

Wildcat Chronicle

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West Chicago Community High School
Thursday, April 24, 2003

Parking privileges in danger after complaints

By Elliott Tinnes

With the threat of parking at Kerr McGee being taken away, both National Honor Society and student council are taking steps to ensure a stronger relationship between West Chicago Community High School and the community nearby.

Students will also work closely with school administration, according to officer Rich Theodore.

The school is in dire need of a better image to be upheld throughout the nearby community, said Theodore. Residents, especially those near the Kerr McGee student parking lot, have predominantly negative impressions of the school's students.

Unfortunately for West Chicago's students, these negative feelings are not directed towards a few specific individuals, instead they are directed towards the student body as a whole. This is where the problem arises. The members of NHS and student council are working on a solution to show people the other side of West Chicago.

The surrounding neighbors only see the students that smoke on their lawns, litter, drive too fast, and play music too loudly. They do not see the students that have something to offer to the community.

"One percent are doing this (causing trouble), it's not the 99 percent. The good kids are not doing this," said Theodore.

NHS, which will do the majority of the work outside of the school, will survey members of the community. The survey will cover areas ranging from the impression of students at the school to what could be done to improve ties between the school and the community.

According to Theodore, communication is the key here.

"If students actually talk to them in person, they'll get a better impression," said Theodore.

NHS held a meeting to discuss the issue. Led by president Pat Baur and Principal John Highland, the meeting touched on ideas for what to

do after the survey. According to Highland, they would like to give community members VIP passes to events at the school.

This would give the school an opportunity to show the community the positive assets it has to offer. Residents would be invited to attend sporting events, plays, art shows, and anything else that would possibly showcase the talented students at West Chicago.

NHS members are also planning to hang signs around Kerr McGee reminding students that parking is a privilege. The signs will remind students that it is their responsibility to be respectful to the people and property nearby.

According to NHS supervisor Barb Laimins, the signs will cost roughly \$1,000. NHS will provide the money through fundraising.

The action being taken to better the school will not only take place outside the school, but inside as well. According to Highland, that (See *Kerr McGee* page 2)

Chronicle receives two awards for outstanding productions

By Stephanie Bodane

Wildcat Chronicle staff members received two outstanding awards for their production of the school paper.

The paper took first place with special merit, which is better than first place. The paper received 960 points out of 1,000 possible for the American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA).

"You have an excellent school newspaper, which shows the talent of your edi-

tors, reporters, writers, photographers, layout designers and adviser," said the ASPA newspaper evaluation.

The ASPA annual newspaper competition awarded the paper with Best School News Section.

For the content coverage the paper received 335 points out of a 350 points, for page design a total of 175 points were awarded out of 175 points.

For editing the paper re-

ceived a 95 out of 100 points.

"We work together to make this happen, and our teamwork is what helps prevent errors," said news editor Sam West.

The paper also was awarded 55 points, out of 55, for creativity.

This is the paper's second year winning a first place award from the ASPA, along with last year's award from (See *Award* page 5)

Truancy law nabs 100 students

By Kyle Bullis

The new student truancy ordinance has had a significant impact for the 2002/2003 school year, said officer Rich Theodore.

Ever since February, when the ordinance went into full swing, there have been over 100 cases of first time offenders.

Of those 100, 15 of them were repeat offenders and six of them were triple offenders. Three of the cases went to court and the offenders were

fined over \$100.

We-go is not the only high school to enforce this rule. High schools in St. Charles, Geneva, and Batavia have reported significant decreases in truancy, indicating that the ordinance is having an impact on students, said Theodore.

Both District 94 and the West Chicago Police Department agree that the enactment of the ordinance will improve the school and the community by both decreasing unexcused absences and reducing

the opportunity for criminal behavior by truant students during the school day, said Theodore.

Students can be truant even if they remain in school.

"Going to commons when you're supposed to be in class counts as being truant," said dean of students Miguel Arroyo.

There are three different ways that students can get punished for truancy.

If they are caught by the (See *Truancy* page 4)

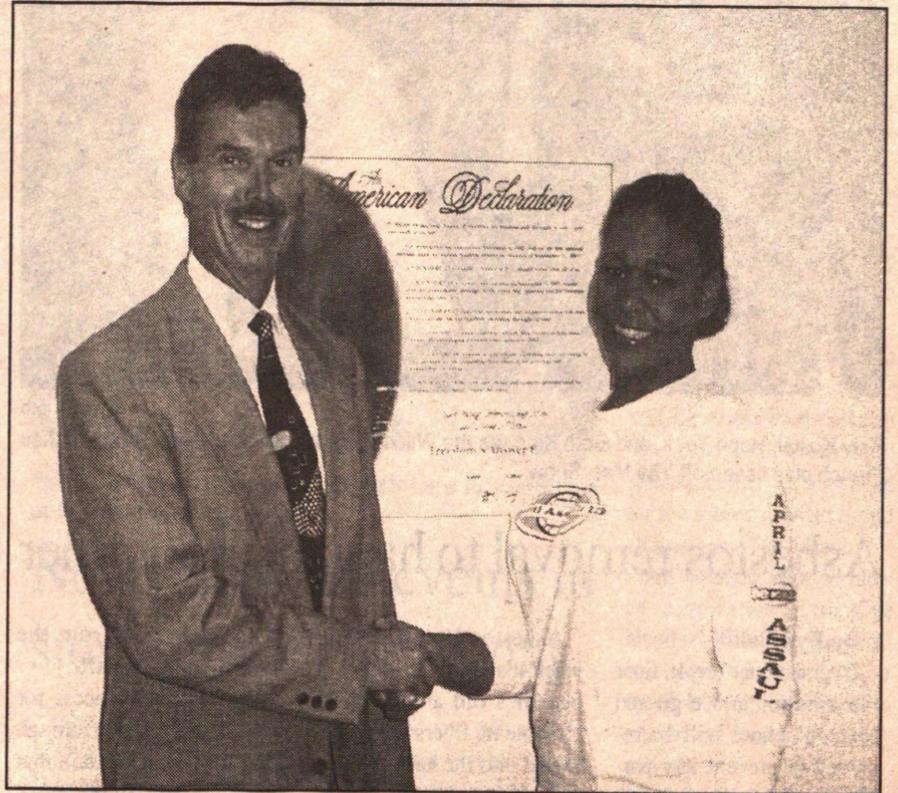


Photo courtesy Mary Randle

Principal John Highland congratulates Dominique Scott for her work with Freedom's Answer.

Scott honored for Freedom's Answer with Washington trip

By Jessica Myers

We-go student Dominique Scott is traveling to Washington D.C. May 7 and 8 to be honored as a Freedom's Answer Star.

The trip is to honor students who demonstrate leadership, innovation, passion, and commitment to Freedom's Answer.

Scott will join 75 students from across the nation who were selected from thousands for this honor.

"Freedom's Answer is a non-profit, non-partisan organization geared toward increasing voter turnout in a non-presidential election year. Freedom's Answer uses High School students to por-

tray and encourage the necessity of voting," said Scott.

Scott and the other Freedom's Answer members helped set a national voting record for the midterm election.

They went door to door to have people to say they would vote on Election Day and then made phone calls to these people later to remind them to vote.

As a result of their hard work, the selected students will meet U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige as well as their senators and congressmen.

They will also participate in a Senate hearing on Freedom's Answer, how it

worked, and its future plans.

Freedom's Answer stars will visit the Republican and Democratic National Committees and observe a taping of CNN's Crossfire at George Washington University.

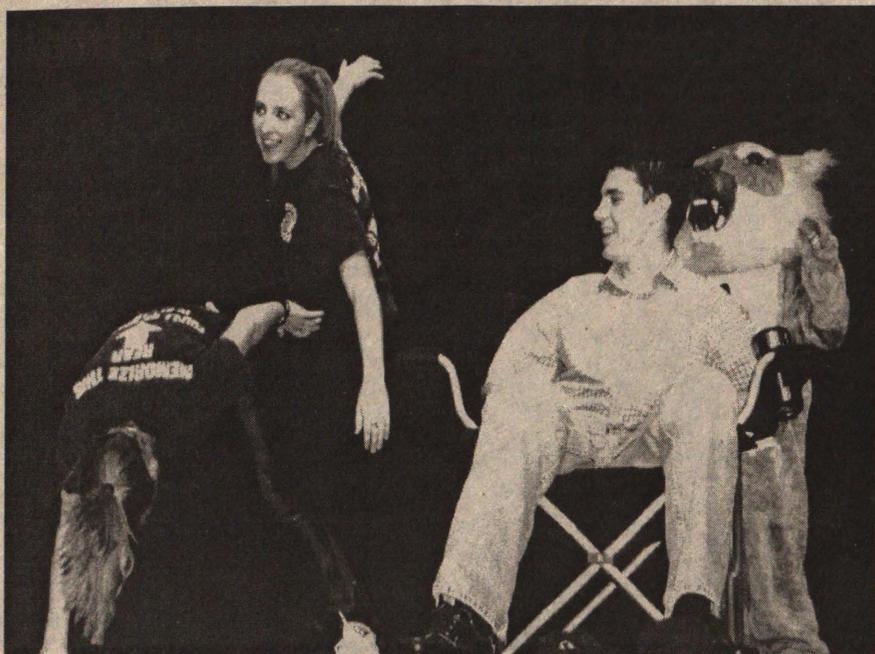
Scott and the Freedom's Answer Stars may also have a chance to meet President George W. Bush.

Scott is looking forward to meeting various people in our government.

"We're very proud of Dominique. She's very committed to influencing the future through the political system; we have no doubt that she will make a significant impact," said principal John Highland.

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Staff Photo

Katy Kostal, Hope Vock, and Beth Kipp (as the Wildcat) dance around Sean Warren in their French play based off *The Man Show*.

French plays demonstrate creativity after months of work

By Mary Beth Selby
French students showed their creativity in the French plays April 10.

Students have worked on the plays since February. They had complete creative control during brainstorming, creating, and writing scripts for their plays, said French teacher Zarrin Bulut.

French 1 students perform 30 to 60 second commercials, while French 2 does 3 to 5 minute skits.

Because they have a more in-depth knowledge of the language, French 3 students perform 10-minute skits and French 4 performs in 15-minute plays.

"I'm really pleased with how they've kept to their deadlines," said Bulut.

Bulut looked forward to the plays without many big concerns. The only thing she wanted to avoid was violence in the plays, so she es-

tablished a no violence policy for her students.

"Many complained, 'what can we do now?'" said Bulut.

French 1 awards went to Josh Kerber for best actor, Natalie Russo for best actress, Erick Mariano for best pronunciation, the flower from the Weed Away commercial for best costume, and the spork for the best prop.

Preparation H won funniest commercial, and the best overall commercial was Axe.

Awards for French 2 plays went to Matt Mikes for best actor, Amanda Tumidalsky for best actress, and Luz Perezchica received the best pronunciation award.

The best French 2 costumes were the Osbournes, the best props were Harry Potter, the funniest play was James Brown, and the best overall play was Joe Millionaire.

French 3 honors went to Ben Hoshaw, best actor, Judy Reza, best actress, Stephanie Neumann, best pronunciation, Scooby Doo, best costumes and props.

The funniest French 3 play was *La Vue (The View)*, and the best play overall was *On ne sait quoi faire (What Does One Do Now)*

Of the three French 4 plays, Daniel Ballines was the best actor, Luz Maria Tlatehui was best actress as Snow White, Luz Maria and Carmen Saucedo had best pronunciation.

The award for funniest play went to *L'emission de l'homme (The Man Show)*. The last play of the day, *Blanche Neige (Snow White)*, won best props and costumes, and the best play overall.

French teacher Marjorie Appel was pleased with their efforts and performances.

Asbestos removal to happen in summer

By Kyle Bullis
Over summer break, floor tile asbestos in We-go and Lincoln school will be removed to prevent any possible harm to students or staff.

The asbestos will be removed in room 106, the horticulture room, and room 226. In addition, the glue that adheres the carpet in room 226 was tested positive for asbestos.

These abatements will be administered to stay on par with the Illinois Department of Public Health's requirements.

Asbestos is not harmful when it's sturdy, but once it becomes old and starts to crumble its fibers can be released into the air.

Therefore, there is no current safety hazard to any student or staff at We-go, said assistant superintendent of business Gary Grizaffi.

Community High School goes under inspection every six months to look for asbestos and any other harmful materials that may be present in the building.

We-go is getting closer and closer to eliminating all

of the asbestos from the building, said Grizaffi.

The removal process for the asbestos will be thorough and strict to make sure that there are no fibers loose when the 2003-2004 school year starts.

Lincoln school's abatement won't be as thorough considering it is going to be demolished this summer.

There have been asbestos removals in the school for the past four years.

"No part of the building has gone untouched," said Grizaffi.

History tour now heading down under

By Melissa Stevens
Students going on the European history tour are no longer traveling to Europe.

Instead of taking the usual trip to Europe, they will instead travel to Australia, New Zealand, and Hawaii.

Administrators decided to

change the trip because it included a Greek cruise that stopped in Turkey, said trip coordinator Mary Ellen Daneels. Turkey's involvement in the current Iraq conflict made parents wary of sending their children to the country.

The company that runs the tours had canceled many tours that included the cruise, but Daneels changed the plans before that happened.

Students going on the trip have a mixed reaction to the change in plans.

"I think it's great," said Erin Linsenmeyer. "I think Australia is a place you wouldn't normally get to go."

Linsenmeyer is excited to see Australia and New Zealand and she is looking forward to seeing the rainforests in New Zealand.

"It's a place you've only seen on TV and in books," said Linsenmeyer. "And to go there is a once in a lifetime opportunity."

However, other travelers are not as happy about the change.

"I'm pretty upset about it," said Kate Gutierrez. "I've

never had any desire to go to Australia and New Zealand."

Gutierrez is also hesitant about going to Hawaii because of the amount of tourists that go there.

"I don't know why they couldn't just modify the trip so we didn't go on the cruise," said Gutierrez.

Also, the plane flight will be much longer to go to Australia than Europe. The flight will take around 14 hours or more.

Daneels hopes that students still receive the same experiences they would have on the previously planned trip.

"(I hope) they have a better understanding of other cultures," said Daneels. "And that they see places they studied in school."

Students will depart on July 1 and will return on July 18.

FBLA does well at state

By Doug Sieder
Seventeen FBLA members will compete at nationals this summer after the group captured 40 top 10 finishes at state competition.

FBLA had one of its best years ever in the state competition by having a record setting number of top 10 fin-

ishes.

The 17 competitors who will attend nationals also set a record.

"This has just been a record setting year," said adviser Mia Wirth, who has helped the competitors study and get ready for the (See FBLA page 3)

Hendron heads to nationals for VICA

(VICA) state meet recently.

Hendron is the only one that is able to go to nationals this year, because although Heather Coakley placed first in commercial sewing, that category is not represented at nationals.

Other members of VICA also competed but did not place high enough to qualify for nationals.

Stephanie Hendron placed fourth in action skills demonstration, Bryan Duffy placed fifth in advertising design, and Brian Romannelli placed sixth in architectural drafting CAD.

Commercial sewing earned Susan Lincoln second and Carmen Saucedo fourth and Christine Hendron placed fifth in essay.

Melissa SHEME came in sixth for extemporaneous

speaking, and for interior room design Kadi Flagg placed second, Coakley placed third, Jaclyn Demes placed fourth, Jen Schaefer placed fifth and Kayla Kramer placed sixth.

Alison Dahl came in second for internet home page, and Tim Dupree placed fifth in internet working. SHEME placed fourth in job skill demo 'A', and Dahl took fifth in job skill demo 'B'.

David Bennett received third in machine drafting, Elizabeth Diaz and Jessica Gallegos both placed sixth in preschool teaching assistant-bulletin board.

Bob McLaren placed third in related technical math, and Peter Oelslager and Jose Castellano both received sixth for 3D visualization and animation.

Kerr McGee... (Continued from page 1)

is where NHS and student council members come in. Students know how to relate best to other students, therefore, it will be up to NHS and student council to see that the issue is presented to the student body.

The problem facing the school is not exclusive to West Chicago, said Highland. Other schools face similar problems in parking and school-community relations.

Both Highland and Theodore have made it clear that this issue has two fronts. It is not only students who spark conflicts, but community members do as well. Often, a conflict will arise when a resident tries to aggress-

sively approach a student. According to Theodore, students only become defensive in these situations.

Instead of reasonable talk, tempers flare. It is up to students to be respectful, but it is also up to community members to calmly address students about problems, said Highland.

The school is on its own for the majority of this healing process, according to Highland. The West Chicago police station expects the school to deal with these problems. Complaints have been filed to the police, which are often turned over to Community High School to handle.

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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 edit letters for space.

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

Mock wedding a Dream Come True for Gomez and Peterson

By Michelle Loerzel
Matt Peterson and Lena Gomez were married in the "A Dream Come True" mock wedding April 3.

"It was fun. I wasn't as nervous as I thought I might have been," said Peterson.

After the contemporary life classes voted on what roles they wanted to play in the wedding, both Gomez and Peterson were chosen at random to be bride and groom.

"I picked the dress I liked out of a David's Bridal magazine, and I was just lucky when I found it on the rack," said Gomez.

Peterson and Gomez were able to choose their maid of honor and best man. They chose Felipe Salazar and Linsey Perez.

Other bridesmaids included Cristal Ballines, Jolene Whitlock, Susan Bautista, Cari Brown and Amanda Weier.

Nick Reardon, Marco Cruz, Fabian Cruz, Josh Kane, and Justin Pineda were the groomsmen.

"Being in the mock wedding made me realize you have to enjoy the moment and not get caught up in all of the other commotion," said Peterson.

The mock wedding made Gomez realize what she didn't want to do at her wedding.

These things include lighting the unity candle, which was bad because the bride and groom had a difficult time with this, said Gomez.

"It was about a month, right before spring break, that we decided which parts we were going to do and plan the wedding," said Peterson.

The flower girl was Angie Lopez and ringbearer was

Danny Roman while Chris Sanzeri played the part of father of the bride and Daisy Chaves was mother of the groom.

Arturo Marin was the usher and the officiate was Dora Salazar.

The wedding ceremony consisted of the procession, the wedding march, the giving away of the bride, the officiate's words, the exchange of vows, and, finally, the lighting of the unity candle.

Also, presentation of the couple, recessional, best man's toast, cutting of the cake, bouquet and garter toss and an anniversary dance for all married couples from the audience to dance.

"For next year, I would like more of the audience to be

involved in the dances at the end," said Gomez.

Before the ceremony, the wedding party put together an engagement skit that was played at Chili's, where Peterson asked Gomez to "marry" him.

Foods 1 and 2 students made the cake. Other cakes, made by the students, were raffled. Money went to a scholarship fund.

While the wedding party was dressing and getting ready for the wedding, 37 students from the clothing classes put on fashion shows, one for casual wear and formal wear.

Students from child development classes led all the children in the audience in a singing and story telling activity on stage.

Student Council indecisive about prom details

By Mary Beth Selby

As prom draws near, junior student council is having trouble making final decisions.

The student council is trying to decide how to use their last \$3,000 for prom. In a recent meeting, they decided to upgrade the deejay from the sophomore to the junior package, consisting of a lightshow and smoke effects, and music from the B96 playlist, said junior student council supervisor Jamie Garcia.

The upgraded deejay cost the council \$1,000, tightening the budget. The rest of the budget is to go towards decorations.

Since the Marriott hall happens to have tall ceilings, secretary Emy Krauspe suggested that they decorate the room with a balloon archway

entrance and balloons in the smaller sections and on the stage.

This saves money by not decorating too much because of the tall ceiling.

Senior student council member Maggie Wdowiarz gave suggestions regarding what the juniors did last year. The decorations from last year cost \$1,800.

But the real problem the prom committee faced last year was table arrangements, because the table settings increased from eight people to 10 the night before.

Wdowiarz suggested that the junior student council make prom goers sign up for tickets before they sign up for their tables.

Tickets will be sold from May 1 to May 14 in commons. Tickets are \$45 each.

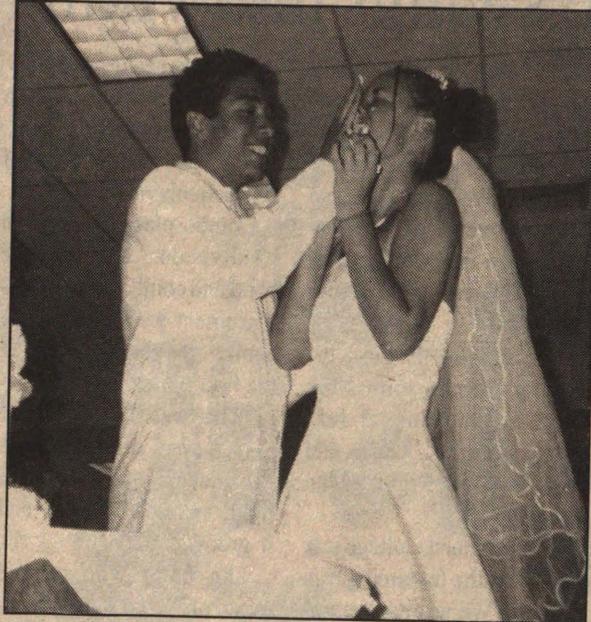
The tickets will be in the form of picture key chains, and the favors are picture frame photo albums. Prom is May 23 at the Oakbrook Marriott.

Juniors have set up a specific system for ticket sales. Students must have an ID to purchase tickets.

Tickets are numbered, and the students must write their name and date's name next to the corresponding number. Then the student will be asked whether they want the chicken or vegetarian meal of pasta.

Then the student can sign up for a table. If they purchase the tickets for both themselves and their date, they can sign both names up for a table.

Students will be asked to nominate five junior girls and boys for prom court.



Staff Photo

Matt Peterson smashes cake into "wife" Lena Gomez's face at the mock wedding recently.

New prizes and events in store for All Night Long

By Stephanie Bodane

All Night Long's 10th anniversary is sure to be a hit with new prizes and events at Bowling Green.

"We're opening Synergy and asking bands to audition. Only two bands will be playing," said chairperson Becky Koltz.

Synergy, which is connected to Bowling Green, will be open all night for dancing and live music.

Along with that, the committee is looking at having Dance Dance Revolution, also known as DDR.

"The winner of the contest will go home with a Playstation and DDR," said Koltz.

Other new activities include dodge ball tournaments and possibly having a hypnotist. Some prizes include Great America Tickets,

gas cards, and gift certificates. There will be a grand prize drawing for \$1,000; other winners can receive \$500 or \$200.

This year, there will be no tee shirts for ticket buyers. Because of the economy, it was hard to find tee shirt sponsors, said Koltz. Those who want to attend All Night Long will have to purchase tickets beforehand. Students who buy tickets will need to be at Bowling Green by 1 a.m. or their parents will be called.

Tickets will be sold the week before prom, and will cost \$10 a person. All Night Long begins at 11:30 p.m. and ends at 4:30 a.m. and takes place at Bowling Green in West Chicago. For any questions you can contact Becky Koltz at 231-0657.

FBLA... (Continued from page 2)

competition.

Wirth also said that the reason FBLA has had so much success this year is because of the officers and how they have recruited so well and made this club the largest one in the high school.

National qualifiers include: Dominique Scott, impromptu speaking; Jeff Cisowski, FBLA principles and procedures; Brian Nelson, Erich Musick and Stan Lemon, website development; and Heidi Colliander, parliamentary procedures.

Colliander, Theresa McEvoy, and Kim Peterik joined two other students to make up the Illinois Parliamentary Procedure Team for nationals in Dallas.

Other national qualifiers are Amy Axelrod, business math; Alex Baker, community service project; Tim Bolt, word processing 2; Rob Casey, programming C++;

Tyler Hempel, business law; Nick Kuras, computer applications 1; Michelle Macrito, word processing 1; Aron Morris, director of fundraising; Michael Oleksiak, technology concepts; Matt Shambo, community service project.

State champions are: 10th place: Dan Visser, Introduction to Business, 9th place: Tataina Podstavkova, Job Interview, 8th place: Baker and Paul Majchrowski Multimedia Presentation, Rachel Kuna Accounting, Shambo Future Business Leader, 7th place: Tom Aguirre Economics; Alex Carpenter, Computer Concepts.

6th place: Pererik, Parliamentary Procedures 5th place: Casey Programming C++; Shambo, Who's Who in FBLA; Geraldine Colorado and Nelson, Local Chapter Annual Business Report.

4th place: Bolt, Word Processing 2; Chris Brown, Banking and Financial Sys-

Key Club has another blood drive

By Jessica Myers

Key Club is holding a blood drive all day Friday in the small gym.

This is Key Club's second blood drive this year.

In past years, Key Club only has one blood drive a year during first semester.

"We decided to have a blood drive two times this year because blood supplies are low and Heartland (Blood Center) is a backup for the armed services," said club adviser Ward Rau.

All students need to have an appointment to give blood by Thursday. Students can sign-up during their lunch hour in commons to give blood during their study period.

Students need to be 16-years or older. Sixteen and 17-year-old students need to have a signed parent permission slip.

Also, students need to be over 110 pounds.

A student cannot give blood if they got any new tattoos and/or piercing in the last year, or gave blood eight weeks ago or sooner.

Due to potential diseases such as malaria, hepatitis, and AIDS, some people who have traveled within the last three years to countries where these diseases are not controlled may be turned away.

Key Club's goal is 100 pints of blood.

"It's good for students to have the opportunity to give to people without getting anything in return," said Rau.

tems; Mena Gentile, Marketing; Jill Kufta, Business Calculations; Lauren Kirby, Business Communications; McEvoy, Parliamentary Procedures.

3rd place: Shambo Partnership with Business Presentation; and Jessica Boyd, Public speaking. 2nd place: Greg Moore and Jacki Batty, Emerging Business Issues. Also second place performances that qualified then for state were Hempel, Business Law; Kuras, Computer Applications; Michelle Macrito, Word Processing 1; Mike Oleksiak, Technology Concepts; Axelrod, Business Math, Tatiana Podstavkova, Community Service Presentation, which was assisted by Baker.

Colliander also earned a spot as the Illinois State Parliamentarian. This means that Colliander will serve on the State Executive Board for FBLA for 2003-2004 school year.

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Jazz combo swings into Viking

By Sam West

Jazz band is in full swing during April, having already been to a competition and holding their annual Jazz Night.

Jazz combo also played their first gig at the Viking restaurant in Winfield April 16.

The Viking's resident jazz combo took a break in their performance to let We-go's combo come in.

We-go combo did four tunes and the audience called for an encore. Their encore was "The World of Kizemistry," which combo members arranged by themselves.

"It went really well," said director of bands Jim Guter. "The people there were really appreciative."

Guter said that the combo will probably be invited to do many other shows in the future.

In fact, the combo someone has already offered them a job for the first weekend of May. However, the music department is going to St. Louis that weekend.

"It was pretty cool that someone thought we were

decent enough to ask us to play for them," said alto saxophonist Joe Tumidalsky.

Tumidalsky added that the combo played very well, and even recovered from a mistake when the horns did not come in when they were supposed to.

The day after the gig at the Viking, combo joined big band in their annual Jazz Night April 17. Guter said that every Jazz Night is a fun event.

The Elmhurst College jazz band was the featured guest, with one We-go alum returning.

College jazz bands usually play one level higher than the level of We-go's band, said Guter.

College band is also different because players come to the college from all over the nation, Guter said, and those players were the top in their high school band.

"When you get the top players, you can do a little bit more with the music," Guter said.

All of this is not enough for the jazz band. At Illinois State University in downstate Normal, jazz big band

and combo performed.

Big band and combo both played four tunes.

Big band placed third of five schools in its division.

Combo placed second in its division. Many in the band and combo thought this placement was unfair. The combo, they agreed, played the best it had all year.

"That was the best we've played ever," drummer Hans Moscicke said. "We were tight, solos were good, and it grooved."

The band who placed ahead of We-go was not worthy of first place, said Moscicke.

"Seriously, I think we got gyped," he said.

Baritone saxophonist Ricky Camp said that it was not worth going to ISU because of the results.

"The soloists were very solid and everyone fed off each others' playing. You could tell everyone was laid back and had fun, while the other band was uptight and nervous," Camp said.

But Camp said that he more or less agreed with the placement of big band.

He said that the band didn't play the best they could have, and nobody was really excited about playing that day.

"We were all lackadaisical," Camp said.



Staff Photo

The jazz combo's horns (Nick Chillemi, Brett Palmer, and Joe Tumidalsky from left) jam at the Viking.

Truancy... (Continued from page 1)

dean, and assuming it's a first time offense, they can be issued 5-10 detentions, depending on the seriousness of the truancy. Their parents are also notified.

Repeat offenders must attend the Just Chill program, which consists of attending 90 minute meetings every week for seven weeks.

At the meetings students will meet guest speakers and even tour a jail.

They may also have to go in front of the peer jury, where they may do community service such as helping

out during open gym or working with the homeless.

Should the repeat offenders be caught for truancy again, they can be subjected to fines and taken to court, where they will have to pay a fine and possibly do community service.

Any truancy offenses afterwards will result in increasingly higher fines.

Because of the success of this ordinance, it will remain in effect for the foreseeable future, said Theodore.

"If students met their responsibilities and attended

class, we wouldn't have to worry so much about truancy," said Arroyo.

Even if students continue to ditch class, at least the programs they attend will keep them in school.

The goal is to at least keep the students where they are supposed to be to help them further their education, rather than letting them wander around the community.

They may also turn some students around and help them become more productive citizens of the community, said Theodore.

Gallimore sets her goals high and earns Student of the Month award

By Jessica Myers

Carrie Gallimore is March's Student of the Month.

What were your accomplishments during your time at We-go?

I think my grades are one of my greatest accomplishments. I am also in National Honor Society, as well as an Illinois State Scholar.

Who is your favorite teacher in high school? Why?

I would have to say Mrs. Walksler, who is now retired, was my favorite. She opened my eyes freshman year and had a great influence on my decision to be a doctor. Mr. Healy has also made a great impact on my life. He has given me confidence and helped me the past two years.

What is your favorite activity in high school? Why?

I try to enjoy everything I participate in. I enjoy working with the people in student council. I am excited about working on the mural. I also really enjoy student ambassadors. I get to interact with a lot of people and the other members are fun to be around.

Where do you plan to go to college and what do you want to major in?

Next year I plan to attend

Loyola University in Chicago and major in biology. I plan to go into pre-med and become a pediatrician.

What influenced these decisions?

I would have to say it was my freshman year biology teacher, my family, my doctor, and my love for children.

What career do you hope to have later in your life?

I hope to be a pediatrician or pediatric nurse.

What is your favorite pastime?

I enjoy reading, but I would have to say whenever you see me I am probably talking. I love to interact with people.

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

I think it is because I am a hard worker and involved in the school. I put effort in everything I do. I am a friendly person and help many people.



Carrie Gallimore



Still need a bright idea for college?

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Where you want to be!

Library adds to its book family

By Logan Schrage

With over 16 different categories for staff and students to choose from, the LRC's acquisitions located on the school's home page inform We-go about new book arrivals.

Every staff member is e-mailed a copy of the LRC's acquisitions, an hour or so after the books come in, said Sarah Olsen, director of the Learning Resource Center.

The new books coming into the LRC will either replace lost books or any out of date books.

"When a student loses a book, the money going towards that book will go directly to the school and not directly to the library," said Olsen.

Since that money may not replace the lost book, that book may never be replaced, said Olsen. The cost of the books always depend on the month and the back orders that students, teachers and staff members request from the library.

If there are more books in a month that need to be ordered, then the cost will be higher, Olsen said.

If an older edition book is not useful and is worn out, the LRC may order a new edition that is up to date.

The library is given a 45 percent discount for books ordered through a company that supplies books to libraries.

A hundred and two books have come in so far, but 19

of those books are backorders.

"Since it is the end of the school year, the budget is getting a lot smaller," said Olsen.

The new books are first arranged alphabetically. The librarians decide the numbers that go on the books to categorize the new books.

Then all of the books are recorded on the Library's web site, in the different categories ranging from philosophy to biography.

The LRC has received a variety of books including a new "Chicken Soup for the Soul," a new collection of September 11 books, and an extensive amount of car books, both with full colored pictures, Olsen said.



Staff Photo

Librarian Sarah Olsen displays a few new books, which the school purchased this year.

Fame, well-known music bring "South Pacific" to the stage

By C.J. Hinojosa

Rodgers & Hammerstein's "South Pacific" is set as this year's selection for the spring musical.

Continuing the tradition of spring musicals at We-go after last year's "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," the torch was passed to "South Pacific" due to its fame, well-loved music, and large cast, said play director Mary Hafertepe.

Based on James A. Michener's novel "Tales of the South Pacific," the musical involves two love stories about people different from each other.

It takes place on an island paradise during World War II, and also addresses fears and concerns about prejudice and war.

Roles include those of

Navy nurses and military Seabees, among others.

Auditions for "South Pacific" were held March 5 and 6.

People with strong acting skills and singing voices were picked as the final cast members. Singing matters, said Hafertepe.

Playing Ensign Nellie Forbush is Susan Lincoln, and the role of Emile de Becque is Andy Dameron's.

Also starring in the production are Kristin Koltz as Bloody Mary, Nicole Chudoba as Ngana, Dave Taylor as Jerome, Marlene Uy as Liat, John Hall as Luther Billis, Mike Treachler as Lt. Joseph Cable, Mike Giese as Capt. George Brackett, and Steve Nota as Cmdr. William Harbison.

"We have a great deal to learn and we're chipping away at it," she said. "We need every minute we have and we're using them."

In addition to the main cast, there are several other speaking and extra roles.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge," said Hafertepe.

Costumes aren't determined quite yet, although expect to see a few sailor hats.

Among the songs in the musical's score are "Some Enchanted Evening," "Younger Than Springtime," and "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Outta My Hair."

The musical itself has showtimes at 7:30 p.m. on May 15-17 in the Weyrauch Auditorium. Tickets are \$3 each.

Fees to go up in order to raise money

By Mary Beth Selby

In efforts to raise money for the 2003-04 budget, the Board of Education approved the student fee increase recommendation.

At the April meeting, assistant superintendent of business Gary Grizaffi made recommendations of student fee increases.

Upon board approval, next school year the textbook fee will increase \$30 from \$80 to \$110, and the technology

and graduation fees of \$25 will increase \$5.

After an in-depth discussion, the board decided to keep the family activity pass fee the same at \$50.

Grizaffi mentioned that cutting the driver's education program had been a possibility, but it was too valuable, showing how private schools and local students feed into the classes and behind the wheel lessons.

The driver's education fee

may increase from \$50 to \$200, but the board is waiting for approval from the state.

As of next year, the fee will increase to \$98.

The reason for these fees is because the board has a budget increase goal of \$60,000.

"There are two ways to increase the budget. One way is expenditure decrease and another is fee increase," said Supt. Lee Rieck.

Habitat for Humanity builds up its work force

By Jessica Myers

We-go is reaching out to the community by opening its own chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

"Habitat for Humanity is an organization that helps families build their dream home and depend on themselves more than other

people for living," said adviser Julio Del Real.

Del Real hopes that Habitat for Humanity will catch on at We-go because other schools such as Naperville Central and Hinsdale have had success.

"We will try to do fundraising and do every-

thing possible to help Habitat for Humanity," said Del Real.

Habitat for Humanity meets twice a month on Wednesdays. Times are not made yet.

To join or ask questions, contact Del Real in the Welcome Center.

Committee tackles plagiarism issues

By Kyle Bullis

We-go has established a subcommittee of the technological committee to develop more strict rules and make students more aware of plagiarism.

Right now, the committee is studying how plagiarism can affect different departments within the high school, and is hoping to form a school wide policy later in development.

One problem with punishing plagiarism is that there is a difference of opinion on what the definition of plagiarism is, said English teacher Jason Kling, a member of the plagiarism committee.

Basically, plagiarism is

stealing another individual's ideas and opinions without giving them due credit.

This means that plagiarism is a form of theft, said Kling.

The most common form of plagiarism is stealing areas of text books and passages off the internet and trying to pass these off as your own work.

It can be as minor as copying someone's math homework to ripping entire essays off of the internet.

One way the committee is hoping to decrease acts of plagiarism is to develop a student contract that all students must sign to ensure that they will not copy others' work.

The contract would consist of examples of plagiarism and the proper punishment for the act.

Depending on the class and the severity of the plagiarism, students may just not receive credit for the assignment or they may be issued a failing grade for the entire course, said Kling.

The committee is currently sharing their ideas with the administration and the deans to work out the proper actions that must be taken to help stop plagiarism.

Plagiarism is a serious offense and it can even get you expelled in college, said Kling.

Things just don't add up on math test

By Bridget Geraghty

Eight We-go students took the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME) recently, but no one qualified.

Out of the total 15 points, Patrick Baur scored the highest of We-go's students, earning seven. The national average was 3.06 points.

Baur said the test was "three hours of the most mentally intensive math problems you can find. And you don't get a calculator. Basically, it's a process for creating headaches."

The AIME is the second step of four to qualify for the International Mathematics Competition.

To qualify for this step, the eight students had to score at least a 100 out of 150 on the American Mathematics Competitions (AMC).

To advance from the AIME

a student needed to have a total of 226 points from the AMC and AIME combined. Baur again had the highest score with 194.

The goal of these math tests are, according to sponsor Aaron Hayes, to identify kids with strong math skills who do not necessarily do well in school.

"You have to see the problem and have the right frame of mind so it just clicks," said Hayes.

The AIME is a three-hour 15-question test that deals mostly with pre-calculus.

"We're not talking run-of-the-mill pre-calculus. You have to have a good understanding of the theory behind it," said Hayes.

However, the answers were only between 0-999, so the students had 1,000 possible choices, which eliminated some guessing.

That doesn't mean the questions are any easier.

Junior Jason Becker, who took the AIME, said, "Never before have my personal limits been made so clear to me."

Seniors Baur, Mike Doll, Mike Paschke and Craig Wostratzky and juniors Becker, Phil Buksa, and Carl Sauter were the qualifiers.

If a student were to make it to the fourth step, they would go to the MIT campus in Massachusetts for a training camp.

One hundred students are sent to MIT, and, out of those, eight are chosen to be on the U.S. International Mathematical Olympiad team, which competes globally.

Qualifying to be on this team means they compete against other countries in the most difficult secondary mathematics examination in the world.

Award... (Continued from page 1)

the Northern Illinois School Press Association and the Quill and Scroll International Honor award.

The Chronicle staff also will be attending the Northern Illinois School Press As-

sociation award ceremony on Friday. Last year, the Chronicle won the National Press Association's Silver certificate.

"I am extremely proud of the Chronicle staff. They

work hard and they deserve this. It's been a great year, we have a great staff, and great leadership. I am looking forward to more of these awards in the future," said adviser Laura Kuehn.

Our View -

Laws take a bite out of hate crimes

Recently the United States government decided to charge any person who committed a hate crime to the full extent of the law.

Well, it's about time.

Why weren't these individuals charged to the full extent of the law before this? Acts of violence toward innocent people because of their identity are completely unacceptable.

Hate crimes can range anywhere from simple assault to rape or murder, but are serious no matter what the action is.

However, most hate crimes are not committed by hate groups such as the KKK, rather by individuals who have previous records of anti-social behavior and see nothing wrong with their actions.

So, because they are only prejudiced by themselves they have not been fully charged. That makes *complete* sense.

While it is hard to change people's opinions, if they knew the consequences of their actions would be fully charged, they may back off.

This isn't the only problem associated with hate crimes.

According to the American Psychological Association, hate crimes are described as being an attack on one's identity, so most of the victims refuse to report the incident, meaning there is intense emotional damage. Frequently the victim knows the perpetrators and can identify them, but they



are afraid of future encounters and retaliation. In addition, victims are often too afraid to come forward with information about the hate crime.

For example, in Los Angeles County only one-third of gay

and lesbian hate crime victims report the incident to the proper authorities, while two-thirds of the same group report non-biased crimes.

It is very difficult to judge whether the crime is motivated by prejudice, hence the victims prefer to think it is not a hate crime and choose to ignore it and not report it.

However, it is nearly impossible to find a correct number of hate crimes that have occurred in the U.S. Each state has its own definition, and, therefore, the number of crimes reported is less than what actually happens.

The U.S. government needs to step in and come up with a clear cut definition and then require all states to report hate crimes for federal investigation, which is what happens now when a hate crime is reported. If the government knows where the majority of the hate crimes take place, they can work harder to protect the people being discriminated against.

Two of the greatest advantages of the U.S. is the diversity of its people, and that the U.S. government is supposed to be *for* the people.

But if the minorities dealing with religion, race and sexuality are not protected, isn't that a bit hypocritical?

Hate crimes are felony offenses, and they should have been taken seriously from the beginning. The decision to finally fully charge people who have committed a hate crime is a small step, but we still have a long road ahead of us.

Drug clears more than just complexions

For those who have never experienced severe acne, it may not seem like much of a problem. To those past adolescence, acne is just a phase that most go through and will eventually grow out of.

But it takes a person who has truly suffered from acne to understand how serious the problem really is. That person knows how it feels to be depressed and self-conscious because of a skin disorder they have no control over.

Countless numbers of over-the-counter and prescription drugs are available to acne sufferers, all claiming to bring clearer skin to the user. For those with more moderate acne, these tend to work.

But for those with a more serious problem, nothing, even prescription antibiotics seem to work. Medicines,

both topical and ingested, are taken constantly to no avail.

The struggle against severe acne is a constant one, and to many, it seems hopeless.

In 1982, though, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved a prescription drug in the fight against acne. For the many acne sufferers willing to try the drug, Accutane (isotretinoin) was a miracle drug since its conception.

Accutane was able to do what no other drug on the market could do. It was able to completely cure a person of acne, even the most severe cases, permanently.

Unlike other drugs, Accutane is only a one-time event. The user is prescribed Accutane for a given amount of time, after that period they are finished with it forever

and cured of their acne problem.

The drug, which overloads the body with a synthetic vitamin A, stays in the body long after the treatments finish. Vitamin A is a fat-soluble vitamin, which allows the body to store the drug for later use. Accutane basically stockpiles the body with this vitamin.

Although the drug has been a godsend to many, its results do not come without a price.

The FDA has reported numerous cases dealing with not only the physical side effects of the drug, but the severe mental effects as well.

Accutane has been known to cause severe depression and suicidal tendencies. Considering that its primary users are adolescents, an age group that traditionally has

more bouts with depression than most age, this is not a safe combination.

Pharmaceutical companies such as Roche, the drug's creator, need to take more responsibility for the drugs they put on the market.

Although Accutane has done wonders for many people, the side effects that come along with it should not be prescribed to young people.

High school users have their lives filled with the daily stresses of school, homework, jobs, sports, clubs, and other extra-curricular activities. They don't need more stress from their acne medicine.

To prescribe a drug with such dramatic side effects into such an unstable, pivotal time in one's life is more than wrong, it's fatal.

Economic tailspin begins with Iraq

As conflicts in the Middle East continue, the United States needs to look at the cost of war, not only in human lives.

Congress approved a bill for an additional \$80 billion to fund the war, help with homeland security, and to aid the struggling airline industry. Congress already allocated \$600 million for the same cause.

This enormous amount of money has not been budgeted for and, with President George Bush's tax cut, the federal deficit will increase by over \$400 billion. This extra spending will hurt the economy now and in the future.

Schools, which are already in financial distress, will lose more money, harming the nation's education system

even more.

This will lead to more referendums that communities may not support, and schools cutting spending for textbooks, teacher aides, or extra-curricular activities.

The extra spending will also effect Social Security and Medicare. The government will drain out Social Security and Medicare to make up for war spending, leaving no money for future retirees.

The \$80 billion will only cover a short-term win. If this war continues, the military will need more money for reinforcements and to replenish used weapons.

If the war continues, it could lead to uncertainty in the future, causing businesses to hold back on making large investments and purchases, which will hurt the

stock market and people will continue to lose more money.

With the higher deficit, interest rates on loans could increase, which makes people wary of borrowing money. Consumer spending helps drive the economy and if people don't buy, the nation will suffer even more.

According to MSN reporter Robert Shapiro, the United States is the world's largest consumer and importer of oil, causing the nation to be vulnerable to high oil prices.

The two worst recessions in recent history, 1975-74 and 1981-82 were caused by an increase in oil prices.

If the war with Iraq continues, a cut in world's oil production by 6.5 percent a year would send the United States

and the world into a recession. The price of a barrel of oil would be \$75 and a gallon of gas would cost \$2.78.

World oil exports would decrease 1.3 percent a day. This would add \$7 on a barrel and 16 cents to a gallon of gas.

If the war continues, inflation would rise five points causing the U.S. growth to fall 3 percent.

Even a small rise in oil prices could diminish consumer confidence, having a negative effect on the stock market, slowing business investments, weakening income growth, and increasing corporate and household debt.

An increase in war spending and cutting taxes can only lead to financial problems for the United States.

Trendy corsets put the squeeze on women

With prom just around the corner, teenage girls everywhere are racing to find the most trendy dresses possible. But how far are they going for fashion?

Some of the fashion trends growing in popularity this prom season prove to be the most dangerous, as well.

In order to achieve the "perfect" hourglass figure, many young girls and women alike are squeezing themselves into an updated version of the corset. Corsets became most popular as undergarments in the early 20th Century, but they eventually faded out of the fashion scene by the 1960s.

Today, however, women are wearing corsets as outerwear. By adding sequins and bows, the dangers of corsets are left at the wayside in the name of fashion.

Corsets alter the natural shape of the body by squeezing a woman's rib cage in, causing severe physical consequences if worn for an extended period.

Most corsets require another person to help tie the laces, which can take over 30 minutes to tie tightly enough for the hour glass effect.

In addition to being extremely uncomfortable and time consuming, corsets are also dangerous and can cause permanent side effects.

According to Newsweek, the new versions of corsets are lined with carbon-steel bones, which combine engineering with the yielding pressure of a boa constrictor.

A poorly designed or tightly laced corset can damage the back, pinch nerves in the pelvis and legs, and cause abdominal cramps. If worn for long periods, they can also cause permanent damage to the uterus.

Tightly laced, also known as "tightlaced" corsets are the most popular, because the constriction can remove over four inches from the waistline and a full dress size overall, according to corset designer Peter Soronen.

Tightlaced corsets require training to achieve the full effect. Those serious in wearing corsets are expected to wear them for 12 to 16 hours a day for at least six months before they will see drastic results in their waistline.

Wearing tightlaced corsets has one of the most severe consequences. Tightlaced corsets reshape the lower part of a person's ribcage, causing their lower ribs to become tapered. This gives women the hour glass figure they desire, but the damage done to the ribcage is permanent. Unlike the shaping of the upper torso, which can and will fill out once a woman stops wearing the corset, the lower ribcage will remain tapered.

Not only are they dangerous, designer corsets are also costly. Women are paying \$200 to \$1,400 for corsets to wear to social events. Women are paying obscene amounts of money for what could be considered a torture device. Corsets cause permanent damage to the body, yet women continue to wear them, all in the name of fashion.

Fashion-trendy women everywhere need to recognize that styles like the corset are far too dangerous to become popular before it's too late.

Kyle's Kolumn

Reality television is the weakest link

Today's topic: Reality TV. This one seemed to be a given didn't it? Yes, Reality TV is long overdue for a little roast, because it desperately needs one.

It's way out of hand. The Fox network has a show out now called "Mr. Personality," where 20 men try to woo a bachelorette.

The catch? They're wearing masks, so the bachelorette doesn't know what these men look like until the moment of truth, where she takes off the mask and realizes it's some guy named Henry who has three remaining teeth and is missing a piece of his ear.

And then our lucky bachelorette has to make a decision and decide if she wants to stay with the guy. Leave it to Fox to try and embarrass as many people as possible on national television.

Last month, Fox aired "Joe Millionaire," which was an evil concept from the start.

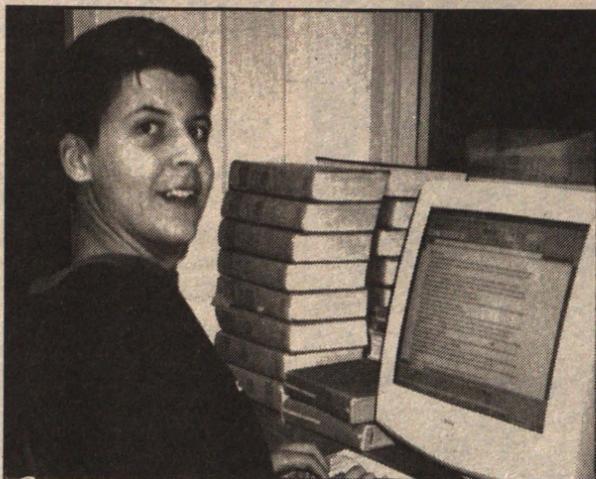
Women tried to become the love of a \$50,000,000-aire who gave the women the illusion that he was filthy rich, when in reality he was only a construction worker who made about \$19,000 a year.

Once the truth came out, the "lucky" woman was given a choice of staying with "Joe Millionaire," or leaving him in disgust.

If she chose to leave, viewers would have seen her as a shallow person who cared too much about money.

However, since she didn't care about that little lie, she was seen as the most kind and understanding person on the planet.

What all of these shows have in common is that, despite being labeled as "reality television," they are not realistic in



every sense of the word.

For instance, "Fear Factor." Reality TV? When will you ever have to eat a live cockroach to further yourself in life?

Okay, I bet you wouldn't do it for free. Take "Survivor." It's a good concept on paper, but they executed it too much like a game show.

Don't vote people off and give them dumb little tasks to do.

Here's how it should be. Stick 16 people in the middle of the Amazon jungle for a month and then come back and see how many of them survive. *That's* reality television.

The reality is, people have to survive in the jungle and some of them don't make it. Entertainment at it's finest. What exactly defines "reality television" though?

Does the news count as "reality television"? It's not labeled

so, but the news only shows real stuff. It shows things that just may affect your life. Reality.

If reality television is what it claims to be, then America has a disgusting misconception of real life.

Leave entertainment to shows like "The Simpsons," which is great because it is based totally on what reality isn't (and satire never hurts), and that's what makes it funny.

The worst thing, though, is that regular, scripted shows are starting to skew normal, everyday activities. "Boston Public," also on Fox, has to be the most screwed up, twisted and dramatic school ever. Really, is anybody ever happy on the show?

I hope reality shows come up with much better ideas.

Unless TV stations start coming out with better reality TV (and I'm not opposed to canceling it altogether), I'm going to have to take over all of the major stations myself, with a plan I haven't yet developed.

Soon, shows like "People Getting Chased by Psychotic Monkeys," where contestants run from monkeys and they win one dollar for every foot they manage to run, will be broadcast across the globe.

Reality TV this isn't. Entertainment it is, however. I'd tune in every single day to watch people being eaten by monkeys, and although *you* probably aren't willing to admit it, you'd watch too. That's what reality TV is all about, isn't it? Entertainment from other people's pain.

But hey, if you want reality television, why not just flip on the Iraq War coverage. It doesn't get more real than that, and it's definitely a lot more interesting than the stuff they have on now.

Letters to the Editor

War in Iraq : I am proud to be an American

Dear Editor,
It would be a grave understatement to say, "I am proud to be an American!"

Despite world criticism against the U.S., I still say, "I am proud to be an American!"

Right now, America is involved in a resolution with Iraq, and I still say, "I am proud to be an American!"

Yet it seems to me that not many others are as "proud"

as I am. Why is that?

The answers most people give about American involvement in Iraq are astonishing, and it's almost as if they do not know what they are talking about.

Another thing is the fact that the U.N.'s job as the "United Nations" is to promote world peace. According to the U.N., the consensus is that Iraq deserves 10

years of unenforced inspections.

In 1991, Saddam Hussein and his regime were told to give up his weapons of mass destruction, which he had then and still has some now.

The United Nations brought in inspectors to oversee the destruction, and after 10 years, kicked them out.

In addition, the United Nations gave up on their ef-

forts of inspecting Iraqi weapons. So much for the U.N.

Next argument is "innocent people will die."

News flash, this just in: Saddam Hussein kills thousands of his own people in northern Iraq with internationally illegal mustard gas.

In other news, Saddam Hussein killed several other men with acid for protesting against the regime. Officials

say this sort of thing happens every day to those people who disagree with their leader.

This man kills his own people. More innocent people will be killed by him than by us.

The fact is, we do not target these people, or even troops, we target those who practice the slow and terrible deaths via mustard gas and acid tanks, AKA Saddam's regime.

Put it this way, the man wants to be like Stalin.

People who protest America's action also say that this is a war for oil.

Please, if America wanted oil so bad it would just get it from its backyard. Alaska has huge stocks of oil deposits.

Furthermore, most of America's oil comes from South America anyway.

If anyone is in this action for oil, it is France. I will admit, I am French and I am ashamed.

France is more oil thirsty than America is.

Most of their oil comes from Iraq, so that means when America wins this war, France will lose their share

to Iraq itself.

That is right, it is Iraq's oil, and when this conflict is over Iraq will have complete control over it.

France would rather have oil than diplomacy.

Last couple of times they wanted diplomacy it rolled through them carrying a German flag.

When all else fails, the opposition blames our leader, President George W. Bush. Oil was already discussed, so he is not "oil thirsty." So what is left?

Comparing Bush to Adolf Hitler. Adolf Hitler came to power in a war torn Germany.

Their economy was crumbled and they were forced to disarm. But he still built weapons and trained his military while the world sat back and watched.

Later on, the dictator killed thousands upon thousands of his own people in gas chambers...sound familiar yet?

On top of that, France wanted diplomacy!

"The easiest way for evil men to prevail is for good men to do nothing." Edmund Burke.

Jake DeLort.

War in Iraq : God Bless America!

Dear Editor,
With the world as it is today, one can hardly help but be proud to be an American, or can they?

Across the country, thousands of people are utilizing their right to free speech to speak out against our heroic war with Iraq. Amongst their violent demonstrations and traffic disruptions, I can't help but notice how naïve, how selfish, and how heartless these protestors truly are.

Signs they hold say "No war for oil," but if they would only truly understand, they would see the truth.

The war has absolutely nothing to do with oil. If the U.S. wanted oil, we could simply take over Kuwait, use

more oil from South America, or drill in Alaska.

We are in Iraq to liberate the Iraqi people from a ruthless dictator who kills, tortures, and rapes his own people and to eliminate the threat Saddam Hussein poses to the world. Protestors don't understand this basic fact, proving that they do not appreciate the lives of innocent Iraqi people, and would rather let Saddam have his way with them.

Our military force, essentially made up of volunteers, are willing to give up their lives to save Iraq and American citizens from the horrors of Saddam Hussein.

The U.S. could easily lay waste to Baghdad, killing

anything there, but that is not what we are doing.

We are using precision guided missiles that can get within inches of the exact target, allowing us to hit only what we want, avoiding civilian casualties.

Protestors also hold signs saying "Not in my name," yet they want freedom. America is one of the only nations that allows an individual to speak their mind, yet they do not want to be associated with this great nation when we are forced to defend our freedoms.

I would like to see these protestors go to Iraq and protest against Saddam and see how long they are around.

I say those signs should

say, "Yes, in my name," in the name of America. It is true that we as Americans have the right to protest, however, this is not the time.

Now that we know for sure that Saddam has lied about his chemical weapons facilities and SCUD missile capabilities, there is no reason not to support America in our just cause. Seeing these people violently protesting in the streets of this great country makes me sick.

We need to unite, be one team. We need to get rid of the threat of Saddam and restore the freedoms of the Iraqis. Let us all support our brave troops and God Bless America!

Paul Majchrowski

Have you heard?

The Wildcat Chronicle wants your opinion!

Letters can be written or typed. All letters must be signed. Please submit letters to Ms. Kuehn in room 319, the Chronicle mailbox in the administrative office, or a Chronicle staff member.



Staff Photo

Mr. Wildcat contestant Pat Baur rapped about math while Emmanuel Vasquez backed him up as one of the "homies."

Jensen steals Mr. Wildcat title

By Stephanie Bodane

Derek Jensen won the title of Mr. Wildcat in the 10th annual Mr. Wildcat competition. Jensen won the judges over with his song about being a loser.

Sean Warren took second place followed by Mike Martinez. Other contestants included Simon Blanco, Tom Aguirre, Alex Baker, Emmanuel Vasquez, and Pat Baur.

Hosts Jake Delort and Ashley Mazzola led the show.

"There was a lot of pressure, but I pulled it off," said host Delort.

The contest began with an introduction of the candidates. The contestants' silhouettes appeared on stage, with each one positioned on a block in a still position.

As their names were announced they performed an introduction.

Blanco threw flowers to the audience while Baur danced with a wooden cane.

After the audience and judges met the contestants,

We-go's pom team performed their final dance of the year.

Aguirre performed first, singing in mini shorts about being in love. Baker brought the 1980s back, by singing '80s tunes accompanied by dance moves. Martinez made a guest appearance as his female dancer. Blanco shared his rhythm by freestyling and throwing flowers to the audience.

Baur brought the world of math to a new level by rapping about the Pythagorean theorem.

Vasquez sang '80s love tunes. Martinez was Matt Foley, the motivational speaker who lives in a "van down by the river," based off of a classic Saturday Night Live skit.

Jensen sang about the devastating truth with his hardship with girls. However, he ended up with a girlfriend by the end of the song.

Warren sang "Razzle-Dazzle" from the recent movie, "Chicago", while throwing bagels out into the cheering crowd.

"We should have divided that crown in eight different ways, because we all ruled that night," said Blanco.

After the acts were completed, the sophomore and junior cheerleaders performed their own dance number. The next event for the contestants was the formal wear competition.

Wearing formal wear, each of the seniors were accompanied by a senior cheerleader to the stage.

Once on the stage, it was time for the judge's question and answer session. All of the contestants took turns picking a judge's name out of a hat.

After they picked a name, that judge asked them a particular question which they had to answer.

"I felt like this is one of the best memories I'll ever have in my high school experience," said Blanco.

After the judges made their decision, former Mr. Wildcat Joey Park crowned Jensen Mr. Wildcat of 2003.

Twist of fate lands Scandora her new teaching career

By Bridget Geraghty
Constance Scandora may be new to We-go, but not to teaching.

Scandora taught at Maria High School in Chicago five years after she graduated from there.

She said the principal called her when she had just graduated college saying that one of the nuns had a heart attack and they needed a replacement.

Scandora ended up teaching there for one and a half years.

However, that school was for girls only, so Scandora

has never had boy students before this year.

But not many boys take family and consumer science or food and fit, and that's something she plans to change.

"I'm having a hard time with the boys," Scandora said with a laugh. "And here I am encouraging more boys to join my classes."

Scandora said the most exciting part of teaching this year has not been controlling the boys, but when a student went into labor during her class.

"I helped her to realize that

it was real labor and walked her to the nurse's office where an ambulance came," said Scandora.

Scandora knew it was real labor because she does Elizabeth Ministry work through her church in which she helps pregnant women and women who just gave birth.

Scandora says she does everything from grocery shopping, and cleaning the house to providing spiritual, physical and mental help.

She will help with anything that needs to be done.

Although Scandora has been involved in this for years, she wasn't always a teacher.

She first received her bachelor's at Southern Illinois University in clothing and textiles. From there she went into the fashion industry and stayed there for the majority of her professional life.

She was a sales representative for women's clothing and accessories.

Her job required her to travel to many department stores and boutiques to perform demonstrations.

She decided to become a teacher because the fashion industry was leaving the Chicago area. She said there are still quality designers but no actual manufacturers. To put herself back on the market she went back to school and was certified through Northern Illinois University for family and consumer science.

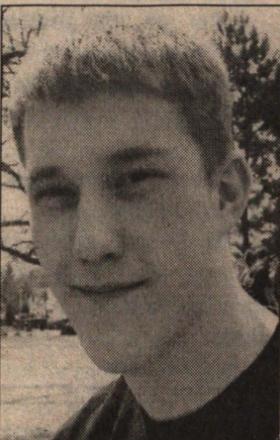
Scandora still tries to dress up everyday like she (See Scandora page 10)



Staff Photo

Scandora shows off her students' "Got Milk?" ads.

What would you do for \$1,000?



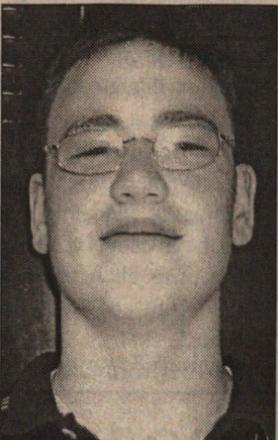
Mark Tonchick
junior

I'd shave every hair off my body.



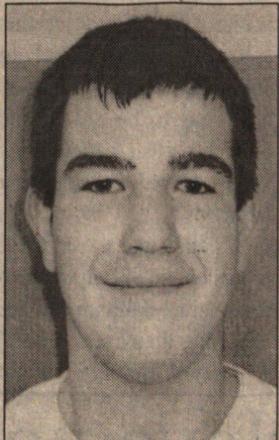
Becky Wilkening
junior

I'd run down the street naked and screaming.



Dale Staton
sophomore

Jump off a building.



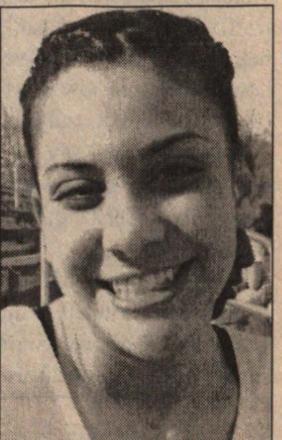
Ryan Foytik
freshman

Cover myself in tar and feathers and run down the street yelling "I'm chicken man!"



Danielle Smith
sophomore

Pretty much anything.



Hilary Tennant
sophomore

I would eat brain tacos.

War doesn't prevent We-go teachers from traveling to Italy

By Michelle Loerzel

Even the Iraqi war starting didn't stop We-go teachers from taking an exciting trip to Italy over spring break.

The group that went included 34 adults, 13 being teachers and three teacher assistants. Others were husbands, friends, brothers, mothers, and fathers of those teachers who went.

Social studies teacher Patricia Horton originally thought of the idea of going to Italy and started planning. Teachers had to decide if they wanted to go in September.

"I originally wanted to have at least 20 people and I was afraid of not having enough people to go," said Horton.

World Culture Tours made the arrangements with Horton's input on where and what she wanted to do.

Flying out was great, with no turbulence, said Hafertepe. Once they flew into Milan, they had an hour flight into Naples and took a bus trip into Sorrento.

Teachers stayed at the Meterraneo hotel in Sanagnello, a small suburb of Sorrento. The hotel was on a

cliff along the Amalfi coast. There were mountains and little mountains in the side of them, said Horton.

While teachers were there they toured Sorrento and visited a farm where mozzarella cheese is made.

They also visited Correale Museum, a local museum in Sorrento where art work is displayed. The group went on a bus tour of Naples and Pompeii. In the tour they saw exhibits of ash and molds of bodies when Mt. Vesuvius erupted in AD 79.

In Rome the group visited the Coliseum, the Forum, the Palatine, the Capitoline Hills and Basilica of St. Peter.

"Everyone loves Italian food and we had wonderful food. I know everyone gained five pounds," said Horton.

On the day that they went to the Isle of Capri they took a ferry to the island and then used rowboats to reach a cave. At the cave, teachers had to lay down flat in order to not hit the top of the cave. While there, the rower told the teachers to look down into the water.

"The water was iridescent

blue. It looked this way because the rock of the cave is white and a little bit of sun light comes through and reflects off of the water," said Horton.

There were a few of English speaking news stations to watch and newspapers for coverage of the war.

"I didn't watch much of the war coverage, I went to enjoy Italy," said Horton.

A flag was hung in some windows, which said "pace" which in English means peace.

"At the American embassy in Naples there were two officers on patrol with machine guns, just protecting it," said English teacher Mary Hafertepe. "This was the only thing we noticed that had to do with the war."

At a restaurant, the owner told the teachers to tell their American friends to come visit Italy because it is safe to come, said Hafertepe. The owner also said that tourism is low right now.

"I felt absolutely safe being in Italy," said Horton.

Teachers are already talking about where they would like to go next year in Italy.



Photo courtesy of Patricia Horton

We-go teachers and families went to Italy for spring break.

Gabrielle Tufano's skillful hand wins her Artist of the Month

By Bridget Geraghty

Senior Gabrielle Tufano is April's Artist of the Month.

How did you first become interested in art? I've always enjoyed drawing pictures when I was a kid, but it wasn't until freshman year when I took an intro to art class that I learned that I was good at drawing and wanted to be better.

Which media do you prefer to use? My favorite media are pencil, pastels and oil paint. I prefer Genesis Artist Colors because they are so similar to oils but stay wet forever unless I dry them with a heat gun, or put the painting in the oven.

Is there a particular artist that has influenced your work? Artemesia Gentileschi.

How has this artist influenced your work? Artemesia was a child prodigy who painted masterpieces by the time she was 18. She was also the first woman to become a member of the Academy of Design. She inspires me as a woman and an artist more than she inspires my work.

Do you plan to study art



Courtesy of Gabrielle Tufano

Artist of the Month Gabriel Tufano.

after you graduate? Yes. After I graduate I plan to spend one year making a portfolio then transferring to an art school.

Do you have a particular art program or school that you are interested in? I will spend one year at COD taking art classes to help me create a portfolio. There are a few art schools that I'm considering, one being Monserrat College of Art in Beverly, Mass.

Is anyone else in your family interested in art? Every-

one in my family takes an interest in art, and some of them are very talented too, but none of them actually make art.

Do you have any advice for students who are interested in art? I would like to tell other students who are interested in art that other people's art can do two things to an artist: inspire them or intimidate them. Do not shy away from making art because you think it's too hard. If you want to make art, just make art.

Identical twins share more than just looks with passion for dance

By Melissa Stevens

Sisters Luz Maria and Lourdes Tlathui are waltzing through their last days at We-go.

The identical twins first started dancing in Puebla, Mexico, where they lived until they were 6-years-old.

"I did a couple of dances," Lourdes said. "Very traditional dances."

They stopped dancing when they arrived in America and moved to West Chicago. It was not until they entered high school that they started dancing again.

First they enrolled in dance classes at We-go, and then they visited Ballroom City in Villa Park.

"I learned to dance just by going to that ballroom studio and dancing," said Lourdes. The other dancers at the studio watched them dance and helped them with basic steps.

The first dance they learned was modern, followed by some jazz and ballet dances that they actually took courses in.

However, neither is their favorite type of dance.

"I love ballroom dancing because you dance with a partner," Luz Maria said.

"And because there are rules to it. You can't just do whatever you want. There are rules and basic steps."

They have been taking ballroom dancing lessons for the past one and a half years. Ballroom is their favorite because it includes dances like the waltz, foxtrot, and the tango.

Latin ballroom dancing is their favorite because it includes those dances and others like the cha-cha, rumba, and paso doble.

The hardest part of social dancing for them is dancing with a partner who does not know the dance. Then you cannot move, said Lourdes.

Luz Maria believes the hardest part of ballroom dancing and dancing in general is memorizing all the choreography that the dances require.

During the last four years at We-go, they have done a variety of activities with dancing.

They are a part of dance production, they danced at Artworks, and they teach ballroom dancing for the Habitat for Humanity charity.

One of the best things about dancing for them is that they can do it together.

"I really enjoy doing the

same hobby together," said Luz Maria. "She (Lourdes) likes dancing as much as I do."

When they are not dancing, they like to do relaxing things like listening to classical music and learning languages.

Currently they are fluent in Mexican and English, and they can also speak Italian and French. The next language they plan to learn is Portuguese.

"I'm just fascinated with them," said Lourdes. "When I hear someone speak another language, I want to learn what they're saying so I can understand them."

The breaks they take from dancing only help them perfect their craft.

The different Latin-based languages they learn help them understand the different cultures and styles of dancing they do.

This fascination with dancing is not going to end soon, either. After high school, they hope to go to a school that will prepare them for professional ballroom dancing.

"I would like to compete in ballroom and Latin in the future," said Lourdes.

Rumberger draws near the end of his career at We-go

By Bridget Geraghty

The summer before his freshman year in high school, Jim Rumberger spent a few weeks with his grandfather, where the two of them did nothing but pastel drawings.

This was the first contact with art Rumberger had. Now, after 37 years of teaching ceramics and drawing classes, Rumberger credits those weeks to sparking his interest in art.

"Those weeks strengthened my confidence," said Rumberger.

However, there was little time for electives in high school if he

wanted to go to college, and it wasn't until he took art appreciation and studio art at Wheaton College that he realized he wanted art as his major.

Rumberger said he felt like teaching was a profession he could do well in, and the idea of working with kids as opposed to adults appealed to him. Rumberger student taught at We-go in the spring of 1966 and was hired the same fall to be a part-time English teacher and a part-time art teacher.

"I wanted to stay in the area because my soon-to-be-wife still had a year to go at Wheaton,"

explained Rumberger.

In fact, he only had one other interview.

Rumberger taught only art from 1968 until the mid 1980s, but switched to part-time English from the mid '80s until 2000, due to a drop in art enrollment.

As a teacher, Rumberger thinks he does very well.

"I'm laid back, I enjoy art and can communicate that to my students. I don't have all the characteristics of an artist, though," he said with a smile.

The most rewarding part of (See Rumberger Page 10)

noticias ñ

Talento Hispano siempre presente en Community High School

Por Maira Borjón
 Angélica Blanco y Carmen Osorio son dos estudiantes que talentosamente representan mediante bailes folclóricos nuestra muy querida cultura indígena y mexicana.

Desde que estaba en séptimo grado, Blanco comenzó a bailar. Al principio la idea no le había ni siquiera pasado por la mente; ella ni se interesaba ni pensaba en llegar a ser toda una bailadora de bailes folclóricos.

Por el contrario, en la familia de Osorio el baile ya es toda una tradición y la música regional ya la llevan en las venas.

Su mamá era parte del grupo de Quilvateca de México. Eventualmente, cuando Osorio estaba planeando su quinceañera, decidió aprender su vals de quien es ahora su maestro de baile. Aunque sus padres las apoyan en lo que ellas quieran hacer, bailar fue una decisión que ellas tomaron por propia iniciativa.

Después de que este tipo de baile les fue presentado,

les encantó. El sentimiento y la emoción que mostraron los otros bailarores las entusiasma a aprender más.

Los diferentes bailes regionales que ellas han bailado incluyen danzas folclóricas de los estados de Nayarit, Tamaulipas, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Chiapas, Guerrero, Zacatecas y norte de Michoacán. Actualmente ensayan para presentar un baile veracruzano.

Hay por lo menos un baile para cada estado de México, cuyos movimientos y música representan la diversidad cultural de cada uno de los diferentes estados y regiones mexicanas. De esos bailes, sus favoritos han sido los de Jalisco, como el muy conocido, La Negra.

Es sorprendente pensar que Blanco antes era muy tímida y ahora sube al escenario y baila frente a su público. Osorio dice que no ha cambiado, sigue siendo la misma persona que era cuando comenzó a bailar en séptimo grado.

Blanco y Osorio no se ponen nerviosas. Solo sienten un poco de nervios cuando

el piso esta resbaloso o cuando hay mucha gente conocida en la audiencia.

Cuando estas dos talentosas estudiantes están bailando se olvidan de todo y tratan de deleitar a su público con lo que ellas saben hacer. La reacción de la gente y de su propio grupo ante su desempeño las siguen animado y les quitan los nervios.

Disfrutan ver que la gente queda satisfecha después de verlas bailar porque son ellos mismos que con sus aplausos las siguen motivando a representar estos bailes mexicanos.

Ensayan para todas sus presentaciones en el Community Center de Aurora tres días a la semana durante dos horas.

Han tenido presentaciones en varios lugares incluyendo: The Paramount en Aurora, diferentes iglesias, y fiestas hasta para presentarse a diferentes grupos étnicos de los Estados Unidos. Han tenido la oportunidad de competir en la feria de San Marcos en San

Antonio, Texas, en la cual se hicieron merecedoras al cuarto lugar. Blanco dijo que unas de las memorias más preciosas que guardan en su corazón fue cuando tuvieron la oportunidad de conocer a Edward James Olmos hace cuatro años.

Los hombres y las mujeres tienen diferentes papeles en el baile folclórico incluyendo el vestuario que usan.

El vestuario para las mujeres incluye faldas grandes y de muchos colores que varían de acuerdo al estado del cual proviene el baile regional.

El grupo baila con tocados y abanicos, y el maquillaje es una de las partes más importantes de su presentación. Para las mujeres, su fachada y actitud hacen la diferencia entre una buena y una mala presentación. Los hombres se visten en trajes blancos o rancheros y hacen la mayoría del ruido porque sus movimientos incluyen más pasión.

Los movimientos de las mujeres son más pacíficos y elegantes, y dependen mayormente en los movimientos de sus faldas, manos, y en la ex-



Fotografía cortesía de la familia Blanco

Carmen Osorio y Angie Blanco bailando el baile de Veracruz.

presión de la cara.

Osorio y Blanco participan en varias actividades después de escuela en Community High School. Osorio está en el equipo de Track and Field, trabaja en un Retirement Home, y juega tenis. Blanco es una voluntaria en el Hospital Central de DuPage, y cuida a su hermano.

Aparte de todo esto, ellas también ensayan en El Grupo Quetzalcoatl, que es así como se llama el grupo donde ellas bailan.

Dicen que es difícil apren-

der los diferentes bailes porque algunos de los pasos son complicados e implican una sincronía muy rigurosa. Aprender los bailes es más que aprender los pasos, tienen que imitar el movimiento y los sonidos de los taconazos. Su grupo siempre esta buscando a gente nueva que le guste bailar los bailes regionales de México. La próxima presentación será del

Ballet Folclórico Quetzalcoatl será en la High School de Plano a fines de abril.

Rumberger... (Continued from page 9)

teaching for Rumberger is the when he sees his students' eyes light up about a work they've created or when they are excited about how far they've come from the beginning of the year.

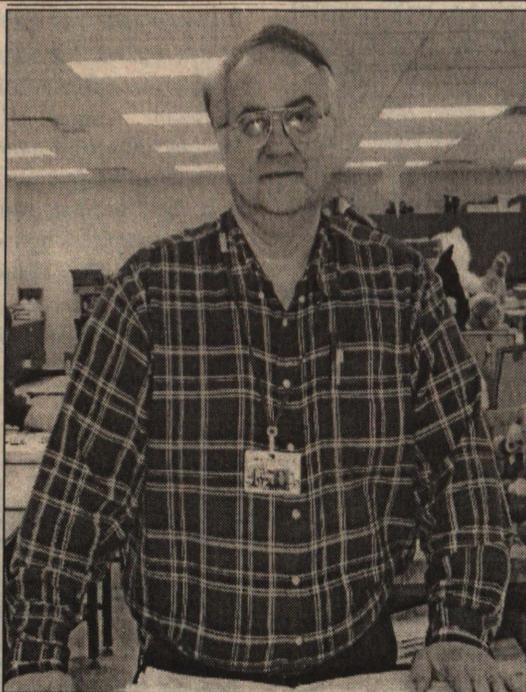
Rumberger has a few ideas in store for himself after he is retired, including using the potter's wheel and electric kiln he received as a gift.

He and his wife have also de-

cidated to be the caregivers of her parents, so that will keep him busy as well.

Looking back on his years at We-go, he said the administration has been very supportive and he has had great working relationships with the other teachers in his departments.

Rumberger has enjoyed We-go, and claimed that its education "is really second to none."



Staff Photo

Rumberger is wrapping up his last years at We-go.

Blonda looks for future in STARS

By Kyle Bullis

New special education teacher Teresa Blonda is already comfortable with her position at We-go.

Blonda joined the special education department after working as a teaching assistant and substitute teacher at East Leyden High School in Franklin Park.

Blonda went into college unsure of what she was going to do.

"I considered other majors like physical education

or English," said Blonda.

Blonda wanted to teach but she didn't know what. She decided to take some special education classes and was a teacher's assistant to make sure she was in a teaching department she enjoyed.

Blonda chose to teach at We-go because she was moving over the summer and she wanted to teach somewhere close to her new home.

When she joined We-go, she thought that special education programs sounded in-

teresting.

She also likes the spirit at the high school.

"I enjoyed getting to know students and staff. I like the spirit and energy that school's made up of," said Blonda.

Besides the added responsibility of being a full-time teacher, the environment at We-go isn't much of a departure from Leyden.

"The amount of periods are different. The mixtures of cultures and ethnicity is the same. Also, We-go is slightly bigger," said Blonda.

Blonda chose to teach at a high school level because the age group is much easier to relate to.

"Everyone has an areas of specialty with high school kids. You're able to relate more," said Blonda.

Scandora... (Continued from page 8)

did when she was in sales, and said, "I like to be fashionable and up to date." Scandora didn't always live in the city, however.

She grew up in Chicago and moved to the suburbs nine years ago.

She said she was surprised at the ethnic differences she found in West Chicago, but she liked that.

Frequent trips to the Farmer's Market to buy the ethnic and unusual food she likes to dine on helped her notice many similarities between the city and the suburbs.

She likes to eat unusual food in order to identify with her background, Polish and

Lithuanian, and so she is constantly trying new foods.

For example, she loves to eat chicken noodle soup made with chicken feet.

So far she has not been able to find feet anywhere else but the Farmer's Market.

Overall West Chicago has been a nice experience for her.

"I really enjoy the diverse community in West Chicago," said Scandora.

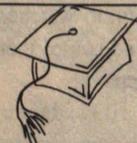
She is also pleased with the high school, and said quality is in every aspect of the school from the superintendent to the smallest freshman.

"It is polished every day by the most energizing staff and dynamic student body," said Scandora.



Staff Photo

Teresa Blonda



Say good-bye to the seniors with an ad in the Chronicle. Beginning in May you will have your chance. Look for it!

DVC/ESCC game raises thousands for Columbia disaster

By Michelle Loerzel

Marketing class raised over \$2,000 for the Columbia Shuttle Children's Fund April 9. The event, DVC/ESCC Challenge, was organized by Community High School's marketing class.

"It was very organized and different people had respon-

sibilities such as selling tickets, handing out programs, raffling tickets, score board and selling tee shirts," said business teacher and baseball coach Dan McCarthy.

McCarthy decided to pattern the fund after one started after the 1986 Challenger Shuttle tragedy.

It was a good crowd considering it was kind of cold and it is about an hour drive, said McCarthy.

After the end of the second and fourth innings, the marketing class had the crowd join in on some activities such as sumo wrestling, trike bike races and singing for

supper.

For the sumo wrestling, two high school males were randomly picked from the crowd.

The first place winner received a \$25 gift certificate from Shell and the second place winner received a \$20 gift certificate from Foot Locker.

Two high school girls raced on trike bikes for a \$45 gift certificate to Ulta 3 or Mario Tricoci for first place. Second place won a \$40 gift certificate for Katrina's Hair Salon for a full set of nails.

Athlete of the Month



Laura Baumrucker

By Stephanie Bodane
Laura Baumrucker is April's Athlete of the Month for participation and accomplishments in track. She is a two-time state qualifier.

How long have you been running track?

Since sixth grade, it will be six years after this season.

What is your favorite part about track?

I've always loved to run and having a fun team to do it with makes it great.

What events do you participate in?

100 m.

200 m.

400 m.

4 x 100 relay

4 x 200 relay

4 x 400 relay

What major awards have you received?

I got MVP my freshman and sophomore year. I was athlete of the week for the West Chicago Press freshman year. I also was seventh in state last year for the 400 m. dash.

Do you do anything special before a meet to prepare for your event?

I'm the type to get very nervous. So I just try to relax and I also think about how I am going to run my race.

"What added a nice touch was that the female choir ensemble sang the National Anthem, and they were very good," said McCarthy.

McCarthy was interviewed on the radio as part of the marketing program.

Joliet Catholic gave some of the prizes that were raffled off.

Although it was for a good cause, We-go was unable to make a hit in the game against Benet Academy.

"The pitcher was dominant

and we gave up hits in one of the innings," said baseball coach John Walters.

The score ended at 7-0, as the Wildcats were shut out by Benet's dominant pitching staff.

The game was played at a minor league park, so it was a nice field, said Walters.

All of West Chicago's pitchers were able to play in this game.

"It was a great experience for our kids," said Walters after the game.

Boys serve new season

By Anna Nubie

Boys Volleyball coach Kris Hasty hopes that this year the team will make top three in conference.

The team lost their match against Wheaton North on April 15.

Hasty said that the team gave a great effort and worked together.

The matches ended in scores of 12-15, 15-6, and 13-15.

On April 10, senior Jim Campbell, the team's number two hitter, hurt his ankle in practice.

Hasty said that right now they are not sure how long he will be out but she expects senior Dan Callahan to help out.

At the Wheaton North game Hasty said that "Callahan really did step in and did a great job on the left side."

The first tournament of the season took place on April 11-12.

It was held at Hoffman Estates which was also one of the competing teams.

Other teams that competed included New Trier, Palatine, Leyden and Mundelein.

They placed sixth out of the eight teams.

It wasn't until after that tournament that we really started playing as a team, said Hasty.

Senior Tysyn Wyman and sophomore Derek Jensen were both strong supporters in the tournament.

The team kicked off in the DVC with strong wins.

At the Glenbard East game on April 10, the team won the game by winning two of the three matches with the scores of 15-7, 6-15, and 15-11.

On April 8, the team beat West Aurora handily, Hasty said. The matches were won at scores 15-8 and 15-5.

A match against Larkin on April 1 also took home a win.

"I think we've got a good team," said Hasty.

They lost a lot of height after seniors such as 7-foot Andy Hein graduated. This year they really need to block and play strong defense, said Hasty.

Water polo looking to improve

By Melissa Stevens

We-go water polo is off to a rough start, but they are on the road to improvement.

The boys team, headed by team captain CJ Wostratzky, has played four games so far, all of which they lost.

They played their first game against St. Charles North. The team lost 19 to 1.

The second game they played was against Naperville Central, where they lost 14 to 2.

They also played against Waubonsie Valley and St. Ignatious, where they lost 14 to 0 and 11 to 3, respectively.

According to Wostratzky, the hardest game they have played so far was against St. Ignatious because they were missing two of their better

players and were short on substitutes.

"It's been a learning experience," said Wostratzky. Since this is the first year for water polo, most of the players have never played the sport before.

"Our strong swimmers are picking up," Wostratzky said. The weaker swimmers are still learning the game, but Wostratzky has faith that they will continue to strive and excel at it eventually.

Both the girls and boys teams have been working together in hopes of making the team a success.

All of the practices are co-ed, which gives both teams the chance to see how the other is doing.

Also, non-starters for the

boys team play in the girls games, said Wostratzky, in order to gain the experience they need.

He believes that the key to winning will be in using the team's strength and working on their weaknesses.

"We need to work on making better passes and getting back on defense," Wostratzky said. The team continues to work hard, and will hopefully reach their goals by the end of the season.

Wostratzky's swimming experience convinced him to join water polo instead of playing volleyball this year.

"It takes a lot of work and the games are tiring," he said. Regardless, he and the other members of his team are enjoying the sport.

Miller comes home to no avail

By Michelle Loerzel

Two homeruns were not enough to secure a We-go win against the Glenbard North Panthers recently.

Rich Miller slammed two homeruns in the second and fourth innings, but the Panthers still came out on top 6-2.

Coach John Walters said that besides Miller's success, it was hard for the team to get the hits it needed to pull off a win.

T.J. Shanahan pitched the entire game.

"This was a tough game," said Scott Sieder.

The Wildcats fell behind because of a couple crucial mistakes on the outfield.

During the first inning there was a run made because of an error and it really cost We-go.

"Consistently putting the ball in play is the one thing we need to work on the most," Walters said.

The team needs to produce more on offense, said Sieder.

Against Plainfield, a steal

to home plate by Tom Grove put We-go up one to win the game, 2-1.

Grove was able to steal in the bottom of the seventh to secure the win.

Beyond Grove's steal, We-go had an obvious advantage with Shanahan and Dan Deutsch pitching in the game.

Shanahan was able to pitch scoreless sixth and seventh innings.

"They played very well defensively," said Walters.

We-go could have won without the steal in the seventh but a misjudged fly ball cost We-go the only score against them for Plainfield.

At the DVC/ESCC tournament, We-go played Benet Academy after the Joliet Catholic vs. Naperville Central game.

The funds from this game went to benefit the Columbia Shuttle Children's Fund, which the marketing class from We-go organized.

At Benet's game We-go was unable to score a run. The

pitcher was dominant, said Walters.

In one inning Benet was able to score five out of their seven total runs.

"We did give up a lot of hits," said Walters.

We-go lost against Batavia because of a good pitcher who let We-go have only one hit.

Dan Harms was the only player able to hit the ball.

"Their pitcher is awesome and it was difficult to do anything on offense," said Walters.

West Chicago lost to Batavia 6-0 April 3.

Wildcats had a close game at Waubonsie Valley. We-go lost by one with a score of 2-1.

We-go was leading until the seventh inning when Waubonsie scored twice.

The five returning starters include Dan Kaylor, Sieder, Miller, John Weir and Harms. Captains include Miller, Sieder and Kaylor.

Coaches are Walters, Dan McCarthy and Mike Hanson.

with a 3-1-1 record.

We-go played against Minooka on April 16, winning 1-0.

"We kept the game good defensively," said Krueger.

When one player makes a mistake on field, Krueger feels that the rest of the team is there to pick each other up.

On April 15, We-go tied 3-3 after 10 innings with Glenbard West.

After the field got too dark to play on, the coaches agreed to keep the game a tie and try to finish the game another day.

We-go lost to Plainfield 4-2 on April 14.

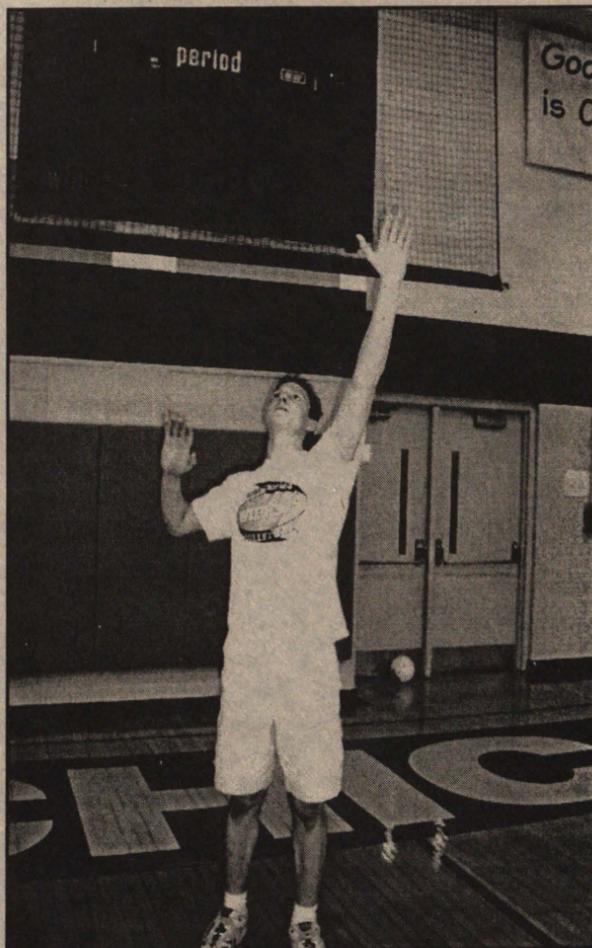
Top-notch defense keeps softball in game

By Jessica Myers

Senior softball player Jessica Krueger thinks We-go has a top defensive game.

"I think we've got probably the best defense in the DVC so we just have to get it done," said Krueger.

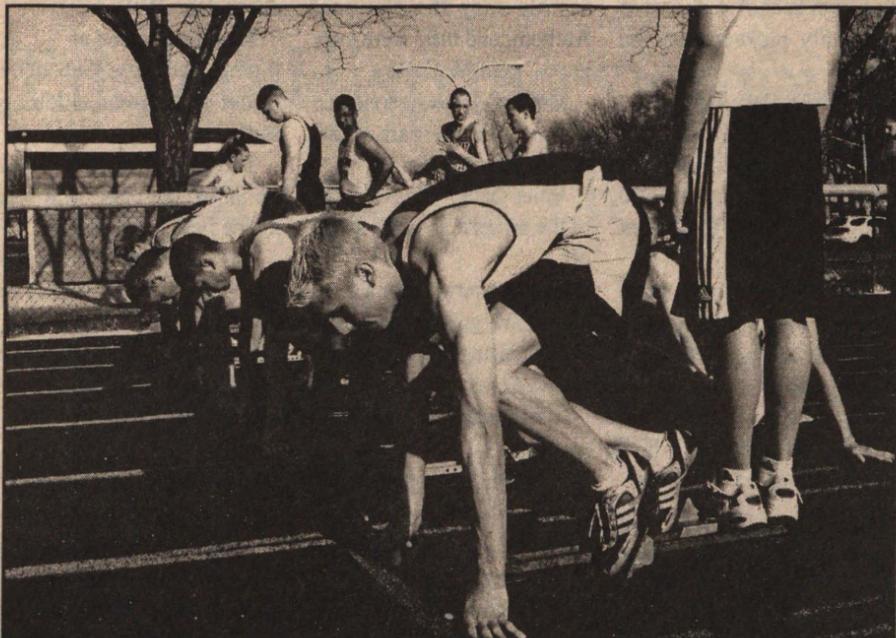
We-go's softball team is proving this statement true



Staff photo

Junior Doug Boyd tosses the ball up for a serve.

Wildcats taking to the outdoors



Staff photo

Sprinter Mike Savenago sets himself in the blocks seconds before the start of the 100m.

Girls track smashes old records

By Logan Schrage

Broken school records seem to be a new thing for the girls track team.

"My name will still be on the school," said Rachael Slattery after breaking a school record in pole vault for the girls track team. Katy Kostal also broke a school record in the 3200 meter run.

The girls seem to enjoy practices outside, said Coach Katerina Claiborne after the team's first meet outdoors recently. Outdoor practices seem to be important for the team.

The team now has 63 members as opposed to last year's 35 to 40.

However, at Saturday competitions each team is only allowed two members for each event.

Because of this rule, the girls compete against each other during practices to make one of the two spots in the competitions.

Claiborne said that members enjoy competing on Saturdays because awards and trophies are given out.

Lauren Anders started the first meet and seems to be one

of the team members to look for, with good times and is turning out to be fantastic.

At the DVC Indoor International at Lewis University, the varsity team placed fourth out of eight.

Varsity lost by 66 points to Naperville North's 106 points. Individual wins came from Laura Baumrucker and Lauren Anders.

Junior varsity placed fourth, losing to Wheaton North by 25 points.

The next girls track meet will be Saturday at Glenbard East.

Eltrain's view:

A question for the ages

By Elliott Tinnes

When many of us were young we wondered: Where do babies come from? Time and time again, our four-year-

old minds would ponder this timeless question. Alas, our young innocent

minds could only hold that train of thought until Inspector Gadget came on. Finally, we decided that the best solution would be to ask our parents, most of whom would uncomfortably "umm" and "ahh" us, until they finally came up with a reasonable, safe answer. Babies came from God, or, maybe, babies came from storks. Either way, we were content with that answer.

Now that I am older, and

more mature, I am pretty sure I know where babies come from. But now another question plagues my mind. "Mom," I ask, "where do high school referees come from?" Mommy does not seem able to answer this one.

So I ask myself, where do high school refs come from? It may not be the most highly esteemed job, but for many sports-minded people, it is still very important. To some, making a call in a football or basketball game is like deciding between life and death. Who then, is making all of these calls?

According to the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) there were nearly 10,000 certified officials in 1999, all of who were active in at least one sport. All Illinois officials are required to take open-book rule tests and attend annual meetings to learn about recent rule changes. For football, officials are also required to pass a mechanics test. Officials must also be recertified every year.

Even with all of these preparations, who is to say that the refs are always doing the right thing? As with any occupations, there are good and bad officials, but teams

should not be subjected to luck of the draw on whether or not they will have a well called game. Often times, it is not too few calls from officials that cause problems. Instead, too many calls hinder the game's flow. For example, I was at a certain sectional championship for basketball about a month ago. The officials did not call an unfair game, but they called fouls so often that I was not sure if I was at a basketball game or a free-throw shootout.

It is situations such as this that officials might need to tone it down a little. Especially in a game as important as the sectional championship, calls like that do not do either team any good. Instead, they keep both teams from being able to play their games.

I do respect each and everyone of them though. I know that it must be an incredibly stressful job to make controversial calls, always knowing that coaches will be in your face, crowds will boo you and high school students will write articles about you.

I assume that most high school officials are where they are because they love the sport. If not, then this is not a position for them.

By Mary Beth Selby

Despite the loss of senior track runners from last year, boys track is still pulling ahead in their outdoor season.

Coach Paul McLeland thinks the team is "a little further ahead" than last year.

"The question is, 'Can we hang on?' I would like to believe we can, but it's hard since we lost some good runners last year," said McLeland.

The boys are showing real potential to make scores. We-go boys conquered at Geneva Saturday at the annual Tiger Invitational, which they had high hopes to win. Last year they were second, losing only to Geneva.

"It's good to have goals to aim high. But I will be disappointed if we don't win, some guys will be disappointed too," said McLeland.

Though the meet ended early before the 400 m race, We-go still won.

In their first outdoor meet at Wheaton North with West Aurora, the boys took second place, while Wheaton North took first and West Aurora took third.

"They put out a lot of good effort, I am very pleased," said McLeland.

There were many first place finishes for their first meet of the season. The 2-mile relay team took first. Mike Savegnago, who normally does relays, high jump, and pole vault, placed first in the high jump, 100 m. dash, and 200 m dash.

Jeff Raymond jumped 14-feet, 6-inches, securing first place.

"He jumped a foot more than last week, which is huge," said McLeland.

Mark Foote placed first for

the 400 m run with a time of 52.4 seconds.

Though Mike Doll took second place in the 100 m. hurdles with a personal best time of 15.2 seconds, McLeland said he is working towards the state qualifying time of 14.5 seconds.

While the Wheaton North meet was only a Tuesday meet, the boys took it very seriously.

"Tuesday meets are like competitive practice. But we got many PBs (personal bests), especially on a warm windy day, so that was good," said McLeland.

The boys had a home meet on Tuesday against Wheaton Warrenville South and Naperville North. Their next track meet is the annual Raider Invite on Saturday at Glenbard South. The team has traditionally performed well at this meet.

Girls soccer kicks it up a notch

By Bridget Geraghty

Girls soccer has started their season off right and hopes to stay with their gaining momentum.

After five games they are 2-3, but varsity head coach Julio DelReal thinks they are playing really well and should be 4-1.

"With this team, we get close to the goal and can't do anything," said DelReal.

The most recent game was against St. Francis with a heartbreaking loss 3-1.

"Besides the score, we totally dominated the game, even had the ball most of the time," said DelReal.

He also said St. Francis only had five chances to score

but unfortunately they managed to score three of those times.

They also lost to Wheaton Warrenville South, but the only upset was in the score, 5-0.

According to DelReal, WWS is one of the best teams in the state, outplayed We-go on all levels, and on top of that, We-go came out not performing their best.

The team did win their first game 3-1 against York. DelReal said the team played very well but fell apart the second half.

"We played flat, really bad. Luckily we still had enough to hold them off," said DelReal.

The next game against Rosary was a loss for the team, losing 0-1.

"We outshot them by a margin of 4 to 1 shots, and they had only three shots and scored one of those times," explained DelReal.

Luckily they bounced back against Larkin and won 2-1. DelReal said the team was more physical than all three teams and outplayed the other teams.

For the post-season, DelReal has a lot of hope for the girls, especially after last year's knockout in the first round against St. Charles.

"We're as strong and as good as they were," DelReal said.

We-go wins Leyden tourney

By Sam West

The badminton team has made an improvement over last year, and the season is only half over.

The varsity badminton team won their recent tournament at Leyden East High School, where four other high schools competed.

This year was an improvement over last, when the team took third at Leyden.

Assistant coach Jodi Donovan said that the varsity and JV record was 4-1, with the only loss to Glenbard East.

"The other team outperformed us," Donovan said of their loss.

But on the whole, the badminton team is doing well.

"The girls have the skills they need to win and they

have the confidence," Donovan said.

Donovan attributed their record to the fact that the varsity team is strong.

Varsity player Sarah Swatworth said, "Playing with girls who feel the same way about the sport and who have attitudes that make it worthwhile is the best part of badminton."

Many freshmen also tried out this year, and Donovan thinks that they will grow into good varsity players.

"The freshmen show a lot of promise," she said.

The freshmen won their only match against Glenbard East. The reason the freshmen have not competed much thus far is because most schools that are not in the DVC do not have freshmen

badminton teams, said Donovan.

DVC competitions are coming up at the beginning of May, Donovan said, and the freshmen will get more playing time soon.

But, Donovan warned, "The DVC is a very tough conference."

Swatworth said that the biggest challenge the players have now is moving their feet faster. She said that being able to move quickly around the court is a big part of the game.

And of all the 10 varsity, 17 JV, and 19 freshmen players, Donovan said they need to work hard on one thing if they wish to keep improving their skills.

"Their running skills," she joked.