

Wildcat Chronicle

Volume 34,
Issue 8

West Chicago Community High School
Thursday, May 22, 2003

Despite strained relations, French exchange worked

By Melissa Stevens

During a time where foreign relations between France and the United States were strained, We-go students proved that it is possible to put politics behind them.

Twenty-five French foreign exchange students arrived in West Chicago from Mounier High School for a two-week stay with their American hosts.

"It was my dream to come here," said French student Thibaud Delbouscas.

The 16-year-old high school junior stayed with Kathryn Podschwilt.

It was a dream Delbouscas almost didn't have the chance to fulfill. The trip itself remained in doubt for weeks due to tense foreign relations between the United

States and France.

Trip advisers were wary of how the French students might be treated by the American students.

"I was afraid people would treat us badly," said Karim Ben Aoun. "(But) they are nice."

Each French student lived with an American host who was responsible for showing him or her around the area.

Activities began with a family reception and potluck dinner for the American families.

American hosts Kirsten Stockhoff and Kristina Wanous tried to show their French students as much of American life as possible during their stay.

"I wanted them to experience the cultural differences

in America," said Wanous. "While showing them that we're not so different and we like to do the same stuff."

Stockhoff and Wanous, along with their students Nathalie Nguyen and Anne Favre Reguillon, spent most of their time during the two weeks seeing the different sites in DuPage County and Chicago.

One of Favre Reguillon's favorite activities in the United States was going to the many different malls in the area.

She visited Stratford and Charlestowne malls more than once during her stay.

The trips gave Favre Reguillon the opportunity to buy American products at a considerably cheaper price (See French page 3)



Staff Photo

Students from France spent two weeks in the United States living with their hosts. French students were given the chance to experience a day in the life of a typical American high school student during the exchange program.

Chronicle snags more awards

By Kyle Bullis

The Wildcat Chronicle snagged a few more awards at the Northern Illinois School Press Association (NISPA) conference at College of DuPage.

News editor Sam West received an honorable mention for news writing, and contributing artist Brandi Ruiz received an award for her art work. The whole team won a

Silver Eagle certificate.

The news section received the highest praise, scoring a perfect 20 out of 20 points. The judges described it as "impressive work" and that it has a "broad appeal."

The features section also managed a perfect 20 out of 20 score. The features section showed a "solid effort" according to the NISPA judges.

The sports section earned

17 out of 20 points.

"There's lots of sports coverage; a plus for the staff," a judge wrote.

The perspectives section received a solid 18 out of 20 points. The judges praised the "overall good effort in presenting perspectives."

The overall appearance of the newspaper nabbed 17 out of 20 points.

(See Chronicle page 4)

School puts brake on parking

By Sam West

For years, student parking has been on a first come, first serve basis, but things may change next year with a proposed parking lottery.

Principal John Highland said a lottery is under consideration because students are arriving early and there is little teacher supervision when many students arrive.

If the school board passes the proposal, all interested students will sign a sheet, then those names will be randomly selected. Highland said that students will only have the privilege of a parking spot if they have regular attendance and no suspensions or behavior problems.

Highland said that the school plans to number all of its 128 parking spaces, and possibly the spots on Wood and Joliet Streets. Students will be assigned a number.

Since the plan will not be finalized before school is out, Highland will send a letter to students during the

summer, informing them of the parking procedures.

With the demolition of Lincoln School this summer, a few more parking spaces will be constructed, said Highland.

He also said that the school is still waiting for Kerr McGee to open up for student parking. But the location of that lot has been troublesome in the past, according to Highland.

"We've had numerous problems down there," he said. "I would discourage kids from parking down there."

The reason Kerr McGee has had so many problems is because of the lack of supervision on the lot.

Highland said that monitors would be stationed at student parking lots to make sure that students don't park illegally and to watch over the lots.

A major complication with the plan is that students could illegally park in other students' assigned spots. But towing illegally parked cars helps reduce incidents like

that, said Highland.

Still, Highland thinks the school board will support the parking plan.

"I'm sure they have the same concerns as we do," said Highland.

Highland also said that the plan will only go into effect if it has student support. If the student body does not like the idea, parking will remain the same as this year.

Student Sarah Swatsworth said, "I don't like the idea because with practices for band and badminton, I will need a car."

Swatsworth said that she stays after school for practices almost year-round and needs to drive to school.

Other students thought that drivers should exercise more. Joe Tumidalsky said that the school needs to place more bike racks on campus.

"I think people need to get more exercise by walking or riding a bike," said Tumidalsky.

We-go musicians prove their talent at Fox Valley concert

By Bridget Geraghty

Recently 37 We-go students from the music department proved how good they really are.

The Fox Valley Music Festival is a concert held annually to showcase talented students from various schools in Illinois.

This year 25 schools participated in the event. The students were chosen based on recommendation and the size of each school's band, orchestra, and choir.

We-go's band sent Rick Camp, Summer Hassan, Hans Moscecki, Brian Steere, and Joseph Tumidalsky.

Tumidalsky said, "It was two amazing days of music that I believe all musicians should experience."

The students from orches-

tra were James Garcia, Merium Koch, Melissa Lund, Jill Musick, Lathie Norton and Mary Turnquist.

The choir students were Sarah Assian, Brooke Bachelor, Simon Blanco, Jenny Buchman, Andy Dameron, Beca Duran, Allison Haley, Ashley Hannon, Amanda Koester, Gary Koester, Kristin Koltz, Tami Kuta, Susan Lincoln, Jesse Lord, Erin Madden, Jazmine Martinez, Lynn Mielke, Amanda Morrison, Amy Norman, Jim Oroni, Queri Perez, Nathan Roberts, Shannon Treachler, Mike Treachler, Sean Warren and Jennifer Wojcicki.

Director of bands Jim Guter said, "I think it's a great program."

To be involved with Fox

Valley, each school must pay \$50 and then the director must write down the names of 7 percent of the band, orchestra, or choir that they believe should be in it, in order of talent.

The Fox Valley Music Educators Association then compiles and narrows the lists to see who will be invited to play.

This year there was a 150-piece band, a 150-piece orchestra, and a 500-piece choir.

The students are also chosen on what other events they've been in, such as district or all-state.

Haley said, "It was a great experience. I learned a lot and had fun."

The Fox Valley Music Festival was hosted at Oswego High School.

What's inside...

- ✓ Check out our special Graduation section!...12
- ✓ Cortes-Reyes is Student of the Month...3
- ✓ Find out all about government class...2
- ✓ Lifesmarts placed fourth in the nation...4
- ✓ What is a West Chicagoan doing in Egypt?...7
- ✓ Check out noticias ñ...9
- ✓ Find out who is Athlete of the Month...11

Students debate and speak out at government simulations

By Melissa Stevens
Government students requested to yield time and time again this semester for the 21st legislative session. Participants in the session saw their hard work pay off during the three full sessions. Government classes spend most of the semester preparing for the mock legislative session, which consisted of student-created bills that were debated and either passed or failed. Elected leadership for this session were Speaker of the House, Brian Nelson; Majority Floor Leader, Jason Adams; and Minority Floor Leader, Jeremy Rose. For the first time in the history of government classes, students elected their chief executive, Carmen Saucedo. She was last session's head clerk. Bills debated during the session included stem cell research, banning the insanity plea, ending title IX, ban-

ning abortion, legalizing prostitution, and prohibiting the death penalty. Rose believes that the most controversial bill of the session was the amnesty bill. "Because there were a lot of people with strong opinions about it and a lot of good debate," said Rose. "And there were procedural issues to deal with, it lost by only two votes." When the bill was first presented, vote tallies said that 198 people voted on it. However, only 197 people were present at the time of the session. "That gave us grounds to reconsider," said Rose. After participants voted to reconsider the bill, it passed by eight votes. Adams, on the other hand, believes that the hardest bill was the bill to end the death penalty. "There were good arguments on both sides and vot-

ing was within a couple of votes," said Adams. The bill failed by two votes. The session went smoothly with only a few problems. Rose said, "It was hard to make sure we had enough people to speak and have arguments in my head and trying to hear all the arguments going on across the aisle at the same time." Adams found another problem with the full session experience, one that had little to do with the actual session. "The hardest part was doing all the research on all the bills to be prepared for the next day," said Adams. "Especially since a lot of the seniors had to prepare for AP testing at the same time." Other than that, Rose and Adams enjoyed the experience. Rose appreciated all the work his fellow democrats put into the session and how well prepared and organized they all were. (See *Government page 4*)



Theresa McEvoy stepped up to the podium to debate a bill during the government simulation. Staff Photo

French teacher enjoyed exchange trip

By Jenn Zimmerman
Exciting operas, live performances to the student body, and meeting new people draw in new French students every year and this year was no different. Marjorie Appel, French teacher, once again finished up another successful year by bringing out the French side of her students. Even though the war with Iraq almost canceled the visit, students were still able to enjoy seeing life from a new

perspective. But the overall excitement of coming to America was somewhat tainted by the idea of Americans treating the exchange students with disrespect due to the sudden discriminatory attitudes towards the French. "A lot of the families worried about anti-French sentiment or the Americans being unfriendly or mean," said Appel. The war did not harm the overall learning experience

for either the American or French students. Peers such as Katy Kostal, Nicole Melone, Nikki Schar, and Kristina Wanous were able to see French life first hand by hosting their own students. Trips to Navy Pier, walks through Chicago, and even bowling were some common activities that the French students loved. And despite Appel's unfortunate sea sick reaction to the IMAX movie, "Ghost of the Abyss," the students really enjoyed the 3-D experience of life in the Titanic. "Overall every student, French or American, had a great time," said Appel. Yet the two week visit from the French students was not the only excitement available to students this year. In fact, French 4 was able to see more of the entertainment side of France due to the visit to the opera "La Traviata," a play similar to the movie "Moulin Rouge."

"It is a very famous play and the students seemed to enjoy the similarities between the play and Moulin Rouge," said Appel. According to Appel the entire year was filled with excitement, often straying away from the basic learning concepts of just note taking and relating to students through forms of music or television. Overall Appel said the year is a success for all four levels of French.

Shortened days to be longer

By Michelle Loerzel
The 11:11 a.m. dismissal will be just a memory in the fall. Replacing them are 12:50 p.m. dismissals. This change eliminates the conflict of bus schedules with District 33 on early dismissal days. On the 11:11 a.m. dismissal days only classes 0 through 4 met which distorted the other class hours. With the time changed to

12:50 p.m., all 10 periods can meet on early dismissal days, Supt. Lee Rieck said. "This gives teachers a chance to have all classes," said Rieck. Another change to the calendar is that the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) testing days will become school improvement days so that all students will leave at 12:50 p.m. Often, Students are tired of

testing and leave early or are exhausted in later classes, said Rieck. Also, prom has been moved back one week to May 28 of next year. Prom is usually during the time girls and boys track competes at state. "This will minimize the number of students who miss prom because they are competing at state meets," said Rieck.

Summer school program starts at We-go

By Logan Schrage
We-go students who want a head start or need to make up some classes may want to consider summer school at We-go. Assistant principal Gail Aronoff, said that students from other districts are welcome to sign up for the programs, but We-go students are the priority. The prices for the classes have risen this year. A quarter class cost \$51, half a credit costs \$102, and a full credit costs \$204. The last day for students to sign up is June 10. First

session finishes July 2, and the second session finishes July 25. Driver's education programs will begin June 9. Aronoff said that English and PE classes are the most popular for students to make-up, as well as required senior classes like government and consumer education. The majority of students who attend summer school are upper classmen. The We-go staff meets and decides what classes will be in summer school. One special class offered for half a credit for three weeks gives students a

chance to work with children in the community. The class will meet in the school's library, where students will read books and do crafts with local children. The class will start June 12 at 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Students should talk to their counselors before they consider signing up for a class over the summer. If a student needs to sign up or just wants more information, pamphlets are available in the assistant principal's office. Students may also talk to Mrs. Henry for any other information.

Mind's Eye sees its way to new issue

By Brittany Rose
Move over "Reader's Digest," this year's "Mind's Eye" is better, than ever. "Mind's Eye" is packed full of poetry, short stories, essays, photography, and sketches, either in color or black and white. "We try to make it a little better each year," said sponsor Andrea Cobbett. The making of the magazine is left mostly up to the student staff. Students work on the layout and design elements of

the magazine. Cobbett said that she is only in charge of printing. Various contests that the magazine enters ask that the magazine be as much of a student publication as possible. Many items were submitted this year, but not all were used. All names or identification were taken off of the writing submissions and the magazine's student staff voted on which pieces would go in. "I think as we do it, we get a little more comfortable

with it," said Cobbett. The magazine held a banquet May 15 to congratulate staff and thank students whose work made it in. Any submissions for next year's magazine will be accepted until Jan. 31. Students interested in helping with layout should go to room 180. The only requirements are showing up every other Wednesday and receiving three submissions from either yourself or other students, said Cobbett.

| | |
|--|--|
| Wildcat Chronicle 326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL 60185 | |
| Editor-in-Chief: | Stephanie Bodane |
| News Editor: | Sam West |
| Perspectives Editor: | Melissa Stevens |
| Features Editor: | Kyle Bullis |
| Sports Editor: | Elliott Tinnes |
| Special Sections Editor: | Anna Nubie |
| Photo Editor: | Jessica Myers |
| Reporters: | Bridget Geraghty, Michelle Loerzel, Brittany Rose, Logan Schrage, Mary Beth Selby |
| Contributing Writers: | Andria Bernard, Maira Borjon, Isaiah Buado, Becky Dennis, David Fairbairn, CJ Hinojosa, Andrea Huntzicker, Kristin Koltz, Cori Miner, Kim Palka, Maria Perez, Tony Perham, Doug Sieder, Nicole Skala, Nic Tynczuk, Kelly Virncih, Jenn Zimmerman |
| Contributing Artists: | Brandi Ruiz, Andrew Correa |
| Adviser: | Laura Kuehn |

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



Photo courtesy of Sarah Swatsworth

Clarinetists Sarah Swatsworth and Alison Dahl give Scooby Doo a hug at Six Flags as part of the recent St. Louis Music Festival.

Music department deemed superior at St. Louis festival

By Michelle Loerzel
Even the rain didn't dampen the We-go music department's winning streak.

The band, choir and colorguard brought home many awards from the St. Louis Festival.

"We did excellent," said band student Sarah Swatsworth.

The entire music department went, including 200 students and 17 chaperones.

"They could not have done much better," said director of bands Jim Guter.

The honors included:
String orchestra division: first place, superior rating; outstanding section award - cellos.

Concert band division: first place, good rating.

Symphonic band division: first place, superior rating; outstanding solo award - Joe Tumidalsky, alto saxophone and Rick Camp, tuba.

Jazz combo division: first place, superior rating; outstanding solo award - Nils Higdon, vibes.

Jazz band division: first place, superior rating; outstanding solo award - Brett Palmer, tenor saxophone; Melissa Lund, bass; Hans Moscicki, drums and outstanding section award, saxophone section.

Choral division: first place, excellent rating, women's choral; first place, superior rating, concert choir; first place, superior rating, chamber choir; outstanding section award, concert choir, sopranos.

Marching band division: 1st place, superior rating, parade band; first place, superior rating, field show review; outstanding section award - colorguard; outstanding section award - colorguard; outstanding section award - mallets.

"We surpassed what we believed that band could perform," said Camp.

Tumidalsky agreed, "It came as a surprise and I was really ecstatic to win it."

Chamber choir student Sean Warren also agreed, "We did better than we've ever done before and it was amazing to see everyone's reactions."

The only disappointment of the trip, Guter said, was that it was raining the entire trip and they were unable to participate in some of their planned activities.

Tornado warnings canceled their plans for a riverboat ride and a visit to the Arch.

Instead students went to Union Station, a shopping mall in the old railroad station for a couple of hours.

Students also went to Six Flags after the marching band competition.

Student of the Month wants to make a difference in the future

By Jessica Myers

Claudia Cortes-Reyes is April's Student of the Month. *What were your accomplishments during your time at We-go?*

I think that the most important accomplishment was learning English in less than a year and get accepted into the regular English classes.

This year I became a member of National Honor Society, Who's Who Among High School Students, and earned the United States Academy Achievement Award.

Who is your favorite teacher in high school? Why?

Mrs. Stefancic is my favorite because she always finds time to give me advice, help me with a task and encourage me to keep trying.

I also like Ms. Daneels, Mrs. McCarter, Mrs. Horton, and Mr. Kargol because thanks to their help, support and letters of recommendation, I was accepted to multiple colleges.

What is your favorite activity in high school? Why?

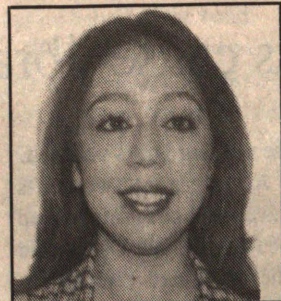
I like acting a lot. Actually, I am very good in acting. When I was in Mexico, I participated in many plays.

My favorite activity right now is dancing. Last semester I was involved in the dance club and we danced a folkloric dance at the Art

Works Festival on March 15. I like dancing folkloric dances because they show the culture and traditions of a certain group of people.

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

So far, I have been accepted to three colleges: Northern Illinois University, Elmhurst College, and North



Claudia Cortes-Reyes

Central College. I have not decided which school I will be attending yet because I am still considering each school's pros and cons. My major will be political science and I would like to become a lawyer because I like to argue and want to defend the rights of other people.

What influenced these decisions?

Since I was a kid I have wanted to become a lawyer. I think I can be successful in this educational field and I believe I can help people in need.

What career do you hope

to have later in your life?

I would like to become a state judge and handle all matters related to state problems. I want to establish fair punishment for criminals and ensure justice for society. Eventually I would like to become the President of the United States of America and be able to help all those who need a hand to succeed.

What is your favorite pastime?

My favorite pastime is reading. I am a fanatic of Harry Potter. I think those books are just amazing because they hold my interest from beginning to end.

I have read three of them already and right now I am in the fourth one. I like to read a lot because by doing it, I enrich my vocabulary. Also, I love to do community service and listen to music.

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

I am a person who possesses a strong desire to fight and work for what I want. To me average is not satisfactory, I like to go beyond it.

I love to work hard for the goals I want to achieve and I always try to do my best in everything I do. I believe that my perseverance and hard work have taken me where I am now.

French... (Continued from page 1)

than she would have paid in France.

"In France, a pair of Converse shoes costs around 90 American dollars," said Favre Reguillon.

She took advantage of the cheaper prices and bought American gifts for her family and friends.

Both girls enjoyed one mall activity in particular: shopping for prom dresses. In France, high schools do not have a prom or anything to the same extent as American schools.

"I feel like a princess," said Favre Reguillon as she tried on different dresses.

While most of their time spent in America was with only their host families, they had the chance to spend time with their own separate trip to Chicago. They went on a walking tour of Chicago sites and activities downtown.

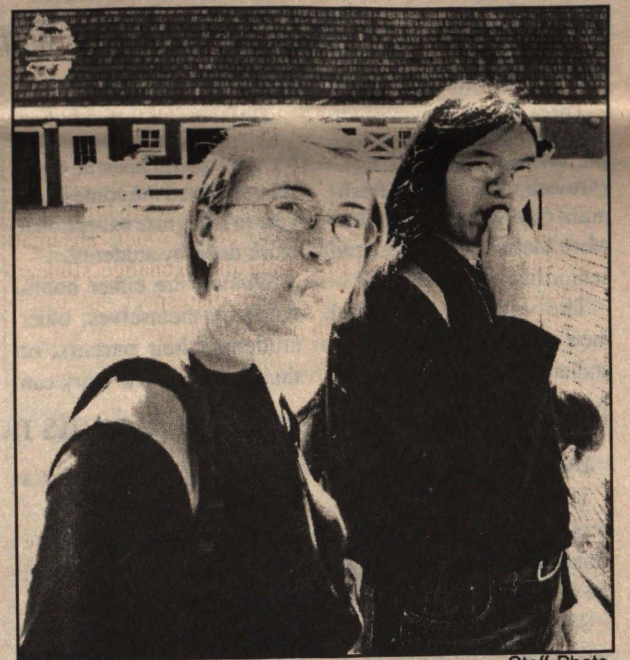
"It's all so much bigger (than in France)," said Favre Reguillon. "Chicago is a very beautiful place."

Wanous tried to show Nguyen more than just the commercial side of American society. Since Easter fell on a day the French students were here, Wanous wanted to show Nguyen the religious side of the holiday.

She took Nguyen to mass the night before and asked her mother to prepare a huge Easter dinner for the family.

Her family included Nguyen in their Easter egg hunt that morning, and they also made her an Easter basket.

Later in the week, they enjoyed a day of arcade games



Staff Photo

French exchange students Anne Favre Reguillon and Nathalie Nguyen visited Cosley Zoo with their American hosts after a day of fun at Enchanted Castle.

followed by a scenic walk through the zoo, where the girls were able to see various types of animals. The night before they left, all of the hosts and exchange students had a party at a fellow student's house.

"After the final party, I was informed by Anne that she wanted to have a 'white

night'," said Stockhoff.

A white night, she found out, was another way to say a night of fun with friends.

"So Kristina, Nathalie, Anne, and I went bowling and drove around listening to music," Stockhoff said. "We were basically just teenagers, despite our cultural differences."

Club brings in 95 units in blood drive

By Jessica Myers

Key Club collected 95 units of blood during the second blood drive of the school year.

There were 11 students who signed up to give blood but weren't able to because they had low iron, a cold, or traveled to a place where

eases aren't controlled.

Heartland Blood Center asked Key Club adviser Ward Rau to hold a second blood drive because of the war in Iraq.

"Blood supplies normally go down in the spring and summer and Heartland (Blood Center) was desig-

nated as a backup for blood during the war," said Rau.

Rau said the war was cut short so the blood collected during the blood drive will be used locally instead.

"I think it's really admirable that so many people want to do something to benefit someone else," said Rau.

Special education teacher Patrice Dobry is in charge of publicizing the event.

"Right now Lee is confined to a wheelchair in his living room," she said.

The addition is a bedroom and bathroom.

The church will take donations starting Monday through June 2.

Fundraiser set for Nolan family

By Bridget Geraghty

To help offset the cost of building a handicapped accessible addition at Lee Nolan's house, Faith Community Church is having a garage sale with all proceeds going to the Nolan family.

Nolan sustained serious injuries after a car hit him in September.

Students send walkers with special treats while they help battle cancer

By Bridget Geraghty

The community living and vocational lab students did their share to help stop a silent killer recently.

Every year the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition holds a Walk for the Whisper walk-a-thon and hands out goodie bags to the participants.

This is the second year they hired the We-go classes to prepare the bags.

Michael Koulos, the teacher in charge of both special education classes, loves the project.

"It's terrific. It teaches them (the students) how to work together, follow directions, and develop good

work habits," said Koulos.

Since the students are paid it also helps teach responsibility with money and how to be smart about their spending habits.

Thirteen students and one peer helper put the bags together and with teamwork they made 3,500 bags this year, which is 500 more than last year.

Shawn Shumate said, "It's fun, because I get paid."

The hired students were: Jaime Altamirano, Dan Delort, Rigoberto Flores, Jessica Limbrick, Jeff Linsenmeyer, Vivianna Martinez, Ryan Mims, Shumate, Jason Slusar, Jennifer Thompson, Irene

Vivaldo, Jolene Whitlock, and Kenny Yanez.

The students put ZonePerfect bars, Wyler's Light Drink Packets, Genisoy Nut packets, Chicago Tribune pencils, ChiroSport coupons, and a Preferred Prudential Offer in every bag.

The walk-a-thon was in Naperville and Niles. The title Walk for the Whisper was used because ovarian cancer has subtle symptoms and most of its victims are not diagnosed until it's too late.

Linsenmeyer was very excited about helping out and said, "Working is my favorite thing I like to do."



Staff Photo

Community living and vocational lab students fill goodie bags to help walk-a-thon participants curb their hunger while they walk.

Government..(Continued from page 2)

"The best part was working with everyone in our party," said Rose. "And having 200 people in the same room debating the same issues."

Full session taught Rose

and Adams many lessons about politics.

"I learned that everybody has at least one issue that they can get worked up over," said Rose.

Adams found that the ses-

sion helped him learn more about the government.

"I learned that it's hard to control so many people," said Adams. "And I just have a better understanding about how the government goes."

"Inkredible" students receive writing awards

By Kyle Bullis

Three We-go students won the 2nd annual Inkredible Ink Writing Contest.

Award winners were freshman Carly Tuma, sophomore Melissa Gonzales, and senior Justin Hoshaw.

The winners presented their work to a community audience during a conference

at DuPage Airport recently.

Differentiation and Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) facilitators at Gary school started the contest last year to recognize exceptional work done by students.

Winners are either nominated by themselves, other students, their parents, or their teachers. The work can

consist of any form of writing, whether it's a story, poem, or review.

When the submissions are sent, they are critiqued by 14 judges.

The work is judged based on standard writing techniques and is given points for originality, word structure, and usage.

New library books offer students needed resources

By Logan Schrage

The school library will receive 140 new books this month and 400 books over the summer.

So far this year, 1,200 new and replacement books have been added to the LRC's collection. These books can be

found on the library's website.

The website can locate any book or audio/visual item in the LRC and give students a description with all information needed to find the book.

The site places new books

in 15 different categories. They also have a small amount of videos available for check out.

With over 20 new fiction books, and more coming in for the next school year, students should be able find what they need.

Missing books cause library to worry

By Logan Schrage

With large numbers of books checked out from the school library, the staff is starting to worry.

"Read'em and bring'em back," said Sally Olsen, director of the Learning Resource Center at We-go.

With the school year coming to an end, Olsen needs

the missing books returned.

At this point, students have checked out around 666 books, and Olsen said she has heard various excuses for the 200 books that are overdue.

Most high school libraries close the last week of a school year and don't open again until the following

year.

However, We-go's library will stay open until June 2, the last day of school, said Olsen.

Any student can still check out books overnight until June 2, unless the book checked is badly needed by another student.

Olsen said that the library must have the books back as soon as possible. Then the staff can begin taking inventory after the school year ends.

When books are lost and a fine is paid, the money for the missing book will not go directly back to the library.

"The money will revert back into the school's budget, so the lost book may never be replaced," said Olsen.

Students make accessories for fanny

By Kyle Bullis

Patti Kozlowski's clothing 2 class came up with a trendy and cheap alternative to a new fad: fanny bags.

The bags will be sold through the end of the year. They are made out of the back of old jeans.

"I was making a bag and I had an idea. I'll make them out of jeans because jeans are in," said vice president Stephany Vasquez.

The bags were originally called "butt bags" but due to popular demand the name was changed to "fanny bags."

So far Vasquez, along with president Marissa Adams, treasurer Hayde Antonio, co-vice president Alyssa Claude, and vice president

of marketing Misti Katte, have sold 10 to 15 bags. The bags can either be bought at school or ordered.

Similar products are sold online for \$45, but students can buy them here for \$10. If buyers want to use their own jeans, the cost goes down to \$8.

"We were going to do different kinds of bags but then there's too much variety. You have to think of what's going to sell and what's not," said Katte.

So far the team has sold the bags to female students with the exception of one male student who bought it for his mother.

"Each bag takes an hour or two to make," said Vasquez.

Despite the work it takes making the bags, the girls still enjoy doing the work, and they make sure the job gets done well.

"We make what they like. It's all about quality. If you don't have quality then no one is going to buy your stuff," said Vasquez.

Chronicle...(Continued from page 1)

Out of the 200 possible points in the critique, the Chronicle scooped up 169.

"We commend your staff for solid effort to package a quality newspaper for We-go students and staff," wrote one of the judges.

The paper recently won an award for best news section in the American School Press Association contest. The pa-

per also received a first place with special merit for the overall rating of the paper.

"I am extremely proud of the staff. They work well together and all their late nights paid off," said adviser Laura Kuehn.

Graduating staff include Stephanie Bodane, Jessica Myers, Logan Schrage, and Melissa Stevens.



Staff Photo

Clothing 2 teacher Patti Kozlowski models her students' fanny bags. The bags are made out of the back end of old jeans.

Our View -

Looters bag priceless treasures in Iraq

A 4,000-year-old lyre from the Sumerian city of Ur, a 5,000-year-old Sumerian marble head of a woman, a 4,000-year-old life-size statue of King Entemena from Ur, a large ivory relief representing the Assyrian god Ashur and the history of writing in general are missing, and not expected to return.

Looters ransacked the National Museum of Baghdad during the United States' Operation Iraqi Freedom, and the U.S. did nothing to stop them.

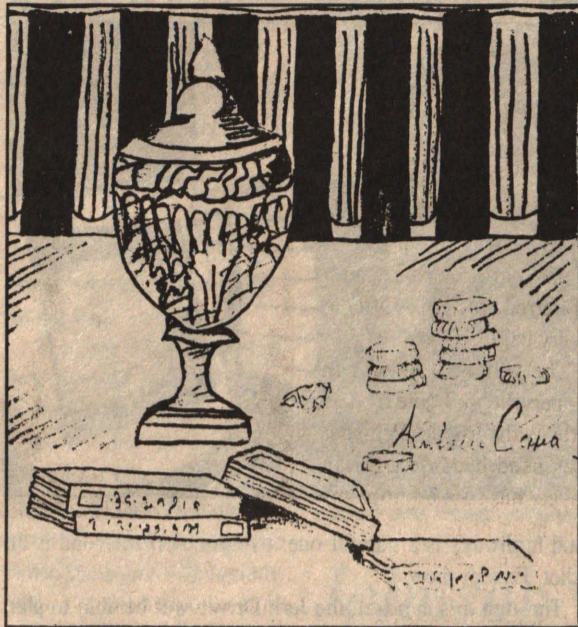
The museum is located where most people believe human history began. Hence, most artifacts from the early stages of human history (Mesopotamian, Sumerian, Akkadian, Assyrian and Babylonian) were held there for safe keeping.

Some of the most famous artifacts from these periods are now gone, such as the Warka Vase, which is the earliest known depiction of religious worship.

So now the beginnings of writing and religion are missing, not to mention the first 10,000 years of human history. The worst part is most historians are predicting only 1 percent of the stolen items will return over the next few decades.

For those people who think art is no big deal and could care less about this catastrophe, think of how much these one-of-a-kind pieces cost. They are priceless. Think about the amount of money someone would pay to own one. More than most people see in a lifetime.

While the U.S. had warning about the catastrophe, the officials just stood on the sidelines watching, even with soldiers



only 500 yards away. But in the troops' defense, they claim they didn't know they were in the area of a museum.

But whose fault is that? George W. Bush knew. In fact, historians and archaeologists warned him several hundred times about the importance of this museum, but for some reason he neglected to do anything about it.

Which is interesting for a few reasons.

First, it is well known that the U.S. secured the Oil Ministry building as well as the country's oil fields as quickly as possible. Yet, a few days after the looting occurred at the museum, the U.S. still failed to do anything to protect the few remains left inside.

In 1943, the U.S. was going through some tough times, namely World War II. During this time, it was brought to Franklin D. Roosevelt's attention that many great masterpieces of Western art were in danger.

FDR acted immediately. He formed The American Commission for the Protection and Salvage of Artistic and Historic Monuments in War Areas, and this military unit saved many artworks. The best part is that most of the people belonging to this unit volunteered.

And judging by the way many historians responded when they heard about the looting, they would have volunteered too. In fact, many cried when speaking about the invaluable pieces that were lost.

FDR's solution would have saved the museum and made Bush look great and caring. But he didn't even ask. Another possible solution would be to leave a few troops outside the museum after the area was secure instead of just leaving.

But who knows? Maybe if the U.S. puts up "Missing" posters around Iraq and offers a reward, people will come to their senses and return the artifacts. Maybe.

Creed takes lack of respect higher

Musicians' lack of respect for their fans is striking a sour chord with many music fans.

It only takes one episode of the MTV show "Cribs" to see that musicians live a life of extreme comfort and luxury. Musicians make their millions off their fans, so they should at least give a little bit of that back with their performances.

As obvious as that statement may seem, that simply is not the case for some bands.

Take the rock group Creed, for instance. The band played in Chicago last December, or at least they were supposed to play.

Concert-goers allege that the lead singer of the band, Scott Stapp, was "so intoxicated and/or medicated that he was unable to sing the lyrics of a single Creed song." They also claim that Stapp was unable to perform as a front man because he left the

stage numerous times, and rolled around the stage as if he were in pain.

Stapp's blatant disrespect for his fans is an insult to music lovers of all genres. Creed has sold more than 20 million albums since the debut of their first album in 1997.

As a form of apology for the concert, Jeff Hanson, the band's manager, sent a letter out on behalf of the band.

While the letter did apologize to "those who do not feel that the show was up to the very high standards set by previous shows," it also said that fans should feel honored that they experienced the most "unique" of all Creed shows and that they may have become part of rock 'n' roll history.

While that apology may have offered solace to some, four disgruntled fans are suing the rock group for park-

ing and ticket reimbursement. Tickets and parking for the concert cost \$56.75 with the surcharge. They claim that Hanson and the other members of the band should have recognized that Stapp was either intoxicated and/or heavily medicated and canceled the show.

The lawsuit has the chance of becoming a class-action suit, meaning that anyone who attended the concert in the 18,500 reserved seats or 48 skyboxes could sign on as plaintiffs in the suit.

According to Chicago Sun Times legal reporter Abdon Pallasch, the lawsuit stands a chance in court. He believes that the band's lawyers should settle the case, either with reimbursement, future free tickets, or a discount on their next Creed ticket purchase.

Fellow Creed fans are attacking the four plaintiffs,

claiming that their lawsuit proves that they were not real fans in the first place.

The lawsuit has nothing to do with how big of a fan a person is. Instead, it stands up for something usually unheard of in the music world: fans' rights.

Fans have the right to a high quality concert, especially when they pay high prices for concert tickets. Tickets for most popular concerts range everywhere from \$50 to \$250 or more. With tickets that expensive, musicians have the obligation to give their fans the best experience possible.

Musicians make millions of dollars off the love and devotion of their fans, which translates into how much that fan will spend out of his or her pocketbook.

It's time musicians gave a little bit of that love and devotion back.

Chicks pecked for speaking their minds

A landslide of negativity has swept away the Dixie Chicks after a recent protest over President Bush's decision to go to war. The band's decision to voice their opinion is costing them nearly everything they have worked for, along with making them fear for their lives.

The band was in London for a March 10 concert when lead singer Natalie Maines voiced her opinion on the war that was about to begin with Iraq. The 15 words that she said may have permanently changed the future of the country trio.

"Just so you know, we're ashamed the President of the United States is from Texas," said Maines.

The crowd cheered, and the concert continued as if nothing was ever said. Except for reporters from the Associated Press who attended the concert and made sure it didn't stop there.

To them it wasn't a statement that pleased the crowd, it was an open comment disrespecting the president. It was a front-page story.

It didn't take long for articles, sound bites, and footage to surface about how the country girls insulted the president.

Many radio stations immediately cut the Dixie Chicks from their playlists; some radio stations even initiated a boycott of any Dixie Chicks' songs. The Dixie Chicks' number one song dropped down to number three in a matter of days. They were branded as Osama lovers.

In the Dixie Chicks' defense, Maines claimed that she disagrees with the war and her constitutional rights allow her to voice her opinion.

Some may say that opposing the war is un-American, but at the same time, Americans have the constitutional right to voice their opinions.

The Dixie Chicks claim that they were only using the right to protest, and that using their rights is an American thing to do. Plenty of movie stars, singers, and other celebrities have shared their opinions on the war. Their ratings are still up, they haven't been deemed un-American.

But for the Dixie Chicks, who come from the heart of America, the statement might be fatal. The Chicks have received death threats in the mail; they even have to use metal detectors at their concerts. One of the Dixie Chicks said that her grandfather, who is in a nursing home, has been harassed.

Whether in support of the war or not, the Dixie Chicks voiced their opinion about a much debated war. They exercised their right of freedom of speech. No matter who they are, celebrity or not, they are Americans.

By punishing those who protest, people are assuming America is a country that does not value different opinions.

The United States prides itself on the rights given to its citizens, regardless of race, creed, or country of origin. Or how famous that person is, either. Celebrities are people too, and they deserve the right to protest just like every other American.

High school hazing goes a step too far

Hear ye, hear ye! Let it be known: none shall pass into seniority unless they have been savagely hazed! For a fee!

Or so is the case at Glenbrook North High School, where a group of senior girls invited a group of junior girls to a yearly "powder-puff" football game that pitted the two grades against each other. What was advertised as a fun game was in reality a brutally violent display of hazing.

What authorities traditionally associated as a problem within college fraternities and sororities has now found its way into high schools.

What must be going through these students'

heads to feel that they have the right to act so cruelly toward other students? How could the abused students let this go on?

The objective of many people now, both within the community as well as outside, is finding where to place blame.

To some, the school seems the most likely culprit. The school is responsible for students much of the time, so they should know when an event such as this is about to happen. After all, many of the plans and transactions did happen on school property.

Many people want to point fingers at the parents of the girls. They wonder what type of parent allows their child

to act out so violently. While it is true that some parents are responsible for providing alcohol, ultimately, it is not the parents who are directly responsible.

The only party who can be held directly responsible for these actions are the students themselves. As high school seniors, the girls are old enough to decipher right from wrong. They knew that what they were doing was wrong from the beginning.

Regardless of whether or not the senior girls received similar punishment last year, there is no justification for their actions. No one but themselves is to blame.

What these students did was wrong. Their actions will

be a reflection on many people, not just themselves. Glenbrook North will forever have a tarnished image as the "hazing high school."

Students and teenagers everywhere, not just in Glenbrook North, will experience negative effects because of a few students who chose not to think before they acted. Teenagers have it tough enough as it is. Stereotypes surround the age group, labeling teens as lazy, irresponsible, immature kids.

Obviously, this is not the case for everyone. The bad always seems to outweigh the good, though, so these stereotypes will forever stick, as long as teens are not willing to grow up.

Kyle's Kolumn

Drivers taking a turn for the worse

So I suppose that I'll get my driver's license over the summer, assuming that I don't kill myself in the process.

I am not fond of driving. Some people think that they couldn't live without being able to drive. I, on the other hand, could care less.

Not that it wouldn't be cool, but I'm just a bit paranoid.

Actually, I'm very paranoid. If I am driving and you are in the car with me, prepare to go the speed limit. I know, everybody likes to go a gazillion miles per hour over the speed limit. I drive carefully.

I figure, the police won't pull me over for going too slow, and I'm making all those aggressive drivers mad at me, which is actually a fun feeling.

There are a few different kinds of drivers. First, there's me. The Paranoid Driver. This kind of driver obeys the speed limit, never is overtaken by road rage, and does everything right.

However, this kind of driver is also extremely boring to talk to because all of his or her attention and energy is focused on the road.

Sure, you are pretty confident that you aren't going to plow into a tree, but where's the fun?

If you want an exciting experience, you need to be in the car with an Aggressive Driver.

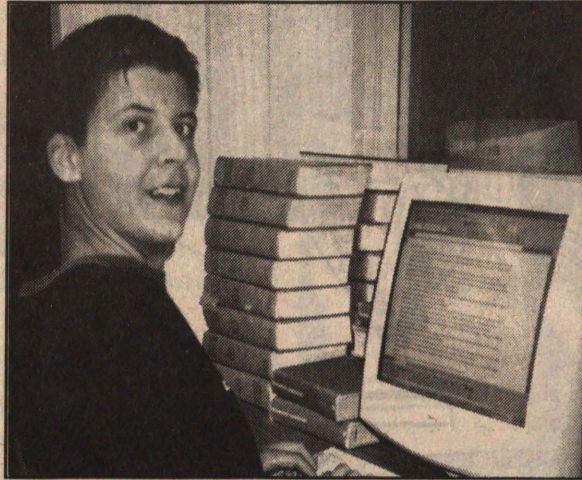
There are two variations of the Aggressive Driver. The first is the Verbally Aggressive Driver, which drives normally, but has no patience.

They tend to abuse the horn and scream idiotically at drivers that don't have telepathic powers (thus negating them from understanding what the psycho behind them is screaming about).

The second kind of Aggressive Driver is the Jerk Driver. This kind of driver never uses a turn signal when passing and concludes that everyone on the road is an idiot and driving too slow.

There could be an F1 car racing through the streets and the Jerk Driver will find a way to pass it.

However, the Jerk Driver's mindset for taking to the streets



and highways is a careful one: everyone on the road is an idiot. Except them.

Through this mindset, the Jerk Driver will be able to plan ahead for battle in case any nearby motorists decide that they are the center of the universe, and that all traffic shall obey them.

Jerk Drivers cut people off, change lanes in front of you and immediately drive slower, and give you a world famous hand gesture whenever you honk the horn.

These people are the worst, the kind that make you want to drive James Bond's car, equipped with tons of state-of-the-art rockets, machine guns, and other weapons. Suppose James Bond had a road rage problem.

A problem for James Bond means a problem for whoever cut him off, because you'll then likely be driving a giant hunk of charred metal scraping along the road.

However, we could implement a new system of communication between drivers. A bull horn mounted on the hood of the car, for instance.

It has the advantages of being very loud and not the least bit subtle, allowing fellow motorists to hear you loud and clear, whether they want to or not.

Sometime in the future I wouldn't be surprised if we abandoned the horn all together and just smashed into fellow motorists whenever we felt that their driving techniques weren't up to par with the current driving methods (if you go below 100 m.p.h. your car will explode).

Why is it that motorists go so nuts with road rage? Do you think there would be less of it if other drivers could actually hear others' complaints?

I think the main reason people freak out so much when driving is because they can take security in the fact that others can't hear them. These people accomplish absolutely nothing though.

I don't see myself as ever having road rage. I just think to myself, "They'll probably do something stupid later on and have to pay thousands of dollars in insurance."

I categorize myself as Paranoid, simply because I am a kind and compassionate person who does not wish to get killed by my parents.

Aggressive drivers would not help my situation. If anything, they'd just make me more nervous, which is not something I'd be prepared for.

Sooner or later they'd find me driving on the wrong side of the road weaving through traffic and desperately trying to correct myself, all the while having the motorists whizzing by me screaming obscenities at me instead of giving me a nice, friendly honk.

So I doubt I'll ever get a serious case of road rage. I'm not that dumb. I do, however, see myself seriously chewing out anyone who puts on makeup while driving. Anyone who does this, be warned.

If I see you doing this, I will follow you to your destination, even if it happens to be in another country, and throw something heavy at your head.

Hope I don't have a bowling ball with me while I'm driving.

But if you do happen to see me while you are driving, you may want to pay more attention to the road because you're about to hit that truck.

Teen pregnancy rate at We-go on the rise

By Becky Dennis

With the number of United States teen births decreasing in the 1990s, American teens are now making much healthier sexual choices, perhaps in part because of the newer comprehensive sex-ed classes being taught nationwide.

However, for students at Community High School that is not the case.

After a steady decline during the 1996-2000 school year, the teen pregnancy rate at We-go leaped from 14 cases in 1999-2000, to 33 in 2002-2003.

We-go authorities are unsure of what caused the drastic jump, which in part may be due to the type of sexual health education freshmen at Community High School receive.

Schools within the United States have two different methods available to teach students the necessary sexual health curriculum. The first option is called abstinence-based sexual education, which teaches abstinence as the only form of safe sex.

The second option, called comprehensive-based sexual education, would include information on different methods of contraception, discussion of the consequences and

results of sexual behavior, and the maturity it requires.

Sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy are also discussed. Comprehensive-based programs also address the choice of abstinence as a 100 percent effective means of protection.

However, unlike the abstinence-based program, the comprehensive-based curriculum arms the students with all the knowledge they need to enter the real world of sex, not just censored facts.

This is the preferred program to teach, based on a study done by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDCP).

The CDCP found that, within a group of students taught comprehensive sexual education, sexual activity decreased, and condom and contraceptive use increased among those who remained sexually active.

According to health teacher Amy Gibson, the curriculum at Community High School is abstinence-based. Teachers cover contraceptives but only briefly, spending a few days discussing contraception during a three to four week unit.

When the methods of contraception are mentioned, promotion of abstinence im-

mediately follows.

The school board was responsible for deciding to teach the curriculum as abstinence-based.

They decided it was wiser to cover the sexual health unit based on abstinence rather than teaching a com-

Pregnancy Rates at We-go

- '96-'97: 24 pregnancies
- '97-'98: 22 pregnancies
- '98-'99: 19 pregnancies
- '99-'00: 14 pregnancies
- '00-'01: 24 pregnancies
- '01-'02: 31 pregnancies
- '02-'03: 33 pregnancies

Numbers include students that withdrew, had abortions or miscarriages, delivered, or are presently pregnant.

plete comprehensive-based curriculum.

This attitude goes against numerous studies done by reputable groups associated with teen sexual health.

The Advocates For Youth website, the American Medical Association, the CDCP, the Institute of Medicine (IOM), the Office of National AIDS Policy, the Surgeon General of the United States and numerous others have all published research analyses supporting the effectiveness of information-based sex education.

The IOM asked Congress to rescind funding for abstinence-based education because there is no sufficient evidence supporting its effectiveness.

According to these studies, schools should teach the comprehensive programs, which include abstinence, but also give the students the facts about sex.

Researchers believe that comprehensive programs inform students not only of the physical aspects of sexual relationships, but also of the emotional needs a mature relationship will have.

Abstinence-based programs more often than not censor most contraceptive information and over exaggerate the failure rates of other methods.

While it is obviously not up to the school board to make responsible sexual choices for students, it is their obligation to arm the students with the knowledge they need to succeed.

Sex right now is dangerous; the rising number of teen pregnancies at We-go proves this.

The school board should do everything in its power to aid the students in making safe, healthy choices instead of telling the sex-ed teachers to shy away from facts.

Smog kings need to take a breather

By Jessica Myers

The American Lung Association recently crowned California the smog king of the United States.

If lifestyles aren't changed, the United States has the potential to become the smog king of the world. As it is now, the U.S. and Canada share smog on a daily basis.

Smog is the depleted ozone layer mixing with man-made chemicals falling to earth. Ground-level ozone builds up as the temperature rises, making smog worse on humid and sunny days.

According to a report by the American Lung Association, nearly half the country is living with unhealthy smog levels. Smog can inflame and damage the lining of the lungs, leading to swelling and restriction of airways.

Children exposed to smog can develop asthma and will also be at risk for heart attacks as they grow older.

In addition, with the ozone layer depleting, cancer rates will rise and crop damage will occur because damaging ultra violet rays will reach the earth at a more intense level.

To help combat the smog problem on hot summer days, some countries have established Ozone Action Days. On these days, citizens are asked to gas their vehicles after 7 p.m., use lawn equipment in the evenings, and avoid driving.

To help minimize the smog levels in the Chicago area, citizens should utilize public transportation or carpool during the summer.

Also, using a manual lawnmower instead of a gas powered lawnmower can conserve energy and reduce emissions. Another way to help reduce emissions is to use a fan instead of an air conditioner.

According to the Ontario Medical Association, if emissions levels aren't lowered, smog alerts may increase throughout the summer and even become a problem in the winter.

This smog is not just harming the United States, it affects the rest of the world as well. The entire world shares the same air, and it's time for the United States to become a good neighbor.

Parks walks out of laboratory and closes the door behind her

By Sam West

Carol Parks has never had a boring moment in her 13 years as a chemistry teacher at We-go, but she thinks that this is the right time for her to retire.

Parks started teaching at Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1965. Since then, she has taught at another high school in Michigan, an adult education class in Connecticut, and a high school in Massachusetts.

She came to We-go in 1990.

"I became a teacher because I found helping people to learn was enjoyable and fulfilling," said Parks.

In fact, she believes the best part of teaching is interacting with students who want to learn.

She teaches chemistry because, as she said, what in the world is not chemistry?

Parks said that she does not only focus on chemistry in her classes, either.

"Teaching the math and language skills along with providing discovery, laboratory work is exciting," Parks said.

During her time at We-go, Parks sponsored Key Club for two years. Her favorite memory comes from her experience with the club.

"Not only did I teach chemistry to a lot of the Key Club members," said Parks. "I got to be with them as they worked with the Kiwanis Club members in many volunteer activities."

And in all her years at We-go, there has only been one really bad accident in her class.

That was when a student's fingers were burned with 154 degree peanut brittle syrup.

Parks explained, "His lab partner picked up the stirring rod too quickly and dropped the hot syrup across his fingers."

To this day, Parks said, that student has permanent re-

mindings of the incident.

With all of this, Parks said that she will miss teaching at We-go quite a bit.

Parks said she likes West Chicago because the school has a rich, diverse environment where everyone gets along well.

The only thing Parks does not enjoy as a teacher is disciplining students.

Parks and her husband, who retired last year plan to travel now that they are both retired, and Parks plans to spend more time with her family.

She will also do volunteer work with her church and work with her younger daughter, who has special needs.

Parks said that she wants to take classes in home economics with her daughter.

She does plan on remaining in the American Chemical Society, so that she is able to keep up with all of the latest chemistry news.



Carol Parks makes elephant toothpaste in one of her classroom labs.

Staff photo

Johnson walks like an Egyptian on a scholarship

By Sam West

We-go graduate Kirk Johnson, class of 1998, skipped his own high school graduation ceremony in order to study Arabic in Cairo, Egypt, for a summer. He enjoyed Cairo so much that he decided to apply for a Fulbright scholarship there four years later.

During his senior year at University of Chicago, Johnson applied for the scholarship in Egypt because of the many research centers and universities in town.

"Egypt usually serves as the nexus for foreign scholars doing research in the Middle East," said Johnson.

For the duration of the nine-month program, Johnson is living in Zamalek, a neighborhood in Cairo located on an island in the middle of the Nile.

Johnson said that living in Zamalek is safe.

"I feel much more at ease walking around here than the south side of Chicago, where I was living for the past few years," Johnson said.

"Zamalek is where most of the diplomatic corps live, so

the streets are lined with security guards whose job is to look for suspicious activity."

Johnson said despite the political situations in the Middle East, anti-Americanism is not widespread. Most Egyptians are opposed to U.S. policies, but are fine with Americans themselves.

"You'd be surprised how easy it is for people to ignore or forget political differences if you start a conversation with them," said Johnson.

Cairo, with a population of about 20 million, is quite a bit different than West Chicago, with a population of less than 25,000. Johnson said pollution is intense, because of cheap gas and diesel, and farmers who burn their crop surpluses. Aside from this, sandstorms regularly pass through the area.

There are no sidewalks in Cairo, so pedestrians walk through the streets.

"You'll get whacked by a side mirror about once a week," Johnson said.

Since unemployment is rampant in Cairo, service based businesses abound. Many have "reshaped them-

selves" so that Johnson can order a meal online and it will be at his door in 30 minutes.

"It's a dream for lazy Americans," said Johnson.

But for residents of Cairo, life is rough, Johnson said. Salaries are low, which means that businesses are overstaffed. Johnson said that a typical gas station has close to 20 employees, and none of them work at the same time.

Johnson said, "The struggling economy is such that businesses keep hiring more people and paying them less, which doesn't solve much."

Furthermore, the smartest people in Cairo often leave the country for the U.S. or Europe. Most go to college and never return to Egypt, said Johnson.

"When your best talent is leaving the country every year, it helps explain why development is sluggish," Johnson said.

Johnson said that there are many misconceptions that Americans and Egyptians have. (See *Egypt* page 9)

We-go sings with the coyotes

By Jessica Myers

Carlos Cortez brought the coyote song to We-go.

Cortez is a well-known poet, artist, and activist.

"I've got a wild imagination," Cortez said as he showed students some of his paintings at a recent assembly.

Some paintings had a political vision, such as "Welcome Home," a drawing of a casket draped in the American flag and a family crying.

Other paintings celebrated the Mexican festival, The Day of the Dead, celebrated in October.

Cortez, who made several anti-war posters during an American conflict with Cen-



Staff photo

Carlos Cortez shows his various drawings which deal with culture and controversy.

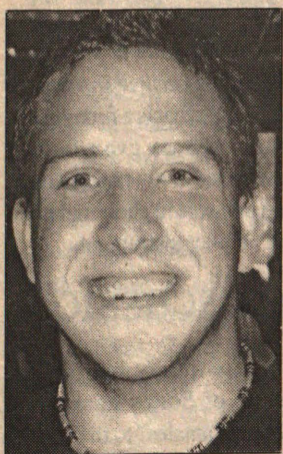
tral America, showed the "Draftees of the World Unite! You have nothing to lose but your generals!"

The poster is a young man receiving a draft notice, skeletons of past wars looking

over his shoulder.

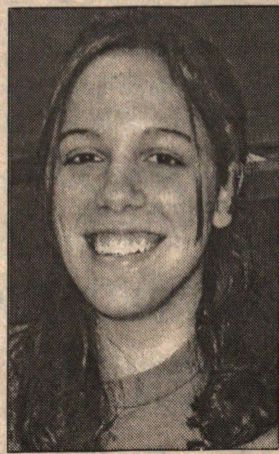
Besides showing the posters, Cortez recited a poem he wrote, "I have come/ I am coyote song/ Looking for flowers/ I come to pick/ To pick them on this earth."

What would be your idea for a perfect field trip?



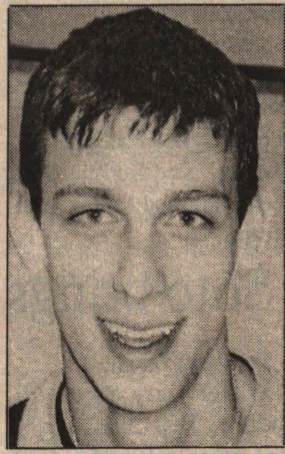
C.J. Wotstratzky senior

Greece, definitely Greece because Greek food is awesome.



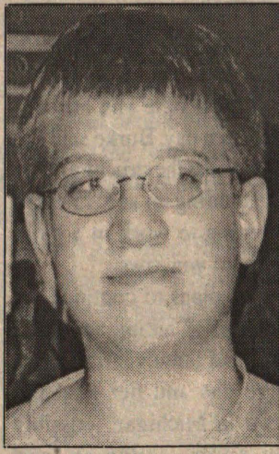
Christine Harris junior

Going to a trampoline store and jumping all day.



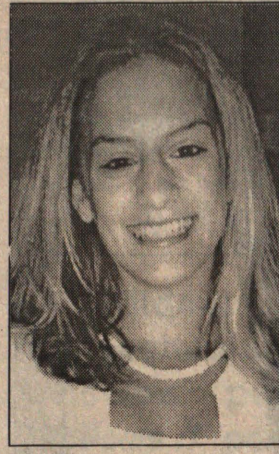
Donnie Jackson junior

I'd go to New York. Possibly Ground Zero.



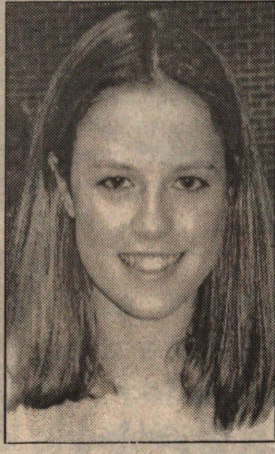
Kevin Roloff sophomore

My ideal field trip is visiting Washington D.C.



Brittany Swantek senior

Not going to school at all.



Katie Denson freshman

I'd want to go to California and go shopping and learn how to surf.

Mosson starts future by writing about past

By Stephanie Bodane

After 18 years of being a receptionist Ruth Mosson is saying good-bye to We-go and a lifetime of memories. Mosson started her career at Community High School in 1979 as an attendance clerk.

"My children had attended, so I applied for a job," said Mosson.

Mosson also served as a receptionist for the switchboard. However, she only worked for a few years before she had to leave for medical reasons.

"I always felt at home (at We-go) and comfortable, they called me and asked me to come back. So I came back," said Mosson.

Mosson started working at We-go as just a side job, but over the years it has become much more to her.

She looks forward to coming to work everyday because of the friends she has made, and the kids, who

make her laugh.

Mosson says one story that she will never forget was a student who came late to school one day.

"In 1979 a young man came in, he was out of breath and late for school. At this time, if you were late to school you were sent to the dean's office. He kept saying he was sorry so I asked him what happened. He said his goat was in heat and he was chasing her all around," said Mosson.

Mosson decided to retire a few years ago, and says that she has a lot of things she is looking forward to doing.

"My family was disturbed when I told them, they think I am going to be bored because I am always involved. My friends aren't happy, but they want the best for me and they know it's time," said Mosson.

Mosson plans on traveling. She doesn't know where she

wants to go yet, but she says there is so much in the world she wants to see. But aside from traveling and relaxing, Mosson has a bigger plan.

"I'm planning on writing a book, 'Other Side of the Chalkboard,' or maybe 'Other Side of the Blackboard,' yes, that sounds better," said Mosson.

She wants to take all of her memories from We-go and put them into a humorous best seller that teachers would enjoy reading.

"People from the school will be disguised as characters. I have so many stories in my head, so I decided to just one day start writing," said Mosson.

After working within the school for 18 years Mosson says one thing she notices is that it has changed, and by more than just appearance.

"When I started it was more like a family, we all knew each other. But it's

grown so large I barely know who the new teachers are. It's sad, but that's the way it is," said Mosson.

Mosson doesn't plan on letting go of We-go for long, she says next year she will be a sub for the receptionists.

She explains that working at We-go has taught her many things, including to be more tolerant of people.

"Whatever the kids are in to, the colored hair and fashions, it doesn't bother me," said Mosson.

But most of all, Mosson enjoys the friendliness that We-go offers, along with the chance to be involved in so many children's lives.

Mosson says the best advice she can give for incoming staff members and students is to try and accept everyone for who they are, not for who you want them to be.

"Only live one day at a time, and live it well," said Mosson.



Staff Photo

Ruth Mosson performs her everyday duty as receptionist, friend, and mentor before she retires.

Valdez the right pitch for Artist of the Month

By Bridget Geraghty

Senior Elizabeth Valdez sang her way to the top to clinch May's Artist of the Month.



Elizabeth Valdez

Are you a soprano, alto, tenor, or bass? In choir, I have sung soprano but I mainly sing alto II. Alto power!

When did you start singing? I have always sung for as long as I can remember, but I didn't join choir until seventh grade.

Which musical organizations do you perform in at school? I sing in the concert choir, chamber choir, and I am a vocalist for the jazz band.

How many years have you performed in the various school music organizations? I have been in choir for four years, chamber choir for three years, and jazz band for one year.

Do you perform or have you performed in any musical organization outside of

school? I have been in my church choir for four years, I have performed in the Fox Valley Music Festival for one year and I have been in the district choir for three years.

Which music group(s) do you like performing in the best? I love performing in jazz band, the music is great and the people are so fun.

I love chamber choir. We are close and caroling during the winter is the best!

What kind of music do you like best and like performing best? I love doing different types of music, but I can't pick one. I like the variation.

In what other activities have you been involved with in school? Out of school? I used to play softball, I work during the summer, I am involved in my church, and I take voice lessons.

Do you plan on continuing to sing after high school? For college, for fun, or both? Definitely, I am going to U of I and I want to study music education.

Which vocalists have influenced you the most? Why? I listen to a lot of vocalists but there is really no one that has influenced me greatly.

Actually, my voice teacher Sue Orland is pretty influential.

Does anyone in your family play a musical instrument or sing? That is a funny question because even though everyone in my family sings, no one was in choir and none of us play instruments.

After 30 years of We-go science

Burke hangs up her lab coat for last time

By Mary Beth Selby

After 30 years at We-go, Beverly Burke has decided to turn in her dissection knife to head out to a lakeside cottage.

"I love working at We-go, I have enjoyed the people, the students, the people I work with. It's very comfortable here," said Burke, who has taught her entire career at Community High School.

Though she has worked in two different rooms during her stay, Burke has taught biology every year.

She has also taught some

health careers classes, anatomy and physiology, and physical science.

"No windows is the worst part of this room," said Burke.

While Burke had the aspiration to become a teacher, biology had not always been her planned field of study.

When she was in high school, she wanted to major in chemistry, but her counselor told her that women don't major in sciences in college.

Instead Burke was advised to major in home econom-

ics, and she went to a local college to pursue the major of home economics.

"I put myself through college," said Burke.

She said she loved her professor, who encouraged her to follow a science, and Burke changed her major to biology her sophomore year, never looking back or regretting the change.

She said she highly doubted that she would have continued with her home ec. major, but she wanted to be a teacher nonetheless.

"I wanted to be a teacher, I wanted to work with the complexity of adolescents," said Burke.

She has truly enjoyed being a teacher, especially when working with freshmen.

"I like the challenge of trying to help kids understand," said Burke.

While she will greatly miss the students and staff, and all people she encounters each day, Burke said she won't miss the structure of her day, getting up at 5:15 every morning to work in a room without windows.

She plans to continue her hobbies of hiking and reading, and often visiting a cottage she and her husband own in Michigan, possibly to enjoy canoeing and kayaking.

"My husband has been retired, so we will be enjoying ourselves and each other and making more family visits," said Burke.

In her time off, Burke also plans to take up cooking and painting with water colors.

"I'm not a great cook, but I can cook," said Burke.

Though Burke is leaving, she will be taking with her many good memories.

She remembers one year when a janitor threw out the fetal pigs before dissection began.

"I released the kids to the activity, and all the pigs were gone. When I asked John Highland where they were, the garbage bins outside had already been emptied," recalled Burke. "We had to do two weeks of curriculum to make up for the lost pigs."

Burke reminisced saying that the 30 years went fast, too fast, but she shall treasure the moments.

She advises students to stick with school.

"It seems too acceptable to work hard at sports or something like it, but if it doesn't come easy in school, kids just give up," said Burke. "Just work hard and follow your dreams."

Soto brings ingredients to discussion

By Maria Perez

Writer Gary Soto will speak at West Chicago Public Library on Saturday, June 7.

Soto will be there in conjunction with the West Chicago Museum program "Key Ingredients."

The museum's program fo-

cuses on about how food is produced and its role in our culture.

Librarian Chris Waite expects Soto to talk about how he became a writer, and how he got his ideas for his books.

Soto may also give information on the importance of bilingual books and his life.

The library will give a copy of Soto's book "Too Many Tamales" to the first 20 families that come.

Other books by Soto are "Snapshots from the Wedding", "Baseball in April and Other Stories", and "Jesse".

Soto will be at the library's program room from 1 to 2 p.m.



Staff photo

Beverly Burke hangs her lab coat up after 30 years of teaching at We-go.

noticias ñ

Una vida nueva para Norma Reyes

Por María Pérez

Imaginate dejando todo lo que tienes y amas en la vida en el pasado...Norma Reyes dejó todo detrás de ella cuando se vino a los Estados Unidos el 13 de Julio del 2002.

Reyes dejó su hogar, Aguascalientes. Les dijo adiós a sus padres, a sus amigos, a su escuela, a sus tradiciones y a su tierra. Lo sacrifico todo para venir a luchar en este país.

Todos estos sacrificios, Reyes dice, que los hizo para tener un futuro mejor y ser alguien en la vida.

"En un futuro serán recompensados," afirma Reyes.

Con sentimientos de soledad, tristeza, y melancolismo, pero al mismo tiempo con una inmensa alegría Reyes viajó sola a los Estados Unidos donde se reuniría con su hermana Claudia Cortes.

"No sabia que hacer, estaba confundida y todo lo que pensaba era si algún día volvería a regresar," nos cuenta Reyes.

Vino para cumplir su sueño de seguir estudiando, para tener un futuro y una carrera.

"La escuela es la base para una vida mejor," dice Reyes.

Pero los sueños no se cumplen sin tener que afrontar las dificultades que la vida te presenta. Reyes confiesa que antes pensaba que la vida era más fácil por que tenia a sus padres y a sus amigos con ella, y ahora esta lejos de ellos y de su país, México.

"Teniéndolos lejos la vida se me hace más difícil," dijo Reyes.

Reyes dice que el no saber hablar bien el ingles hace las cosas un poco mas complicadas. A veces tiene dificultades comunicándose con otras personas.

"No puedes encontrar un buen trabajo si no hablas ingles," opina Reyes.

Estas situaciones hacen que Reyes se sienta mas motivada a cumplir sus objetivos. Reyes dice que siente que lo primero que tiene que hacer es aprender el ingles. Luego necesita encontrar trabajo para pagar

por sus gastos.

Los primeros días en esta preparatoria fueron difíciles para Reyes. Ella admitió que el primer día de escuela se perdió y no conocía a nadie.

"No estaba preparada para cambiar de salón cada hora, no sabia como funcionaba la escuela ni las clases," nos dice Reyes con una sonrisa.

La vida de Reyes ha sido diferente porque no tiene a sus padres, ni a sus amigos con ella pero ella sabe que cuenta con su apoyo.

"Me siento triste sabiendo que mi familia esta en México y no los puede tener aqui conmigo," dice Reyes.

Reyes siempre piensa en el futuro, piensa que algún día los va a tener con ella para recuperara y disfrutar todo el tiempo perdido.

Alcanzar un futuro mejor para ella y para su familia es una de las cosas que anima a Reyes a seguir aquí. El apoyo de su familia le brinda energías y motivación a Reyes.

Reyes no quisiera que sus hijos pasaran por las mismas situaciones a las que ella se tuvo que enfrentar.

"Moverse de país y aprender otro idioma no es fácil," confirma Reyes.

El hablar con sus padres por teléfono le ayuda a olvidarse por un momento de que esta lejos de ellos.

Reyes ha aprendido que la vida aquí es diferente porque se ha dado cuenta que las personas aquí piensan más sobre el futuro mientras que en México las personas viven más en el presente.

Reyes es solo una de las muchas personas que tienen que dejar todo en el pasado para venir a los Estados Unidos en busca de un futuro mejor. Como muchos mas, ella dejó México por las limitaciones en las oportunidades de salir adelante.

A pesar de todo Reyes nos cuenta que ha encontrado una vida positiva en los Estados Unidos.

"Me gustan las tiendas, la escuela y la casa," nos dice Reyes con una gran sonrisa.



Photo courtesy of Janelle Stefancic

Norma Reyes asiste la clase de Español para Hispanohablantes. Ella a estado en los Estados Unidos por un año.

Escritor famoso, Soto, llega a West Chicago

Por Maria Perez

El escritor Gary Soto hablará en la biblioteca pública de West Chicago el sábado, junio 7.

Soto estará allí en conjugación del programa "Key Ingredients" del museo de West Chicago.

El programa del museo se trata sobre como la comida se produce y que es su papel en nuestra cultura.

La bibliotecaria Chris Waite espera que Soto va hablar de como se hizo un escritor, como el agarra sus

ideas para sus libros, y quizás dará información sobre la importancia de libros bilingües y su vida.

La biblioteca dará una copia del libro de Soto "Too Many Tamales" a las primeras 20 familias que asisten.

Tres otros libros famosos escritos por Soto son "Snapshots from the Wedding," "Béisbol en Abril y Otras Historias," y "Jesse."

Soto estará en el cuarto de programas de la biblioteca de la 1 a 2 p.m.

Reyes finds a new life in the U.S.

By Maria Perez

Imagine leaving everything in the past behind. Norma Reyes had to when she moved to the U.S. on June 13, 2002.

Reyes left her home in Aguascalientes. She said good-bye to her parents, her friends, her school, her traditions, and her native land.

She sacrificed everything to come and live in her new country.

Reyes said she made these sacrifices in order to have a better future and to be somebody in life.

"In the future I'll be rewarded," said Reyes.

With feelings of solitude, sadness, and melancholy, but also happiness, Reyes traveled alone to the U.S., where she reunited with her sister, Claudia Cortes.

"I didn't know what to do, I was confused and everything I thought about was if one day I would return," said Reyes.

Reyes accomplished her dream to keep studying, to

have a future and a career.

"School is the basis for a better life," said Reyes.

But dreams aren't accomplished without having to confront the difficulties that life gives.

Reyes confessed that before she thought life was easier because she had her parents and her friends with her, but now she is far away from them and from her country, Mexico.

"Having them far away; life gets harder," said Reyes.

Reyes said not knowing how to speak English well makes things a little more complicated.

Sometimes she has difficulties communicating with other people.

"You can't get a good job if you don't speak English," said Reyes.

These situations motivate Reyes to accomplish her objectives.

Reyes says that she feels the first thing she has to do is learn English. Then she needs to find work to pay for

her expenses.

The first days of high school were difficult for Reyes.

Reyes admitted that the first day of school, she got lost and she didn't know anybody.

"I wasn't prepared to change classrooms each period; I didn't know how the school functioned, nor classes," said Reyes.

Reyes' life has changed because she doesn't have her parents or her friends with her, but she knows she can count on their support.

"I feel sad knowing that my family is in Mexico and I can't have them here with me," said Reyes.

Reyes always thinks about the future; she thinks that one day she'll have her parents back with her to recover and enjoy all the time lost.

Her goal to reach a better future for herself and her family is one of the things that motivates Reyes to stay here.

The support from her family offers energy and motivation to Reyes.

Reyes doesn't want her children to go through the same situations she had to face.

"Moving from a country and learning a different language is not easy," said Reyes.

Talking on the phone with her parents helps Reyes forget for a moment that she is far away from them.

Reyes has learned that life here is different because she has realized that people here think more about the future while in Mexico people live more in the present.

Reyes is just one of the many people that have to leave everything in the past to come to the U.S. in search of a better future.

Like many others, she left Mexico because of the limitations in opportunities to go forward.

Despite everything Reyes tells us that she has found a positive life in the U.S.

"I like the stores, school, and home," said Reyes with a smile.

Egypt...(Continued from page 7)

tians have about each other.

Many Egyptians believe all Americans think alike while many Americans think all Egyptians think alike, which is not true, Johnson said.

"Just as there is no single American view on something, the amount of different viewpoints circulating throughout the Middle East on any number of issues is manifold," said Johnson.

Labels are the fastest route to misconception about groups, said Johnson, and people across the globe have similar personal aspirations, wants, and needs.

Through this, Johnson said that he has been able to adjust well to his new surroundings. He said that it

gets easier to live outside the U.S. the more one travels. In fact, Johnson thinks that the Middle East is a great place to live.

Johnson said that he likes the Middle East so much that he would like to go back to work for the New York Times Cairo bureau.

"Adaptation isn't such a hard thing after all, if you can detach yourself from those little American addictions like Taco Bell and "The Sopranos,"" said Johnson.

He also said that there are plenty of things in the Middle East that he likes, but he probably won't settle down there.

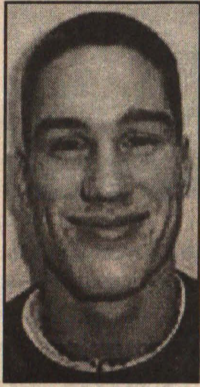
However, he does plan to live in the region for the next few years.

La Wildcat Chronicle busca hispanohablantes para escribir artículos para la columna "noticias ñ" para el año que viene. Si le interesa a ud contribuir artículos o ideas, habla con Ms. Kuehn en el salón 319 antes del fin del año escolar.

Eltrain's view To MJ, Thanks for all those years

By Elliott Tinnes

I know what you are going to think in a few more sentences.



"Elliott", you will say aloud, "Michael Jordan's career ended a month ago, why are you

writing about it now? Don't you think you should have written it last month?"

No, I don't think I should have written about it last month, and I have three reasons for doing so.

One, this is my column. Two, this paper only comes out once a month. And three, for someone as great as MJ, timeliness is not a factor. I could write this article in 2053 and it would still maintain the same significance.

I grew up watching basketball on TV. It was not because I like basketball though. In fact, I hated basketball until this year.

I grew up watching basketball because MJ and the Bulls were constantly bringing home championship rings. They were like the Lakers are now except not.

No matter what anyone says, Kobe Bryant is not greater than MJ.

Sure, some players arguably possess more sheer talent nowadays than MJ but no one has absolutely dominated the sport the way he did. Nobody cares about, nor do they watch, the NBA anymore.

MJ was a god among mere mortals in his prime. Nobody could take over a game the way he could.

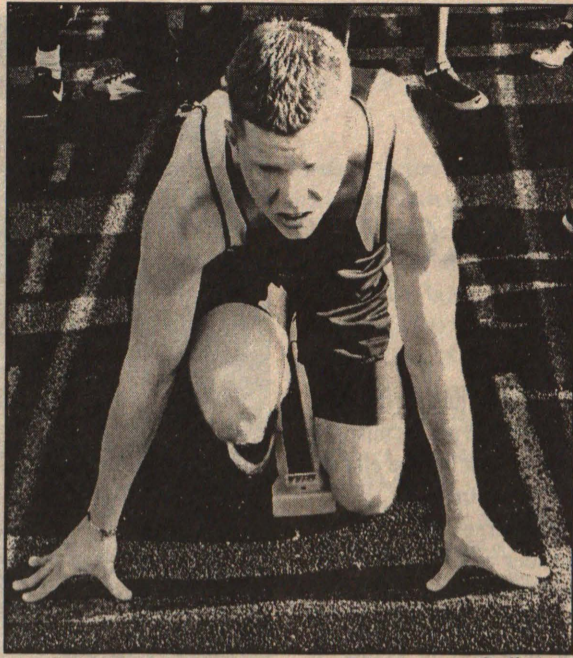
No other single player was the deciding factor between whether or not a team would win a championship. No other player could pull off a movie like 'Space Jam'.

MJ brought to basketball what Tiger Woods now brings to golf. Even among the best players in the world, he was still a shining star.

The definition of basketball lies within him. Ask anyone anywhere in the world who he is, and they will have an answer.

Sure, MJ was an amazing player, but what's more is that he was and always will be our player.

(See Eltrain page 11)



Staff photo

Brad Bytof stares hard down the runway as he prepares for the 100m dash.

Boys track running out of time for season

By Mary Beth Selby

As the sports season comes to a close, boys track reflects back on their season with good feelings.

"This season has been one to remember. We've found a bunch of ways to make victories," said sprinting coach Jeff Ford.

"(The season has been) pretty good. We had a good showing at the county meet. We've seen improvements through the season, times keep dropping and we keep getting better. That's what it's all about," said sprinting coach Jeff Ford.

One of the surprises he saw this year was the success of the 4x4-relay team, which has come 6 seconds away from state qualifying. Ford didn't think the team was that strong.

Head coach Paul McClelland said he is also really pleased with the boys and their efforts.

He has especially been pleased with Mike Doll in hurdles and Mark Foote in the 400m run. Both are in the 4x4 relay.

Ford said Mike Savegnago and Doll have been the most significant point-earners for the team.

Savegnago is in high jump, 200 m open race, 4x1 m relay, 4x2 M relay, 100 M open, and used to do pole vault.

He prepares for his meets with lots of rest and working hard at practice.

"You know, the bare essentials," said Savegnago. "But I should've gotten to state for high jump, but my mind is playing tricks on me."

With the help of his jumping coach, Savegnago has jumped 6-feet, 4-inches in the high jump. He has high hopes for next year, aiming to make it to state in two

three events, and be MVP again. Savegnago has also felt pretty good about the team in general this season.

"We've had lots of guys coming back from injuries and doing really well," said Savegnago.

However, Ford recognizes that the track team will be losing keys guys next year, being Derek Jensen, Foote, and Doll, all from the 4x4 relay.

But these seniors contributed more than just good times.

"Their leadership and performance is really going to hurt us when they're gone, but there are some solid juniors that can step up," said Ford.

McClelland also recognizes the youth of their team. Of the past five years, the least number of guys went out for track.

He wishes they had more members, but is pleased since there are many returning sophomores and juniors with varsity experience that helps contribute to victories.

Ford wishes he had spent more time working on 4x4 handoffs, believing that if the relay team had better handoffs, they could have dropped about half a second or more.

He also would have spent more time conditioning the boys in the weight room to get them toned up.

The boys will run at their sectional meet Friday at Naperville Central. McClelland has hopes to place in the top 5 out of 17 teams.

In a track meeting the day before their conference meet, McClelland tried to motivate the boys by talking about pride and persistence.

"Nothing can take the place of persistence," he told the boys.

But for next year, McClelland will, like he does every year, tell the boys to just continue to improve and do better than the previous year.

Runners heading to state after sections at Streamwood

By Bridget Geraghty
Girls track ran into fifth place at the DuPage Valley Conference meet.

Head coach Katerina Claiborne said, "We were really happy with our performance."

Topping the list of girls advancing to sectionals, Laura Baumrucker ran to first place in the 400 M dash in 58.6 seconds.

The 800 M relay compiled of Lauren Anders, DeAnne Fitzenreider, Jessica Cwiak, and Baumrucker grabbed third place in 1:52 minutes.

Kim Palka, Megan Andracki, Carmen Saucedo, and Amanda Weier took 5th place in the 4x800 relay.

Palka said, "I thought we

did pretty well as a team. This year everyone really came together."

In the 4x100 M relay, Anders, Fitzenreider, Cwiak, and Baumrucker placed fifth with a time of 51.50 seconds.

In the 3200 M Christy Adduci took third with 11:34.10 minutes and Katy Kostal took fifth with a time of 11:42.1 minutes.

Adduci and Kostal also placed fourth and fifth in the 1600 M with times of 5:22.30 and 5:28.50 minutes, respectively.

Anders took fourth in the 100 M intermediate hurdles with a time of 16 seconds, as well as 6th place for the 300 M low hurdles, setting a new school record with 49.30 seconds.

The 4x400 M relay team comprised of Cori Koeppen, Cwiak, Weier, and Baumrucker grabbed fifth with a time of 4:14.10 minutes.

Megan Forbrook placed second in the high jump with 5 feet.

Melissa Deutsch jumped 14'2.75" in the long jump to take sixth place.

In the triple jump Koeppen took sixth place with 32'7.50."

In the discus Dominique Scott threw 106'7.50" for a personal best.

Rachael Slattery and Amy Infanger placed fourth and sixth in the pole vault with 8'6" feet.

Claiborne said, "We really had a performance."

Wildcats clawing for goals

By Bridget Geraghty
West Chicago girls soccer wants to take the initiative and turn their luck around, or at least create it. The team is 8 to 6, 2 to 3 in conference.

Varsity coach Julio DelReal said the games are frustrating because We-go out shoots and out plays the other teams constantly, but when it comes down to making goals they fall apart.

Team member Andria Bernard said, "It's frustrating knowing the talent is there, we just can't finish."

DelReal said the main problem is that the team is not as aggressive as they should be in the goal.

Other than that, DelReal said the girls are great players and really know how to work together.

The teams is so good, in fact, they won a tournament in DeKalb for the third year in a row, scoring 27 goals with only one goal scored against them.

DelReal said, "It was laughable. We played weak teams, we took care of them."

The twenty team members worked together and

"did an exceptional job," according to DelReal.

The following conference games didn't turn out so well however, the team tried as hard as they could.

They lost 0 to 1 to Wheaton North as well as 0 to 2, to Bartlett.

DelReal said the problem was scoring, because in all other aspects of the game We-go was dominating.

Senior varsity soccer player Ashley Mazzola said, "We're ready to turn things around. We've got the skill and now we just have to create our own luck."

Boys volleyball:

We-go dethrones Tigers

By Stephanie Bodane
The West Chicago boys volleyball team has recently did what no other team has been able to do all season.

The Wildcats dethroned the state's top ranked team, the Wheaton-Warrenville South Tigers, from their undefeated stature on May 13.

We-go lost the first match 10 to 15. "We had a lot of serving errors that game," said coach Kris Hasty.

However, the team came back strong and won the second match 15 to 13 due to some key kills from Tysyn Wyman and sophomore Derek Jensen.

We-go finished up the match 18 to 16, winning the match after an ace by Jensen, which won the game.

The volleyball team continues to bring in the wins and is looking forward to bringing their skill to state this year.

The varsity team consists of 11 players, eight of them seniors.

The team has 17 wins and nine losses overall, and are five in five in the DVC.

Hasty said that her main goal this season is for the team to win two tournaments and win regionals and sectionals.

Hasty said the only weakness the team has this season is communication, blocking, and defense. However, it hasn't stopped the team from playing well this season.

"The key to this season is everyone working together, and not being selfish. Playing for the team, not for himself. Everybody accepting their role and doing their job," said Hasty.

We-go will challenge Addison Trail on the Tuesday.

"I encourage students to come watch us play. We are exciting to watch," said Hasty.

Boys baseball: Saints on deck in face-off

By Michelle Loerzel
Wildcat varsity baseball is preparing for their regional game against St. Charles East Saturday, May 31.

Although We-go has lost to the St. Charles East Saints for the last two years at the regional game, captain Scott Sieder feels confident about the game.

"If they go in believing they can beat us no matter what, then we can definitely sneak up on them for a win," said Sieder.

St. Charles East was not one of the teams We-go played during the regular season. They are a part of the Upstate Eight conference, and both We-go and St. Charles East are in the double A division of high school baseball.

The game begins at 10 a.m. and will take place at St. Charles East.

"It is a great opportunity for our program to step up and knock a St. Charles school out of the tournament," said varsity coach John Walters.

St. Charles East was a part of the final eight who went down to state in the 2002 season.

During the varsity baseball summer league, the Wildcats beat St. Charles East 7 to 2. But when it came time for the summer league's state tournament, the Saints knocked We-go out of the tournament 4 to 2.

"We need to play a complete game," said Walters.

Although St. Charles East beat We-go over the summer, they have lost to teams that

the Wildcats have beat this season.

"It all depends on whoever brings the better game," said varsity baseball player Mike Liszka.

If We-go wins the regional game against St. Charles East then they will play the winner between St. Charles North and Streamwood.

As the season comes to an end, Sieder reflection on his expectations for this year.

Which a younger pitching staff, Sieder believed the hitting would have to be good to support the pitching. But it has been the opposite of what he expected because the pitchers have been holding up their part and they need more hits.

"Our game has started to pick up now, and we are making progress," said Sieder.

The varsity baseball team has two junior students who are pitching. T.J. Shanahan started as a pitcher on the sophomore team in the 2002 season.

Shanahan has pitched four winning games and four losses during the 2003 season. He also pitched a shut-out game against Plainfield, ending with a score of 1 to 0.

Liszka started at first base and pitched a couple of games during the 2002 season. During the summer league, Liszka started to pitch more games.

Liszka is left-handed which is rare in baseball and can be an advantage. Coach John Walters encouraged him to become a pitcher over the summer league, said Liszka.

Liszka pitched We-go's game against Naperville North May 15. He only al-

lowed five singles and a double. The Wildcats were able to snatch a win by one run in the seventh inning.

The first run was scored by a first base hit from Frank Guerrero and the second was a steal to home by John Weier.

"I had some rough starts, but I was finally throwing pitches all around the zone," said Liszka.

The Wildcats won their continued game against the Naperville North Huskies May 13 that ended with a score of 4 to 4 in the ninth inning. With two out in the tenth inning, Sieder had a triple driving three runs in.

Although We-go was able to win one, they lost their second game against Naperville North with a score of 7 to 2. Rich Miller knocked in two runs on his double.

We-go played Wheaton North Falcons May 8 and 9 and the Wildcats pulled away with one win and a loss.

In the first game, We-go was able to win by gaining six runs in one inning.

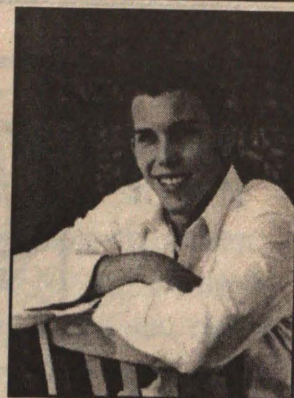
"They hit really well during that inning," said Walters.

Shanahan pitched well enough to only let the Falcons score four.

We-go lost by only one in the second game, ending the game at 11 to 10. Miller had a grand slam in the fourth inning to bring the Wildcats up 9 to 5.

"This was our highlight of the game," said Walters.

A home game against Naperville Central did not work to We-go's advantage with a loss of 11 to 1 and an away loss to Central 10 to 2 earlier in the season.



Mark Foote

Athlete of the month

By Elliott Tinnes

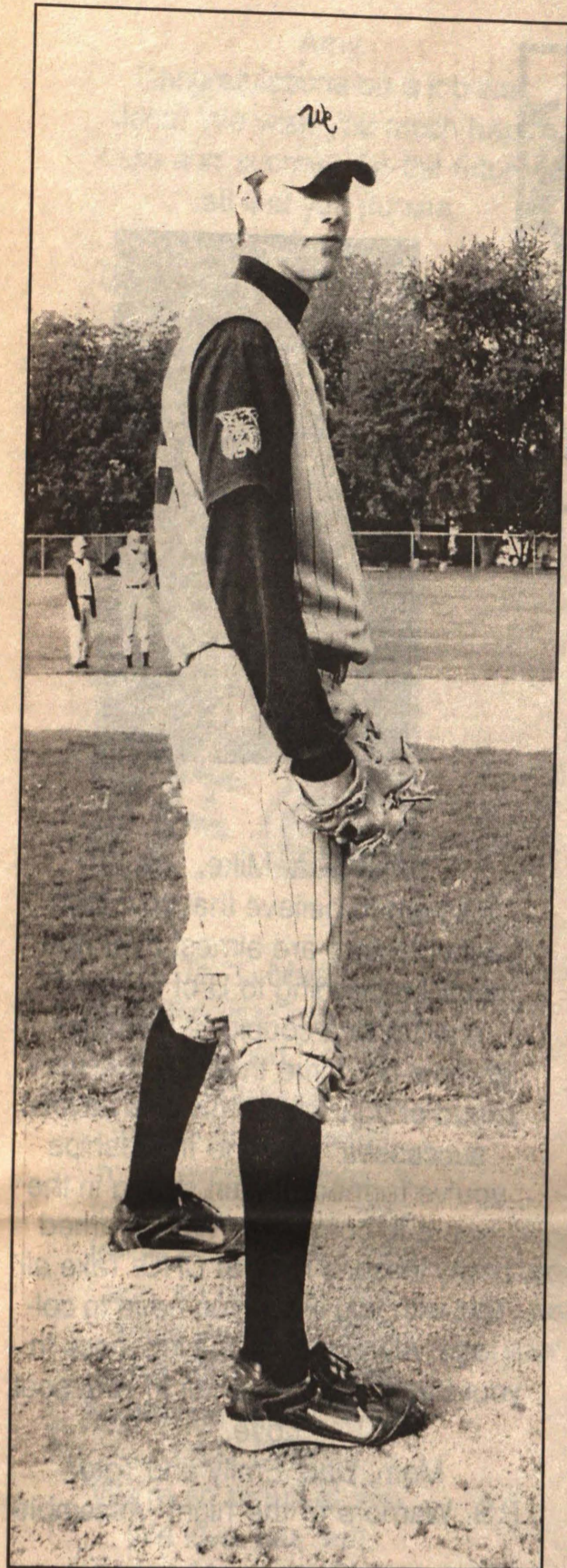
"God made me fast, and when I run, I feel his pleasure." For senior Mark Foote, May's "Athlete of the month", no words hold truer.

The quote, from the film "Chariots of Fire," is the storyline for Foote's life from the end of January through May.

Both a dominating 400-meter runner, as well as the anchor for the Wildcats' 4x400 meter relay, Foote has played a commanding role in the success of West Chicago's boys track team.

As much natural talent as Foote has, there has always seemed to be something holding him back. Season after season, some injury has plagued him. En route to the end of a strong junior season, Foote began experiencing heart problems. For the remainder of the season, it was an uphill battle for Foote, who had been diagnosed with "A-fib", a fluttering of the lower right ventricle of his heart. Foote was forced to wear a heart monitor, even while running, to keep a constant check on his condition.

Nonetheless, he has consistently pulled out top times quarter-mile times that began as 57-58 second runs have now dropped to a 50.9 best. As the season winds to an end Foote has one last thing to focus on: state.



Staff photo

Junior Mike Liszka stands atop the mound, waiting for his next strikeout.

Badminton makes racquet with fundraiser

By Jessica Myers

We-go badminton had a smashing time May 15 when the team had its annual fundraiser challenge against friends, family and teachers.

Challengers paid \$3 to play a badminton member of their choice. If they won, they were returned their \$3.

However, if they were unable to beat the player, their \$3 were donated to the team.

Badminton coaches were also challenged.

"I dominated," said freshman coach Nick Caltagirone.

Double challengers were also taken. Any two friends, family, or teachers could challenge one badminton player.

Caltagirone accepted a challenge from English teacher Jason Kling.

"Mr. Kling was a little upset when he lost his match, but other than that everyone had a nice time," said Caltagirone.

Summer Hassan, a junior varsity player, felt that the challenge was a good event for students.

The fundraiser allowed people to see that badminton is hard work and the team doesn't play around all day.

"Badminton is not a hop scotch sport," said Hassan.

Throughout the season Caltagirone noted an improvement in the girls' basic badminton skills and their conditioning.

"Badminton rocks," said Caltagirone. "We (the coaches) are very proud of the girls this season. They did well and really improved their skills."

Eltrain... (Continued from page 10)

The city of Chicago had not seen exposure like that since Al Capone. Few other cities have possessed a person of the same caliber.

To some, Jordan may have tarnished his image throughout the years. With allegations of cheating on his wife and a messy divorce, this would have been the case for most people. MJ, though, managed to come out untarnished.

Chicago has been willing to stick with MJ through thick and thin. When times

were good, MJ brought us home six championship trophies. At the same time, though, we were there

through those messy divorces. We felt it when

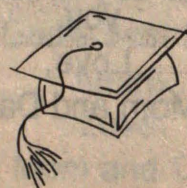
MJ broke down in tears after the tragic death of his father. We sustained through more than one attempt at retirement.

Even when MJ came back to the NBA, but went to Washington rather than Chicago, we held no grudge.

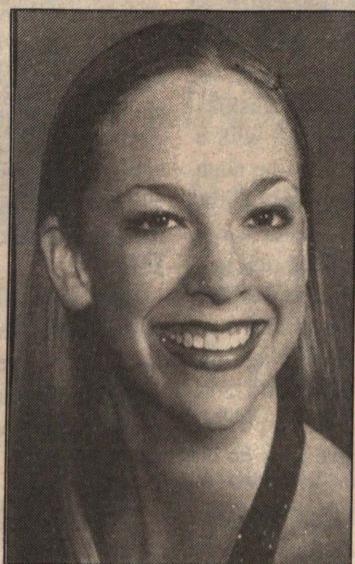
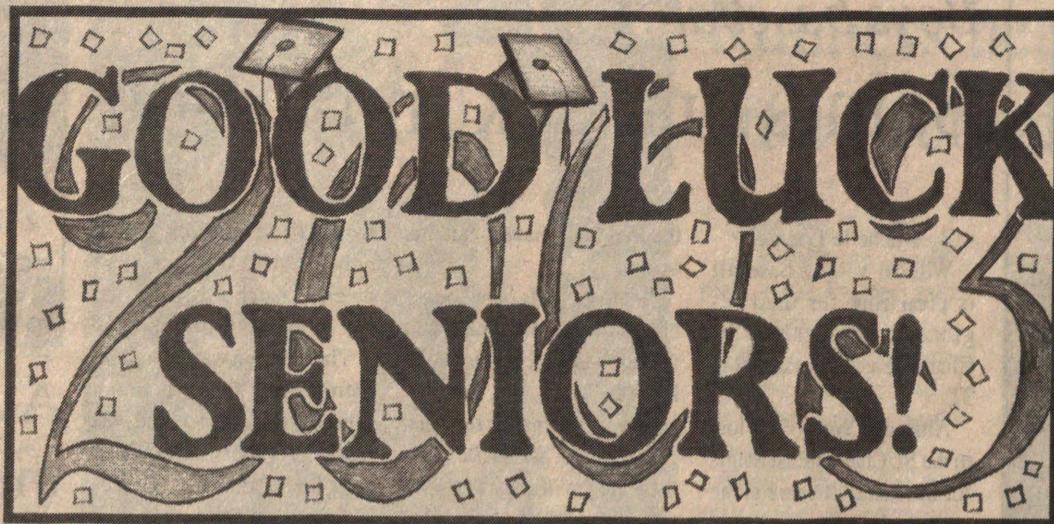
We know that he will always belong to us. We were just glad to have him.

'MJ was a god among mere mortals in his prime.'

Want to see a We-go sports player as a child? Don't stop now, check out the special graduating section on the next page.



Graduation



Our darling daughter has grown up to be a beautiful, intelligent, caring young lady. We are all very proud of you, Catherine. Good luck in the future. Remember, you can do anything you want as long as you work hard to get it. Dreams do come true. We love you!
Dad, Mom, Stephanie, Matt, B.J. and Christine



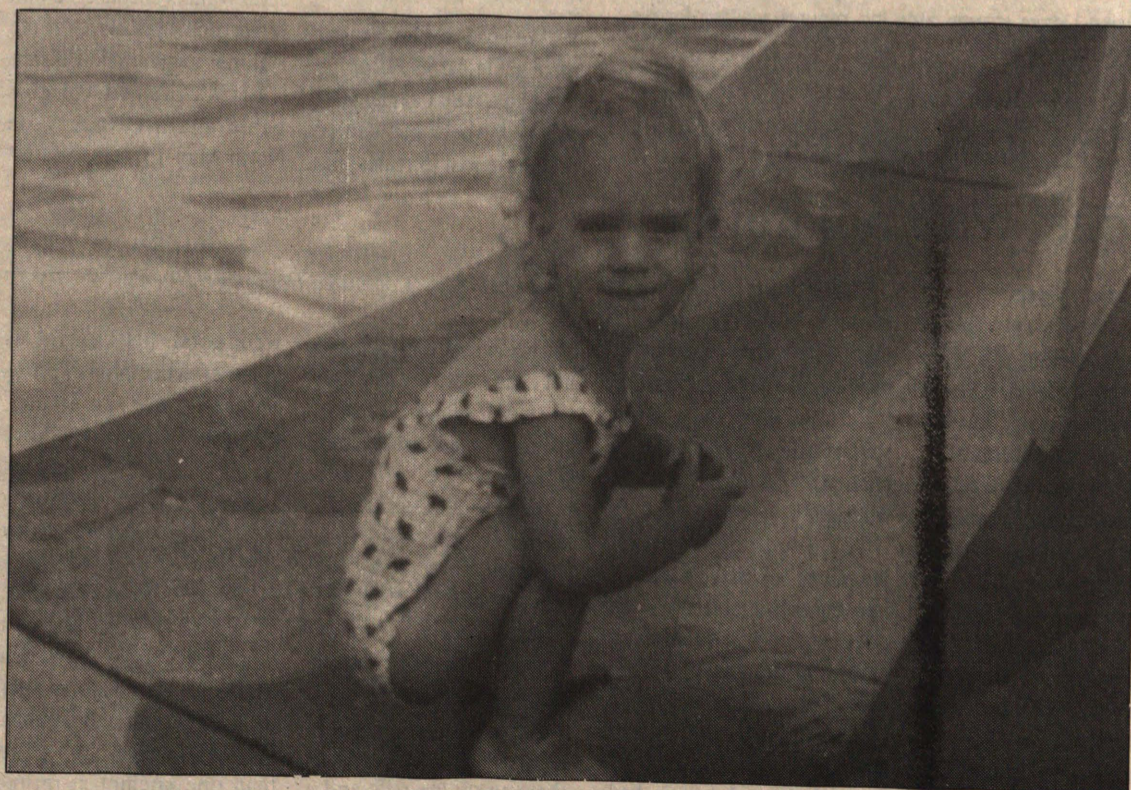
Dear Jessica Cwiak,
We are very proud of you. We wish you much happiness in college. May all of your dreams come true.
Love,
Mom, Dad and Jenny



Dear Mike,
It's hard to believe that your high school years are almost over and you'll be heading to U of I (your #1 choice) in a couple of months--dreams do come true! We are very proud of your academic and athletic successes. May the friendships you've formed remain strong in the years to come. You have learned many lessons here at CHS. Take all this with you when you head to college. Always keep the kindness in your heart and the humor in your soul.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Emily and Toto
P.S. Warriors of the night--Assemble!



Congratulations Jess,
We are very proud of you.
Love,
Mom and Dad

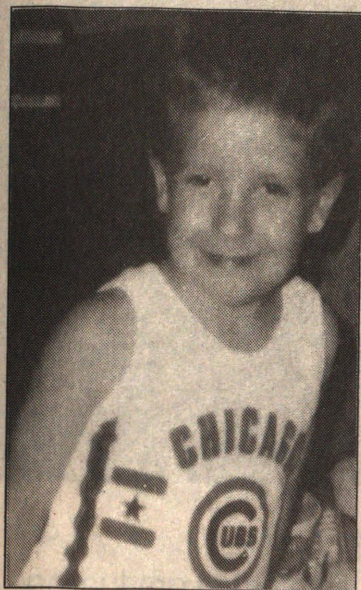


Brittany,
We are proud of all your accomplishments.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Joseph

Graduation

Amy,
Congratulations on a job well done! We wish you much happiness and success for the future in all that you pursue.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Carly, Haley and Kelly



To "G-Man"
Now the time has come to say good luck to Greg. You're on your way to bigger, better, more exciting things. A look at life and the challenge it brings. Not long ago, so cute, so nice. You'd say to us "IT'S FINA FICE"! Now tall, handsome and a "WISE OLD ONE" We're so proud of you. We love you, son.
xoxo Mom and Dad



Mée Mée,
You're a beauty! We are so proud of your many talents and accomplishments. We have enjoyed your high school years and especially your many friends. "In everything you do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success." Proverbs

3:6

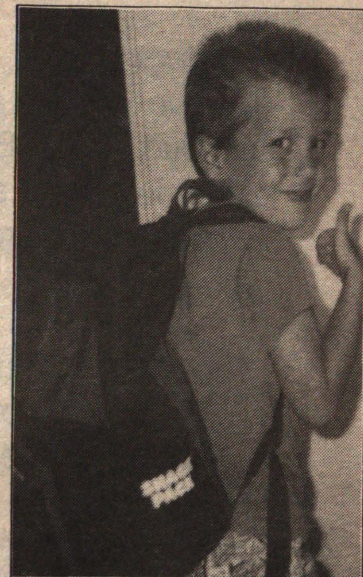
Love,
Mom and Dad

Kori,
You're an awesome person. We're so proud of all your accomplishments. We look forward to the next step you will be taking in life. Always know your family is behind you and loves you very much.

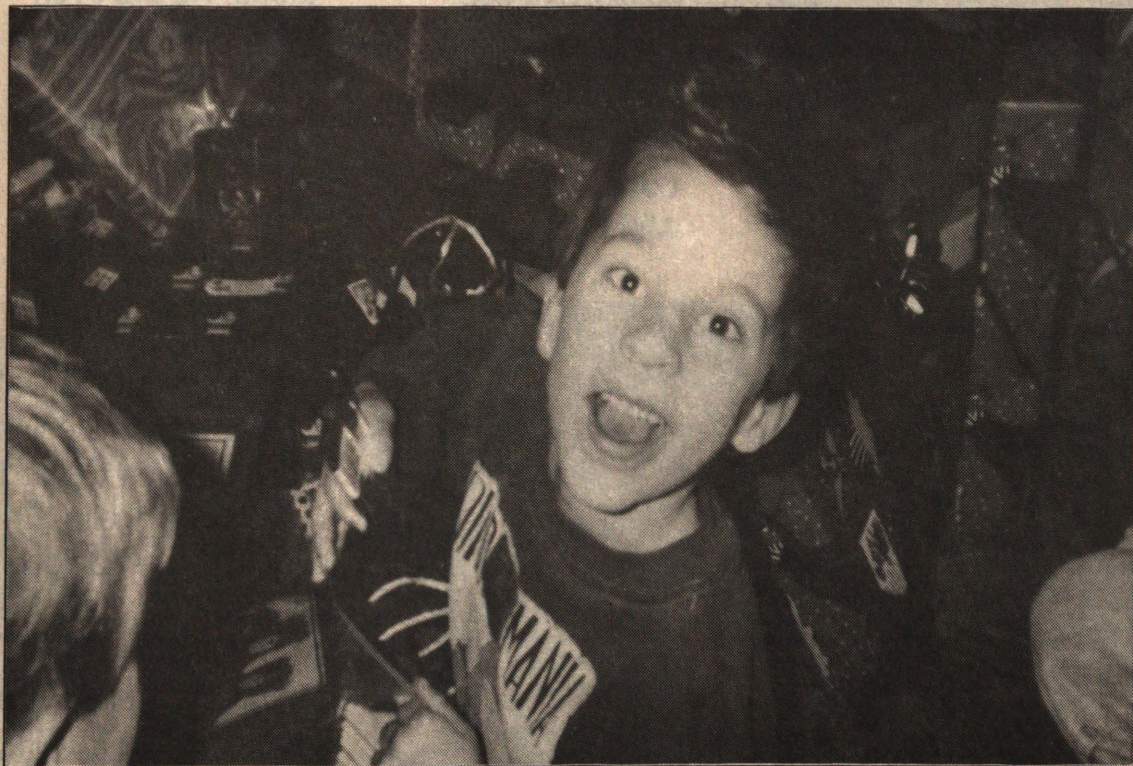
Love,
Mom and Dad
Kari, David, Zack and Kadi

Congratulations to all seniors, and especially "my" students who had me as their counselor. And best wishes for the future to all. Don't forget where you came from, make us proud, and let us know sometime how you are doing.

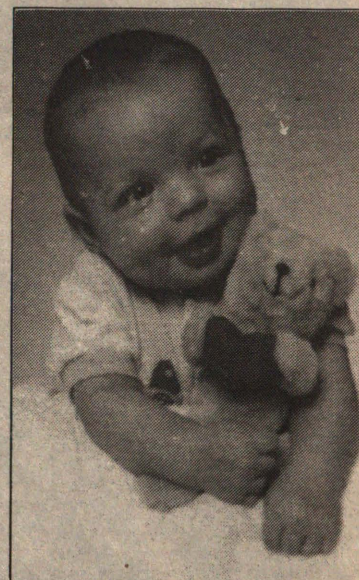
Mr. Ward Rau
wrau@d94.org



Greg Stranski,
Your backpack carrying years are almost over! So proud of you! Congrats and good luck in college!
Love,
Mom and Dad

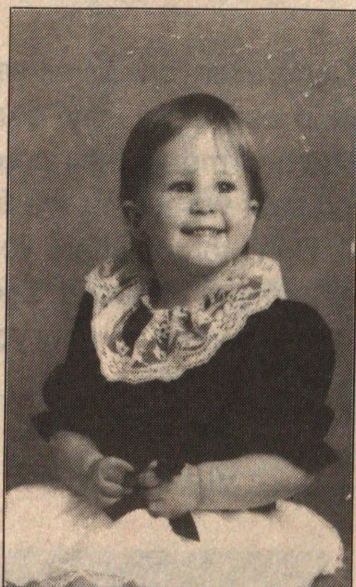


Good luck, Aron!
May you always be filled with good cheer!
Love,
Mom and Dad



Dear Jesse,
You've certainly grown up a lot since those teddy-bear days! We're proud of you and pray for God's best for your future.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Graduation



Nicole Marie,
We love you and are
so proud of you. Best
of luck in college and
wherever life takes
you.

Love,
The Melone Family
P.S. Stay out of
trouble, or else!



To our sweet Laura,
You've gone from playing dress up as a little girl to graduating
high school. We're so proud of you!

Love you,
Mom and Dad

Nick Chillemi,
Way to go Nick!
We are proud of you.
From,
Mom and Dad



Heather,
Congratulations on a great high school career.
Best of luck in the next four!

Thanks for being you!
Love,
Mom and Gramma

Justus,
You are on your way to great-
ness! You have so many
great qualities about you.
Capable, able to repair bikes,
cars, appliances. Creative
and inventive, you will go very
far with things. You are re-
sponsible, polite, funny and
you have integrity. Don't lose
it, to get it back is so hard.
Autum agrees that you are so
handsome and being a Godly
man just makes you that
much more attractive. Justus
you rock! I'm so glad to know
you.

Love,
Mom



Brittany,
We were proud of you
then... we are even
more proud now!

Love,
Mom and Dad

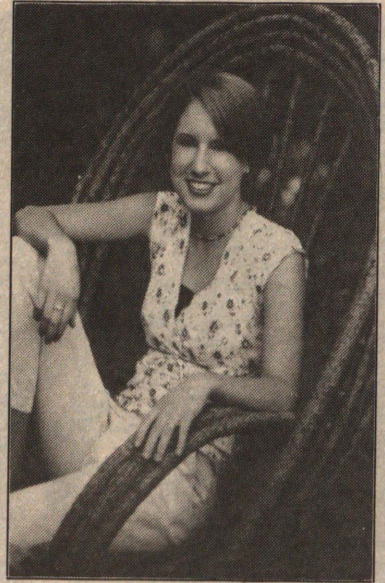
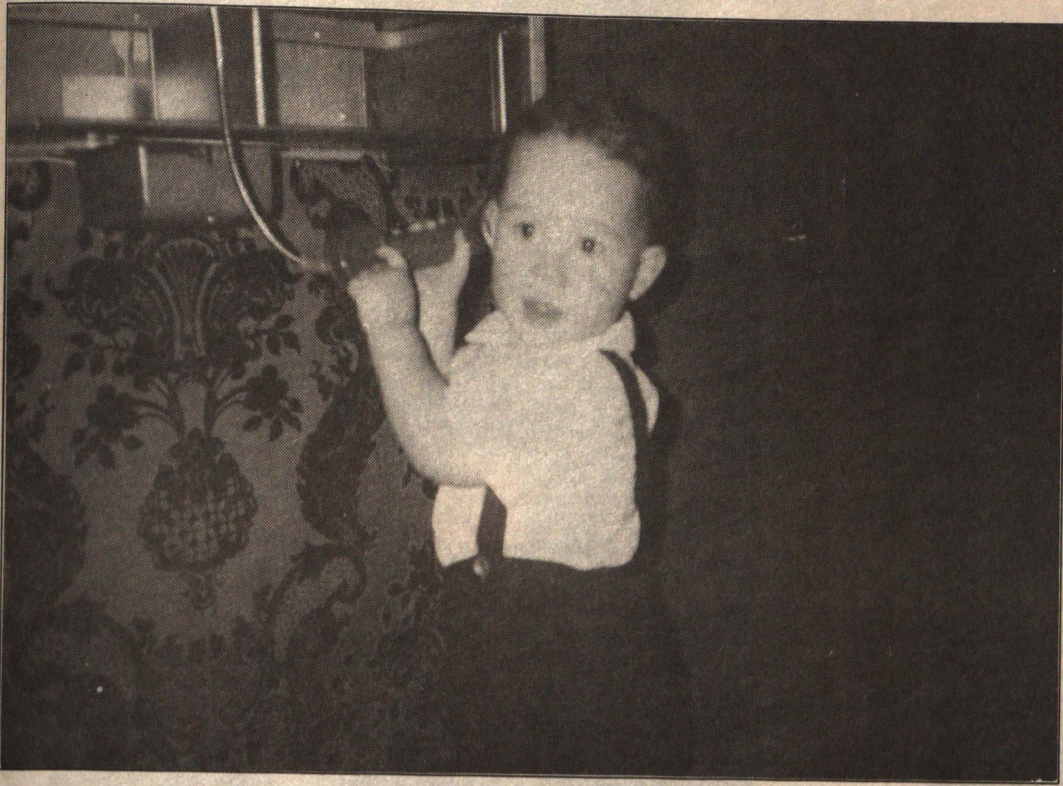
Thanks:
Claudia Corriolo,
Geraldine Colorado,
Melissa Davis, Michelle
Davis, Jessica Day, Dalia
Garcia, Miriam Denise
Garcia, Jessica Gallarda,
Catherine Iannello, Erin
Henry, Luanne Kazlowski,
Amy Lichtfuss, Pam Mar-
tin, Monica McGinnis,
Heather Mosteller, Greg
Moore, Steve Padilla,
Dan Pazar, Traci Selga,
Donald (Brock) Spaniol,
Jackie Stentz, Marybeth
Stotz, Jamie Velna,
Kelley Whitman.

From,
Ruth Mosson



Why should I go to college, I
already know it all...
Good luck! We love you...
R and R

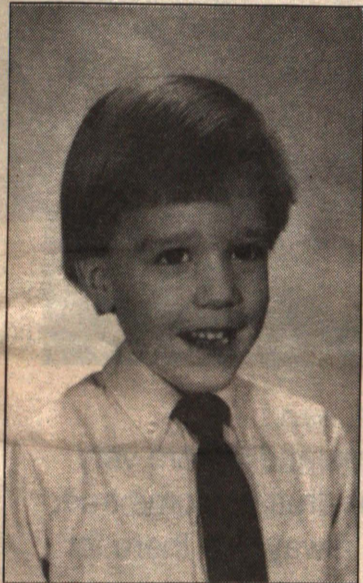
Graduation



Angel,
You're on your way. A bright world is ahead of you full of excitement and promise. Good luck as you reach for your goals.
Love,
Mom and George

Congratulations, Alex!
Have a wonderful time at college next year. Don't forget to call home.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Your room is mine, Jeremy
Rose.
-Brit



To Logan:
"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around you might miss it"-Ferris Bueller and your family. All the best, we are so proud!

Rebeca Duran,
We knew you would turn into a responsible, vibrant young woman, and you have. We are proud of you.
Good luck!
Mr. and Mrs.
Buchman

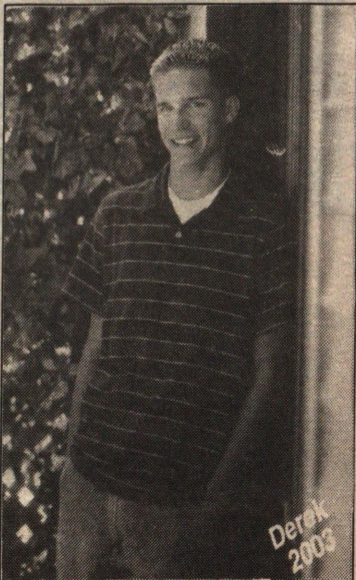
Brian Nelson,
You were a great leader for our youth group. Good luck in all your future endeavors. We are proud of you.
Mr. and Mrs.
Buchman



Congratulations, Elyse and Heather!
Love,
Dad and Mom

Dear Derek,
We find it hard to believe that our youngest child is graduating! We are proud of all your accomplishments. You've also done a great job in pushing yourself to do your best in cross country and track. You have a great sense of humor that keeps us all amused. We know your future will be successful in whatever you choose to do.

Love,
Mom and Dad



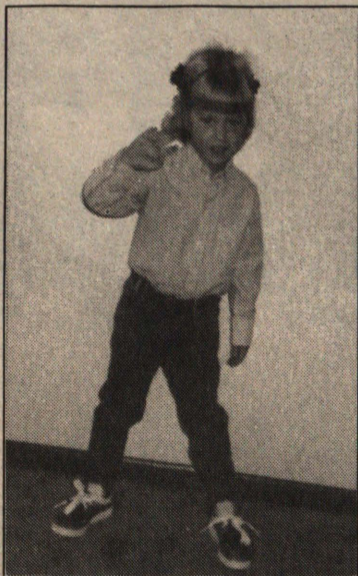
Graduation



Oh, to be 18 and have life's highway open in front of you, with no posted speed limit. We envy you! Watch out for curves!

All our love,
Mom and Dad

Jeff Cordina,
Thanks for helping me out in my year at Benjamin Middle School and the beginning of high school. Good luck to you!
From,
K.T.

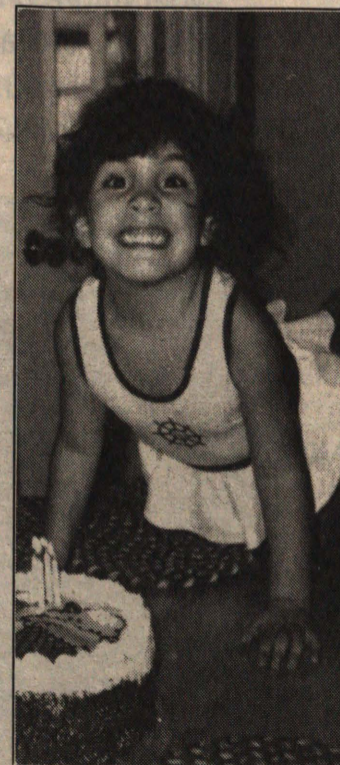


Colleen Mathias,
This picture is from your first day of school. It seems like yesterday. We know you will succeed in all your endeavors. We're so proud of you and love you very much.
Mom and Dad

I'll miss you Matt!

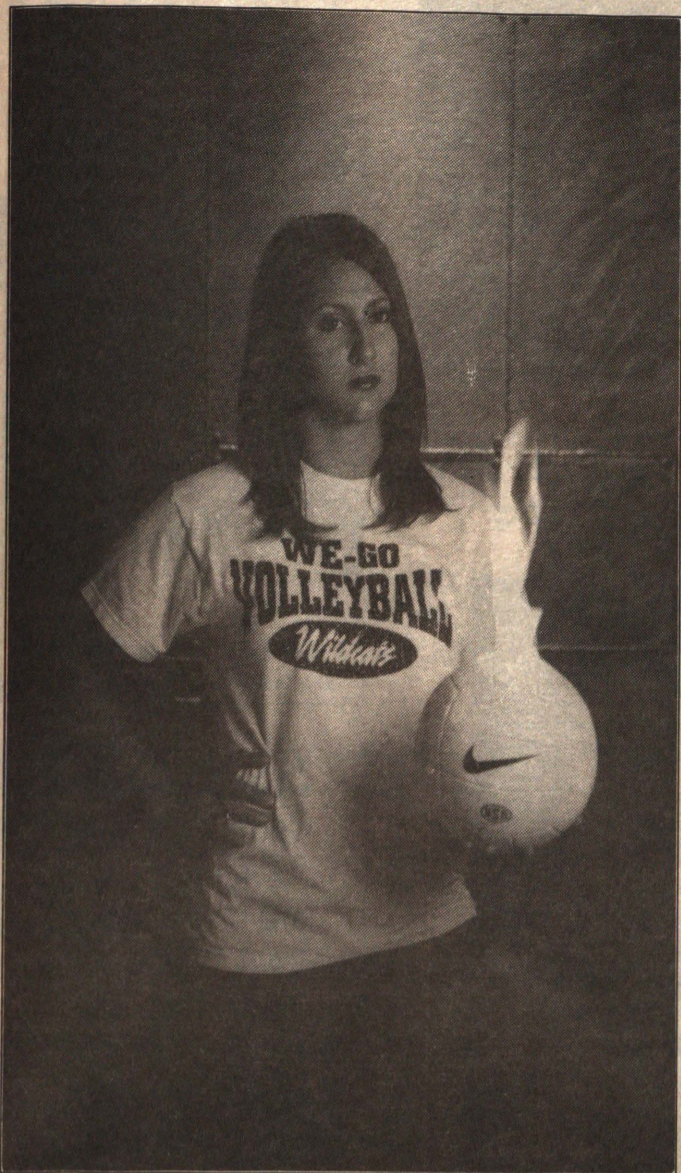


Nicole,
Our little girl has grown up and we are very proud of you. May all your dreams come true. We love you and we will always be there for you.
Love,
Mom and Dad



Jenny,
In what seems like a moment in time, you've grown up before our eyes. We are proud of who you are, what you stand for, and for your courage to face life when life wasn't fair. Believing in yourself is the first secret of success. We believe in you and know that your successes will make a difference in the lives of those you touch. We love you,
Mom and Dad

Graduation



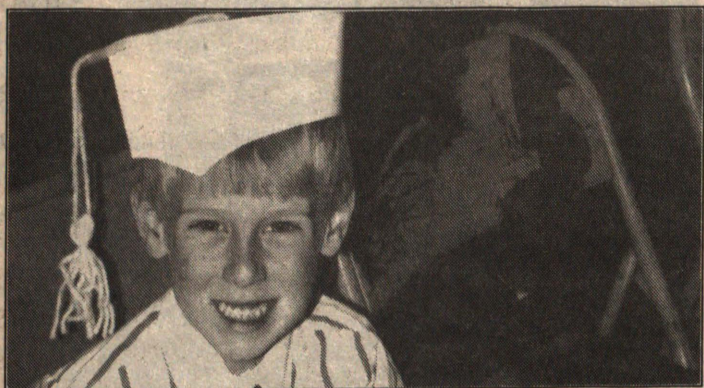
Vi, I love you
-Julie

Lindsay,
Congratulations on your volleyball scholarship to Union College. We are so proud of you.

Love,
Mom and Dad
"Can you say Fall Ride"?!
We love you and we will always be there for you.

For my childhood friends,
I would like to say the good-bye that was never said. I don't know why we parted, all I know is that you were the best friends I've ever had and I'm only sorry that I lost that friendship.

Forever,
Jessica Myers



Jeremy,
Even in kindergarten you were a young Junior Statesman of America. We are so very proud of you. You are growing into such a wonderful young adult. You have touched our lives in so very many special ways and our love for you grows stronger each day.

Love,
Mom and Dad

To the class of 2003:
Your years at Community High School are quickly coming to end. As graduation approaches, we would like you to stop and think for a moment. Think about your favorite teachers...how that person touched your life. Think about your friendships...how have they matured? Think about your family...how have they supported you through the years? It is now time to move on but do not forget how your teachers, your friends, and your family have helped you grow and prepare for the future ahead of you.

Soon
Everyone
Needs
Independence
On their
Road to
Success

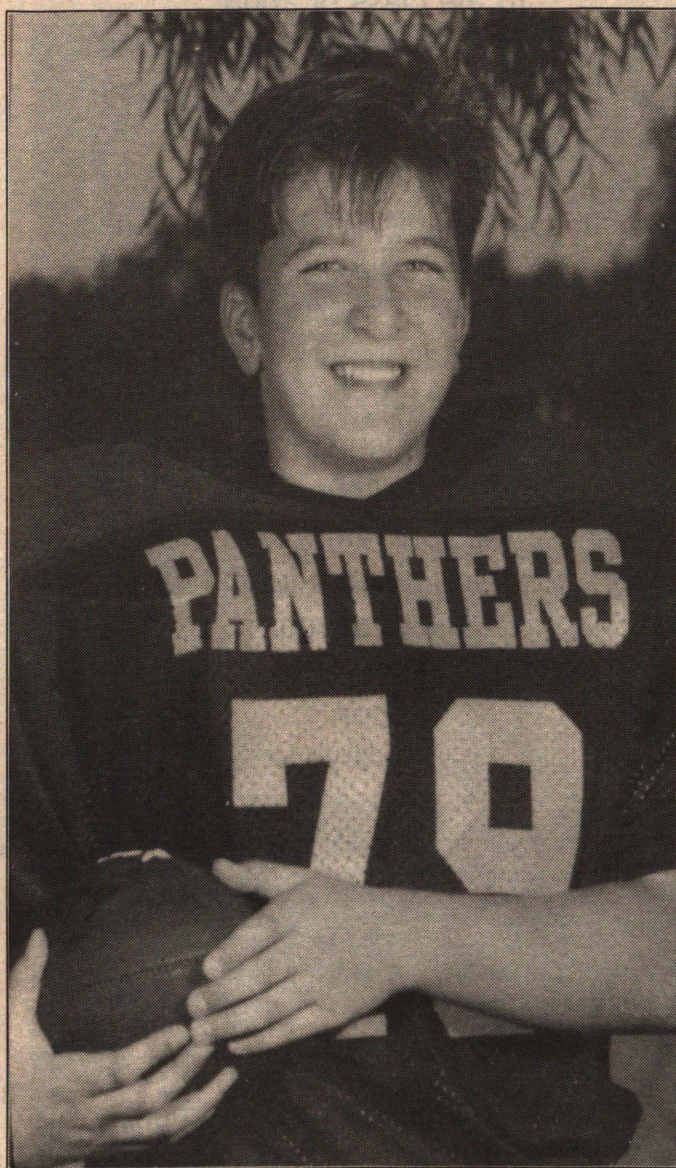
GOOD LUCK and BEST WISHES
from the Counseling Department

Varble, Jessica, B.B., Mackenzie and Marge,
We're going to miss you on the course. Come back and visit. "That's Decent!"
-Jamie, Dana, Katie and Michelle



Jimmy, We're so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad, and Mikki

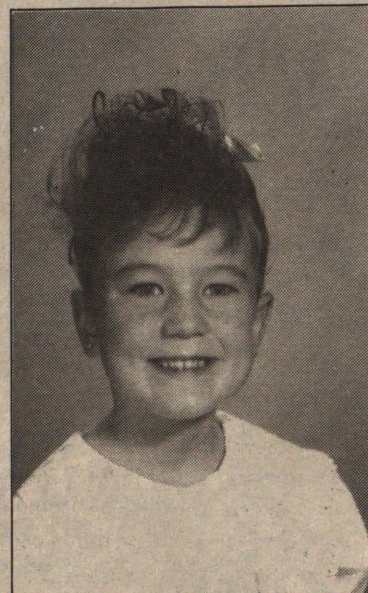
Graduation



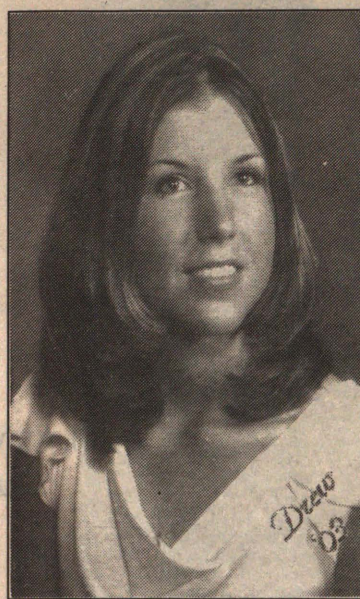
Christopher Sanzeri,
It seems like yesterday you were on the line
in pee wee football. Now it's off to
college. You're gonna be the best lineman
the Warriors have ever seen!
Love,
Mom and Dad



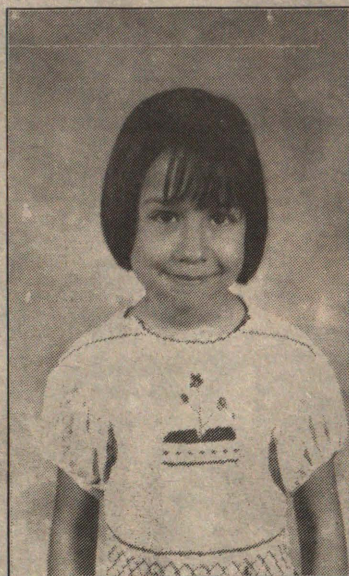
Stan,
Good luck to you and your friends.
Mom, Dad and Becky



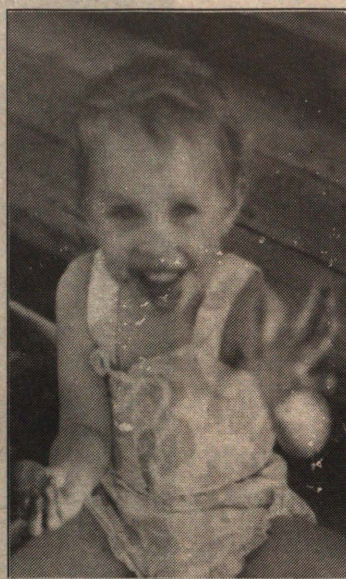
Dear Stephanie,
Congratulations!
Good job! You
are now on your
way. Watch out
I.S.U. here she
comes! Best of
luck to you! We
love you very
much!
Dad, Mom, Chris,
Nicholas



Drew,
Congratulations! You made it!
We're very proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad and Leigh



Rachel,
We are so
proud of you on
all of your ac-
complishments.
Congratulations!
Good luck with
everything you
do.
Love you lots,
Mom and Sis



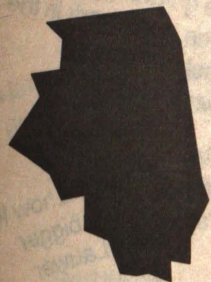
Kristina,
We are so proud
to be your parents.
It's been a joy to
watch you grow.
May angels guide
you and know that
we are here for
you always!
Love,
Mom and Dad



Laura,
We are so proud of you and all you have ac-
complished. Congratulations!
Love,
Mom, Dad, David and Jon

Graduation

Where will they be next year?



Illinois

Aurora University
Jenny Bieniasz- Social Worker

Augustana College
Sarah Altergott- Psychology
Maggie Wdowiarz- Spanish, Secondary Education

Benedictine University
Nicole Kovacevic- Pharmacy

Bradley University
Rachel Horvath- Elementary Education

College of DuPage
Tom Aguirre- Medicine
Rachel Borsodi- Art, Interior Decorating, Advertising, Psychology
Araceli Cielo- Elementary Teaching
Hans Colliander- Undecided
Kori Flagg- Elementary Education

Sergio Garcia- Music
Kayla Halsall- Pastry Chef

Ricardo Juarez- Biologist
Amanda Koester- English

Kristin Koltz- Journalism, Food Critic
Imelda Landeros- Undecided

Jose Lopez- Assistant Doctor
Carlos Martinez- Automotive Mechanic

Griselda Mendez- Cosmetology
Said Mendoza- Computer Science

Kristi Nickelson- Dental Hygiene, Radiology
Edith Pantoja- Accounting

Jazmin Pena- Human Services
Eddie Pineda- Animations

Cipriano Rauirez- Business Management
Brandi Ruiz- General Art

Keri Sagen- French Teacher, Education Sequence
Logan Schrage- Writing

Elyse Schwinn- Nursing
Gwen Smith- Applied Arts/Sciences, Culinary Arts
Nicole Strayve- Business

Columbia College
Jaclyn Demes- Fashion Retail Management and Marketing

Concordia University
Stan Lemon- Pre-seminary and Communications

DePaul University
Jessica Krueger- Undecided
Jeanine Macrito- Marketing

Eastern Illinois University
Daniel Garcia- Financing

Elgin Community College
Dan Deutsch- TV/Radio Broadcasting
Catherine Iannello- Interior Design
Scott Sieder- Physical Therapy

Elmhurst College
Matt Timko- History Law

Illinois State University
Stephanie Bodane- English/Journalism Education

Jessi Crockatt- Sociology
Lauren Kirby- Business Administration/Marketing

Lisa Lindner- Biology
Lauren Mroz- Elementary Education

Sean Warren- Mathematics Secondary Education
Sarah Wood- Middle School Math Teacher

Jessica York- Elementary Education

Knox College
Melissa Stevens- Education, English

Louis University
Thinh Nguyen- Fashion Design

Loyola University
Liz Brosseau- Nursing
Carrie Gallimore- Biology
Noorah Koita- Psychology

Ruchita Patel- Biology, Pre-Medicine

Marquette University
Kathryn Walker- International Business

North Central College
Luke Dean- Secondary Education Focusing on History

Ashlee McLeod- Undecided

Northern Illinois University

Becky Dennis- Secondary English Education
Joey Farelas- Communications, Theater Arts

Josh Kane- Computer Networking
Katy Kostal- Journalism

Elaine Lauver- Nursing
Lynn Mielke- Physical Education

Nathan Roberts- Special Education
Brad Sabathne- Undecided

Brian Steere- Computer Science
Brittany Swantek- Physical Therapy/Athletic Training

Hope Vock- Meteorology
Tony Zumpano- Associate Business, Business Management

Northwestern Business School
Matt Benson- Business Administration

Northwestern University
Paul Majchrowski- Mathematics, Statistics

Olivet Nazarene University
Sarah Hammer- Housing, Environmental Design

University of Chicago
Mike Doll- Mathematics

University of Illinois at Chicago
Emily Biancalana- Bioengineering

Jessica Cwiak- Education
Jill Kufta- Bilingual

Theresa McEvoy- Psychology
Jim Oroni- Architecture

Kim Peterik- Undecided
Jeremy Rose- Political Science

University of Illinois at Urban Champaign
Heather Cirone- Undecided

Joshua Hartman- Biology
Jim Rylowicz- Engineering

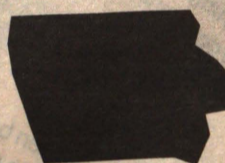
Michelle Weiss- Business
CJ Wostratzky- Computer Engineering

Western Illinois University
Angel Chiarito- Criminal Psychology

Errik Loosli- Undecided
Greg Stranski- Undecided

Jessica Varble- Pre-law, Political Science

Xavier University
Dan Callahan- Business



Iowa

Drake University
Christine Hendron- Graphic Design

University of Iowa
Brian Calabrese- Business Finance

Beth Kipp- Business
Colleen Mathias- Business Administration, Elementary Education

Nicole Melone- Pre-Medicine/Biochemistry
Aron Morris- Accounting, Pharmacist

Kelly Siekmann- Biology, Pre-Medicine

University of Northern Iowa
Kristina Wanous- Bioinformatics



Kentucky

Elizabethtown Community College
Samantha Kimber- Nursing

Union College
Lindsay Paulsen- Pre-Vet



Michigan

Grand Valley State University
Chris Brown- Finance
Kristen Mederich- Business, Psychology

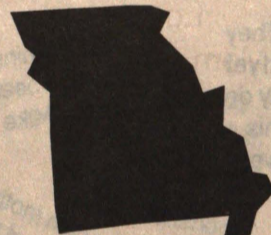
Hope College
Karen Miller- Undecided

Northern Michigan University
Emmanuel Vazquez- Business



Minnesota

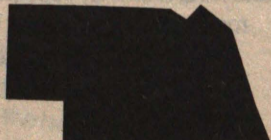
Winona State University
Jessica Myers- Journalism



Missouri

Truman State University
Alison Dahl- Music/Art

University of Missouri
Alex Baker- Business



Nebraska

Dana College
Jake Delort- History



Ohio

Miami University
Nick Bernard- Political Science

University of Dayton
Greg Moore- Business
Greg Hodge- Undecided



Wisconsin

Beloit College
Jesse Lord- Music Composition, Vocal Performance, Theater

Carthage College
Betsy Drzal- Elementary Education
Laura Gilbertsen- Pharmacy

Nikki Schar- Elementary Education

Milwaukee School of Engineering
Erich Musick- Software Engineering

University of Wisconsin

Leann Bertram- Business, Psychology
Jeff Cordina- Real Estate, Urban Land Economics

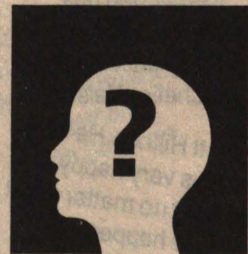
Justin Hoshaw- Genetics
Rachel Moguel- Political Science



Military

Missi Sheme- United States Navy
Melissa Siva- United States Army

Daniel Millard- United States Marine Corp



Undecided

Erica Arevalo- Undecided
Matt Coiley- Architecture

Rudy Garcia- Undecided
Abraham Lopez- Undecided

Bob Nagel- Architecture
Quang Nguyen- Math, Computer, Pre-pharmacy

Mike Vargas- Business, German

Graduation

Has anyone inspired you?

"Mrs. Laimins was an awesome teacher and made class really fun. I've learned a lot from her,"
Angel Chiarito

"All the coaches that I have had here have taught me to work hard and never let 'I can't' cross my mind,"
Dan Deutsch

"Not really, just my friends helping me find myself,"
Scott Sieder

Mrs. Streicher, she kind of played my at school mom, staying on top of my job and my future in the business field," Jeanine Macrito

Mr. Rau has made a great impact on my life. He has helped me throughout high school. Mr. Healy has also given me great support and confidence in my work in the past two years,"
Carrie Gallimore

"My soccer team inspired me because they would always push me to work harder because they knew if I did I would do well, and that has paid off," Nicole Strayve

"Thanks to Mrs. Santella I use words and phrases like 'If you feel so empowered' or 'If you are so inspired' all the time!"
Lauren Kirby

"I think Mrs. Wilson made me want to learn the fun way, Mr. Kling and Mrs. Colleen Mathias was always there for me in school and everything else in between,"
Lynn Mielke

"They have shown me how to look at things in a bigger picture," Elaine Lauwer

"Mr. Highland looked at me as a leader of my class; as a leader to the entire school. He also helped me out with various issues from high school to college,"
Tony Zumpano

"My boyfriend and friends, they taught me material things don't matter in life,"
Nicole Kovacevic

"Mrs. Laimins helped me realize I wouldn't mind being a teacher, but after I'm rich..." Jaclyn Demes

"All of my teachers have helped me in some way during high school but I am most inspired by Mrs. Santella because she has helped me become more confident,"
Maggie Wdowiarz

"Mr. Clifford taught me the importance of communication and persistence," Paul Majchrowski

"Mr. Gimre, for putting that extra smile on my face, and Ms. Oliver-Tucci for an interesting class that wasn't a waste of time and for being an inspiration," Erin Biancalana

"Teachers have told me what's wrong and what's good," Cipriano Ramirez

"Mr. Healy showed me parliamentary procedure, but he also showed me what it is like to befriend and support students through their dreams and aspirations," Stan Lemon

"Mrs. Santella for giving me confidence sophomore year and Mr. Caltagirone for getting me interested more in history,"
Matt Timko

"Probably my friends. They inspire me to be myself and make me laugh nonstop. They are the most unique people,"
Kori Flagg

"Mr. Arroyo because he was always willing to listen and always honest. Mrs. Aronoff because she was always willing to help out. Mrs. Kozlowski because she helped me find my passion and love for cooking,"
Gwen Smith

"Everyone has been extra inspiring towards my life. If I wasn't asked favors to design and draw things for them, I probably wouldn't think I could ever be good enough to major in something with art," Brandi Ruiz

"The Spanish department has encouraged me to continue my studies in the Spanish language,"
Katie Taylor

"I have learned something good from all of my teachers, whether they told me to 'go to class' or whether they told me to 'pick up a book' they are the ones that got me through high school," Rudy Garcia

"The teachers, the ESL, Mr. Poulterer, and Mr. Garcia,"
Abraham Lopez

"Ms. Kuehn because she's cool and so is the paper," Jessica Myers

"Ms. Geiger has been because she always goes out of her way to help me and also the class. She is the perfect example of a great teacher,"
Colleen Mathias

"Mr. Healy. He taught me not to give up when life gets hard because those are the moments you should rise to the occasion. Nothing should be easy because we grow the most during the difficult times," Rachel Moguel

"Sean Warren! He has refined the word fun for me and taught me to enjoy life while still reaching my goals. I love you Seany!"
Christine Hendron

"Yeah, all my teachers. They are so under appreciated yet they keep doing what they do. All the real people in this school for being themselves,"
Tom Acquire

"Mrs. Laimins because she has been a great help," Mike Vargas

"Yes, many of my teachers have shown me that just because you mess up a little, don't give up because you can still be successful," Erica Arevalo

"Everyone has been inspiring in my life. My friends show me how to be myself and the teachers showed me how the real world is really like. They have taught me many things that will help me understand the world better," Joey Farelas

"Mrs. Walker showed me the beauty of life, Mrs. Laimins gave me a look inside myself, and Mr. Healy helped me to find a voice I could use to express my passions. The teachers at We-go are amazing,"
Justin Hoshaw

"No, I am my own motivation, but it is good to know people believe in me and support my decisions," Kristen Mederich

"My circle of friends have shown me how life can always be much more difficult than it seems to be, but (at the same time) just one phase in a life that is only the beginning as high school ends," Katy Kostal

"Everyone that I have known has definitely made an impact on my life. Mr. Fantozzi has made me more confident, not only in performing but also in anything I do. His incredible teaching techniques and his ability to relate to people our age has definitely inspired me to keep up singing in college, and also made me realize that teaching is what I definitely want to do," Sean Warren

"Keri Sagen has taught me how to handle criticism,"
Michelle Weiss

"I have had a large variety of excellent teachers who have stretched me beyond what I thought were my limits. Mr. Garcia and Mrs. Laimins, especially, have gotten me involved in some major activities here at WCCHS and I am thankful for their encouragement, as well as the encouragement of all my friends," Erich Musick

"My sophomore football coach, Coach Rexilius. He showed me where I can find life's answers,"
Jake Delort

"Never let anyone get in the way of what your dreams are. You need to get yourself straight before you can be there for anyone else," Jenny Bieniasz

"All the people I have had contact with. It might not have been good, but they inspired me," Beth Kipp

"Matt Hiltner. He was always very happy and up beat no matter what was happening,"
Nathan Roberts

"Friends- My best friend Kori Flagg has helped me through these last four years, without her I wouldn't be half the person I am today. Ms. Kuehn- She has helped me develop my writing skills, she's been a great teacher and friend. Thank you!"
Stephanie Bodane

"Mrs. Santella has really taught me how to write. Mr. Healy has taught me to be outspoken and that everyone's opinion matters. He has also helped me identify myself as a republican by teaching me about important issues facing the world,"
Brittany Swantek

"I believe that everyone has the potential to be extra inspiring to people. A lot of people have been inspiring to me over the years, mostly anyone I can learn something from,"
Brad Sabathne

"Yes, my friends have taught me that it is okay to be myself. All my art teachers have been inspirational in helping me be the best I can be," Alison Dahl

"Mr. Clifford, my freshman English teacher, inspired me to go into writing, and Ms. Willuweit because she's really funny and you can tell she enjoys her job," Melissa Stevens

"All of my friends, but especially Kristin Koltz for exposing me to new things and helping me to be who I am now," Jim Oroni

"No one in particular has been extra inspiring. It's just the little things that people do to encourage you and help you out every day that makes the most impact and helps you get through challenging times," Theresa McEvoy

"Mr. C. and Mr. Zimmerman have really helped me know what I want to do by not only teaching me history but having passion for students. They are great teachers," Luke Dean

"Mr. Carper inspired me to look into careers in biology and helped me gain confidence in my abilities," Kristina Wanous

Graduation

Have you learned any life lessons at We-go?

"I learned that not everything is guaranteed, you can't expect anything," Jessica Myers

"The truth is out there," Michelle Weiss

"Don't try to be someone you are not. Be yourself and enjoy life and make the most of it. This way you will be happy and ready to take on the world. Have some self-confidence because people will notice," Alison Dahl

"Best friends are the best thing in life," Jake Delort

"Bad things happen, but time makes them all better," Colleen Mathias

"Always keep an open mind," Kristi Nickelson

"Don't worry about what other people think," Lindsay Paulsen

"I have learned change is a way of life," Justin Hoshaw

"Don't wait until others persuade you to get involved to actually do something, take initiative and involve yourself," Erich Musick

"Never choose a guy over your friends... it's never worth it," Jenny Bieniasz

"Never begin your career as an announcement girl with a joke about a dead girl," Katy Kostal

"Give people a chance, they might surprise you," Jaclyn Demes

"Just because you think you're one person, people might see you as another," Beth Kipp

"Do what you have to even if you don't want to. Don't procrastinate," Matt Timko

"You learn the hard way not to trust people," Lynn Mielke

"Not to be afraid to stand up for the things I believe in and to always give everything my all because you only get one chance at life," Rachel Moguel

"Being shy doesn't get you anywhere... be outgoing! What does not kill you will indeed make you stronger!" Brittany Swantek

"It's better to regret things that you have done than to regret things you haven't done, so live your life to the fullest," Jim Oroni

"You're more successful if you are comfortable," Brandi Ruiz

"Appreciate all your friends because you'll never know how much they really mean to you until your gone," Sarah Wood

"Try anything that isn't life threatening once because you never know what will happen," Maggie Wdowiarz

"I've learned to never mess with the school principal because he just might play a joke on you," Erica Arevalo

"Look at the future and forget the past," Elaine Lauver

"One person can make a difference," Chris Brown

"I have learned about government, how it works, computer skills, math..." Quang Nguyen

"Don't listen to others when they put you down," Missi Sheme

"Don't take life too seriously," Alex Baker

"Take each day one step at a time. Tomorrow is another day, and there is always room for improvements," Nikki Schar

"I've learned not to take myself so seriously and how to just let loose and have fun," Melissa Stevens

"To be myself and not worry about what anyone thinks," Jeanine Macrito

"Make every day count," Emmanuel Vazquez

"Sometimes you have to do things you don't want to do," Sarah Altergott

"Never trust boys," Kayla Halsall

"Don't get discouraged and stressed out about little things because in time they have little meaning if none at all," Lauren Kirby

"Nothing is free," Jim Rylowicz

"Hold on to the friends around you," Tony Zumpano

"Don't worry about your problems because it never helps, just makes you more stressed and when you're stressed, sleep cures everything," Theresa McEvoy

"I am a lot less afraid to be myself and to be embarrassed every once in a while," Liz Brosseau

"I learned about how to spend money," Carlos Martinez

"People act differently out of school than they do in school," Bob Nagel

"Time flies, so take advantage of all that you can when you can," Tom Aguirre

"If you want something good you need to work hard," Jazmin Pena

"People aren't who you think they are and there is no point wanting to be someone you aren't," Jessica Varble

"Your true friends will accept you and see you as you really are. My three best friends from middle school, Stephanie Bodane, Beth Kipp, and Nicole Skala have stuck with me all through high school and beyond. My life lesson that I learned here at We-go is that I'm blessed to have them in my life," Kori Flagg

"True friendship is seen through the heart, not through the eyes," Heather Cirone

"Similarities create friendships while differences hold them together," Elyse Schwinn

"To be myself and don't let anyone get in the way," Sean Warren

"The morning starts at 7:55 a.m., but it ends at 3:05 p.m.," Stan Lemon

"Check your seat before you sit down," Emily Biancalana

"Work hard and you will go far," Aron Morris

"Friends will always be there for me. They don't care about others' opinions. They don't let others' veiwis ruin a friendship," Gwen Smith

"I learned that being more social is important. Even though I haven't been that social I believe that in order to get through life you have to communicate with people," Joey Farelax

"I learned that it is important to meet as many people as possible. I believe you learn the most from other people," Lauren Mroz

"Life is too short not to have fun as often as you can," Kristin Koltz

"I've learned how to be a better person. Being at We-go has helped shape me into what I will be tomorrow," Stephanie Bodane

"That you have to be responsible with your homework because you're not going to always have people or teachers to make sure you are doing your work," Nicole Strayve

Graduation

What is your best memory at We-go?

"When West Chicago got into the play-offs for football and all of the students running out onto the football field," Christine Hendron

"When I walked into a pole," Jessica Myers

"Being in band with the crazy seniors when I was a sophomore. Going on the Disney trip with the band during the summer '02. St. Louis band trip when I was a sophomore, second going to Six Flags. Winning the East Leyden tournament for badminton as a team. Skills - USA VICA going downstate and winning third place for advertising design and second for international homepage," Alison Dahl

"I think my best memory was probably when the basketball team won because it was such a great game," Colleen Mathias

"Making so many good friends," Beth Kipp

"The first day I became a freshman and the last day I became a senior," Rudy Garcia

"Senior year when the football team beat Naperville Central," Jake Delort

"Tailgating for the playoffs football game," Brittany Swantek

"Meeting my best friend, and making a lot of new good friends," Keri Sagen

"Forming life-long friendships with people," Michelle Weiss

"Being a part of making the play-offs for football and winning regionals," Nikki Schar

"I fell down the stairs once handing my best friend, Amanda, a note. It hurt but it was hilarious," Jaclyn Demes

"All my friends hanging out in Mrs. Laimins room watching movies and talking about life and our future," Catherine Iannello

"Being a part of the success that the sports of 2003 experienced," Dan Deutsch

"Making the playoffs for football," Scott Sieder

"E-Man winning homecoming king," Matt Timko

"Watching the girls basketball team in the 2000-2001 season!" Lynn Mielke

"Regional champs for basketball. That was SO awesome!" Maggie Wdowiarz

"Meeting Phil Buksa," Carrie Gallimore

"As much of a pain as it was, I would have to say seeing everyone, every day sitting in senior hall," Brandi Ruiz

"My biology class as a freshmen," Araceli Cielo

"My best friends threw me a surprise half-birthday party because we'll all be at college by the time my actual birthday comes along," Melissa Stevens

"My first day at WCCHS," Sergio Garcia

"There are A LOT, but if I have to pick one it would be my trip to Germany with Chamber Choir," Jim Oroni

"Going to my junior prom with a guy who I didn't meet until the day of," Kristen Mederich

"My best memory was coming to school at 4:30 in the morning to teepee a classroom with more than 100 rolls," Justin Hoshaw

"Performing as an actor and as a vocalist," Jesse Lord

"Playing on the badminton team," Samantha Kimber

"Being homecoming king," Emmanuel Vazquez

"All the sporting accomplishments we had this year that we haven't had in a long time. Football playoffs (24 years), most wins in basketball and the first regional championship in 63 years," Alex Baker

"Giving Wyatt S. a lottery ticket and watching him go nuts," Dan Callahan

"Meeting my boyfriend junior year (Brian). Also, all the dances. Homecoming and prom," Jeanine Macrito

"Running track and Saturday practices," Mike Doll

"Sitting in senior hall and hanging out with my friends while watching movies in the mornings," Rachel Moguel

"My best memory would be going to school sport events and sitting with the squad group and cheering for our Wildcats," Nicole Strayve

"The girls varsity volleyball team beating Wheaton North senior parent night," Jill Kufta

"Probably the West Chicago girls basketball program. Being involved for four years has made me the person I am today and the coaches and friends I have made are life long ones," Kori Flagg

"Going to state with swimming each year and gaining All-State honors for how we swam," Emily Biancalana

"The musicals, and spending the morning with my friends," Kristin Koltz

"Mr. Chambers and Mr. Highland playing video games in commons," Gwen Smith

"Choir, Plays, Friends," Nathan Roberts

"Being called at home by Barb Liamins," Jeff Cordina

"I really don't have just one. I have many really good memories so I can't just pick one," Joey Farelax

"Being on stage with all my friends during both the musical last year and the fall play this year. It was so amazing to work with all of them and the results were amazing," Sean Warren

Graduation

How have you changed since freshman year?

"I have grown stronger, more intelligent, and have learned a lot of important things that will help me get through my life," Joey Farelas

"I'm stronger, smarter, more confident, more outgoing, more skillful, more creative, dress better now, care more about myself and what I look like," Rachel Borsodi

"I don't care what people think about me, it doesn't matter in college who you were in high school," Nicole Kovacevic

"I learned how to live on my own. I don't depend on others," Elaine Lauver

"I improved my grades," Carlos Martinez

"I think the question should be how haven't I changed. I am definitely a different person and am very proud of who I have become," Sean Warren

"I was even shrimpier as a freshmen... and I think I am smarter too," Joshua Hartman

"I'm less shy," Kristina Wanous

"I live my life as who I am and who I want to be. I've also matured (sort of)," Jessica Myers

"I grew up and took responsibility for my actions," Rudy Garcia

"I've realized who I am and what to become. I've overcome many obstacles. From freshman year being quiet, alone, and depressed, to happy, more sociable, and enjoying life," Alison Dahl

"I've matured, partied, and learned life's vital lessons that will help to become successful later in life," Nathan Roberts

"I have grown as a person and met people that I will be friends with forever," Michelle Weiss

"I value my friends more than everything now," Justin Hoshaw

"When I arrived at WCCHS, I was like any other freshman- immature, clueless, and a little bit scared. As I've gone through high school, I've become more involved each year, taking on an increasing amount of responsibility. Now I'm ready to move on to whatever God's got planned for me," Erich Musick

"I am a lot more involved in actions," Colleen Mathias

"I've gotten less shy and self-conscious," Matt Timko

"I am more mature, have my close friends, and have fun just hanging out with them," Nikki Schar

"Through experience I have learned to not let people step all over me. I know how to stick up for myself," Kerl Sagen

"Through my experiences and all of the influential people in my life since freshman year, I have matured significantly. I have learned not to be afraid and to take a stand for the things I believe in," Rachel Moguel

"I've grown up... realizing that not everyone is who they say they are," Jenny Bieniasz

"Everyone has. We all know more than we did since the first day we walked into this school," Brad Sabathne

"I have matured over the years and I do not depend on what people think of me all the time," Lynn Mielke

"I have changed because I am not as shy as I was back then," Erica Arevalo

"I've become more outgoing and outspoken. I've learned not to care as much about what people think of you," Brittany Swantek

"A lot, but it's for the better," Kristi Nickelson

"I'd like to think I'm smarter and more aware of what's going on," Melissa Stevens

"I got a backbone and I learned to trust no one," Logan Schrage

"I've become a lot more outgoing, and a whole lot more stressed!" Maggie Wdowiarz

"I hardly even recognized the person I was freshman year," Jessica Krueger

"I would hope so! I don't wear guys clothes anymore, I guess that's a plus," Jaclyn Demes

"I'm not an immature little kid anymore," Sarah Altergott

"I really don't think I have," Chris Brown

"I have grown as a person on the inside and out because there have been so many experiences throughout my high school career," Kristen Mederich

"I don't think I have changed much, except for the past two years I haven't cared about my appearance! Oops!" Brandi Ruiz

"I've gotten four years older," Jim Oroni

"More knowledge, more confident, more mature," Quang Nguyen

"Don't worry about fitting in because you'll always fit in somewhere," Jessi Crockatt

"I have become more open-minded, more independent and more ambitious," Nick Bernard

"I have definitely become more open-minded and willing to try new things. I met more friends and joined activities and clubs," Lauren Mroz

"Freshman year I was naive and closed minded. I'm happy I've changed my ways because I wouldn't have who I may have become," Jessica Varble

"I grew up! I've learned what are my priorities are and what aren't," Emily Biancalana

"What a question! I've changed in too many ways to list while still remaining myself. Mostly I'd say I'm laid back and see things in part of a larger picture. What will it matter if I had a 4.0 in ten years for example," Theresa McEvoy

"I am more out going and ready to handle what life has in store for me," Jill Kuffa

"I've become a lot more confident and developed a social life," Brian Steere

"I'm nicer! A lot friendlier," Gwen Smith

"I've grown up a lot. I discovered myself and now I'm ready to go off and be on my own," Stephanie Bodane

"I've become a lot more outspoken, and willing to stand up for myself," Becky Dennis

"I'm not afraid of people anymore. Trying new things leads to rewards sometimes. I am more prepared for the real world," Tom Aguirre

"I am less involved, happier. I am more relaxed and... just different," Kelly Siekmann

"I have a better picture of who I am and the world around me," Hope Vach

Graduation

Farewell from the Editor in chief

Dear Seniors,

The year is coming to an end, and it is time for us to graduate and move on to bigger and better things. Whether it is college, a job, or undecided, all of us are taking a step into our future. It seems like only a moment has passed since we walked into these doors four years ago and began our high school careers. In these four years we have made new friends, with people who may become our life long friends. We've been to the proms, the football games, the pep assemblies, and all the events that make high school 'the time of our lives.' We will walk away with memories that will last a lifetime, and a past that will guide us to the future. After graduation many of us will say our last good-byes. For once in the past 12 years of schooling, we won't come back after a long summer and see each other again. It's our first step to growing up. In the next few years we will make new friends, we will change our goals, and high school will be behind us. The classes you once fell asleep in and teachers you once knew will seem like a distant memory. But you'll never truly know how much you really learned, and how much it shaped what you are today and what you will be tomorrow. I wish everyone the best of luck for the exciting years to come; you've done it. Congratulations graduation class of 2003.

I would also like to say a special thank you to the Wildcat Chronicle staff for their hard work and dedication to the school paper. You have made it a memorable experience for me, and I hope all of you continue to make the paper as successful as it is today. I wish you all the best of luck for the remainder of high school and beyond. Congratulations on a great year on the staff, and thank you!

Stephanie Bodane
Editor in chief

Have a great summer!

Logan Schrage

Mary Beth Selby

Kyle Bullis

Brittany Rose

Melissa Stevens

Sam West

Michelle Loerzel

Bridget Geraghty

Jessica Myers

Anna Nubie

Stephanie Bodane

Elliott Tinnis



Photo by Laura Kuehn

The award-winning Wildcat Chronicle staff at the Northern Illinois Press Association conference. From left in front: Mary Beth Selby, Michelle Loerzel, and Jessica Myers. Top: Logan Schrage, Elliott Tinnis, Stephanie Bodane, Bridget Geraghty, Anna Nubie, Sam West, Melissa Stevens, and Kyle Bullis. Missing is Brittany Rose.

Good-bye
senior
reporters:
Stephanie Bodane
Jessica Myers
Logan Schrage
Melissa Stevens

We will
miss you!

Nissan

of ST. CHARLES

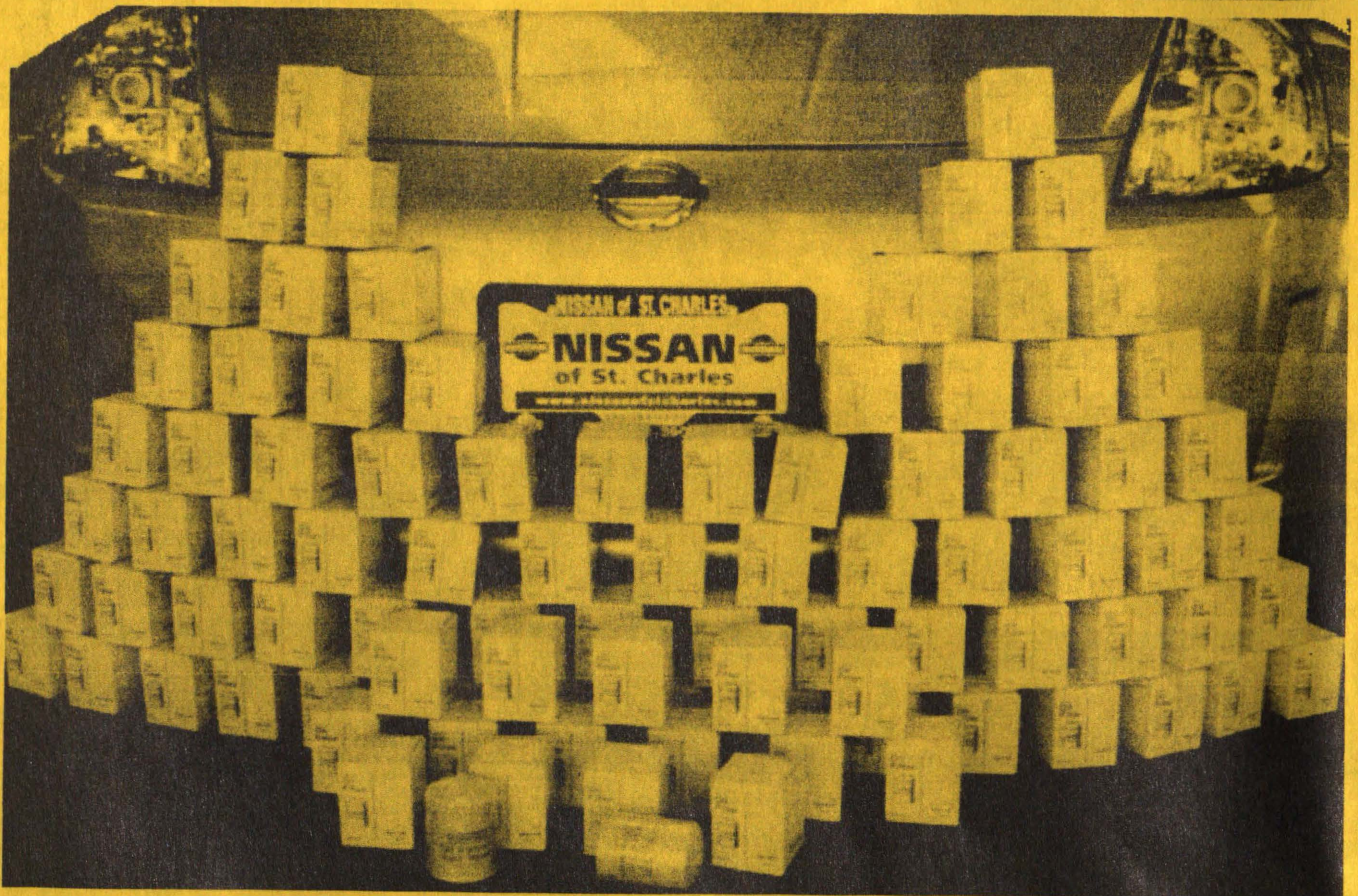
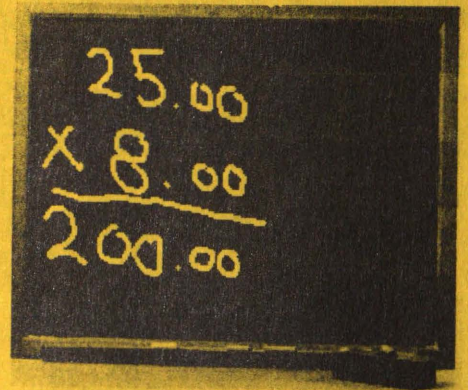
HOME OF THE LIFE-TIME LUBE

LETS DO THE MATH !!

We Want to **SAVE** you money Today and *Tomorrow*

After just **8** oil changes your car will get free
oil changes for as long as you own your car.

One time charge of **\$ 199.00**



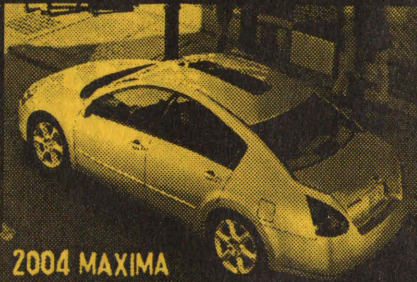
THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT AFTER YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION
YOU'LL FILE YOUR DIPLOMA AWAY & **NEVER SEE IT AGAIN.**

BUT BEFORE YOU DO...
BRING IT TO NISSAN OF ST. CHARLES AND GET
\$500 OFF ANY NEW OR USED VEHICLE!

2003 SENTRA



2003 MURANO



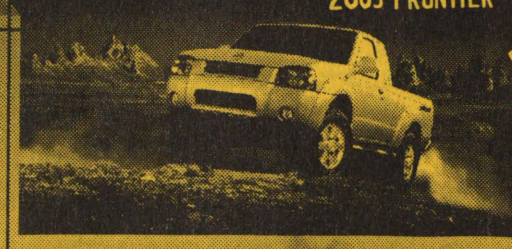
2004 MAXIMA

2003 ALTIMA



2003 PATHFINDER

2003 FRONTIER



2003 350Z

COME ON
AND GET
A GREAT BUY!

\$500 OFF

**ANY NEW OR USED VEHICLE
AT NISSAN OF ST. CHARLES**

2535 E. MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES, IL 630.584.3900

NISSAN
OF ST. CHARLES



2535 E. MAIN STREET, ST. CHARLES, IL 630.584.3900