were submitting the piece for.

Any form of writing was eligible for consideration, from poetry to songwriting to short stories.

Altogether, We-go students submitted 15 entries. Some students submitted multiple entries.

There were also many entries from District 33.

Ten people made up the judging panel. The judges included a journalist and a high school English teacher. The other eight members

were comprised of District 33 staff members.

An awards ceremony was held on May 10 at the Kitty Hawk Café in the Flight Center at DuPage Airport.

There, winners received a writing journal as a reward for their efforts.

Each winner also read their winning piece of writing.

Stevens, whose poem on society was submitted by literary magazine advisor Andrea Cipich, said, "One of the reasons for having a winner from each grade level was to show how writing evolves as people get older."

Minor said she was pleased with how the contest turned out this year.

"Next year, we'll try to build on it," said Minor.

Scholastic team wraps best season

By Kyle Bullis
Scholastic Bowl junior varsity finished off its season with a 4-3 record, with varsity finishing with a 3-4 record.

Junior varsity ended its season in third, while varsity dropped down to sixth after facing a few tough opponents, including the undefeated Wheaton North.

Scholastic Bowl is an academic team of 20 people that compete at tournaments, where the players answer questions on a wide variety of topics.

Whoever has the most points at the end wins the match.

The Scholastic Bowl team even has their own mascots:

Mike and Sulley from the Monsters Inc.

Scholastic Bowl sponsor Sandra Wilson said, "This was the best season we've ever had."

Some of the team's top players were team captain senior Anthony Delegge, who did well in math and science; senior Brad Spata, who specialized in geography and science; Leigh Hellman and Erin Linsenmeyer, who did well in English.

The team also received help from Robert Gottlieb, who was given the nickname "The Magic Freshman" by his teammates.

Last week Scholastic Bowl held a candy sale to help fund next year's season.

Mrs. K... (Continued from page 1)

Kiwanis Club. She was also a Fulbright Award Winner. The award let her go to Japan to learn about educational systems.

Once she won the Distinguished Service Award, Kozlowski became eligible for winning the Public Relations Ambassador of the Year award for Illinois.

If she wins, she will give speeches at speaking engagements and conventions.

"Which I'm more than happy to do," Kozlowski

said. For all Kozlowski does, Exner said, "I feel really honored to know Mrs. K."

As happy as she is about winning the award, Kozlowski said that she is not the only special teacher in District 94.

"I think we have an outstanding, creative staff at this school," she said. "So in my mind, I only represent the excellence in this school. A lot of people could have been nominated from this school."

Prom... (Continued from page 2)

other prom events, saying that they are "a secret."

However, Wdowiarz agreed to reveal the 10 boy and girl nominees for prom court.

The girls are Aimee Beutke, Brittany Brown, Heather Goorley, Colleen Mathias, Norah McAvoy, Jami Murphy, Margy Schwartz, Maggie

Wdowiarz, Laura Wheeland, and Sarah Wood.

The boy nominees are Alex Baker, Jared Hall, Greg Hodge, Dan Kaylor, Joe Klingberg, Greg Moore, Aron Morris, Brian Nelson, Ernesto Romo, and Matt Shambo.

Prom will be from 7 to 11 p.m. on Friday.

"No fun" band motto may change after visit to Disney World

By Sam West
The mock-motto of the We-go band is "no fun!" But for a week in June, that motto might disappear.

The concert, marching, and jazz bands are traveling to Orlando, Florida, to play in Disney World's Magic Music Days.

The Concert band will play in Epcot center, the jazz band will perform in Cosmic Ray's Starlight Café, and the marching band will perform in a parade in the Magic Kingdom.

Director of Bands Jim Guter said that the parade's route will be around the famous castle and then down Main Street.

There are only two high school bands in the nation

performing in the parade, and We-go is one of them.

Cosmic Ray's Starlight Café will be like a real nightclub for the jazz band.

Guter said, "They'll get a feel of what it is like to play a professional job (at Cosmic Ray's)."

The concert band is going to play in Epcot center with a professional trumpeter. They will perform "Carnival of Venice," with the trumpeter playing a solo.

The Disney trip has been planned for about a year, Guter said. There hasn't been a change of plans for the trip in that year.

Guter said that the main purpose of the trip was to have fun while learning.

"I think if you were to sum

it up, the trip would be classified as educational and fun-filled," said Guter.

Guter wanted to give exposure to the bands, as well. He said that the bands play very well.

"I wanted to have our high school show off a little," Guter said.

He also wanted to highlight the jazz band. "These kids probably work the hardest and put in a lot of extra time to make it happen," Guter said.

Guter said that the most fun part of the trip is just enjoying the park.

The bands will not only perform, but they will visit the Magic Kingdom, MGM studios, Animal Kingdom, water parks, and Epcot Cen-

ter. Sophomore Nick Grue said that he is looking forward to going on the trip.

"I'm looking forward to all the rides and freedom in a foreign environment," Grue said.

Grue added, "I think we have a great band. The freshmen in particular are quite skilled and with the seniors from last year returning, it will make (the trip) all the better."

Grue also joked that the best part of the trip would be trashing the hotel rooms, although Guter has already warned against the trashing.

Guter said that he hasn't ever wanted to take one of his bands to Disney World, because they would just

think it was a vacation.

The Disney World trip should be fun, but also educational, Guter said.

"I really worked very hard so that we could have the workshop and the three performances," said Guter. "As a band director, that is my responsibility."

Guter also said, "I think (the bands) are playing great now and they'll play even better down there."

Sophomore Carl Sauter said that he looks forward to playing music.

"That's why I'm in band," he said.

Sauter also said that the drumline would be together on one bus, which will make the 26-hour bus ride interesting.

"Although buses in general are horrid things, if you're going with a group, especially the band, it becomes a lot more fun because you never know what's going to happen," he said.

The excitement of how many people will see the bands reminds Guter of the London trip they went on two years ago.

"It's very exciting playing in front of a large group of people and we don't always get that opportunity here at West Chicago," he said.

Guter said that there were no plans for any future trips at this point, he was just focused on getting through Disney World and getting ready for next year's marching season.

Tickets on sale for All Night Long

By Erica Fatigato

Juniors and seniors will have one last chance to get tickets to All Night Long Friday during all lunch hours.

The tickets are \$10 and students must show IDs when buying the tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.

For \$10, students and their dates have a chance to par-

ticipate in cosmic bowling, dancing, arcade games, pool, bingo, karaoke, sand volleyball, and Nerf dodge ball.

Students will be able to win many prizes. All the prizes are donations of parents, businesses in the community.

Examples of prizes are Cubs, White Sox, and Cougars baseball tickets; concert

tickets; televisions; radios, boom boxes; phones; gift certificates; and scholarships.

The post-prom party will start at 11:30 p.m. and continue until 4:30 a.m., at Bowling Green Sport Center, 30W150 W. Roosevelt Road, West Chicago.

If students do not arrive by 1 a.m., parents will be called,



said Ann Mehrman, one of the event organizers.

This is a lock-in event so no one will be able to leave.

Nominations needed for Ambassadors

By Suzanne Smith

If all goes well, the Ambassador Club will join the ranks of We-go activities in the fall.

Activities coordinator Dan McCarthy said the club is made up of students who are nominated by their teachers. The students will, among other things, help out during open house and give school tours for new students.

"I think they will help to better assist us and be a positive influence for our school," McCarthy said.

According to McCarthy, 200 students have been chosen by the teachers already, but he will have to narrow them to a club of 30 students.

Some of the students had multiple teachers nominate them.

"This is a prestigious honor to be chosen to be in this club," said McCarthy.

The students are currently being chosen and they will receive a letter telling them that they have been nominated to be in the club.

McCarthy said he wants to have students who are positive role models for the school.

The students will be provided with polo-style shirts that are designed by the school, and they will have to go through a little bit of training in the beginning.

Students inducted into National Honor Society

By Kyle Bullis

Over 100 students were inducted into the Community High School's chapter of the National Honor Society:

Carly Anderson, Sarah Assian, Reema Bajaj, Alexander Baker, Sarah Bass, Patrick Baur, Jeff Beeks, Nicholas Bernard, Leann Bertram, Aimee Beutke, Emily Biancalana, Hilary Blanchard, Brandi Boers, Michael Boland, Elizabeth Brosseau, Brian

Calabrese, Emmanuel Camargo, Nicholas Chillemi, Heather Cirone, Charles Cloutier, Jeffrey Cordina, Arianna Cortez, Jessica Cwiak, Leanna Czernik, Alison Dahl, Luke Dean, Rebecca Dennis, Courtney Dorn, Cheryl Drenth, Elizabeth Drzal, Rebeca Duran, Vincente Fernandez, Carrie Gallimore, Ana Garcia, Esperanza Garcia, Marie Garcia, Joana Garfias, Katie Gehrke, Laura Gilbertsen,

Heather Goorley, Jill Grobe, Margaret Grossmayer, Sarah Hammer, Christine Hendron, Melissa Heron, Gregory Hodge, Matthew Hofer, Rachel Horvath, Justin Hoshaw, Mary-Megan Kalvig, Crystal Kirschke, Heather Koslow, Katy Kostal, Nicole Kovacevic, Jillian Kufta, Dana Lawrence, Amy Lichtfuss, Lisa Lindner, Jesse Lord, Melissa Lund, Jeanne Macrito, Paul Majchrowski, Carla Marrero, Pamela Mar-

tin, Michael Masschelin, Colleen Mathias, Ashely Mazzola, Norah McAvoy, Theresa McEvoy, Kristen Mederich, Lynn Mielke, Karen Miller, Greg Moore, Aron Morris, Heather Mosteller, Jami Murphy, Robert Nagel, Brian Nelson, Michael Nubie, James O'Hara, Michael Paschke, Ruchita Patel, Stella Peduzzi, Kimberley Peterik, Michael Peters, Matthew Peterson, Gladys Proa, Magen Rogers, Brian Romanelli, Ernesto Romo, Jim Rylowicz, Carmen Saucedo, Javier Saucedo, Nicole Schar, Craig Schuda, Matthew Shambo, Kristina Shilling, Scott Sieder, Brian Steere, Kirsten Stockhoff, Dylan Swanner, Katie Taylor, Adam Vann, Jessica Varble, Hope Vock, Kathryn Walker, Kristina Wanous, Sean Warren, Margaret Wdowiarz, John Weier, Matthew Wilson, Lindsey Wonsowski, Sarah Wood, and Jessica York.

School juggles administration line-up

By Sam West

The administration at We-go will change its line-up come this fall.

According to assistant principal Gail Aronoff, physical education teacher Josh Chambers is going to be a dean of students while current dean Jeff Ainsworth is moving to the position of physical education teacher.

English teacher and department chair Tom McCann will be assistant principal, and associate principal John Highland will become principal.

"I'm very excited about having those staff members in the new positions because they have such a genuine interest in the areas," Aronoff said. "The best-case scenario is a person who is good at what they do and have a passion for what they do, which is what makes these two gentlemen (McCann and Chambers) good people to fill those slots."

Aronoff also said that the interviewing process was still

in effect for the positions of English department chair and to replace assistant principal Kathleen Benton, who resigned in May.

Assistant principal to curriculum, McCann's new position, means that he will give training and support to new teachers, will work with teacher evaluation, and with the curriculum committee.

"I think I could contribute to the leadership of the school," said McCann.

McCann summed up his new position, "My job would be managing the process by which faculty members would add courses or delete courses."

McCann had a few words of advice to whoever takes over for him.

"I think that the English department is a very strong component of the school and the new department chair would be wise to recognize the strengths of the many teachers and continue to support them in their efforts," he said.

Kellner raises over \$2,000

By Kyle Bullis

Social studies teacher Steve Kellner ran in the Fifth Third Bank Half Marathon on Sunday to raise money for special education teacher Linda Cunningham.

Kellner raised over \$2,200 for Cunningham, who currently has leukemia and is undergoing chemotherapy.

Over 70 staff members pledged money. Staff members were able to pledge based on how many miles Kellner completed, his time goal of 1 hour 55 minutes, or make a general contribution. Kellner is still accepting donations.

All of the donated money will go directly to Cunningham.

The students and staff of Community High School have already made a quilt for Cunningham and have sent many get-well messages in many different ways, all hoping for her to get better.

Blind Fate... (Continued from page 1)

studio recording sometimes until 5 a.m.

Regardless, they kept up their grades, held jobs, and participated in sports.

Miner, a four-year We-go football player, joined Blind Fate last year to follow his dream of getting big in the music business.

He considers the policies as a deterrant to his and other student musicians' dreams.

"Do you follow procedure to the dot of the 'i' or crush someone's dreams?"

Miner asked the board.

Both Miner and David Sabathne said that Blind Fate has not been given the chance to prove the school board wrong.

The band has played around 20 shows.

On average, the audience consists of 15-80 people, including some who have been to every show.

They've never had a problem with their audiences, Aguirre said.

Aguirre added, "They're pretty tame."

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MINORITY REPORT [NR]

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MR. DEEDS [PG-13]

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Berry's Stuff

Searching for a way to say goodbye without clichés

By Marc Berry

I need to go out with a bang. This is the end, I guess, and being the end, it is essential that I finish on a high note.

It's like the old saying goes: "If you don't go out with a bang, everything you have done up to that point is worth nothing, and you pretty much have no future from that point on."

The saying has been mis-translated over the years to something about an apple and a doctor, but it is clear that this was not the original intent.

The whole thing is sort of like movies. An ending can break or make it. Usually no one even remembers the be-

ginning or middle of a film. They only serve as buildup. And if the buildup isn't worth it, then it wasn't worth the buildup.

So, I had this whole thing planned out in my head about moving on through life. About beginnings and ends, old friends and new friends, eternal memories and fresh experiences, lessons learned and knowledge yet to be acquired, and hopscotch.

The whole thing was really very cute and moving. I even moved myself. It was also very thought provoking. It provoked loads of thought.

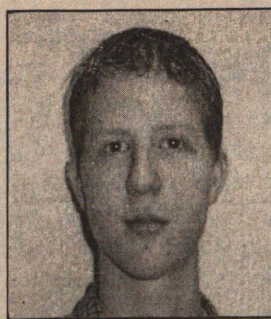
But then I realized that, if I'm remembered by any of these stupid articles, it's going to be the final one. And

if there are three things I don't want to be remembered as, they're definitely cute, moving, and thought provoking.

So, after this, I thought I'd write an entire article on yogurt. But then I got to thinking that maybe the whole yogurt thing has been a tad overused.

So I quickly decided that I would not follow that route. In fact, I decided that I would not even mention yogurt at all, for fear of appearing repetitive - someone who is afraid to try something fresh and instead has to fall back on the safety net of the same old devices.

It's kind of like someone who is stuck on cherry yogurt. There is absolutely



nothing wrong with cherry yogurt, but there are so many other wonderful flavors out there to experience.

Maybe an update would be a good idea, I began to think next. I'm sure people are curious as to how I've done in achieving my goals - if I've put an end to stealing, enlightened myself, or changed the world, for example.

I soon decided that this would not work out. Quite frankly, there is not a whole lot to say about these things, because, well... it should be obvious to everyone that I have accomplished all of (See Stuff page 9)

Pilots don't need to be armed

By Sam West

Since Sept. 11, airline pilots have been lobbying for the right to arm themselves in the cockpit. But violence is not the solution to the threat of violence.

Having guns in the cockpit of an airplane is slightly unnerving all by itself. How comfortable would you feel if there was a lethal weapon waiting to be used and sitting a few feet from you?

The union for flight attendants is against the proposal to arm pilots. They will support the proposal only if pilots agree to come out of the cockpits and defend the crew and passengers, if a situation such as that arises.

Pilots claim that guns will serve as a deterrent to hijackers. However, it is also a deterrent to life. A stray bullet could hit a man, woman, or a child in the cabin of the airplane.

A bullet could very well cause a fire, explosion, engine failure, or loss of critical systems if it hits something it shouldn't hit.

Opponents of the plan have said that if a bullet goes through the sides of the cabins, the airplane might go down. Boeing's director of aviation safety said that a single bullet hole would have no effect on cabin pressure. But what about multiple bullet holes?

You may know that the crew and/or passengers aboard some airplanes have subdued troublesome passengers in recent incidents. If pilots were armed, those people would have been dead. The pilots would have killed the person on the spot. Is it just easier to kill people rather than dealing with them in a rational way?

Stun guns would better solve the problem of hijackers.

Stun guns immobilize attackers and do not kill them or injure others. The union for flight attendants supports stun guns rather than actual bullet-shooting guns.

Capt. Henry P. Krakowski, United Airlines' vice president of safety, security, and quality assurance said that a stun gun would have more effectively dealt with a recent incident involving a Buenos Aires passenger who tried to break into the cockpit. The passenger was subdued without any kind of gun use.

Krakowski said that it would have immediately immobilized the attacker without putting other passengers in danger.

Even better than stun guns would be to have beefed up security on airplanes, not just at airports. According to the *Washington Post*, Rep. Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR) said that he has witnessed how low security is on airplanes.

He said that the fortified cockpit doors that have been created are not used as they should be. In fact, DeFazio said, they are not always kept closed. One instance he saw was when a pilot needed to go to the bathroom, a flight attendant stood at the cockpit door "protecting" the cockpit. Because any terrorist would be intimidated by a flight attendant, right?

Many pilots are not using some of the safety features that they have been given. Instead, they just want to carry guns. Arming pilots is too risky of a solution. So many things could go wrong.

And moreover, killing people when there are better solutions is just wrong.

Laws work to protect sexual predators

By Stephanie Bodane

The government considers it a felony to create child pornography. Laws have been created to protect young children from being portrayed in sexual acts or in a sexual manner.

It seems however, when a law is created there will always be someone who finds some way to work around it. This case is no exception.

It's called "virtual" child pornography. Instead of using real children, people may now draw inappropriate pictures of them using computer generated digital pictures.

Others developed the luminous idea that if they use adults to portray children, they aren't breaking any laws. It seems as though most

human beings would look at this as a sign that perhaps child pornography laws should be stricter so that people can't prey on children.

But not everyone agrees. Syndicated columnist Leonard Pitts said, "Yes, it's vile, offensive, disgusting, an insult to human decency. So is Tom Green. But watching his movies is not—not yet, anyway—against the law. Kiddy porn is. Why is that?"

Although he may hold a valid point, he goes on to say that people have the right to think things and the right to speak as they wish regardless of how repulsive it may be.

It is part of the fundamentals of human rights. This is true. But the point of the law

against child pornography is to prevent child exploitation.

When there are still pictures of young children, regardless if it is fake or real, it raises questions about how our laws truly work.

Children are viewed as innocent and pure, so when a computer screen flips to a picture of a young child engaged in pornography, people tend to become disturbed.

"In a society that places a premium on freedom of expression, should it really be against the law to write about, draw a picture, or program a digital image, of even the most repulsive behavior?" Pitts said.

Recently the Supreme Court ruled that Congress

can't regulate thoughts, no matter how repulsive they might be.

They decided that under the First Amendment, Congress cannot ban computer imaged child pornography or adults posing as children.

Why do we create these laws when we allow people to work around them? Although they may not be exact pictures of children, aren't pictures portraying them still demoralizing?

What type of country would create human rights, yet allow their people to exploit children?

It almost seems as though America supports the pedophiles instead of the children, what's wrong with that picture?

All that is needed to help the school is a whole lot of money

By Kyle Bullis

Under the assumption that a giant football field sized pile of money falls from the sky into the hands of Community High School, there are a few changes that the school could make to improve itself.

Everybody feels the same about their school. We all think, "Hey, if we had disco balls hanging from the ceilings in the classroom, then school would be a lot better."

What we fail to realize is that it would be counter productive, because people would be having epileptic seizures when trying to take a test.

But some things may come to be in the future. For instance, there are actual speedometers hanging over the ceilings in C.O.D.

Most people clock around 3-5 m.p.h.

Taking up the idea, a common device used for cars would be great to use for hallways: traffic lights.

These would help greatly when trying to navigate the packed halls of the schools.

No more people walking into each other or trying to weave around others.

In fact, we should propose a full traffic system for the school, including lane dividers, traffic signs, medians, the

whole works.

We should also arm students with diesel air horns to show their disapproval of some people's hall traffic habits.

Now students have a whole new excuse for showing up late for class. "Traffic."

If the traffic system seems a bit far fetched, the school could install moving sidewalks that are in many airports today. These devices move people across the halls without having to move their legs, encouraging unfit people everywhere.

Starting next year, all lockers should have retinal scanners.

The school should propose a laser tag team for the school as well.

This will not only prepare students with exercises of the brain to use problem solving strategy and tactical thinking, but it's also a whole lot of fun.

In compliance with the traffic system, classes should not have pre-bought desks for the students.

Instead, students should buy their own desks. The desks would have wheels, a horn, a steering wheel, and a CD player.

You could drive them from class to class, and even hold destruction derbies before

and after school.

Turning in homework and getting points will also earn you a type of currency that you could use to buy better horsepower, acceleration, or handling for your desk.

The school could buy those cool Frisbees that are used in Tron to defeat the evil Master Computer thing.

There seems to be a pretty big problem involving people standing around the hallways before school and during passing periods.

Therefore, all of the speakers in the school should have security cameras and fog horns attached.

Whenever the camera spots

a group of students hogging up the hall space, the fog horn will blast and deafen the offenders, assuring the rest of the community that it will never happen again.

Every single floor tile of the school should be made into a trap door that will be used against repeat offenders.

Standing too long in one spot of the hallway will trigger the trap door and send the person falling into a chute which will lead them to a dark basement filled with ravenous birds hungry for human flesh.

Maybe that would be a little bit on the illegal side.

The school should purchase (See Money page 7)

Scottish ways are different than ours, yet also the same

By Brad Larson

(Larson is an English teacher at We-go. He is living in Scotland this year as part of a teacher exchange program.)

1. academic

a. of or relating to learning or studies (as in: *I have had thirteen years of academic instruction.*)

b. theoretical or intangible rather than practical (as in: *Calculation of pi to the last digit is an academic exercise.*)

c. irrelevant, unimportant, or useless (corruption of number 2 above) (as in: *We're so far ahead that the final score is academic now.*)

2. elementary

a. basic or simple (as in: *It's elementary my dear boy: all you have to do is put the ball in the net!*)

For my last dispatch from Glasgow I've decided I ought to say a little about what I've learned while living here and teaching at Penilee Secondary School.

A primary purpose of the teacher exchange program is that those involved will learn from the experience and will use what they've learned to enrich their future teaching. In this sense, the exchange program is academic (see number 1a above).

I've often heard students say that the really important things they learned in school weren't picked up in the classroom but through their experiences in extra-curricular activities.

I once thought this myself, though as a teacher I have come to know that learning in the classroom provides the foundations for learning outside the classroom.

This year has been a confirmation of this conviction as without my previous education and experience in the classroom I could not begin to productively reflect upon my experience here.

This past education and experience provides, in large part, the lens through which I see this year, and only the distance of time will allow me to bring some of it into focus.

A good bit of it, no doubt,

will remain forever unfocused, an amalgam of observations and perceptions which, while cherished and valuable, may never be fully clarified, defined, or elucidated.

In this sense also, the exchange program is academic (see number 1b above).

Nonetheless, there are some things worth noting at this point. I'll begin with something reconfirmed by my time here: kids are basically kids, no matter where one goes.

They're tough and fragile at the same time; they are individuals with their own interests and priorities; and they are, for the most part, curious and willing to learn.

There are differences between American kids and Scottish kids, though these are subtler than one might suspect.

For instance, though they're catching up with American kids in this arena, my impression is that Scottish kids aren't quite as materialistic as their American peers, and they're more frugal—sometimes out of necessity, sometimes not—than many American kids.

Scottish kids seem more satisfied having what they do have than Americans, who tend to be focused on what they want to have next. Conspicuous consumption is growing here, but it isn't yet being fully embraced as a way of life.

There are other differences as well. I've found that my Scottish students have a broader sense of humor than many of my American students (that is, broader in their ability to find humor, not broader as in lacking taste or refinement—the importance of definition seems to be cropping up quite frequently here).

They understand, appreciate, and make use of subtlety in their humor. They find Bart Simpson just as funny as American students, but for somewhat different reasons. They see Bart for the caricature he is, whereas some American students see Bart as what they ought to be.

Scottish kids also have an

ability to laugh at themselves which we Americans, so busy being serious about our business and ourselves, often lack.

I could go on comparing Scottish and American kids, but I'll leave it at this: the kids here are just as likable as the kids at home; they

"I'll begin with something reconfirmed by my time here: kids are basically kids, no matter where one goes."

have no more and no fewer strengths or faults than American kids; and they are generally fine, genuine, growing human beings, just like the kids at home.

At times I have been surprised by them, as they have been by me on more than one occasion, but I think I can truthfully say that these surprises have been positive ones.

More than anything else, I am struck by the sincerity and kind humanity of many of the students here. It may well be no greater than that of American kids, but as a stranger in a strange land, it has shown through to me quite clearly here.

The schools here are quite different than those at home. There are lots of things that are the same, of course.

A classroom here looks much the same as a classroom anywhere. Some of the same books taught at West Chicago are taught here.

The students go from class to class as the day goes on, trying to get ready to leave each class five minutes before the bell rings. There are, though, big differences.

Where some American students (those we might label as "academic") are motivated by the grades they get, their counterparts here are motivated by national exam results.

Where each high school in the United States issues a di-

ploma, students here receive a certificate from the Scottish Qualifications Authority indicating completion of education and level of achievement.

This system, largely dependent upon national test results, has fostered a school curriculum and an instructional approach almost wholly focused

the United States have the same choice available to them, but the vast majority go on to complete high school.

There are some of my fourth year students here who are leaving school to take jobs or pursue vocational training. They will, without doubt, go out and do just fine in the world, but a part of me knows that they would benefit greatly as human beings by a further two years of secondary school—even if in the end they didn't sit the advanced examinations or performed horribly on them.

The thing is, while most students are officially encouraged to stay on, there are disincentives to the school for keeping them on. Schools are measured by their test results, as well as by the number of pupils who begin a course but do not complete it by sitting an exam.

Thus, while everyone knows the benefit of continuing secondary education for all pupils, the system in place puts the school in an awkward situation in regard to keeping "non-academic" students in school.

One really nice thing here is that students don't have to worry about where to park their cars. There's no race to get a space before the lot fills up. There is more parking for students here than they could ever use.

That is, of course, because they don't drive. One has to be seventeen to drive in the United Kingdom. Driver Education is not provided by the schools and is quite expensive.

There is not even the inkling of an expectation that any school is expected to provide parking to its students.

Though I am not going to make myself popular by writing this, I think students not driving is a very good thing.

I say this from a purely educational point of view.

Kids here have time to do their homework. At home, the most common reason I get for missing homework is,

"I had to work last night."

I know some students at West Chicago work out of true necessity, but many, when asked why they're working, say, "I have to pay for my car and my insurance." "Why do you need a car?" I ask.

Most common answer: "So I can get to work." This is called circular logic, and its flaws are easily seen. I'm not suggesting that all students do their homework all of the time here, but at least when they don't and are asked why I'm spared this less than convincing line of argument.

One of the things I have learned here is something I had already known. This sounds contradictory, and perhaps it is, but I am no different than any other person in that I don't always bring all of my learning and knowledge to bear where necessary.

The lesson is this: things are almost always more complex than they appear (or than how they are presented). Rarely are they "elementary" (see number 2 above). For instance, in this paper's last issue you may have read about the conflict between Glasgow Rangers and Glasgow Celtic fans.

If you did, you know that the roots of this conflict have very little to do with football. They have to do with prejudice, immigration, economics, employment (or the lack thereof), competition, religion, and, without doubt, a long list of other points of contention.

The history of this conflict can not be undone, and some people seem bound and determined to use it to continue the conflict or, more sinisterly, for their own ends unrelated to anything but manipulation and exploitation.

Moreover, much of what might be pointed to as the original and continuing reasons for the conflict have become academic (see number 1c above) with the passage of time.

Fortunately, many can see the realities of the present day conflict for what they are, but some do not, and the conflict and its consequences (See *Glasgow Kids* page 9)

Money... (Continued from page 6)

tasers for the every student in the school to use against slow walkers.

We students are of course very mature and will make sure we only use the tazers if absolutely necessary (yeah, right).

Straight "A" students will, out of generosity of the school, be issued jet packs.

They would fly around the school to avoid all the hall traffic.

The school should buy every single football player a helmet made entirely out of fajitas, because it would be funny.

Next year, the school should completely renovate the third floor and turn it into

a recreational room that should include 500 bowling lanes and Skee-ball.

Also, the roof of the school, Lincoln School, both gyms, and the cafeteria will be turned into a skate park.

There have been experiments where people combine the genes of fire flies and combine them with genes of

tobacco plants.

The result is that the tobacco plants glow. The school should buy a whole bunch of genetically engineered grass and plant it throughout the school.

At night, the school would look like the aftermath of a nuclear meltdown.

The school should buy 900

normal, everyday ducks.

Why? Because they're ducks, that's why.

The school would keep a large pen for them, and turn the football field into a really big pond.

The football field would then be moved to... we'll let the school decide.

That's how I feel school

should be dealt with.

Of course, there are a lot more things we could do with the miracle money.

This is just a fraction of a percentage of the possible things you could do.

Just use your imagination to come with something totally crazy. Just make sure it involves ducks.

Is Disney going too far? Ban on gay shows is uncalled for

By Melissa Stevens
NBC does it. Showtime and MTV are not only doing it, but they're doing it together.

And it's upsetting a lot of people.

What is it?

Three and a half years after the slaying of college student Matthew Sheppard that sent homosexual and right-wing conservatives into an uproar, the networks are adding more homosexual content to their programming.

Generation Y audiences are tuning into shows that feature homosexual relationships in a positive light.

MTV and Showtime are currently working on a cable channel devoted to gay and lesbian programming.

The channel will cost about \$5 extra a month and has to be special ordered. There is no set date as to when the channel will begin programming.

MTV is no stranger to controversial programming. Shows like "The Real World" and "Undressed" deal with homosexual relationships constantly.

This season's "The Real World: Chicago" has two gay roommates. Chris, a gay man and recovering alcoholic, and Aneesa, a free spirited lesbian who believes in nudity as a way of life.

One of MTV's biggest campaigns is "Fight for Your Rights: Take a Stand Against Discrimination". It focuses on educating the public on hate crimes in hopes of creating a change.

Change is something Showtime has tried to prompt as well. The network raised its own controversy with the debut of the series "Queer as Folk" in December 2000. The program is based on the relationships of five friends and the gay, critical and political issues they face.

The second season of "Queer as Folk" premiered with the highest ratings of any first-run show in Showtime history. A record breaking 343,000 viewers tuned into the show its first night.

NBC's series "Will and Grace" is one of the highest rated comedies on television. The show frequently wins the most ratings for its time spot, beating shows like "Dharma and Greg".

Despite their high ratings, conservative groups still pro-

test the airing of such content. When Showtime debuted "Queer as Folk" many people cancelled their subscriptions.

The American Family Association is strongly opposed to MTV and Showtime's plans.

Ed Vitagliano, the spokesman for the association is afraid the new network could become part of a regular cable package and be seen by impressionable children.

Vitagliano reviewed "Queer as Folk" and called it pornographic. He believes that programming like it could potentially harm children by subjecting them to the gay community.

The association is also planning to boycott the Disney corporation. They believe that Disney is pro-homosexual, and thus morally wrong.

Disney-owned companies such as Miramax films and ABC often use homosexual characters in their television shows and films.

They targeted Miramax for distributing the movie "Dogma", claiming that it had homosexual content. Despite its R rating, the association believes that the children could see the film and fall under the wrong impression.

Their entire argument is based on how homosexual programming affects children. Even with ratings such as "Dogma's", children will still see these shows.

They are calling for a boycott of all Disney companies. This includes ABC, the Disney Channel, the Disney Store, ESPN, and the Lifetime Television Network. And many, many others.

The boycott also encourages families to choose vacation destinations other than Disney World or Disney Land.

The happiest places on Earth are a bit too "happy" for the association.

Disney is corrupting our society with its homosexual content. The next time you turn on a Disney movie for a young child, you better think twice.

You may be contributing to making society morally bankrupt.

Boycott Disney. And while you're at it, boycott NBC, MTV, Showtime, ESPN, and every other Disney company.

And whatever you do, don't go to Disney World.



Robo-rats are not a good idea

By Erica Fatigato

Scientists spend time experimenting with new ideas, but controlling rats like robots should not be one of them.

Yes, scientists have found ways to manipulate rats' minds to move the rats where they would like them to go.

By implanting electrodes in rats' brains and placing a backpack containing micro-processors on them, scientists control the movement of rats.

This experiment is formatted like the maze and cheese experiment where the rat is rewarded with cheese for finding its way through the maze.

In this experiment, though, electrical signals tickle the stimulus-response and reward centers of the brain instead of a block of cheese, so the rats think they are being rewarded.

The rats can be controlled from 1,640 feet away, more than five football fields long.

Being able to control the rats is the closest thing to building a robot without spending a lot of money.

Scientists can command the rats to turn right or left, climb trees, and plow through rubble.

The rats were tested in a variety of environments. These rats were able to climb trees, ladders, and jump from varying heights.

Basically, with this scientists are able to control ev-

ery movement of a rat with a joystick like a video game.

Also, if the rats are properly equipped they can be sent into an area suspected of being contaminated with gas, or chemicals.

Scientists could interpret a biohazard by reading the rat's brain signals. There is even the thought that the rats could be guided into government buildings without detection and be used as assassins and suicide bombers.

It may seem cool at first, but then ethics come into play. The scientists are basically messing with the rats' minds.

The rats think they are being rewarded when they really haven't been. No animal should have to go through this kind of behavioral experiment. What is to stop this technology from being used for bad ideas?

The whole experimental idea is a bad situation to put the animals in and is not good.

How far will they take this? If they are able to do this to rats will they move on to humans?

This would cause a lot of problems. Just image brain dead humans marching in rows going to war and just one or two scientists controlling them like a video game.

They could kill off most of a country with a little remote control. This wouldn't help us.

It could destroy us.

Teachers should get more recognition

By Nicole Patel

"You've got to wonder about teachers who claim to put the interests of children first and then look to milk the system dry through wage hikes," reads an article published by the New York Post in 2000.

This statement, supported

by many political figures, doesn't make sense.

A congressman (who cares about keeping tobacco and oil lobbyists happy) makes on average \$145,100 annually, and teachers, the very people who are entrusted to care for America's youth one-

The truth about the School of Americas

By Mary Beth Selby

For over 50 years, the United States of America has been inadvertently supporting mass murders and assassinations of citizens and church hierarchy in numerous Latin American countries.

Why would anyone ever want to support the killing of millions of innocent men, women, and children by putting their hard working money into the budget of a school to train Latin Americans to do such a thing?

In Fort Benning, Georgia, sits the School of Americas (SOA), a U.S. Army training school that trains soldiers and military personnel from Latin American countries.

According to the "School of Americas Watch" website (www.soaw.org), this school is funded by the taxpayers, but conducted entirely in Spanish, and most of the instructors are Latin American.

Courses include counter-insurgency, infantry tactics, military intelligence, counter-narcotics operations, and commando operations. Through such training, the SOA has turned out over 60,000 members of Latin American militaries, many of whom have been prime leaders in economic distress and terrorism in their Latin American countries.

Human rights abusers from Latin America that were SOA graduates included dictators Manuel Noriega and Omar Torrijos of Panama, Leopold Galtieri and Roberto Viola of Argentina, Juan Velasco Alvarado of Peru, Guillermo Rodriguez of Ecuador, and Hugo Banzar Suarez of Bolivia. Other SOA activities include involvement in the Uraba massacre in Colombia, the El Mozote massacre of 900 civilians in El Salvador, the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero in 1980, the Jesuit massacre in El Salvador, the La Cantuta massacre in Peru, and the torture and murder of a UN worker in Chile.

It's rather disturbing to know that numerous Latin American wars of terrorism have occurred based upon knowledge that was taught to high-ranking military officers that were turned out from an American school. The problem is also that tax dollars of U.S. citizens are what pay for the upkeep of the SOA. Irritating, isn't it?

So why isn't this school closed down? Actually, the school was renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation

(WHISC) in January of 2001.

The change of the school name also resulted in some changes of the school, to make sure that it wasn't shut down completely. However, a comparison of the new school to the old SOA, conducted by the SOA watch website, shows that the schools really aren't that different at all.

In terms of the purpose and mission, there were no changes made. Classes, such as leadership, peace operations, and counter-drug are still available, but rarely attended and not required. There are no restrictions on the type or amount of military training.

Concerning the curriculum of the school, it still remains primarily a combat school focused on teaching combat skills. This new curriculum, including a bare minimum of eight hours of instruction in "human rights, the rule of law, due process, civilian control of the military, and role of military in a democratic society," does not specifically address national human rights issues.

Though there is an annual report of WHISC, it only weakens the current practice at the school by simply giving a report of the school's activities, not evaluating the effects of training on graduates, and not tracking or following-up on the graduates.

This school does nothing but destroy. Despite beliefs that the school might actually contribute to developments of democracy in the Western Hemisphere, the WHISC really teaches methods to undermine and destroy democratic values by focusing on counterinsurgency techniques.

This school needs to be shut down. U.S. Representative Jim McGovern of Massachusetts, along with other representatives from Maryland, Florida, Connecticut, and Illinois introduced bill HR 1810 to close the school and establish a joint congressional task force to assess U.S. training of Latin American military.

To get involved, you can write, call, fax, or e-mail a message to Representative J. Dennis Hastert, by logging onto <http://www.house.gov/hastert/> for more information, and ask him to support bill HR 1810.

The SOA, or currently the WHISC, is an insult to what this country stands for: life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and equal human rights. Help stop the violence.

Dodge ball is not a violent activity

By Kyle Bullis

Dodge ball has been played during school recess since, well, the beginning of schools.

Now, dodge ball is going to be *banned* by schools. Yes, your eyes are not playing tricks on you, you read that right.

Banning dodge ball. Parents have been claiming that dodge ball hurts other children, that it favors the strong over the weak.

However, dodge ball is not the only recess game that promotes injury, so why are parents targeting dodge ball?

Football, soccer, roller hockey, and all those other sports encourage violence a lot more than dodge ball does, but yet it is targeted so harshly.

Dodge ball should be kept in schools if not for the simple reason that dodge ball emu-

lates how real life actually works.

Seriously, dodge ball favors the strong over the weak, skilled over the inexperienced.

The game goes as follows: Some kid gets a ball and starts chucking it at a bunch of other kids. If the ball hits the target, the target is out until the end of the round.

If the holder of the ball misses his/her target, he/she has to chase the ball and get it back before someone else picks it up.

If the target catches the ball, the target immediately gains possession of the ball and becomes the person who throws it at the others.

This is, in essence, true to real life as well. The stronger kids throw the ball harder and in turn they stand less of a chance of the target catching the ball.

Therefore, the more brutal you are over your enemies, the less chance you have of retaliation.

Likewise, if you miss your target, all hope is pretty much lost; it leaves everyone open to get the ball. If you try to crush an opponent and fail, you are open to all sorts of backfire, so you better high-tail it.

This is more or less how businesses and corporations deal with the everyday strains of competition, and dodge ball seems to be an immensely simplified form of that part of life.

Dodge ball is probably the closest schools have ever come to preparing

kids for real life.

Still, real world simulations aside, there are still the realities of injury.

This can easily be countered. For one thing, teachers tend to use hard rubber balls that are pretty light in weight but hurt bad if you happen to get nailed in the face.

Well, use a Nerf ball or something, or whatever you can that won't hurt if you get hit with it.

Dodge ball does pose some problems, but banning it is hardly the answer, in part because the problems can easily be countered and in part because banning dodge ball means banning anything that could possibly be violent.

After that, recess would consist of kids standing around drooling, which is pretty creepy.

Teachers... (Continued from page 8)

third of the day make, on average, \$41,351.

Teachers are the people society depends on to educate its youth; their roles perhaps being as influential as those of parents are.

But they are also the men and women who are ridiculed privately and publicly by their students and by a nation that believes the problem with education is that teachers aren't being held "accountable."

Accountability—the sweet euphemism for responsibility—is hardly the problem. Any somebody who knows an ounce of psychological theory will admit that to get better workers, one should offer better incentives.

It's going to take a little more than "a love of helping others learn" to attract bright and talented individuals to a field full of rebellious, apathetic kids and where most hard work goes under appreciated.

It's ironic that a nation that values education is willing to increase pay for everyone except the educators who educated them. In America, where people are willing to put their dollars reflects what they truly care about.

Teacher shortages are so large that recently, Chicago had to recruit and hire teachers from 28 foreign countries, including China, France, and Hungary.

In New York City, 7,000 veteran teachers will have retired by this fall, and 60 percent of the new teachers hired to replace them are uncertified.

The epic proportions of projected teacher shortages

for the next 10 years means one thing: More moaning about the quality of America's teachers, and thus the dwindling quality of education. If society really valued education, it'd put its money where its mouth is.

Going to a school in DuPage County it's hard to even fathom that America's schools have been neglected. In 1999 one-quarter of U.S. public schools reported that at least one of their buildings had inadequate conditions.

Almost 10 percent of U.S. public schools have enrollments that are more than 25 percent greater than the capacity of their permanent buildings. In these schools, classes are commonly held in hallways, outdoors, in the gym, in the cafeteria, and the janitor's closet—not necessarily the best environment for learning.

On behalf of the students who have been too cool to say it: Thank you, teachers, for putting up with the spitballs, the bodily sounds, the rumors spread about you, the moaning and groaning, and everything else, because regardless of whether or not your students learned anything from class or think you're a good teacher, you at least try to carry the burden of educating an increasingly scary generation of students, a feat few people venture to handle.

And after the government creates robots to replace you, and politicians start taking some of these accountability tests themselves, the ungrateful society will look back and regret valuing entertainers over educators.

Stuff... (Continued from page 6)

these things.

And then some.

Finally, I thought about just reprinting the first article I wrote this year, or at least parts of it, because honestly, who would really remember? But I'm better than that. I strive my best to only bring original material to the public. Speaking of original material, I have this idea for a television show. You could put a bunch of people on an island, but instead of actors, they would be real. And they could be involved in a competition of some sort... I just hope no one beats me to it.

But instead of doing any of these things, I'm simply going to say goodbye.

Goodbye.

I can only hope the tra-

dition of my humble little column will continue over the years, name and all. Then many years from now, a future We-go student will be reading a future column in a future newspaper and stop and say, "Who was that mysterious man who started all this?" Then the future We-go student's future friend will turn to him with a back issue of the paper he just happened to have on him and say, "It was *this* man."

But for right now, this is it. Just me. And I'm done. This is my bang – my high note.

Many said I couldn't do it. Many said I'd end it all with a whimper. But then there were those who supported me – those who believed I *could* change the world, those that believed I could top myself again and again and that I would end on the biggest bang ever. And to those people I just have one thing to say in closing.

I'm sorry.

Glasgow Kids... (Continued from page 7)

go on because of this. Team colors are banned in my school here, as in most Glasgow schools, because the display of them would, without doubt, lead students who otherwise have nothing against each other to openly attack each other.

There is no simple answer here, and as I go about and experience new things I am constantly reminded of how very little can be summed up, explained, or solved as simply as we would like.

I have learned a good deal in my time here. I have taught things I never would have taught had I not come here (and teaching something means learning it at least three times better than one would were one simply a student in a class).

I have had to experiment to find the quickest route to work.

I have lived in a vibrant culture with possessions and priorities somewhat different from those of the American culture.

My pupils would, no doubt, like me to point out here that not all Scots have ginger hair, wear kilts, play the bagpipes, or even eat haggis.

Having eaten haggis myself, I must say that some of my pupils don't know what they're missing.

I have seen that people here are not defined by their jobs so much as by what they like to do, and there is a sense that employment in one line of work is just as good as employment in any other kind of work.

There are certain jobs that carry some prestige, but not to the same degree as in

American society. While there are some who join the fast-track, most of the people here are looking to pay the bills so that they can have a life of their own away from work.

They enjoy and appreciate honest work, but they're not into too much of a good thing on this account.

I have had time to play during my exchange—whether it be by hitting the road in search of a castle, strolling through the city center on weekend nights, or reading literature I never would have found had I not been here.

I even took the bus home late one night, an experience that lived up to its billing.

All of this seems to ramble on a bit, and I get the sense that it could use a little focus, but in that respect it is reflective of the year I've had.

My exchange has been broad far beyond the scope of being a teacher, though almost all of it will inform and enrich my future teaching in one way or another.

So, while a good deal of my experience here has been academic (see number 1a above), some of it has also been academic (see number 1b above), but none of it has been academic (see number 1c above), and while a large part of it has been elementary (see number 2 above), some of it has certainly not been elementary (again, see number 2 above).

Unfortunately (or gloriously, depending on your perspective), this is the result of sending an English teacher overseas for a year, let alone educating someone to be an English teacher in the first place. It's *all* academic.

Procrastination: The greatest threat to seniors

By Suzanne Smith

Many seniors look back on their last year and wish they could make changes.

One change would be the ability to cope with procrastination and senioritis.

It's too late for the seniors, but it's not too late for today's juniors to learn what these viruses can do.

Procrastination is a horrible virus, but at some time each senior will acquire it.

One way each senior can defeat this virus is by going into their senior year having a general idea of what they want to do with their future.

If only incoming seniors would already have figured out what they want to do after gradua-

tion before coming back as seniors, procrastination would be kept away. Whether their selection was a job, college, or the military, it does not matter.

Waiting too long to decide to attend college means colleges will bombard seniors with an overwhelming number of catalogs at one time.

Procrastination's next problem is finding a school...fast! Deadlines approach everyone faster than they realize.

Before procrastinating seniors know it, winter vacation has arrived and most better prepared students are visiting their colleges while the remaining college-bound students haven't even applied to any colleges yet.

Procrastination may also cause a financial loss. An overwhelming abundance of scholarships await the incoming seniors. But scholarships have to

be applied for.

The application process may stop some procrastinators even further, so seniors should make sure they ask for help filling out the forms.

It is very overwhelming at first, but with a little guidance, students won't just say they are going to fill out the applications, but they actually will do them.

While the future becomes a top priority on their 'to do' list, seniors can't forget about what is due the next day for their classes.

And that's where procrastination's cousin virus, senioritis, comes in.

Many seniors routinely finish homework the class period before it is due. However, once fourth quarter arrives, senioritis cripples this ability.

Instead of procrastinating until the class period before it is due, seniors just dismiss the entire assignment altogether.

Meanwhile, grades slip and to their surprise, seniors cannot graduate.

And it all goes back to procrastination. If seniors did not wait until the last minute to finish homework, perhaps they wouldn't be bitten by senioritis so harshly and blow off assignments.

Senior year is a big year for all students. Everyone should be aware of the dangers they might face.

By stopping procrastination before it gets out of hand, the incoming seniors will be readily prepared for their future, and senior year might be a little easier for them. Then they won't have regret.

Graduation



Goodbye, Seniors



To My Stats Students:
Thanks for being part of the inaugural stats classes and making it such a successful course. I'm sure you'll never be able to eat M&Ms again without thinking of stats. Thank you also for being instrumental in furthering my education (in so many ways!). I know each of you will go out and make a "significant" difference in the future.
Congratulations!
"Dr. Z" (well, almost)

Dear Jonathan Hunt,
Congratulations on achieving one of life's milestones. You are dearly missed!
Love, Mom

Dear Jessica Banwart,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Andy Barton,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Emmie Gerleve,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Vanessa Guillen,
Thanks for everything!
Mrs. Mosson



Liebe Seniors,
Ich werde euch vermissen!
Besucht mich oft!
mfG, Frau S.

Dear Jamie,
We are so proud of all you have achieved at We-go. Never change, always be yourself, follow your dreams, and may your future be filled with happiness and success.
Love, Mom, Dad, and Brianne

Dear Jenny,
It's hard to believe that Jamie and you are graduating. It only seems like yesterday that Jamie and you met each other on your way to 1st grade! May your friendship stay strong. Congratulations on your graduation and much happiness and success in your future.
Love, Jamie's Mom

Dear Josh Jeffrey,
Have a great life!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Katie Marcantonie,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Raul Mendoze,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Peter Milauskas,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Shannon Mims,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Stacey Pacini,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson



Dear Linnea,
We are proud of you, love you, and are here for you wherever life may take you.
Love, Mom, Dad, Vince

Dearest Fuzzy Bunny,
We've had an awesome time during high school, learning and growing with each other. Our experiences have been full of love, sharing, and acceptance. We've always been together. That will change next school year, but our love will remain. Our friendship will always stay, though our flame may fade. However, I'll jump into the future of love in the way you've always taught me: eyes closed, hands clasped, and heart open.
-Yours

Dear Katie Walker,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Angie, Wilbur, Kim, Jamie, Carla, Megan, and Kael,
Thanks for everything! I'll miss you!
"Cliff"

To the class of 2002:
Your years at Community High School are quickly coming to an end. As graduation approaches, we would like you to stop and think for a moment.

Think about your favorite teachers...how that person touched your life. Think about friendships...how they have matured. Think about your family...how they supported you through the years. It is now time to move on but do not forget how your teachers, your friends, and your family have helped you grow and prepare for the future ahead of you.

Savor
Every moment
Now and forever
In life
On your
Road to
Success

GOOD LUCK and BEST WISHES from the Counseling Department.

Dear Becky Deutsch,
You are truly a living legend here at WCCHS-- you are graduating with the most credits ever achieved by a student! Becky, you will be deeply missed. You are such a ray of sunshine in everyone's life. We wish you much luck in all of your endeavors after graduation. It is not going to be the same without you! Take care and stay in touch!
Love, Mrs. Bedford and Julie

Dear Brian Toms,
You are the wind beneath my wings.
Love,
Nyman and Ziberna

Dear Sarah Meyerholz,
We will miss you lots!
Congrats on going to Germany.
Love your sisters,
Blondie and Goose!

Dear Jenny Pinto,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Sean Ransone,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Sandra Ricon,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Billy Schultz,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Ashley Stern,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Nathaniel Stonequist,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Mike Svast,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

Dear Monika Szymoniak,
Congratulations!
Mrs. Mosson

To our Sister,
Our sister is someone... we'll have by our side, no matter how many bad things we've done in our lives, she will still love us just as much.

We're sure we've made her angry... a time or two. She keeps all her feelings to herself, except the ones she cannot hide and that is her love for us.

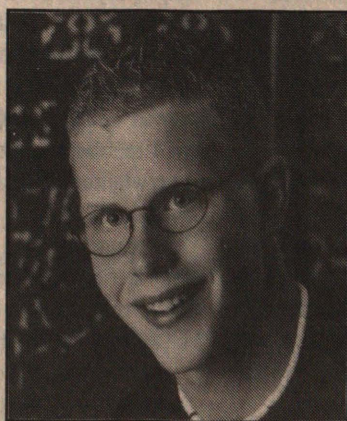
She has really helped us... To become the people we are today, She has the courage to leave home and we will miss her.

And now it's time to say Goodbye.

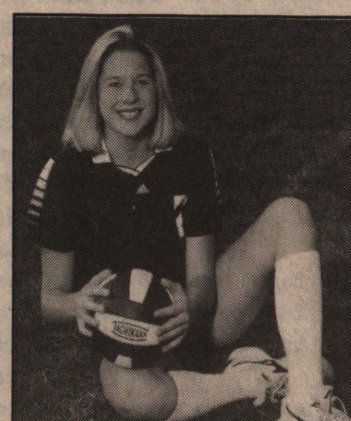
Love, Michelle & Melissa



Dear Julie,
We are so proud of who you are and of how you have succeeded in your goals. You have proven that if you believe in yourself and try your best, you can do anything. We wish you much happiness, love and success at U of I. We know you and Jenny will follow your dreams. Congratulations!
Love, Mom, Dad, Jennifer and Eric



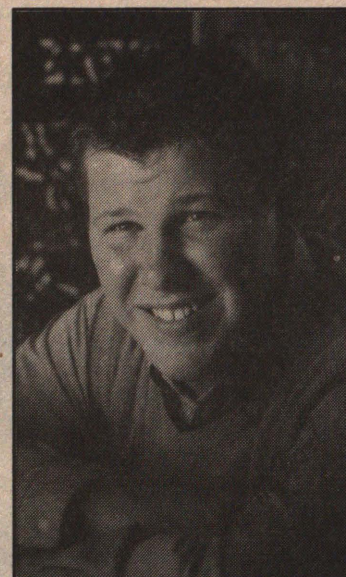
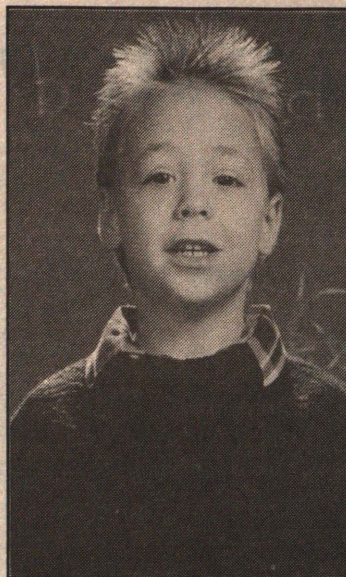
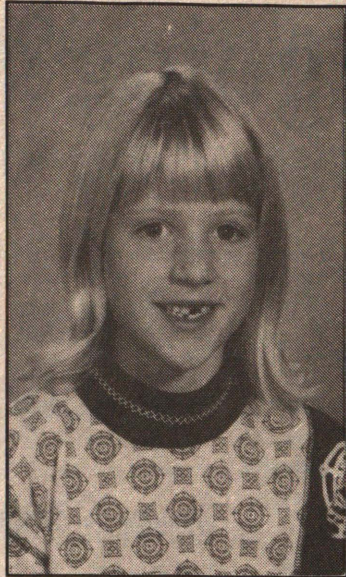
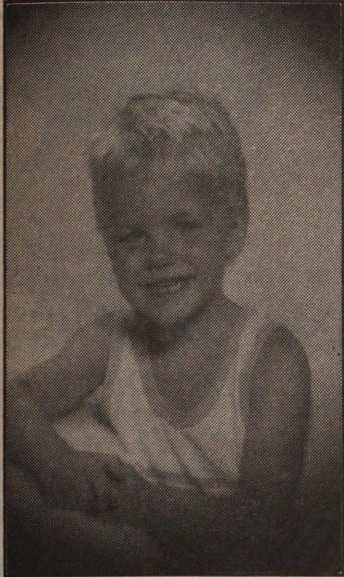
Dear Nathan,
Congratulations! We are proud of all you've accomplished in high school. An excellent student, football, and wrestling athlete for four years, serving your community locally and worldwide!
Receiving the "coach's award" in wrestling summed it up - you are well rounded and we trust God will continue to guide and bless you.
Grateful to be your parents, Mom and Dad



Dear Meghan,
Congratulations on your outstanding academic and athletic performances. May all your dreams come true! Dedication, vision, focus, and determination - you go girl!
Love, Mom



Graduation



Dear Zack,
It seems like only yesterday you were beginning school in Indonesia and now you are graduating from WCCHS. The Lord certainly blessed us when you were born. Now as you begin life in the Air Force and at University of Illinois, always remember we love you and remain VERY proud of you.
Love, Dad and Mom

Dear Kim,
Congratulations! Have fun and good luck in college.
Love, Your little sister Katie

Dear Josh,
Congratulations! We wish you the best luck in college and in the future.
Love, Phil, Karen, and Katie

Dear Michael,
Congratulations! We are so proud of you. May nothing but the best come your way. Good luck at southern. We'll miss you.
Love, Mom, Dad, and Nicole

Dear Courtney Lynn,
You've changed a lot through the years. We've shared much laughter and shed a few tears. The young woman you've become makes us very proud and gives us a great thrill. But in our hearts you will always be our "little Corrie girl."
Love, Mom and Dad

Dear Nicole and Kristy,
Do yo thang, don't be scured!

Dearest Brian Toms,
Nils Rocks!
Nils

Dear Stink,
Love You!
Nan

Dear Kael,
You (stink) but I have to love you. Have a good time in college. Then move to China.
Love your sister,
Jess

Dear Gus,
I'll miss you.
Love your little sis,
Tilia



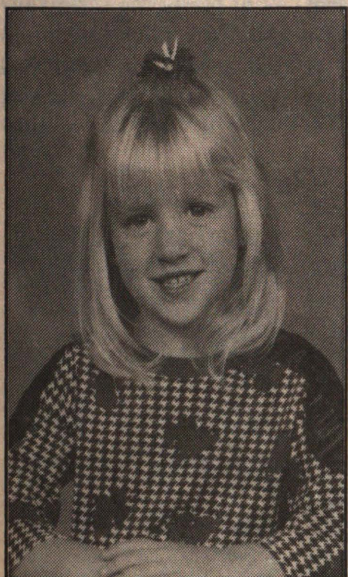
Dear Stephen,
Congratulations! We are very proud of you and love you very much!
Love, Mom, Dad, Sara

Bye Danielle, Brandon,
Cory, Jesse.
Love,
Tilia

Dear Andy Hein,
So many Brian Toms jokes,
so many clubbed baby seals.
So tall.
Love,
Ricky and Jason



Dear Jennifer,
You've grown into such a wonderful person! We are all so proud of you. Good luck at ISU!
Love, Mom, Dad, Allison, and Karen



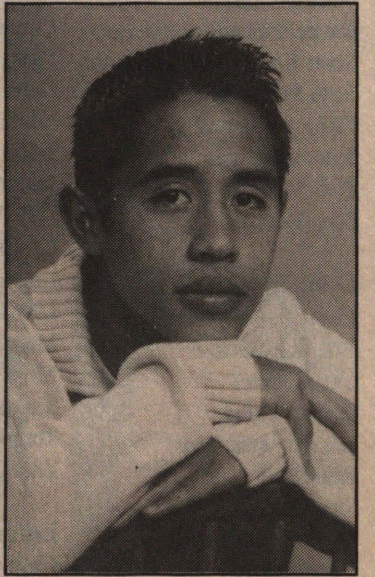
Dear Kim,
We are truly proud of you. We wish you all the love and happiness in college and are confident that you can handle life's challenges. Congratulations Kimmy! You did it!
Love, Mom and Dad



Dear Laura,
We are so proud of who you are and what you've accomplished in high school. We know you will succeed in college.
Love, Dad, Mom, and Kristin



Dear Heather,
Congratulations on your graduation from high school. We are so proud of all your accomplishments. In the fall you will be opening a new chapter in your life. College will be a challenging and exciting experience. Good luck and God bless you.
Love, Mom and Dad

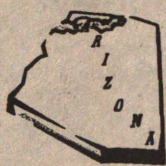


Dear Joe Park,
We are so proud to be your parents. You have proved to be a responsible, humble, hardworking, intelligent young man. We love you. God has truly blessed us with you. Congratulations Joe. Col 3:2 "Set your mind on things above."
Love, Dad and Mom

Graduation



Where are they going?



Arizona
Arizona State University
Laura Martin



Georgia
Savannah College of Art
Brian Mehrman



Illinois
Art Institute
Dan Dieckmann
Liz Villafuerte

Augustana College
Casey Connolly
Matt Hofer

Bradley University
Laura Wilken

College of DuPage
Amy Koltz
Amy Memoli
Andy Pinto
Arianna Cortez
Billie Schultz
Brad Shelley
Candi Yanke
Cynthia Tancel
Dulce Vasquez
Gilda Valenzuela
Jason Gunther
Justin LaPrall
Katie Walker
Kory Kendziora
Lindsey Ziegler
Luit Beltram
Michelle Cosco
Mike Marvan
Peter Milauskas
Rachel Noceda
Scott Kozlowski
Sean McTighe
Tiffany Cunnolly
Tom Armstrong
Tom Macauley
Zack Deaton

Columbia College Chicago
Brandon Becker
Chris Gerber
Copper Tuma
Lauren Openshaw
Pam Boyle
Suzy Smith

Concordia
Alex Kochick

Devry Institute
Brian Leazenby
John Contreras

Eastern Illinois University
Angela Rojas
Kael Rewers

Lisa Thomas
Paul Elson
Tony Ciolino

Elmhurst College
Chris Holguin

Illinois State University
Cindy Warner
Erin Kirby
Shane Olson
Zoe Churan

Judson College
Sarah Miller

North Central University
Harley Gardner
Mary-Megan Kalvig
Melissa Fisher
Stella Calamia

Northern Illinois
Ana Alanis
Berenice Leal
Claudia Alcantar
Crystal McGinnis
Heather Lakics
Reema Baja
Sarah Meyerholz
Marc Berry
Joey Park

Northwestern University
Nicole Patel

Robert Morris College
Juana Guerrero
Meg Llorens

Southern Illinois University
Corinne Mackniskas
Dan Piet
Mike Brown

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Aimee Paran
Ben Keller
Billy Rocha
Carla Marrero
Christina Wilbur
Daisy Sotelo
Dan Dieckmann
Ed Abante
Jason Woodbury
Jennifer Payton
Julie Wiechert
Lauren Migliorato
Lindsey Ziegler
Lisa Dereadt
Martha Mueller
Mike Masschelin
Thomas Macauley
Tom Wojcicki
Zack Brantley

University of Illinois, Chicago
Anthony Massih
Javier Saucedo
Jonathan Ortiz
LeAnn Olson

Universal Technical Institute
Chris Hansen
Waubonsie College
Derek Boorsma

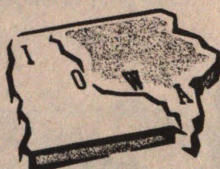
Western Illinois University
Dave Pater
Joshua Kutilek
Luke Taylor
Rebekah Boyd



Indiana
Ball State University
Dan Bajor

Purdue University
Matt Wilson

Taylor University
Nate Williams



Iowa
Iowa State University
Corinne Drake
Stephen Knox

University of Iowa
Amanda Melborg
Craig Schuda
Jonathan Lim
Kevin Mestek
Lisa Calabrese
Matt Boes



Massachusetts
Amherst College
Sarah Bass



Minnesota
Bethel College
Courtney Dorn



Nevada
University of Las Vegas
Tommy Newman



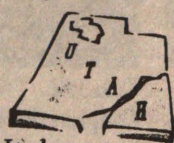
New York
Juliard
Jon Hunt



Ohio
University of Cincinnati
Nick Buscemi
Miami Of Ohio
Chonelle Jefferson



South Carolina
Coastal Carolina University
Stacey Pacini



Utah
Brigham Young University
Julie Volk



Washington
Art Institute of Seattle
Bessie Czernik



Wisconsin
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Brad Bolton
Nick Carter

University of Wisconsin
Adam Selcke



Wyoming
Wyoming Tech
Matt Shelhamer



Armed Services
Army
Colin York
Heather Edminson
Peter Salinas
Tom Spencer
Mike Smith

National Guard
Zack Brantley

Navy
William Inch

Undecided
Chris Norman
David Perez
Jeff Raun
Jesus Solano
Kristi Hall
Maggie Knaak
Mike Tawney
Morris Barber
Moises Garcia
Steve Slattery
Theresa Uy
Tino Alfaro

What is your favorite memory at We-go?

Hanging out in senior hall - Steve Knox

The many fire drills my junior year- Anthony Massih

Chair races in Marletta's class - Mike Masschelin

Doing "Fiddler on the Roof" and government - Melissa Fisher

Buying a "Hottie" book from a very feminine man at Claire's with Marc Berry on our field trip to the Chicago Tribune. It was pretty cool, until someone stole it. Yes we know who you are and we are coming for you! - Sean McTighe

Meeting new friends and building relationships - Corinne Drake

Meeting new people, developing friendships, and developing who I am - Courtney Dorn

Performing N'Sync at the mall and getting kicked out - Ed Abante

Arguing and debating in American Government - Jeff Raun

Sneaking off campus last year when I didn't have permission - Lindsey Ziegler

When my friend laughed so hard that she literally peed her pants at a basketball game. I mean she was soaked. - Nicole Patel

Playing baseball in senior hall with Peter Milauskas (sorry to all the people we hit!) - Amy Koltz

Blowing a hole in Ms. Tunt's ceiling - Harley Gardner

Waking up at the crack of dawn everyday - Julie Wiechert

Beating up Jon Ortiz every year in basketball (Physically and Mentally) - Javier Saucedo

Winning D.V.C. in women's basketball - Cindy Warner

Being with my girlfriend Kim Gargula - Joshua Kutilek

Government legislative session: One time Mr. Highland got voted to the Dean's office because he wasn't wearing a guest's badge - Matt Hofer

Once, Mr. Arnold tried to jump on his desk and failed - Chris Gerber

Going to Pizza Hut with the "Cluster" and getting sick - Copper Tuma

Stark says goodbye to We-go once again

By Nicole Patel

Former graduate of Community High and world geography teacher Larry Stark will retire after 33 years of teaching.

Stark said he became a teacher after originally working in electronics.

"I was involved in training new employees and enjoyed the teaching atmosphere, but I did not want to teach electronics," he said.

After going back to college Stark came to Community High School to teach social studies.

Although Stark has mainly taught world geography, he fondly remembers teaching physical geography. "That was my favorite class," he said.

One of the unique highlights of Stark's career has

been being able to teach with his former teachers. Although none of his former teachers still teach at the school, Stark said, "One of my best memories is the fun I had team teaching with a former teacher of mine for about six or seven years."

Without hesitation, Stark said he has learned humor from his students. He has spent most of his teaching years educating freshmen.

Despite the stereotypes freshmen have, he said, "They (freshmen) are really funny."

He has learned patience over the years and advised new teachers to simply "hang in there."

Stark described himself as "old-fashioned" and although he is not too crazy about some of the changes the

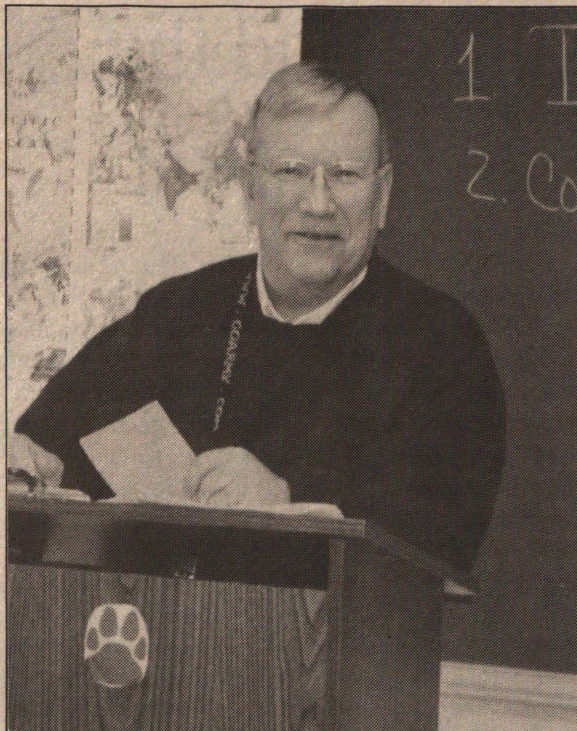
high school has undergone, said that he understands the school is changing with the times.

Stark has noticed the school's engagement in various activities, but also would like it to remember that, "The majority of time still needs to be spent on learning."

Stark's decision to retire came as a turning point in his life. He said that he feels "like a congressman in his last term, but that's ok because the younger teachers reflect more of what the school wants."

In his new free time, Stark will make up for years spent in the classroom by taking part in his favorite outdoor activities, like hunting, fishing, bicycling, and even writing.

"I will miss my friends here



Staff photo

Larry Stark checks attendance for one of the last times.

and sitting around at lunch talking—much like students leaving the high school will miss," he said.

Stark hopes his students will remember him as "some-

one who cared."

In retrospect, Stark commented that being a teacher was "absolutely fulfilling" and that he "wouldn't change a thing."

Jones' "senior" year over

By Marc Berry

As the class of 2002 prepares to bid West Chicago Community High School goodbye, Principal Alan Jones is, likewise, finishing up his "senior year."

Jones said that the fact is beginning to seem like more of a reality as his final days wind down.

"It's a strange feeling," he said.

Jones said that part of that strangeness is due to the fact that he is not shouldering the amount of responsibility that he usually does around this time of year.

"I'm sort of in an in-between stage. I'm responsible for running the building but not for what's happening next year," he said.

Jones said that he has always considered seeing the annual changes to the school and being part of that process one of the most exciting parts of his job.

Although Jones said that the administration has been very generous as far as allowing him to give input for next year, he feels that he has reached the point where it is unfair for him to intervene in decisions for the future.

"Mr. Highland needs to form his team and his goals. I can't be involved in that process," said Jones. This is not necessarily a bad thing, though, according to Jones.

"It's kind of relieving. It's a relaxing way to end the year. Everything is in its place," he said.

Instead of thinking about programs and systems, Jones said he is concentrating more on his family and his future with them.

(See Jones page 14)

Kimery speeds off to retirement

By Nicole Patel

After 40 years of teaching, driver's education teacher Steve Kimery is traveling the road to retirement.

Kimery, who has taught at We-go for 30 years, became a teacher in the 1960s during a teacher shortage.

"I wanted to coach, and teaching was a way to make an average living," he said.

Among his list of accomplishments, Kimery started the first boys and girls soccer program at the high school, and was the Dean of Students for 13 years.

Kimery has also taught physical education and driver's ed.

His former student, sophomore Stan Lemon, said, "I'll never forget the way he'd hunch back and the way his face would look as he showed

us where to put our hands on the steering wheel. He's such a cool guy and he's funny."

Although Kimery has never been in a car accident with a driver's ed student, he does remember two particular experiences.

"I once had a girl hit the wrong pedal, and after hitting some bushes, hit a building. I had another girl run off the road and the car went around in circles, almost hitting a truck," said Kimery.

Despite the occasional scary road trip, Kimery will miss the interacting with kids because, he said, "I've never grown up myself."

From his students, Kimery has gained computer knowledge, conversational Spanish speaking skills, and known to "listen to kids, rather than dictating."

As advice to newer teachers, Kimery said, "It's important to keep the big picture in mind of what you want to accomplish. Don't get caught up in the short term and keep students at the center of your thinking."

As for next year, Kimery does not know what he will do with his free time. "In one way I am uneasy about it, but I also have to look at it as an opportunity," he said.

After 40 years in the business, Kimery wishes that the school system would ease the transition from teaching to retiring.

"It appears that the school system cuts you off and you're not wanted anymore. I've got a whole lot of knowledge and years here, but it's as if I've been left out (because I'm retiring)," he said.



Staff photo

Driver's ed. teacher Steve Kimery closes the door on his 40 year career.

Kimery would like to see "more communication and understanding between the community, administration, faculty, and students."

Kimery said, "(Overall),

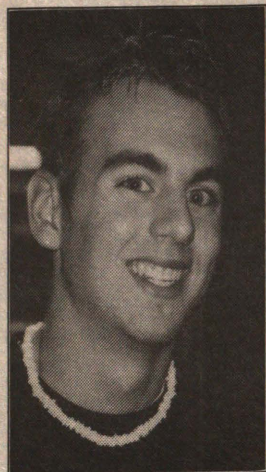
I've been very happy with my career. I've taught in college, was an athletic director, head basketball coach in college and high school. It's been fulfilling."

Seniors: What advice do you have for underclassmen?



Steve Knox

"Make your teachers think you like them."



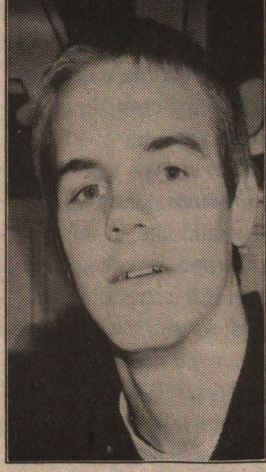
Kevin Mestek

"You waste too much time in school as it is, why get here early for parking?"



Sarah Miller

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity- 1 Timothy 12."



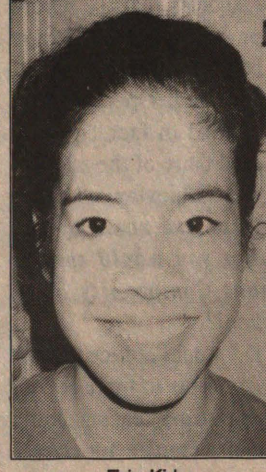
Zack Brantley

"Don't come to school at 4 o'clock in the morning, you're going to be here all day anyway."



Cori Drake

"Make sure you have friends that you can be yourself around."



Erin Kirby

"Use your lockers and you won't have such huge backpacks!"

The man behind the legislative session

By Nicole Patel

(Reporter Nicole Patel sat with retiring teacher Steve Arnold to find out about his years at We-go and much more.)

How long have you taught here?

Since 1968

What accomplishments have you had here?

As a young teacher I developed a set of philosophies and principles about the business of education that were often times in conflict with the institution that employed me. Being able to end my career with those same basic principles and philosophies has been a major accomplishment.

Why did you become a teacher?

My father was a college professor. I was also very successful at the business of teaching swimming plus coaching swim teams during my high school and college years so I thought I was probably well suited to be a classroom teacher. In the end, I don't think there was much of a connection.

Students are often influenced by their teachers, in the same way who has influenced you?

I was powerfully influenced by Dr. Roy Krosky, a professor at the University of Northern Colorado. He was my graduate school advisor and was the creator of a program that trained undergraduates to be inner city school-teachers. I was able to work as his assistant and learned the meaning of authentic experiential learning. Through the experiences he created, the books he had his students read, and countless hours of discussion I came to understand the true relationship of schools to society.

What have you learned from your students?

I have consistently learned, year after year, that the students that the school often times labels as average or below average, provide insights and perspectives that equal and in fact typically exceed those of the school's highest achieving students.

What are some of the things you would change about Community High School?

1) I would reduce teacher assignments to three or four classes so that teachers could actually prepare for classes and have time to grade assignments. 2) I would again establish the teacher evaluation program that Dr. Jones instituted early in his career that evaluated teachers 10-15

times per year using unannounced visitations. 3) I would tolerate nothing less than every student being treated every day, every hour, with dignity and respect.

What are your feelings toward retirement?

I am very excited. I have done the best I could and worked hard every day of my career. I have no regrets. I know that I could not continue to invest the energy into my job that I have invested each day of my career so it is time to stop.

What will you do with your spare time?

I doubt if I will have spare time. I plan to work at getting schools interested in the government legislative semester.

What will you miss most?

Listening to classroom discussions.

Any word of wisdom to your fellow, lesser-experienced teachers?

1) I wish I had taken a group picture of each class. 2) Stop talking to students and create discussion environments where you just listen to what they have to say. 3) Stop rewarding, praising, and giving special recognition to students. They need your interest and attention, not your attempts to coerce. 4) Get rid of the point system. 5) Listen to National Public Radio, and Lehrer News Hour, and read books.

Share some of your best memories and experiences.

It is hard to match the experience of actually getting a bill passed through the Illinois House of Representatives and then having the governor actually fly in on a helicopter to sign the bill. HB-97 was a bill that requires schools to purchase recycled paper when economically feasible. A few very incredible students found a sponsor for the bill, spoke at committee hearings on behalf of the bill, and worked endlessly for more than a year for its passage.

The government session...where did the idea come from? Any opposition?

Throughout the 1980s I took small groups of students, each semester, down to Springfield. Students would interview representatives, meet with the staff, attend committee hearings and work on the floor as pages. Students were always just thrilled with the experience. It bothered me that I could only involve a small handful of students so I decided to replicate the legislative experience right here in the

school. I never asked anyone if I could create the simulation. I just did it. Yes, there was opposition from various faculty members but students were engaged, excited, involved and clearly learning a lot about government so the administration supported my efforts.

Do you think that more often than not students take away what you hope they take away from the experience?

I believe that the American government legislative semester has a profound affect on most of the students. Most students undergo some sort of change as a result of the semester long series of events and experiences. They develop a heightened awareness of issues affecting this country and the relationship of these issues to the existing political environment. They come to understand their own values in the context of the existing political environment. They develop a very comprehensive understanding of how government works. Finally, they literally learn, nearly all the basic principles of American government.

How long is your bike ride to school? How long have you been doing this?

(It's an) 18-mile round trip ride. I first started riding back in 1969 and then in 1970 because I was without a car and lived in St. Charles. While I occasionally drive to work, the majority of my commuting time every year has been on my bike with the exception of the six years that we lived in West Chicago.

Students love you, why do you think that is?

I don't think that students love me. There are plenty of students who find me annoying and in fact irritating.

What is it like having your wife work in the same building as you?

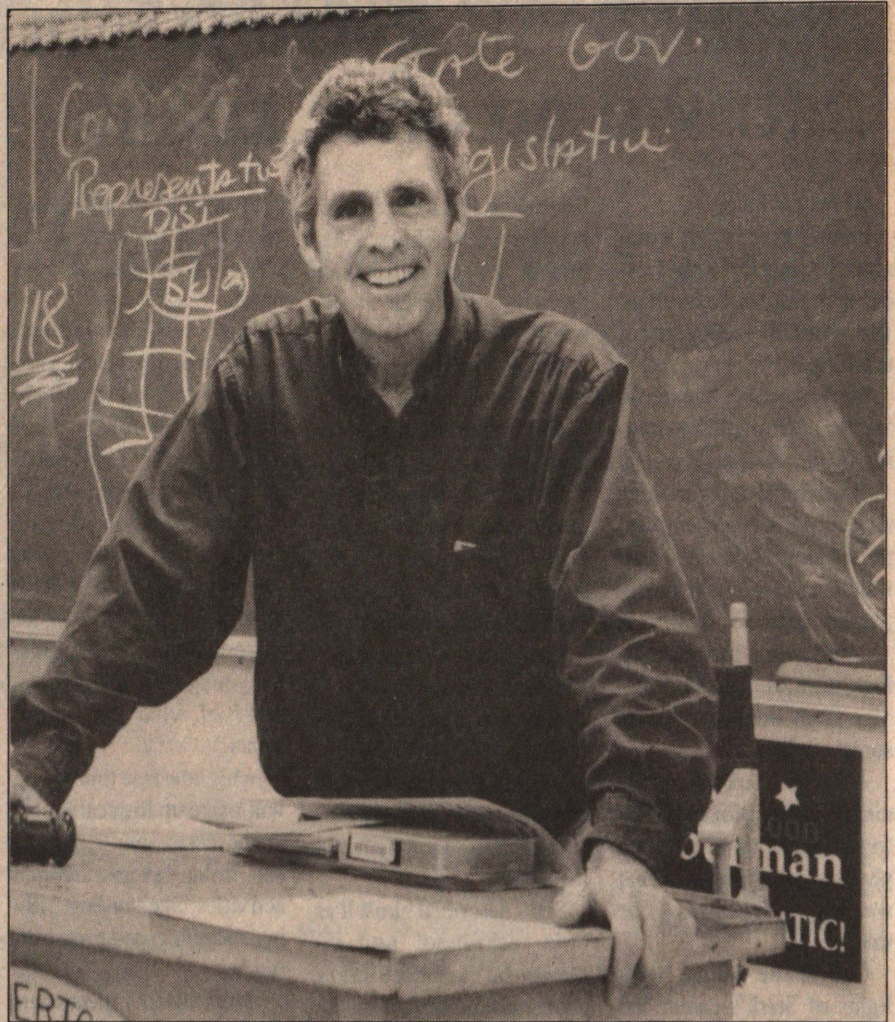
I love it because I like being around competent and talented people.

Where does your daily exuberance come from?

I would like to think my exuberance is a choice but I doubt if it is that simple.

Tell us about your home-life...what do you eat for breakfast? What do you do after school? Hobbies?

I eat oatmeal (uncooked) with blueberries, raspberries, bananas, and walnuts nearly every morning. After dinner and clearing the kitchen, I read newspapers and then work on school related items.



Staff photo

Steve Arnold takes time out from his busy day as a government teacher to discuss his career as a teacher.

Our home is filled with books. Perhaps doing house renovation projects is a hobby I share with Peggy. You name the project and we have done it.

Is it true that you're against Pop-tarts?

It is hard to understand why anyone would want to ask their body to digest a Pop-tart!!!

What do you think about Sigmund Freud?

I believe that he drew attention to the fact that the human mind has enormous powers with regard to psychological considerations. I think that it is a shame that so few students have the opportunity to fully explore his ideas.

Tell us why National Public Radio is so great. When did you start listening?

I started listening to NPR in 1972 and have never stopped. It is great because it operated without commercials and provides a depth and breadth of news cover-

age that no other program offers.

Your daughter...is she like you?

As an only child she was always a part of family discussions so I suppose she is very much like both Peggy and myself. We share many values and beliefs about the world. I must admit that she now has a greater capacity to understand and perceive the world and its events than I do.

What were you like in high school?

Athletics and schoolwork totally consumed my life.

Some students suspect your stories are fabricated.

Wrong.

Share one special memory from teaching

As a very young teacher back in 1973-75, I organized an inner city exchange program. Twenty-five We-go students went into Chicago for a day and then several days later nearly 30 inner city students came out to West

Chicago. The program was dramatic and as important as anything I have ever done.

How do you want the faculty to remember you?

They won't remember me. My guess is that most don't even know me except perhaps by name or as a person responsible for taking their students out of their classes during government committee hearings and full sessions. I think you are forgetting how compartmentalized this institution is. There is little interaction between teachers.

How do you want students to remember you?

As a person who believed that everyone has talents and worth.

Finally, who is Mr. Arnold?

A guy who loves every sunrise and sunset, every clear sunny day, every storm and cloud formation, every snow fall, every season, and every moment spent with his wife and daughter.

Jones...(Continued from page 13)

"I have a whole other life I haven't pursued," said Jones.

This life includes his wife and two children, books, courses, traveling, and a passion for poetry and writing.

Jones said he has no regrets about making the decision to retire and immerse himself in his "other life."

"This was a stage in my life. All of us go through stages. I need to move on to a different way of thinking. I'm ready for that," he said.

However, he said he is very

pleased with the results of that stage.

"I'm pleased with what was accomplished during my time here. It's a great school with a great student body and great teachers. The school's moving in the right direction. Sure, I made mistakes, but is the school better than it was 17 years ago? I would say yes," Jones said.

According to Jones, he is also happy for the future of the school.

"Mr. Highland was a very

good choice. He will make an outstanding principal. It's a tough job with a lot of stress. You have to like conflict, uncertainty, quick decision making, and dealing with different problems all day," he said. "Highland has his own ideas that will be good for the school."

It won't be just a nine-to-five job for Highland, though, if Jones's experience is any indication.

Jones said, "It's an extraordinarily interesting job."

Boys track members prep for state

By Marc Berry

Seven members of the We-go track team will be heading to state on Friday.

Seniors Lon Beutke, Joe Caniano, Joey Park, and junior Joe Klingsburg qualified at sectionals at Waubonsie Valley on Saturday for the 4x100 relay with a time of 42.7 seconds.

Senior Tom Wojcicki will also travel with the team as an alternate.

The relay team's time not only qualified for state but also broke the school record for the event for the second time. The previous school record was 43.18 and was set in 1990.

The four runners broke the record for the first time at the

DuPage Valley Conference Invitational with a time of 42.8.

Beutke qualified for state in the 400 as well, with a time of 49.8.

Junior Wyatt Schuyler will also be attending state to compete in the shot put event. He achieved a distance of 53-feet-8-inches, on Friday.

Overall the team came in sixth out of 17 teams at sectionals.

The DVC Invitational was held at Glenbard East on May 3. Out of the eight teams in conference, We-go took third with 74 points. Only Wheaton North with 84 points, and Wheaton-Warrenville South with 154

points bested the Cats.

The 4x100 relay team's time of 42.8 placed them in third for the event.

Beutke came in first in the 400 with a time of 49.8.

Jeff Raymond took second in the pole vault competition with a height of 13-feet-6-inches.

Also, Schuyler threw the shot put 55-feet-8-inches, winning first place for that event.

The DuPage County Meet was held at York on May 3. We-go placed fifth out of the 12 competing teams.

We-go came in second at a meet held at Wheaton-Warrenville South against the home team and Glenbard East on April 30.



Photo courtesy of Challenge

Joe Caniano attempts to outrun an opponent. Caniano will compete at state this weekend in the 4x100 relay.

Austin defeated at state by champion

By Sam West

Senior badminton player Christine Austin qualified for state competitions and went on May 10-11.

In the first round, she was paired up against the girl who eventually won the whole state competition, said coach Corrie Gilgallon.

"She got a really bad draw," Gilgallon said.

The badminton team finished up its season with a record of 6-6.

The regular season ended

April 27 for freshmen and JV.

"Varsity had the opportunity to try out for sectionals the following week," said Gilgallon.

Freshman Rebecca Kimber and sophomore Sarah Swatworth placed fourth in doubles in the DVC competitions for JV.

Sophomore Megan Millard and junior Esme Robles also placed fourth in doubles.

Varsity qualified for sectionals with two doubles

and two singles teams. Gilgallon said that she took a different approach as to who would go to sectionals.

We-go players first wrote down if they wanted to try out.

Then the ones who tried out had to play against each other as a within-team challenge and the best players then went to sectionals.

Senior Christine Austin went to sectionals in singles, as did Melissa Heron. Juniors Liz Brosseau and Sandy Edlund went as one of two doubles teams. The other doubles team was Nisha Patel and Sarah Altergott.

Gilgallon said that at the May 14 Tournament of Challenges, the badminton open gym for students and staff went "better than expected." The team hosted it and raised money, which will go towards buying team supplies and equipment for next year.

The public and school body signed up for a challenge against one of the team members. The cost was \$3. Then a game to 11 was played.

If the team member won, the money was kept for the team, but if the team member lost, the challenger got his money back.

"I look forward to hosting the second annual Tournament of Challenges," said Gilgallon.

Gilgallon also said that she hopes that the team will improve for next year. She said the team needs to get in shape earlier and needs to practice all year round.

She recommends a summer badminton camp for all returning team members.

"My hope is that they continue to work out and keep the racket in the hand so we can get started right away," said Gilgallon.

Regional loss ends baseball season

By Marc Berry

The We-go varsity baseball team lost their first regionals game Monday, bringing the team's season to a close.

Glenbard East defeated We-go 5-2.

"We had good defense, but we didn't hit the ball," said varsity player senior Jimmy Smolucha. "We needed to put runs on the board, and we just didn't do that."

East attacked right away, scoring runs early in the game.

"We wanted to win. We had the desire to win. But there's a difference between wanting and doing," said Smolucha.

This abrupt halt to the team's season comes as a disappointment after strong wins early in the season.

Smolucha said that he feels the loss against St. Francis early in the season started a negative trend that carried into conference.

On May 17, We-go played West Aurora and won 6-2.

On May 14, a game was played against Wheaton-Warrenville South. We-go lost 5-0.

That same team was faced a day earlier on May 13 as well.

However, We-go lost that game too.

May 11 saw the team competing against Glenbard East.

East outplayed the team and ended up defeating We-go.

Things went better for the home team on May 9 when they beat Naperville North 11-3.

They also beat Naperville North on May 7 with a score of 6-3.

This followed their 9-5 victory over Wheaton North on May 3.

They lost to Wheaton North, however, on May 2.

The Wildcats were also defeated by Naperville Central twice on April 29 and April 30.

The team lost on April 25, to West Aurora. The Cats dropped another game April 27 to Glenbard North.

"Nobody expected to do as badly as we did," said Smolucha, "We don't have much to show for the season, but we played hard, and I have a feeling that the juniors got some good experience and will carry that over to next year and have a good season."

Volleyball team works their way up in sectionals

By Erica Fatigato

The Wildcats are on fire as they head to another sectional game against Elgin Larkin on Wednesday.

The Wildcats crushed Wheaton Academy on Monday at home to move on in the sectionals.

"It was nice to see us keep the intensity against a weak team," said coach Kristy Hasty.

They beat Wheaton Academy with the score of the first game of 15-1 and 15-1.

The Wildcats earned their share of the DVC title on May 16 battling against Naperville Central, beating them 16-14 and 15-13.

"We beat them in two

matches and we were down 9-2 at one point of the sectional match," said Hasty.

Shane Olsen had 19 kills, Andy Hein had 14 kills, eight digs, and four blocks, and Matt Boes had seven kills and eight digs.

Hasty said, "It was so great to see us beat Naperville Central but they don't give us the credit. The (Naperville Central) coach took the blame. I give the kids a lot of credit," said Hasty.

They tied for first place for a piece of the DVC title along with Naperville Central and Wheaton-Warrenville South.

The team has had three big wins over Wheaton-Warrenville South,

Naperville North, and Naperville Central.

We're getting respect from the conference, but our biggest challenge will be to beat them to get to state, said Hasty.

"The team's turning point was after the Downers Grove North Trojan Invite. They started to come together and play as a team," said Hasty.

It's been a fun year winning and the seniors won't be forgotten next year, said Hasty.

"Most of the seniors played on the JV level last year and won conference. They did great things and really stepped up this year. They will be missed," said Hasty.

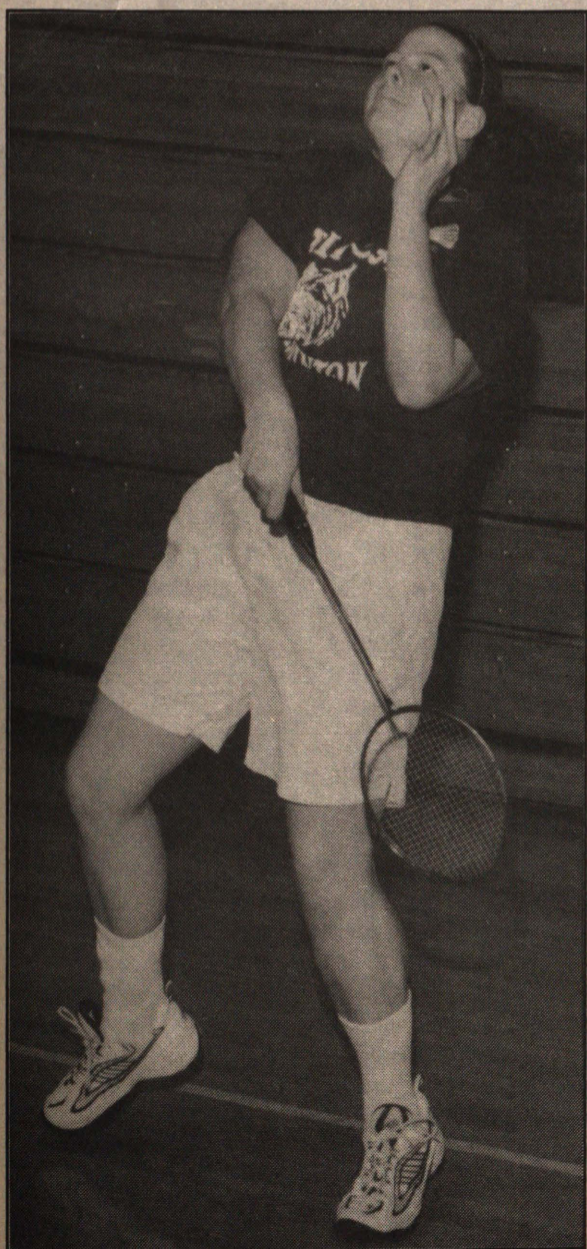


Photo courtesy of Challenge

A We-go badminton player keeps her eye on the birdie.

Correction: During the We-go boys track meet at home against Glenbard North and Wheaton North,

a state record was not broken by sophomore Jeff Raymond. This information was incorrectly reported in the April

issue of *The Wildcat Chronicle*. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.

Girls soccer team pleased with results of season

By Mary Beth Selby
Girls soccer feels quite content with their performance and efforts during the 2002 spring season.

"(The season was) successful. I think we've learned technically and tactically. We were able to compete with anyone in or out of the DVC," said sophomore coach Bruno Owens. Aside from playing with the JV team, Owens said the sophomores have played very well and have definitely improved in some areas.

In their game against Wheaton North, West Chicago lost 1-0.

Varsity, however, beat the Falcons 1-0 in a final-death shoot out.

The next game was against Bartlett, where sophomores lost 2-1, and varsity lost 2-0. Sophomores played well against the Bartlett JV in the first half, but the defense began to fall apart in the second half as Bartlett quickly scored two goals.

The following Thursday resulted in a humiliating game for St. Edwards as West Chicago completely dominated the field, scoring three goals first half and 10 goals in the second, leaving the final score 13-0, a shutout for West Chicago. Unfortu-

nately, the game was a non-conference.

The team was doing so well that Owens attempted to make the game more of a drill after the eleventh goal by not allowing the players to score any goals unless it was on a cross. After the rule was laid down, the girls only scored two more goals in the final eight minutes.

After playing St. Edwards, the sophomores went to Downers Grove North the following Saturday, and were able to play well enough despite the downpour of rain. They won 4-0, but Owens wasn't too impressed.

"We weren't looking to where we were passing. It's as if everything we worked on this year has gone to waste," said Owens.

The girls weren't too happy with the game either. Leny Escobedo was able to score two goals, but the second goal was not counted. After the ball rolled into the net, the referee blew the whistle to call offsides on another player. Luckily, three goals were made in the second half, the last goal scored by forward Katie Boland. Varsity won at Downers Grove 2-0.

The sophomores went to

Naperville North for their final game, where they tied 1-1. Boland scored the only goal on a breakthrough. The final record of the sophomore season was 2-4-1 in conference, and 5-4-2 for non-conference.

The final conference game for varsity ended in a win of 1-0, with the single goal scored by Hillary Lim.

"This has been a great year, and would have been better if we had played more than (13) games," said varsity coach Julio Del Real.

The varsity record turned out as 5-2 in conference and 12-4-1 for non-conference.

"We need more work on defense and fine tuning goal keeping. We will be unstoppable next year," said Del Real.

Once the real season was over with, varsity began working for regionals.

"We have a tough opponent, but the way we are playing, we can sneak out with a win," said Del Real.

Varsity went to St. Charles East Tuesday for regionals.

The JV team finished their season playing conference team Glenbard East. Though the JV put up a strong defense, they lost 2-1. West Chicago had about five scoring chances within the last

three minutes of the game, but was unable to put any shots in the net.

For this final game, the sophomore team joined with the JV to fill the empty spots and have more substitutes on the bench.

Despite the opportunity to use many of the sophomore substitutes, Owens played all the seniors in the final few minutes of the game, "so they could play in their very last game."

Though the game ended in a loss, and finished their season, coach Kate Madden held no regrets regarding their performances.

"Words to describe this team: hard working, you can tell they really enjoy playing," said Madden. "I wouldn't change a thing."

Madden said the proudest thing about this season was how the girls never lost a shut out game, since there was no team the girls could not score on. "I think that really says a lot about these girls," said Madden.

Freshmen, however, beat Glenbard North 4-1 in their last conference game of the season.

"We had a pretty good year, considering we lost most of our players to the sophomore and varsity teams," said

freshman coach Antonio Del Real. "They had a lot of effort and commitment, but we need to work on ball skills and overall knowledge of the game."

Del Real was satisfied with the large number of players

buy added the team needs more experienced girls next year.

Too many of the players are learning soccer in high school, Del Real said.

Freshmen placed second in conference, same as last year.



Staff photo

We-go girls soccer midfielder Lupe Montalvo goes head-to-head with a rival from Glenbard East.

Baumrucker wins All State award

By Stephanie Bodane
Laura Baumrucker received "All State" with her seventh place finish in the girls track state meet last week.

The All State award is given to the top nine in each event.

Baumrucker is the first runner at West Chicago to win All State.

In order to earn the All State award Baumrucker had to run in the preliminaries and then qualify for finals.

Head coach Katerina Boves said, "You have to be the top caliber runner, it's a pretty big deal, especially because she is only a sophomore and she has two more years to improve."

"If she (Baumrucker) keeps working as she has been and with her talent, she can really get closer to being a state champion," said Boves.

Altogether, five We-go girls track team members traveled to Eastern Illinois University last week for the state competition.

At state, the medley relay team took twelfth place. Runners Lauren Anders, Aimee Beukte, Jessica Cwiak and Baumrucker made up the team.

Baumrucker also earned a seventh place finish in the 400.

At sectionals, held at Kaneland High School, the girls track team placed tenth

out of 18 teams. In the meet, Anders took fourth in the 100 meter hurdles and Katy Kostal finished fifth in the 3200.

Christy Adduci placed fifth in the 1600, Baumrucker placed first in the 400, and Rachel Slattery qualified for state in the pole vault competition.

"We did very well, we saw improvement gradually over the year. Five girls going to state is a huge accomplishment. We also beat a lot of school records," said Boves.

The track team ran their last conference track meet at Glenbard East. The team took seventh place, missing sixth place by one point.

Baumrucker captured first in the 400, as did the medley relay team of Anders, Buetke, Cwiak and Baumrucker.

Anders placed third in hurdles, while Kostal took fifth in the 3200.

Pole vaulter Amy Infanger placed third, while the 4x800 relay team of Erin Kirby, Adduci, Yola Szyszko and Kim Palka, placed fourth.

Relay runners, Anders, Cwiak, Adduci, and Baumrucker, placed fifth in the 4x100.

"We will only be losing three seniors (Kirby, Lauren Migliorato, Hillary Brown). In every meet they always helped out, they were leaders," said Boves.

Two softball team members make all-conference team

By Nicole Patel
Girls softball players senior Casey Connolly and junior Kelly McCarthy made the all-conference team Friday.

The two were chosen by other coaches based off of their records and performance.

"We were both really excited, coach was really excited, and the team was really excited," said Connolly.

On Monday the girls played their first regional game at Batavia High School. They played Glenbard South and lost 3-2.

The girls scored two runs in the first inning, but Glenbard scored two more in the bottom of the fifth inning. The last run was scored by Glenbard South in the bottom of the seventh inning.

According to senior Suzy Smith, "If you lose one game of regionals, you're out. So this was our last game of the season."

Smith added, "We really wanted to win it and were very disappointed. We definitely could have beaten them but we had mental and

physical errors that hurt us. It was kind of rough for the coaches too, we all knew it was one inning that hurt us really bad. They (the coaches) never gave up on us though."

Connolly felt the same way, "We came out really strong and working very hard as a team together."

Because most of this year's varsity team consisted of juniors, Smith said, "Next year's softball team stands a good chance of winning DVC. They'll be more motivated for next year because of the tremendous disappointment this year."

Although the team did not reach its goal of winning DVC this year, the selection of Connolly and McCarthy has given the team something to be proud of.

"Us making all-conference was a big accomplishment for the team. Our team worked really hard all year and making all-conference meant a lot to me because it's my last year here," Connolly said. Overall Connolly said, "There have been a lot of perks from the season. We



Staff photo

Kelly McCarthy fires up a pitch.

didn't have a great record, but we got a lot more out of softball this year—we learned what playing on a team is all about. As individuals we all grew, too.

"Coach Shaudt had told me that if I got my batting average up he'd nominate me for all-conference, and I did it."

McCarthy, the team pitcher, pitched about 80-95 percent of the time and also worked hard in the off season with Connolly.

"We did open gyms and we both played in the summer,"

McCarthy said.

Connolly was also chosen by her coach to travel downstate for the Homerun Derby, an annual hitting contest for one girl from any interested teams. "I think it'll be another great experience for me, especially to see how I do before college."

Connolly will play softball at Augustana College next fall.

McCarthy will continue to help the girls bring back a title to Community High School.