



Community High School

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Regular pop to be taken from schools

By Kym McDaniel

A five year contract with Coke will save the school from ridding all non-diet Coke products from the vending machines for now.

But time is running out.

As a result of an agreement between the William Clinton Foundation and pop producers, the sale of full calorie pop will stop in schools nationwide by 2010.

"Coke products will not be removed. They might be modified in terms of the product," said Principal John Highland. "(Such as) more juice and milk and less sugar."

According to the foundation, beverages such as tea, milk, water, juice and sports drinks will still be sold while everything else is eliminated. As long as the drinks contain less than 10 calories per serving, it will be still be sold.

"Legislation has come out for more nutritious food to be sold in schools and we are trying to meet the standards," said Highland.

Some students who drink Coke and Pepsi products at school agree with the decision to only sell diet soda.

"It tastes good and it's healthier. Too many people drink (high calorie pop) and it's not good for you," said sophomore Ellen Gebhardt.

Sophomore Kevin Vasiliauskas disagrees. "The kids should be able to choose what they want."

Highland added that he had mixed feelings about eliminating all non-diet drinks from the school.

"I think there is a bigger problem with student lifestyles. Diet is important, but removing snacks is not the only answer," said Highland.

Wego 2 Africa makes \$10,000 goal



Photo by Kayla Harris

Juniors Sarah Holt (left) and Annie Caputo presented RISE International president Lynn Cole with a \$10,000 check to go towards furthering education in Angola, Africa.

By Andrea Bradley

After a year of hard work, the Wego 2 Africa project reached its goal of raising \$10,000.

The community leadership class held an assembly May 18 to celebrate its hard work.

The class presented Lynn Cole, the president of RISE International, with a \$10,000 check to go towards building a school in Angola, Africa. RISE International, which partners with schools, churches and other organizations in Angola, has been building schools there, and

has allied with Wego 2 Africa.

Teacher Mary Ellen Daneels opened the assembly with a short movie about the needs of schools in rural Angola. Accompanied by pictures of children laughing and smiling, she thanked the student body for helping the community leadership program reach their goal.

"It was community leadership who brought this idea to the school, but it was Wego who pulled through and made us succeed," said Daneels.

Cole also took time to thank the students who participated with the project, and hoped that students realize that they achieved a huge goal.

"You can't change everything, but you can pick something to change and do it. Wego set a big goal and achieved it," said Cole. "You've gone above and beyond. I hope what you've done here becomes a regular part of your life."

The money for the project was raised by selling T-shirts, hosting the sumo wrestling

event, organizing change drives and making presentations for classes as well as other businesses and organizations.

"Community High School has come together to help a less fortunate community in Angola," said Daneels.

Although donations helped the Wego 2 Africa project, teachers have also made an effort to help the project. Social studies teacher Margaret Haas stepped up by having her freshmen stuff backpacks for the school, while the foreign language teachers organized a change drive that helped raise \$1,200 in a week.

Patti Kozlowski had her clothing classes sew new clothes for the children in Angola while Student Council made a quilt for the school.

"Whether it is collecting change or selling T-shirts, the school has helped in changing the lives of many children," said Principal John Highland during the assembly. He also spoke of the project, thanking everyone for their support.

Cole promised to send pictures to the students so they can see exactly how far their money will go. Daneels also plans on visiting Angola to help with the building process.

Caterpillar awards students full scholarships and jobs

By Terri Molo

Hard work has paid off for Emilio Cortes and Patrick Howe, earning them full Caterpillar scholarships.

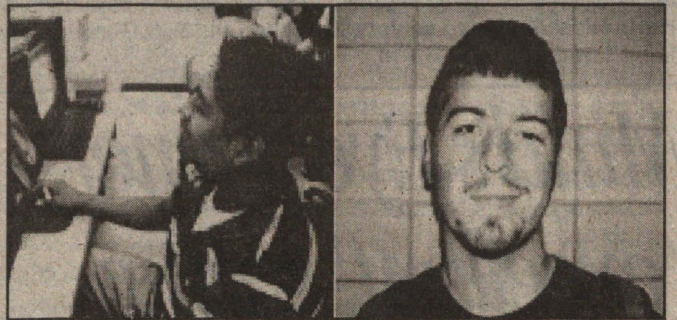
The scholarship is for anyone who would like to apply mechanical skills to a career.

Howe wanted to apply for this scholarship for a long time. Every year, business/family and consumer science/industrial arts department chair Paul Junkroski invites a representa-

tive from Caterpillar to talk about the scholarship in his mechanical drawing classes.

"I learned about the scholarship last year when Mr. J. invited the representative to class. I talked to her about it and she set me up with the application," said Howe.

The application process is long and thorough. Students fill out applications, go through a very extensive interview with their parents and



Photos by Kellie Virnich and Terri Molo

After applying for the Caterpillar scholarship, Emilio Cortes (left) and Pat Howe received full rides and jobs from the company.

submit teacher recommendations and a transcript.

"Pat is organized, detail-oriented and he was one of the best students in class. That's why he won," said Junkroski.

Winners get a full-time job

at Caterpillar during summer and two years at a junior college. While in college they keep the job but instead of full time it switches over to part time depending on class load.

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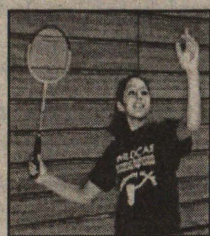
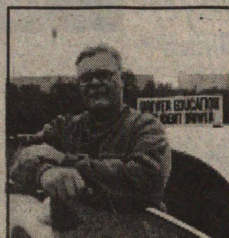
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LifeSmarts places third in nation

By Kym McDaniel

LifeSmarts members exceeded expectations at the national competition held in Philadelphia and fought to the top to capture third place.

The Illinois team beat Rhode Island by 5 points the first day and continued to win by beating Kansas by 10. The team continued to win the second day but finally Washington defeated them 220-190 in the semi-final match.

"We were very evenly matched with the Washington team," said coach Don Zabelin. "It was a match that could have gone either way."

The national competition was April 22-25.

Attending LifeSmarts members were senior and captain Jared Vasiliauskas, seniors Dan Dyrda and Nick Gorski, junior Kevin Michaelson and sophomore Paul Warkins.

"Getting third place at nationals was great and unexpected," said Warkins. "We knew we were pretty strong, but had no idea we would do so well in the consolation matches."

LifeSmarts members prepared for nationals by drilling each other on questions and anticipating questions that might be asked. There was also time to practice before matches which Warkins felt helped.

"I was excited to reach the final four on Tuesday, and hon-

ored to be a member of the first team from our school to do so," said Vasiliauskas.

LifeSmarts is a program that tests knowledge of financial management, technology, environment, health and safety and consumer rights.

"I'm really proud of this team for staying so focused and winning so many close matches," said Zabelin.

Although it is a little early to prepare for next year's state and national competition, Zabelin said he is glad he has underclassmen Michaelson and Warkins whose experience with the competition will help the team next year.

School offers more summer classes

By Terri Molo

Summer school has started for students who need extra help passing classes or simply want to earn more credits.

The classes offered include world geography, American history, topics in modern history, American government, keyboarding, world history tour credit option, ESL enrichment, English 1, 2 and 3, driver's education, and physical education. Most classes offer .5 of a credit, but the world history tour credit option, ESL orientation, ESL enrichment, and physical education only earn .25 of a credit.

"We put more courses in the program because the state has changed graduation requirements. Now students need four years of English, three years of math, and two years of science. Because of all of these changes the program will become more important to the students that do not pass their classes," said Judy Minor, the director of curriculum and instruction and staff development.

Summer school is open to all students including incoming freshmen.

"It's really nice that this year's incoming freshmen are able to take classes to get a jump start on their high school career," said Minor. Teachers decide which classes are included in the program.

"The departments get together and discuss which classes the students need and

which classes are important to the program. They then decide what teachers will teach the classes. They go on to create a program for the course," said Minor.

Each class needs 20 students in order to run.

"It isn't worth it if a teacher wants to teach a class but only six kids sign up. Summer school is self supporting," said Minor.

Last year there were only 275 students enrolled in summer school.

The summer school program has a very strict attendance policy.

"If the students miss more than two classes they are automatically dropped from the program with no money back," said Minor. Students taking a 2-hour class are dropped on their second absence and if they get three tardies it counts as one absence. Students taking a 4-hour class are dropped on their third absence and have the same tardy policy as the 2-hour class.

Registration ends June 7. Applications, found on the school website, can be given with payment to Sally Bovee in the administration office.

The fee is \$124 a semester and \$62 a quarter.

"These prices aren't bad either. If these kids were taking courses at COD it would cost much more," said Minor.

The first session runs June 12-30, second session is July 5-25.



Used with permission from lifesmarts.org

The LifeSmarts national competition in Philadelphia ended with CHS in third place. Adviser Don Zabelin and the team, comprised of senior Jared Vasiliauskas, sophomore Paul Warkins, junior Kevin Michaelson and seniors Dan Dyrda and Nick Gorski, felt that their final competition was a fairly "even match."

Mind's Eye garners 'excellent' rating

By Kellie Virnich

For the first time, Mind's Eye received an 'excellent' rating from the National Council of Teachers of English, up from the usual 'above average.'

The NCTE determines this rating on a point system, looking for a variety of work and attention to editing. According to magazine adviser and English teacher Andrea Cobbett, it was also the magazine's intricate cover and the hard work of the staff last year that earned the improved rating.

"We did the same style as we do every year, but I really think that all submissions and how (the publication's editors) put it together helped win it for us," Cobbett said.

She said that their goal for the future is to earn a 'superior' rating, which is very rare, and usually only goes to school's

with their own publishing systems. A setback that both she and magazine editor Holly Hofer agreed on is the small staff.

"We lost some great people this year," said Hofer. "We always need more help with the next magazine."

Hofer also advised students to consider turning in pieces for next year's publication.

"It's cool that your work is actually published for others to read. Just the sharing aspect is reason enough," she said.

The literary magazine is constantly looking for a variety of poetry, prose and two-dimensional art for its next issue.

"I always wanted to submit work to my literary magazine in high school, but I never did," Cobbett said. "Don't miss out. It can't hurt just to turn something in."



Photo courtesy of Mary Ellen Daneels

The first Mother's Day Breakfast, May 13, was a big success, with staff like Brad Larson (left) and Ward Rau serving up pancakes, sausages and drinks to the community. Students from several organizations helped not only in serving customers, but also in running the various booths set up around commons. Local children participated in the coloring contest, face-painting and making crafts like flower pots and picture frames for their mothers. Sara Earhart earned first prize for the essay contest, winning a \$50 gift certificate for TGI Friday's.



Photo courtesy of David Kelsey

May Student of the Month moved by music

Student of the Month is based on a solid academic history, commitment in extra-curricular activities, and community involvement. Students must be nominated by at least one staff member, and the final selection is made by the Student Activities Director and a committee made up of additional staff members.

By Kellie Virnich

No stranger to performance, senior David Kelsey adds one more role to his repertoire as he becomes May Student of the Month.

A self-proclaimed over-achiever, Kelsey has been involved in a plethora of activities throughout his high school career, including thespians, choir, acapella chamber choir, band, orchestra, jazz band, National Honor Society, German National Honor Society

and has both traveled and hosted in the German foreign exchanges.

"I feel so strongly about music and performing," Kelsey said. "I love the rush you get when you do well, and it's nice to be able to show people something that you have worked really hard on."

Kelsey is just as involved outside of school as in it. He volunteers often at the Wayne Township Food Pantry and PADS, as well as being very dedicated to his church. He has served not only a flautist and singer, but an event director as well, in addition to leading five missions trips.

"I have struggled for a long time to figure out who I wanted to be and what I wanted to do, and God has helped me do that," said Kelsey.

Music is another source of

inspiration to Kelsey, who reveres Friedrich Nietzsche's saying "Without music, life would be an error."

He hopes to continue performing at Elmhurst College and beyond. The school awarded Kelsey the Presidential Scholarship of \$56,000, and he will use it to study music, education, German and theology.

He said, "There is so much I want to do with my life. I would love to continue performing, but I also really want to become a teacher, and hopefully a pastor one day as well."

Several teachers have been instrumental in Kelsey's numerous accomplishments, he said, including Steve Govertsen, Kristina Mallon and Terry Strohm, but it is his parents that he truly thanks for becoming the person he is today.

While David Kelsey will not miss getting up for zero-hour, one of his favorite memories of high school was wearing a kilt in the 2005 musical "Brigadoon."

Elena Suarez achieves high school goal with student award in April

Student of the Month is based on a solid academic history, commitment in extra-curricular activities, and community involvement. Students must be nominated by at least one staff member, and the final selection is made by the Student Activities Director and a committee made up of additional staff members.

By Kellie Virnich

Though the school year has almost ended, there was still time for Elena Suarez to fulfill her goal of being Student of the Month this April.

Suarez said that she has wanted the title since freshman year, and that it is her proudest accomplishment.

"I have worked toward this since I started high school, and I was so proud to learn that I actually got the award," Suarez said.

She believes the nomination, from physics teacher Annette Rubino, was a result of involvement in activities such as Future Business Leaders of America, the National Society of High School Scholars, math team and student ambassadors, as well as her respect and work ethic.

These traits also helped get her into DePaul University, where she will study accounting and American history. The school awarded Suarez a \$7,000 scholarship. Suarez will be the first in her family to go to college, and she said that she wants to show her parents just how much she can accomplish.

"My parents are retiring to



Photo courtesy of Elena Suarez

Even though Elena Suarez has dealt with many issues in her young life, including depression and her parents impending move back to Mexico, she feels that everything happens for a reason, and that she is stronger for her struggles.

Mexico this summer," said Suarez. "I hope that I'm successful enough to one day bring them back here and show them how much I have done with my life."

It is her family, especially her sisters and brother-in-law she said, that have inspired her to push herself. After being diagnosed with depression at the beginning of her junior year, Suarez said that she did several things she regrets, but that it was her family and friends, especially junior Tabitha Dawson, that helped her get her life back together.

Through her trials, Suarez has remembered Vincent van Gogh's remarks on human suffering.

"As we advance in life it becomes more and more difficult, but in fighting the difficulties the inmost strength of the heart is developed," he said, and this has helped Suarez realize that everything happens for a reason.

"Everyone struggles. I see that now," Suarez said. "Our mistakes and our difficulties help us learn."

Reel good time had by all at Film Festival

By Kayla Harris

Aspiring filmmakers showed off their talents at the second annual film festival April 21.

English teacher Brian Turnbaugh created the event last year because he wanted to give students a chance to have fun.

"When I was in high school my buddies and I made videos for our band, The Meathooks, and we had more fun making movies than we did making music," he said, "The film fest allows students to make something entertaining, have an audience to cheer it on, and have the memory of what a blast it was."

Students in Chris Bardey's computer 2 class created short animations and Bardey submitted the best ones to the fest.

Turnbaugh thought the animations were great. "Next year I hope to work more with Mr. Bardey to include more animation from his class. They added a great dimension and range of the films offered," he said.

Senior Davy Taylor and juniors Carissa Gerber and David Thomas showed their film which was a spoof of "Mystery Science Theater."

Sophomore Neil Luka's film was inspired by the media's effect on society and ideas he learned from Turnbaugh's English class.

"Neil Luka's critique on society and the media was very heartfelt and had some interesting images and good music," Bardey said.

The audience was small, with about 40 students, teachers and parents, and Turnbaugh thinks that it's up to the students to get a bigger audience, but both teachers thought the crowd could easily grow for next year.

"Friday night, non-sports events here seem to always have small audiences. I think to get a better turn-out, we should use more aggressive advertising, getting it onto We-Go Through the Tube, in the press and on the electric signboard," Bardey suggested.

Caterpillar... (continued from page 1)

After the students finish junior college, Caterpillar will pay for 90 percent of any further schooling.

"This scholarship is very unusual. If the students change their minds and decide they don't want to work at the corporation most companies will make the student pay them back for the junior college full ride. Caterpillar is just so confident that people are going to like it

and want to stay there," said Junkroski.

Howe will attend College of DuPage in the fall majoring in mechanical engineering and hopes to further his education at NIU after the two years are up.

"I'm really excited about this. I can't wait to start the program," said Howe.

Cortes was unavailable for comment.

Chronicle earns many honors for first semester issues

By Kait Taylor

The Wildcat Chronicle won a first place honor from the American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA) for its first semester issues.

With a composite score of 920 out of 1000 points, the Chronicle staff was awarded, according to the ASPA for "an excellent school newspaper, which shows the talent of (the) editors, reporters, writers, photographers, layout designers and adviser."

The staff was very proud of their work and happy to be recognized, especially editor in chief Kellie Virnich.

"I was surprised at how many more points we got than last year," she said. "I am also really proud that the staff was able to receive such a high honor for their hard work."

Other first semester staff members included: seniors Brittany Blanchard, Andrea

Bradley, Sabrina Potirala and Julie Youngwith, and juniors Elynn Fortino, Cristina Sarnelli, Kait Taylor and David Thomas.

The award only looked at the papers from first semester, which adviser Laura Kuehn saw as a setback for the staff on points.

"The bad thing about these awards is that they only look at our work from the first semester when we were just getting our act together," Kuehn said. "Imagine if they were looking at us now."

The Chronicle staff held its own compared to other papers that also won first place with larger staffs and more money.

"We are competing with schools that have a lot of money but we are consistently up there," Kuehn said. "We didn't have a large staff first semester. We only had nine on the staff while most school

newspapers have staffs of 20 or more, and those are the schools that we are going up against. It really shows what an incredibly talented staff we have to be able to consistently bring in first place awards."

Despite minor point losses in content coverage and photography, Kuehn was very proud of the staff's accomplishment and how much work they put into every paper.

The staff earned a bronze rating for the second year from the Northern Illinois School Press Association, though the overall score improved. Several staff members also won personal awards for their writing.

Fortino won a blue ribbon for column writing, while honorable mentions went to: Bradley, feature writing; Taylor, editorial writing; Thomas, news writing; and Bradley and Thomas, team in-depth.

Oversight committee to oversee pom conflicts

Group hopes to solve 'contention' within squad, and has right to remove players involved in disagreements

By Kait Taylor

The poms will face changes in dealing with issues of student, adviser and parent contention as an oversight committee was activated by the Board of Education May 2 to supervise and discipline members of the squad.

The committee, consisting of Principal John Highland, student activities director Pete Martino and board member John Jensen, has the power to remove any student from the squad who creates contention within the pom program, remove any student whose parent creates contention within the pom program, recommend further disciplinary action for any student, and even discontinue the pom squad for up to two years.

According to Martino, these measures were established partly because of several situations involving students, parents and sponsors of the pom program in the past. Martino could not give details on any specific incidents.

The major reason for the oversight committee, according to Martino, is the high amount of sponsors that the pom squad has had. They have gone through five sponsors in the past two years, which gives them the highest coach turnover rate of all sports and activities.

"We want to make sure the problems are dealt with proactively," Martino said.

Initially, according to director of human resources Kim Chambers, the problem with the squad was brought to the board and they considered the idea of ending poms.

Chambers and Martino asked the board for some time to come up with a better solution, and

after talking to other P.E. teachers from DVC schools with similar issues in pom/cheerleading programs, decided that an oversight committee would be effective.

"The committee will help by allowing every avenue of

communication," said Martino. "Everybody will have the ability to voice concerns."

Some members of poms feel singled out, and others are very angry about the committee.

"The oversight committee seems very one-sided and claims that only the students are to blame for the recent conflicts when actually the conflicts arose from a number of different sources," said pom co-captain junior Katy Rohrback. "I don't believe the committee will do anything positive. It will pose a threat to the students on poms more than anything else."

Rohrback is also skeptical about the clause stating the committee can remove any student whose parent that causes conflict within poms.

Chambers was not expecting a pessimistic response to a solution that she thinks will help the program.

"I was surprised to hear the negative reaction," she said. "We are trying to protect the poms."

Martino had a similar reaction, and stands by the board's decision to activate the committee.

"Things have gotten blown out of proportion. It's supposed to help the program, not dismantle it," he said.

Despite the pom members' reactions, the oversight committee will be in place next year. Martino and Chambers are hoping for the best.

"I think things will get better," said Chambers.

"The poms care enough about the squad to make it work." The board

also agreed to interview and hire a new adviser for the squad. Jan Bedard, whose daughter Jenna is a graduating pom, was chosen as the new coach.

"We're happy to have her," Rohrback said. "She promises to look out for us."



Photo by Laura Kuehn

The Chronicle's first semester staff, including from left: David Thomas, Julie Youngwith, Kait Taylor, Brittany Blanchard, Kellie Virnich, Cristina Sarnelli, Andrea Bradley, Sabrina Potirala and Elynn Fortino, won not only a first place honor from ASPA, but several awards from NISPA.

Key Club to host summer cancer walk

By Cristina Sarnelli

On July 15 and 16, Key Club and other clubs at school will participate in the Relay for Life, a fundraiser sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

According to Ward Rau, Key Club adviser, the Relay for Life is a 12-hour overnight walk in which the ACS does a number of activities to recognize people who have been touched by cancer. Though the ACS sponsors the program regularly, it is the first time that it will be held at the high school, on the school track.

The money raised will go to the ACS to support cancer patients and research.

To raise money, each team participating in the relay goes around the community and

asks people to donate. They raise support and get contributions, find names for the memorial ceremony that will be held at the relay, and invite donors to walk.

"The goal that the American Cancer Society has for each team is \$1,000, and I think that is definitely possible for us to do once we start working on it," Rau said.

During the relay, there will be a variety of events taking place, including a memorial luminary with the names of those who have died and recognitions for everyone who deals with cancer.

People who have survived cancer will walk special laps and those who are struggling with cancer or are caretakers

of someone who has cancer will also walk special laps.

Rau feels that the event is special and is something that many people can relate to and encourages people to get involved.

"It's close to home for me because my sister is surviving breast cancer, my mother in law is a lung cancer survivor, and my mother is currently struggling with cancer," he said.

The event is a great fundraiser, and it helps bring people together, said Rau.

"It's a great event to raise money and also to raise awareness of ways that people can help fight cancer and prevent it for themselves. Everyone is touched by cancer, so it's a good thing to do," he said.

'We are trying to protect the poms.'

—Kim Chambers

Board postpones music fee decision *Music department relieved*

By Cristina Sarnelli

Music students can hang onto their wallets for another year.

The Board of Education decided at their May 16 meeting to table the decision on charging music students a \$50 participation fee. The decision is to be further deliberated on for the '07-'08 school year.

Board President Tony Reyes decided that it would be best to do more research on what fees already apply for extracurricular activities.

Board member Karen Stott agreed, but said that she would have liked to have seen the fee pass. She questioned if it was unrealistic to charge for the music programs at the school.

"If there's participation for activities in the summer, then there are fees asso-

'Music is a part of who we are.'

—Lora Vodicka

ciated with that, so that would not exempt music," she said.

Music students and teachers are relieved that the decision will not affect participation in the music programs for next year.

"I'm happy to see that the board realizes that there would be inequity in charging the fee, and I'm hopeful for the future that they will continue to see that inequity," band and orchestra director Steve Govertsen said.

At their most recent meeting, the board debated over whether or not the students

should be charged for instruments and equipment owned by the school. They also discussed the equipment for other classes.

"We don't charge students for sewing machines or kilns or turn tables and things like that. We can go back and start charging for some of those things," board member Rich Nagel said.

At the May 2 meeting, Govertsen, along with music students and choir director Brandon Fantozzi made speeches concerning the music department. Many students pleaded to the board to waive the fee because it could affect the numbers of students who participate in music.

Senior Erin Silk told the board that students may become discouraged from participating because of

the fee and that deterrent could cause the music classes to be cut.

Senior Lora Vodicka also addressed the board.

"Because of music, I have not only learned how to use my voice, but I have also learned discipline. Music is a part of who we are. The fee is disappointing because students may have to decide between playing a sport or music class," she said.

Fantozzi and Govertsen are pleased with the tabling of the decision, and they both hope that the board decides to vote down the fee.



Photo courtesy of Mary Randle

In order to be named a state scholar, students must rank in the top 10 percent of graduating seniors in the state. Fifty-five students from the school qualified for that title and will be recognized at Honors Night on June 2 for their achievements.

55 students named State Scholars

By Brittany Blanchard

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission recognized 55 students from Community High School as Illinois State Scholars for the 2005-2006 school year.

State Scholars are students in the top 10 percent of graduating seniors and are acknowledged for outstanding academic achievement based on ACT or SAT scores combined with their junior year class rank.

The following seniors were named as this year's Illinois State Scholars:

Taylor Alperin, Amy Axelrod, Quin Barclay, Amanda Bass, Jennafer Bedard, Amber Bergmann, Carolyn Blackman, Brittany Blanchard, Jacqueline Boyd, Abigail Cole, Jessica Crawford, Thomas Delege, Sara Earhart, Carol Fortman, Nicholas Gorski, Kevin Grobe, Dustin Hedmark, Michelle Heron, Patrick Howe, Bethany Inch, Carl Johnson, Megan Jones, Martha Kaczmarczyk, Jennifer Kamphaus, David Kelsey, Andrew Lane, Janette

Leveille, Miles Lincoln, Eric Lindner, Jennifer Linsenmeyer, Joseph Malandrucolo, Kelly Mateas, Steven Migliorato, Rahul Modi, Marisa Nichols, Nicholas Nolte, Nishant Patel, Ryan Pinto, Timothy Polacek, Christopher Prochnow, Dennis Rocha, Matthew Rohn, Danielle Romano, Amanda Rousar, Andrew Seanor, Evan Serwinski, Anne Sticksel, Carly Tuma, Jared Vasiliauskas, Kellie Virnich, Lora Vodicka, Thomas Wood and John Yednock.

Carol Stream Library offers plenty of summer opportunities Summer cues beginning of many activities

By Kym McDaniel

Don't be afraid to step inside the world of books and fun at the Carol Stream Library this summer.

The library will host many events including a movie night, logo revealing party, steel drum concert, teen improv night and a Book Island contest.

Library activities director Christina Stoll helped organize the events.

"The library has activities going on all year long, but with school being out we like to kick things up in the summer," said Stoll. "We'd like to remind everyone the library is here and has a lot to offer."

The summer reading program that the library is most known for will begin June 12 and run through June 29. Adults will have the chance to participate in the Book Island adult summer reading program while children can become involved in the Voyage to Book Island youth summer reading program.

"The library participates in a

summer reading program every year which has always been very successful with kids, teens and adults," said Stoll.

The first 200 people participating in the adult summer program to read and record six books will receive a water bottle. There will be a grand prize drawing on July 29. Children can register at the youth service department while adults should go to the information desk.

The Tuesday night movie series starts July 11 and ends on Aug. 15. Movies include, "Pirates of the Caribbean," "Muppets Treasure Island," "Finding Nemo," "Hook," "Swiss Family Robinson" and "Jaws." Movies will start at 7 p.m. and viewers are encouraged to bring dry snacks and covered drinks.

A new logo will be introduced to the community on June 27 in an unveiling party.

The community selected the logo by voting held earlier in the year.

"Almost 150 people voted

for their favorite design and slogan," said Stoll. "We had over 30 submissions and given the huge turn out of voters, the community was very positive about the library's logo makeover."

From 6:30 to 8 p.m. attendees can dance to live music, have a sweet treat and have the chance to win giveaways as a part of the thank you celebration for the new logo.

The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble.

To highlight the reading program, a steel drum concert will be held on June 27 at 7 p.m. Dave Seagren and the Tropical Sound Steel Pan drum will play reggae, calypso and pop among other music styles.

"This is the first year the library is having a larger event to bring the entire community together to celebrate the reading program," said Stoll.

The library will hold a teen improv night June 19 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Sign up begins June 3.



Photo by Cristina Sarnelli

The Board of Education decided to table the decision of enforcing a \$50 participation fee that could have affected music students such as senior Sara Earhart (left) and junior Brad Rathe. The board will reconsider the fee for the 2007-2008 school year.

Our View

Immigrants deserve some respect

The controversy over proposed changes to America's immigration policy is heating up both in Washington and on the streets.

The House of Representatives has passed a bill to make illegal immigration a felony, and now the Senate is in a quagmire over this and other changes.

This has become a hot issue in partisan politics. Many Americans, and not just immigrants themselves, have spoken out for their side.

Some senators, as well as President George W. Bush, want to grant temporary work visas to illegal immigrants. Others want to provide them with opportunities to gain citizenship.

Still others want to mercilessly boot out all the illegal immigrants and tighten up the borders significantly.

However, it is unfair to judge these people without considering their contributions to society and overall impact.

The immigrants deserve to be treated with respect. Many of them have proven to be traditionally hard workers, so the state of the economy would plummet without their contributions.

According to a Los Angeles Times analysis, "Immigrants contribute mightily to the economy, by paying billions in annual taxes, by filling low-wage jobs that keep domestic industry competitive and by spurring investment and job-creation, revitalizing once-decaying communities."

Without the immigrants filling the low-wage jobs, large businesses would flounder. These are the same large businesses that help fund the campaigns of poli-

ticians such as President Bush.

The immigrants have faced the unfair and narrow-minded judgments of many during the recent avalanche of backlash, including the rabble-rousing actions of the Minutemen Project, a group opposed to illegal immigrants staying in the country.

On May 12, Minutemen supporters boisterously



shouted at immigrant rights marchers in Washington. According to CNN.com, the Minutemen cried out "We speak English here!" in response to Spanish chants of "No los vamos, aqui estamos!" ("We're here, and we're not going anywhere!")

The Minutemen and their supporters actually had to be held back from the marchers by a yellow police line. America was founded upon the freedoms of spo-

ken language, religion, and cultural identity. To insist that "we speak English here" is an intolerant and self-righteous claim.

Another issue that is often ignored during the immigration debate is the prevalent corruption in the Mexican government.

Bribery is common among Mexican law enforcement officers and federal agents, which in turn worsens the country's horrible drug problem.

Who could blame Mexicans for wanting to leave this corruption and head to America, the Land of Opportunity? The U.S. should take an active role in reforming the Mexican government, rather than focus on booting illegal immigrants out of the country.

President Bush even wants to utilize the U.S. National Guard to secure the U.S./Mexican border. This is a misguided move that has faced criticism from the left and right alike.

It is a blatant misuse of the National Guard, especially in trying times like these when they could be used for a multitude of other purposes pertaining to national security.

And, strangely enough considering Bush's recent actions, a Department of Labor study released by the Bush administration says that the idea that immigrants take jobs away from American workers is "the most persistent fallacy about immigration in popular thought."

This appears to be a wildly inconsistent sentiment being released by the administration. They need to take a look at the big picture, ease up on the immigrants and celebrate the American melting pot.

MySpace: A place for pedophiles

MySpace, the online community that has quickly grown to be the third most visited website on-line, according to websearch.com, claims to be "a place for friends," however, that statement could easily be expanded to pedophiles and sex offenders.

Over the past year, there have been numerous cases of rape, sexual assault and harassment in which the offenders used MySpace as a way to contact teenagers.

A man was recently arrested in Washington on six counts of third-degree child rape to a 15-year old girl. The man reportedly found her profile on MySpace, and arranged to meet with the girl.

In New Jersey, 14-year-old Judy Cajuste reportedly met a man through her profile on MySpace. Cajuste's body was found in a garbage container in January, a few days after her family reported her missing.

A major problem with MySpace is that many users post personal information on their profiles. Many give out cell phone numbers and addresses.

Users can also list hobbies and favorite music and movies. Pedophiles constantly use this as a device to talk to the user and become friends.

The website mandates that users be 14 to join, and states that if they believe someone is under the required age their account will be terminated. There is no place on MySpace which requires the permission of parents in order to have an account. As a result, a predator can easily have contact with a 13-year-old.

The social network doesn't make it difficult for pedophiles to access personal profiles on the website, either. Unless the profile is set to private, any of its 40 million users has access to it.

MySpace also allows users to post pictures of themselves, which is a massive problem among younger female users. MySpace prohibits the use of pornography, however this restriction seems to be poorly enforced by the website's supervisors.

Thousands of pictures posted by underage girls show themselves in sexually suggestive poses, revealing private parts and flaunting their sexuality in an ex-

remely inappropriate manner. If an administrator finds these pictures or another user reports them, the account is removed. This seems to be the only action taken.

Teenage girls need to realize that posting these pictures poses consequences and that they are putting themselves in danger by doing so.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, every year one in five children nationwide is sexually solicited online.

A smart way to prevent becoming a statistic is easy. Users should not post sexually explicit pictures, give out personal information or respond to strangers.

Parents need to pay attention to the websites their children are visiting and the people they are talking to on-line. Parental control and monitoring youth's on-line habits is the key for preventing sexual solicitation.

If children, teens and parents all use caution and good judgement, hopefully MySpace will once again be only a place for friends.

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THE WILDCAT CHRONICLE is the student newspaper at West Chicago Community High School. It is a public forum for freedom of expression and encourages readers to express their views. The Chronicle publishes eight times a year, with the student editorial board making the decisions concerning the paper's contents. Unsigned editorials represent the views of the majority of the staff. Signed editorials represent the views of that person, not the opinions of the Wildcat Chronicle or Community High School.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters must be signed, although the staff may withhold a name upon request. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and may refuse to publish a letter. Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Laura Kuehn at lkuehn@d94.org or delivered to Room 319 before or after school.

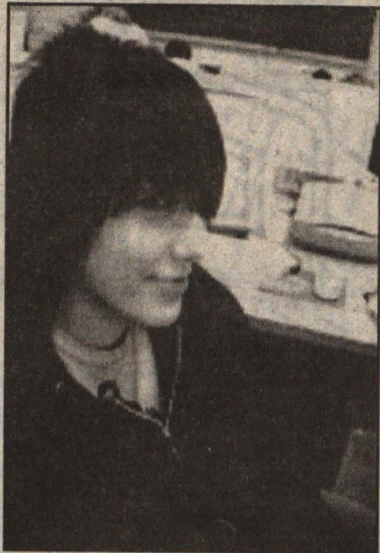
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The ideal woman does not exist

By Ellyn Fortino

Being a girl is definitely not as glamorous as it is depicted in movies, magazines, TV and advertising.

The media portrays women in a way that makes every little "imperfection" of the average woman seem like the end of the world. No matter what flaw someone has, there are millions of creams, drinks or pills that will



magically make you lose 10 pounds, get rid of wrinkles, or cover up your blemishes.

Girls can't help but feel insecure from their hair down to their toes after exposure to the media.

I'm sick of seeing underdressed and exploited women attempting to sell me prod-

ucts like "Zantrax 3," "Hydroxycut" or "Trimspa," that will make me go from flab to fab for just \$20! Or these 17-year-old looking girls splashing cool water over their freshly washed "Neutrogena" faces that had not one zit on it to begin with.

Why is America so obsessed with advertising and becoming this "perfect" woman? And why do so many younger and older women fall for it?

If things could go my way, girls would not follow the trends in "Teen People" and other magazines to that nature. They wouldn't carry around those couture purses

because Lindsay Lohan has one and she is "cool" and skinny or whatever. They wouldn't get the low-carb option of the menu because they need to shed a few vanity pounds when they are skinny as a twig to begin with, and they wouldn't feel the need to do buns of steel every second they get so they can look super cute in their bathing suits. They would just be themselves.

Maybe it is because we are conditioned from a very young age to believe that self-worth is derived from external characteristics.

We believe that if we take that pill or drink we will be one step closer to that thin ideal and as a result closer to becoming popular, beautiful, successful, happier, you name it.

Most of the pictures in magazines are enhanced with props, lighting angles and computer techniques. Blemishes, freckles, lines, wrinkles and any other unwanted features are edited out.

The message that the media leaves you with is that if you suffer enough and spend enough you will look that amazing. That is a big fat lie.

People like to stereotype others that do not fall into the "perfect" category, which is hurtful and completely unnecessary.

People see an overweight person and automatically assume they are lazy or unmotivated and that is not fair at all. I can see why though, I mean how often do we see overweight celebrities on the front of magazine covers? Unless you are talking about tabloid articles the answer is most likely never.

Bodies come in all shapes and sizes. Set your own trend and beauty standard. Thinness, like money, does not buy happiness.

Health kick plans to boot out sweeter sodas for diet drinks

By Kait Taylor

Thanks to a deal announced May 3 by former president Bill Clinton and the nation's largest beverage distributors, teens across the nation can no longer get their Coca-Cola fixes in the school cafeteria.

Those non-diet sweet bubbly soft drinks that are blamed for adolescent obesity will be yanked from schools and only bland diet sodas and fruity, flat sports drinks will remain to quench the thirsts of teenagers.

The agreement was set up by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a program set up by the William J. Clinton Presidential Foundation.

It involves major industry leaders Coca-Cola Co., Pepsi Inc., and Cadbury Schweppes PLC, as well as the American Beverage Association, which together control 87 percent of the public and private school drink market.

Although regular sodas are high in calories, it is not up to former president Clinton and some bogus deal with soda companies to decide what high school students are allowed to drink. It is up to teens! If a student wants to drink a Coke or maybe a Mountain Dew without that disgusting diet taste, he or she should be able to.

What is stupid about the agreement is that students are still allowed to have regular soda, they just can't buy it at school.

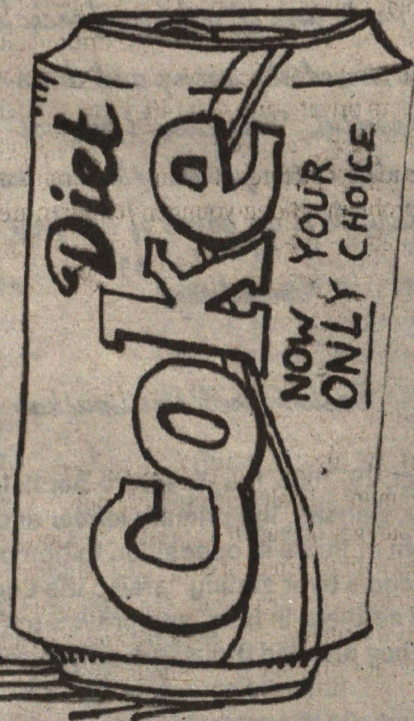
Students will just buy their soda somewhere else and bring it into the school. Not only does it not fix the problem, but it also takes the money that schools make from the soda vending machines and puts it into the pockets of Walgreen's or Jewel.

Students are still allowed to drink diet sodas under this agreement. What doesn't make sense is the fact that diet sodas aren't much better than regular sodas for teen

health.

According to health.com, the sugar substitute aspartame found in diet sodas breaks down to formaldehyde, methyl alcohol, formic acid, diketopiperazine and other toxins. Diketopiperazine is proven to cause brain tumors.

So instead of protecting students from obesity, this agreement promotes beverages that cause cancer. That does not solve anything.



Also according to health.com, aspartame suppresses serotonin and makes drinkers crave carbohydrates. Diet Coke is not the answer to diet problems.

The part of this agreement that is most frustrating is that the soda companies look like they are performing a good deed by giving up their high school sales profit to save teens from obesity.

That is totally untrue. According to Beverage Digest, a magazine that compiles extensive data on the beverage industry, the deal would have absolutely no impact on the \$63 billion beverage industry's bottom line.

The sale of sugar-carbonated sodas in schools is an extremely small part of their overall income. Financially, the big companies will experience virtually no impact.

It's like cigarette companies coming up with anti-smoking campaigns. They look good, but affect no one and lose only miniscule amounts of cash.

The whole agreement is a big contradiction. Instead of positively affecting teen health, they are hurting it to the same extent. If they really cared, they would just make us drink water.

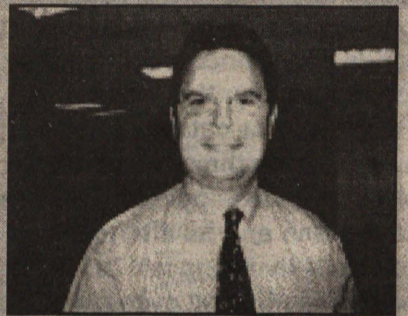
Question & Answer

What is your favorite memory of the 2005-2006 school year?



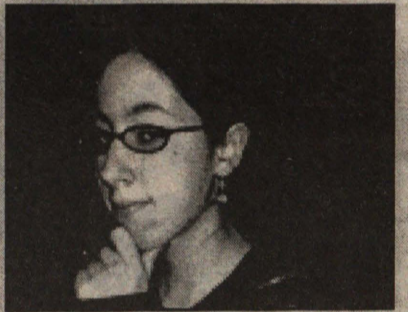
Tom Stenslik
Senior

"Being with my friends and pounding lots of doughnuts at the same time. It's senior year!"



Jeff Kargol
English Teacher

"November, White Sox, world champions. Enough said."



Lisa Daniels
Junior

"Getting my work in Mind's Eye literary magazine."



Anna Lane
Freshman

"Meeting new people and the whole high school experience."

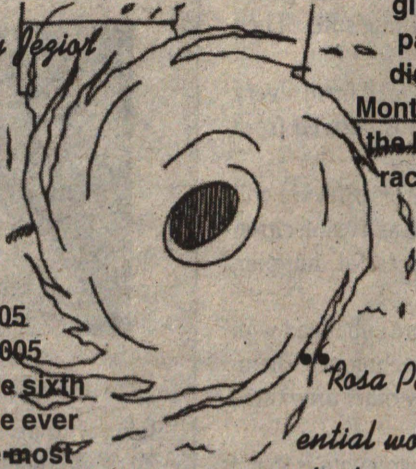


Jared Marshall
Sophomore

"Football games. Everybody I knew was there."

"The devastation down there was unbelievable but the hearts of the people were so big. Despite everything that has happened, they still put on a happy face and go on living their lives."

-- Senior Kelly Jezior

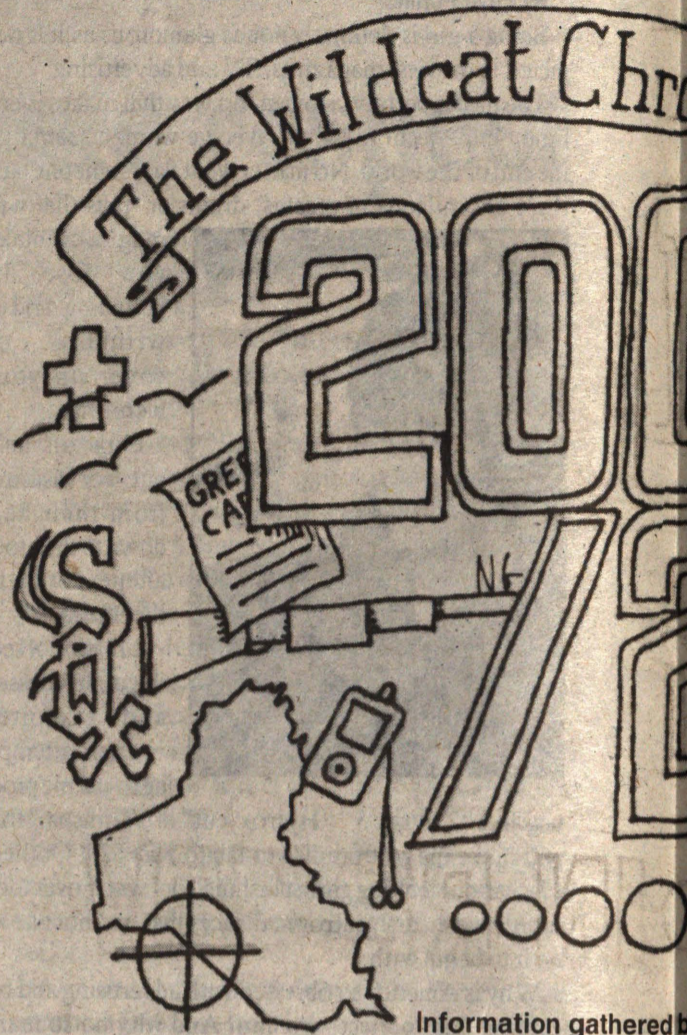
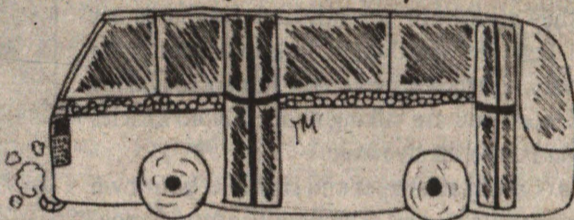


Hurricane Katrina
 Formed: Aug. 23, 2005
 Dissipated: Aug. 31, 2005
 Hurricane Katrina was the sixth largest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded and one of the most costly natural disasters in United States history. The storm formed over the Bahamas, traveled over Florida and gained enough momentum over the Gulf of Mexico to cause catastrophic damage along the coasts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Katrina and its aftermath took 1,604 lives and left 705 people still missing even six months after the initial storm.

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks also dubbed "mother of the modern-day civil rights movement" died on Oct. 24 at the age of 92. Parks is famous for her refusal on Dec. 1, 1955 to obey a bus driver's demand that she give up her seat to a white passenger. Her act of civil disobedience triggered the Montgomery Bus Boycott, one of the largest movements against racial segregation in history.

"Rosa Parks was a very influential woman and it is sad that she has passed. There should be more women like her in the world."

-- Junior Ashley Hickman



Information gathered by Nick Gorski, Kayla Har Sarnelli, Kait Taylor, D

August September October November December



"Not a lot of Chicago teams win championships, so it was cool to see a Chicago team on top. Plus it was pretty cool to brag to my family of Cubs fans."

-- Freshman Jake Bradley

On Oct. 26, 2005 the Chicago White Sox broke an 88 year drought and won the World Series. After only four games, the Sox nabbed the title after a 1-0 victory against the Houston Astros. With Jermaine Dye's run scoring single in the eighth inning, the White Sox swept the Astros 4-0.

America's "Newlyweds," Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey, had trouble in paradise in late 2005. Simpson filed for divorce from Lachey citing "irreconcilable differences" in December. While Lachey claims they officially parted ways on Dec. 13, Simpson is sticking to a Nov. 23 breakup date.

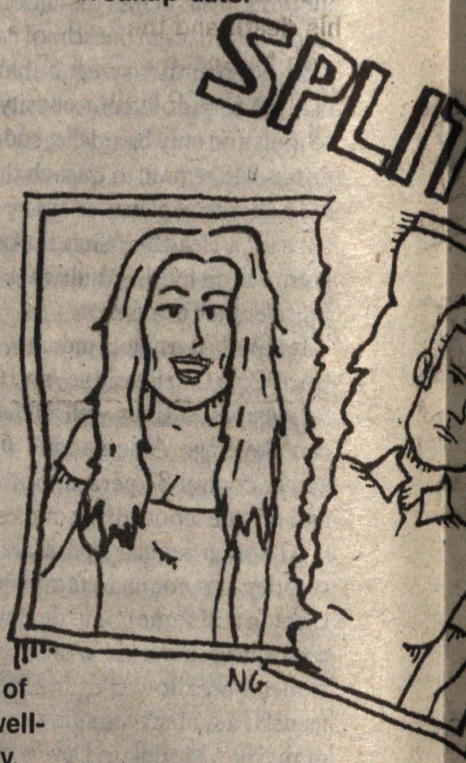
"Protesting at military funerals is incredibly wrong and disrespectful. They should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. It is an abuse of the first amendment."

-- Senior Jared Vasiliauskas

The 57th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards were held Sunday, Sept. 18, 2005. They were hosted by Ellen DeGeneres and broadcast on CBS. The awards were held at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California. Some of the award-winning shows were; "Lost" for outstanding drama series, "Everybody Loves Raymond" for outstanding comedy series, and "The Amazing Race 6" for outstanding reality-competition program.



On Oct. 29, 2005, the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas, the primary leader and most well-known of those in opposition to homosexuality, produced a flyer stating "praise the Lord for 2,010 dead soldiers in Iraq" and prayed to God to kill more. They also led thousands of protests at military funerals across the country. In response to the protests, a group of motorcyclists, the Patriot Guard Riders was formed to act as a nonviolent barrier between mourners and protesters. Lawmakers have considered a bill to ban protesting at military funerals, however, there has been much debate over the ban infringing on the constitutional right to free speech.



"I think Jessica is the break up with M fault."

-- Senior Daniell



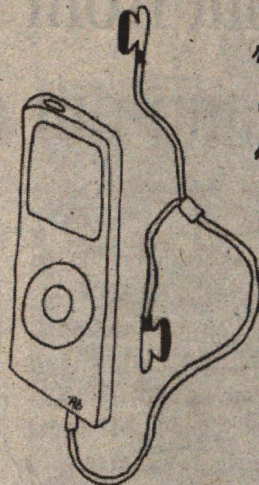
by Brittany Blanchard, Adnrea Bradley, Ellyn Fortino, Chris, Leah Kuzmicz, Kym McDaniel, Terri Molo, Cristina David Thomas, Kellie Vírnic, and Julie Youngwith

January February March April May

"I like iPods because they are so small and compact, and there are thousands of songs you can put on them."

--Mera Kolisnyk

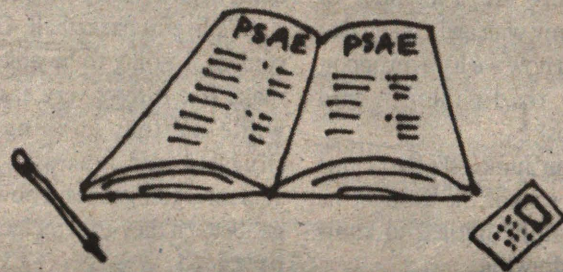
The speed of downloading and growing popularity of iPods worked in Alex Ostrovsky's benefit on Feb. 22 as he downloaded the billionth iTunes song "Speed of Sound" by Coldplay. Ostrovsky will receive a 20-inch iMac, 10 fifth generation iPods, and a \$10,000 iTunes Music Card. Apple will also set up a scholarship to Juilliard School in his name. Ostrovsky lives in West Bloomfield, Michigan.



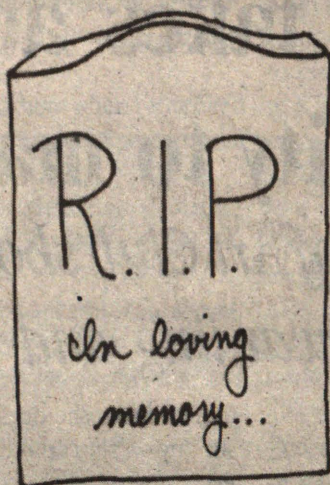
"I think the PSAEs are kind of ridiculous. I hated being cooped up in my classroom for several hours taking it. I don't see how one test can measure how our school is performing."

--Junior Dan Trainor

April 26 and 27, juniors across the state gathered in classrooms to take the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE). The PSAE includes three components: (1) a science assessment; (2) the ACT which includes reading, English, mathematics, and science tests and (3) two WorkKeys assessments, tests that give students reliable information about their workplace skill levels.



Grief and shock were palpable around the school after senior Kyle Hobday was killed by a train around 10:40 a.m. Feb. 8. Hobday was a well-known and well-liked teenager, reflected by the immediate response of students in constructing a memorial near the spot of his death and the 15 pages on MySpace filled with memories and well-wishes.



Students and teachers took immediate action to commemorate freshman Marco "Tony" Garcia after he unexpectedly died of a brain aneurysm March 30. His English class compiled a book full of their memories of Marco, including descriptions like helpful and hardworking. At the encouragement of the school, the Garcias also set up a memorial fund at DuPage National Bank in their son's name in order to lessen their financial troubles.

"Putting National Guard troops on the border won't solve the problem. We need to help fix the problems and corruption in the Mexican economy. That's the problem."

-- Senior Pete Kiger

Feb. 10 marked the 2006 Olympic games for the whole world to watch. With a total of 25 medals, the United States placed second, next to Germany. Held in Torino, Italy children and adults watched in suspense as snowboarder Shaun White, the Flying Tomato, won his gold medal, or as Apollo Anton Ohno fought his way to the top, ending in a gold win. The olympics will return in Beijing in 2008.

On Feb. 11, Vice President Dick Cheney injured attorney Harry Whittington in the face, neck, and upper torso with birdshot pellets from a shotgun. The two men were hunting for quail in a ranch on southern Texas.

Every since, the incident has become a joke, and the Vice President's once-feared name is now a punchline in itself.

The House of Representatives passed a bill to make illegal immigration a felony. On May 1, 400,000 marchers rallied for immigrants' rights in Chicago and most other major U.S. cities. President Bush outlined his plan, which included putting 6,000 National Guard troops on the border, during a televised address which took place on May 15.



"Dick Cheney saw more action by shooting someone in the face than he ever did in Vietnam."

-- Sophomore Austin Petrobon



Teacher steps out from behind the drafting board and out of school

By David Thomas

Paul Junkroski has drawn, drafted and designed throughout his career. But after 30 years of practicing the three "Ds" at the high school, Junkroski is ready to say goodbye.

He is a veritable legend in his department. Since he began working at the high school in the 1970s, Junkroski has been a coordinator for the cooperative work training program, woodshop, home maintenance, and has taught all four levels of drawing: technical, mechanical, architectural, and advanced.

"There are a number of things my wife and I wanted to do, and now we have an opportunity to do them," said Junkroski.

When Junkroski first came to the school, he thought he knew all he needed to know about drawing.

"I thought I knew everything there was to know about drawing," said Junkroski. "But

David Dean taught me some new things."

Dean was another industrial arts teacher who worked at the school. According to Junkroski, Dean taught him good organizational skills and to have both good and bad examples for students to see.

"I just learned so much from working with him," said Junkroski. "He was a master teacher."

Another teaching idea Junkroski adopted from Dean was the idea of flexible due dates. Once a drafting project is assigned, no final due date is set, therefore allowing the students to go at their own pace.

"It's like in basketball. One student is going to be able to make free throws very easily, while another is going to struggle," said Junkroski. "A student is going to learn how to get better if they go at their own pace."

Junkroski also said that he's seen students who struggled at the beginning surpass the stu-

dents who were experts from the beginning.

Even before coming to the high school, Junkroski had a great deal of experience in drafting. While studying at a technical school, Junkroski worked as a draftsman for a Chicago firm that made mining equipment. He was drafted for the Vietnam War, but he was never deployed in Vietnam. Instead, he spent two years at Ft. Lee in Virginia, designing signs and charts.

It was there Junkroski learned he wanted to be an industrial arts teacher. A man who was taking drafting as a correspondence class approached Junkroski for tutoring.

"Basically, by teaching this guy, I decided I wanted to be a teacher," said Junkroski.

In addition to teaching, Junkroski has been the adviser for SkillsUSA for 29 years, and has even served on its state board for five.

"He's a good adviser. He

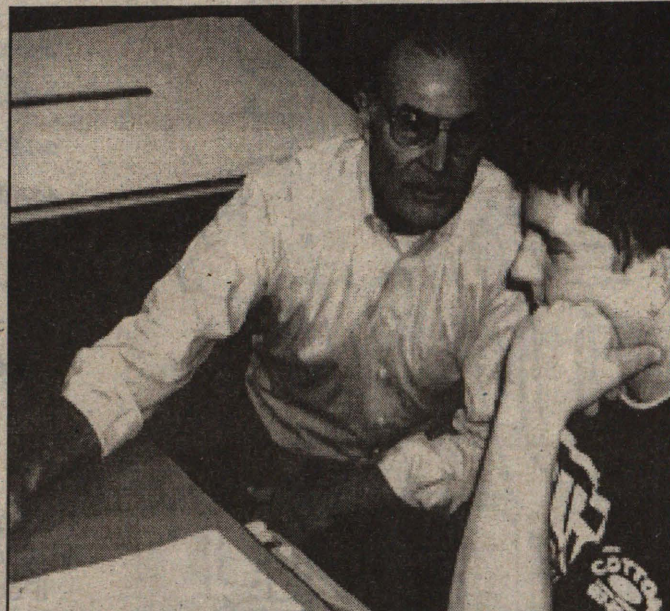


Photo by David Thomas

Paul Junkroski explains new material to junior Ben Warren. Junkroski will retire after 30 years of teaching multiple courses.

made sure everybody was ready for their individual contests," said sophomore and SkillsUSA member David Musick. Musick recently placed first in the state for machine drafting (board) at the club's state competition.

Musick, who has taken mechanical drawing, also said he liked Junkroski's work-at-your-own-pace style of teaching.

Although Junkroski is retiring from his teaching career, he's not retiring altogether. He

plans to help his wife in managing their store, Roseland Home Décor in Naperville. This way, he says, they'll have more free time.

In addition, he plans to come back as a substitute teacher occasionally. But if there's anything that will keep Junkroski coming back, it'll be football. According to Junkroski, he is a big fan of high school football.

"In the 30 years I've been here, I've only missed two home football games," he said.

Artist of the Month...

Talented cellist looks forward to a future in performance

By Julie Youngwith

Each month a different fine arts teacher selects Artist of the Month. Music teacher Steve Govertsen chose Michelle delValle.

Michelle delValle picked up a cello nine years ago and turned an interest into her passion. That passion has landed delValle as the May Artist of the Month.

This talented cellist also plays the tenor sax, bass and guitar.

Former student Lathie



Photo courtesy of Michelle delValle

After graduation, Michelle delValle plans on traveling with a Christian band.

Norton inspired delValle to begin playing the cello in fourth grade.

DelValle not only has a passion for playing music, but she also loves to write.

As well as being a member of the school orchestra, delValle is also a member of the Chicago Youth Symphony.

DelValle also been a member of the school musical orchestra for the past two years and an active member art club.

"I love the release I get from emotions," said delValle.

After graduation delValle plans to tour with Captive Free, a Christian band that plays for youth groups around the country.

"I'm really excited," said delValle. "I've been going to confirmation classes for the past few years just to see this group."

Following her tour with Captive Free, the cellist plans to attend Columbia College in Chicago and major in instrumental music performance.

She hopes to someday play with the Chicago Orchestra Symphony.

Junior takes advantage of creativity to make jewelry

President of Art Club shows that hobby can be fun, rewarding and inexpensive

By Kym McDaniel

Junior Bianca Speer's creativity gives her the chance to make original and unique accessories no one else will have.

Speer got the idea to make her own jewelry four years ago while visiting a Michigan craft show on vacation.

"I saw some jewelry and thought I could make that for half the price," said Speer.

Speer took action and now makes mostly earrings, bracelets and necklaces.

The materials her creations are made out of include felt, glass beads, clay, wire and thread.

Once Speer transformed a regular bag by hand stitching, using sequins and new fabric to make it into a tote bag shaped as a fish.

"I bent some wire to make it look like a hook (of a reel)," said Speer.

Speer enjoys the freedom that jewelry making brings and said if she sees something in

the store that she doesn't like, she knows she can redo it and make it better.

Although Speer admits that making certain jewelry is ex-



Photo by Kym McDaniel

Bianca Speer enjoys the freedom making jewelry brings, even though its only a pastime.

pensive at times, she said she looks at the quality of the store

bought necklace or bracelet compared to the one she would be making, then compares price.

"I hope that my jewelry is better than jewelry sold in stores. . . I try," said Speer.

Speer also said that while time consuming sometimes, it is worth the time and money because if people ask her where she got her earrings, she can just say she made them, which is rewarding.

"It is time consuming when projects go wrong and you have to restart," said Speer. "A beaded necklace with beads made of clay, that takes a while, but only 20 to 30 minutes for an earring."

Speer, who is also president of Art Club, made her sister's Halloween costume.

"I think Art Club has helped me with more creative ideas," said Speer.

Speer, whose real passion is drawing, said that making jewelry is a pastime for her.

Driving teacher cruises down the road to retirement

By Brittany Blanchard

Seventh grade dreams of becoming a head football coach led Jeff Ainsworth to a teaching position at Community High School, a position he is leaving this June after 33 years.

Ainsworth, who received a full scholarship to play football at Northern Illinois University (NIU) and spent three of those years as a starting offensive lineman, was passionate about continuing his involvement with the sport after his college playing days were over.

So in 1973 when a position opened at Community High School for a drivers' education teacher as well as an assistant football and track coach, he jumped at the opportunity.

"My first love was football and I would have taken a job anywhere I could coach," Ainsworth said.

Ainsworth served as an as-

sistant coach for many years, even coaching alongside Principal John Highland, with his expertise lying with the defensive lineman. For this reason, he attributes his most memorable coaching experience to coaching the 1974 state football champions, a team he remembers as being very strong defensively.

After being involved with the football program for many seasons, Ainsworth obtained the privilege of spending five years in the head coaching position he had always dreamed of, which he said was more difficult than he had imagined.

"When you become a head coach you have to be able to have knowledge of all aspects of the game," said Ainsworth.

In 1988, he left the football program at Community High School and assumed a coaching position for the football team at Aurora University. In 1997,

however, he stepped down and became the dean of students back at the high school.

In addition to football and track, Ainsworth also assisted in coaching the wrestling team and helped the 1977 team place fourth in the state competition.

As a teacher, Ainsworth said he always made efforts to be as fair to his students as possible.

"I try to follow the same expectations I hold for my students and always treat them with great respect," Ainsworth said.

Additionally, Ainsworth tried to maintain an entertaining classroom environment.

"As a teacher I tried as best I could to make it fun so kids would like to come to my class—so that they would come to my class."

Ironically, Ainsworth is "graduating" alongside his son this year, as his retirement coincides with his son's gradua-



Photo by Brittany Blanchard

Jeff Ainsworth is retiring after 33 years of teaching. He plans to spend his free time with his family and attending NIU football games.

tion from Batavia High School.

Ainsworth's plans for retirement include visiting his daughter who teaches first grade in San Antonio, Texas, watching his son play football at Benedictine University and taking full advantage of the season tickets he holds at NIU to visit as many Big Ten stadiums as he can.

Looking back on his career at Community High School, Ainsworth is grateful to the colleagues he refers to as "outstanding people" and the opportunity to work with students.

"I can't say I came to school every day in a good mood," said Ainsworth. "There have been some ups and downs in 33 years, but it's gone by fast."

Traveling is in the books for Kalnajs

By Nick Gorski

After many years at the chalkboard, English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher Ina Kalnajs is ready to move on to her retirement.

Kalnajs has taught ESL at the school for the last five years, and has worked as an educator for 20.

She began her career as a second grade teacher in tiny Crawfordsville, Ind., but found her calling in teaching ESL at the secondary school level.

Kalnajs was born in Germany to Latvian parents, and speaks fluent Latvian. She and her family came to the U.S. when she was a first-grader with no knowledge of English, and Kalnajs still remembers the struggles she faced in her early education.

"Some people don't understand that just because you don't read in English, it doesn't mean you don't read," she remembered.

"Hurtful things were said, but overall, Kalnajs regards her experience as an ESL student very highly. The experiences even inspired her to become an ESL teacher herself.

"Because so many people were nice to me in my education, that's why I chose ESL," she said.

Kalnajs has faced struggles during her

five-year tenure at the school, despite not speaking Spanish, like the majority of her students do.

"I told them when I was hired that I don't speak Spanish," she said.

Nevertheless, Kalnajs has not had trouble relating to her students.

"I'm always amazed at the students' progress, from the beginning of the year to the end," she said.

Kalnajs considers all her students and colleagues to be her favorite part of the job.

"It's an honor, a privilege, to work with such great students and be with such a dedicated, caring group of professionals," she said of her teaching experience.

Kalnajs' students, some of whom have

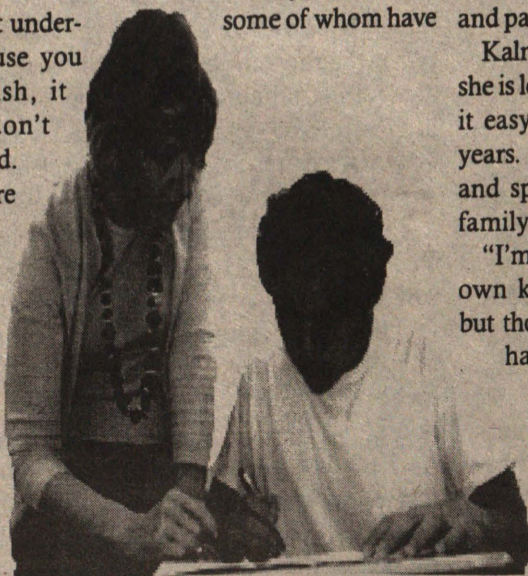


Photo by Nick Gorski

Despite not speaking Spanish, Ina Kalnajs has taught ESL classes for the past five years.

very little education, occasionally struggle academically. Many of them only made it up to fourth grade before coming to Kalnajs' class as ninth graders.

She admires their dedication to a very difficult task. "You try studying chemistry or physics in another language," she said.

Her students are often entirely self-supporting as well. They work long hours every day, which makes it difficult to get their studying done.

"I've got a student who works until 4 a.m. and shows up to class every morning at 7:55. It's incredibly difficult to study while working 40 hours per week," she said. "They've got a big desire to learn, but there's always the need to eat and pay rent."

Kalnajs' job is rewarding, but she is looking forward to taking it easy during her retirement years. She plans on traveling and spending time with her family.

"I'm so proud of not only my own kid's accomplishments, but those of all the students I've had over the years," she said. Kalnajs will certainly miss teaching at the school.

"The thing that has really struck me is that here they really put the student first," she said. "People are willing to go the extra mile."

College Column...

Seniors prepare for graduation Finals are eliminated; final projects remain

By Kellie Vlrnich

As seniors clean their lockers out and see teachers and classmates one last time, there are still a few things to remember.

Though Principal John Highland rewarded the class of 2006 for their exemplary PSAT scores by eliminating senior finals, seniors are still "responsible for any final projects, essays and presentations already assigned by their teachers."

Seniors should have already informed counselors about scholarships they have received in order to be recognized at Honors Night, on June 2 at p.m.

Graduation practice, held at 7:15 a.m. Saturday June 3, is mandatory for any students planning to attend commencement at 2 p.m. the next day.

Head counselor Maura Bridges urges students to take their last days at school seriously, as colleges receive second semester transcripts and can still rescind their acceptance.

"There is nothing worse than finding out that your admission to a college is in jeopardy because you decided to take the last month of school off," Bridges said. "Just keep working hard until the last day, and you won't have to

worry about it."

Focus now changes to next year's seniors, who are beginning their college searches and getting back results from ACTs, PSATs and AP testing.

As seniors begin to travel to their new schools for schedule sign-ups, placement testing and orientations, juniors should continue scheduling visits and interviews to begin narrowing down their prospective choices.

Also a relevant issue for juniors, the Chicago Sun-Times recently featured an article on paid honor societies.

It stated that programs like National Honor Roll and Who's Who Among American High School Students were not worth the money required for admission, nor is it worthwhile to purchase memory books, souvenirs and graduation accessories.

Stacey Kostell, director of undergraduate admissions at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, said the paid societies are "pretty meaningless."

"For something that students have had to buy into, like the National Honor Roll, we are not looking for that," she said. "We are looking for the math team award or community service award."

THE SOUNDS

Stories and photo by Kayla Harris

'Dying to Say This to You'

Mix 70's disco group ABBA with punk new wavers Blondie, and the result would be something close to "Dying to Say This to You," the new album from Swedish rockers The Sounds.

On "Dying..." guitarist Felix Rodriguez provides a combination of punk and dancey riffs to give the band their pop-punk feel and sings back-up on numerous songs.

The Sounds new album is an emotional rollercoaster, quickly going from romance to disgust and regret. It also shows how much the band has progressed since their last album. The lyrics are deeper, darker and more complicated than before.

What separates the Swedish rockers from other bands is the feisty and charming Maja Ivarsson, the voice of The Sounds. It's extremely difficult for female rockers to succeed in the music world, but Ivarsson clearly shows she is tough enough to handle it.

Love and heartbreak are the main themes in the majority of the songs on the new album, although detecting the pain and anguish through the music is impossible without hearing the lyrics.

What gives the band their distinct sound is the disco-esque, catchy pulse keyboardist Jesper Anderberg provides throughout the entire CD.

Drummer Fredrik Nilsson's beats act as an anchor for the band, with a simple yet necessary cadence heard throughout the recording.

The first single, "Song With a Mission", complete with constant cowbell, immediately gives listeners a clear understanding of the band's attitude with lyrics such as "without me, you're nothing at all."

The fervent and catchy tune, "Tony the Beat" is undoubtedly the most likable and danceable song, with its somewhat suggestive lyrics and upbeat tempo.

Only once does the band take a break from the fast, energizing rhythm. The slow, piano ballad "Night After Night" is about a past love of Ivarsson's. The song is okay, but luckily, a faster version was made as a bonus track.

The most notable song on "Dying..." is "Ego," an in-your-face anthem about lying to a lover, shows Ivarsson is not someone to mess with. Listeners can feel her brutal honesty by the way she shouts out the lines, "I've been dying to say this to you... it's not a secret to me anymore 'cause I've seen you blowing around my fame."

Overall, "Dying..." is enjoyable but gets repetitive after a couple listens. On the bright side, the album is a break from the mainstream and fun to dance to.

Live at the Metro

Attitude, sex appeal and sweat swamped the walls of the Metro when Swedish pop-punk new wavers, The Sounds visited Chicago on their nationwide tour to welcome their second album, "Dying to Say This to You."

The first opening act at the April 21 concert, Action Action, was easy on the eyes but not on the ears. The band tried to create an electronic dance sound by adding a keyboard, but failed miserably. In the end, the distortion from the guitars was only heard. Perhaps this was a blessing in disguise.

The second band, Morningwood, an over-hyped girl fronted garage band brought on a very different type of performance. Singer Chantal Claret gave the audience everything she thought they would want, and then some. During "Take Off Your Clothes" two girls were brought onstage and proceeded to do just what the song suggested.

Fortunately, the Swedish rockers breathed life into the crowd when they came out, with Journey's "Don't Stop Believin'" loudly played overhead, a brave move seeing as the Metro is located in the heart of Wrigleyville.

Singer Maja Ivarsson approached the stage, immediately claiming it as her own and greeting anxious fans.

"Queen of Apology," the sad, yet poppy song off their newest album got the audience dancing and didn't stop until the end of the show.

The platinum blonde singer provided constant entertainment with her unique strut-like dancing, sexual innuendoes, and never failed to use the entire stage as a personal playground.

Guitarist Felix Rodriguez brought the band's attitude to life musically with the melodic beat on the guitar.

The keyboard-dominated fan favorite, "Living in America," incited an abundance of cheers halfway through the set. Keyboardist Jesper Anderberg pounded the keys as if he were having spasms.

Wanting to excite the crowd even more, Ivarsson interrupted a fan's cell phone conversation, grabbing the phone and singing to the person on the other end.

Fans thought the night was over when the band left the stage, but only for a short break and certainly to gain even more momentum from the already ecstatic crowd.

Re-emerging from backstage, The Sounds began their three-song encore and finished the night with "Ego," the new wave, in-your-face dance track off of their new album.



Rap be filled wit lots o hate, so don't participate

By Nick Gorski

In its relatively short history, hip-hop music has undoubtedly changed the music scene forever.

Since its explosion in the 1980s, the genre has all but replaced rock n' roll on top 40 radio stations, and produced many indisputable musical geniuses, including Run D.M.C., Dr. Dre, and The Notorious B.I.G.

Recently, hip-hop has produced interesting music with artists like Jay-Z, OutKast and Missy Elliott.

But these innovators are clearly the exception. If you flip on your local top 40 or urban radio station, the hip-hop they play mostly consists of mindless garbage.

Rappers glorify the gang

lifestyle, glamorize the use of drugs, and objectify women to a shameful extreme.

True, some of these artists come from the streets, with gang backgrounds that deserve to be shared to an extent. But artists need to be responsible for their content.

For instance, 50 Cent's second album, "The Massacre," sold the second-most copies of any album worldwide in 2005.

50's claim to fame is having been shot nine times while dealing drugs in Queens, N.Y.

He also has his own record label, clothing line, video game, and has starred in a major film. The rapper is super rich.

But he still chose to devote an entire track on "The Mas-

sacre" to the fine art of armed robbery.

This guy has his own flavor of mineral water, and he still says that burglary is "the only way to make money."

He also sings the praises of drug abuse by saying "My black G-Unit hoody reeks of



marijuana, g o t c o - caine comin' o u t

my pores in the sauna."

Whether these lines demonstrate 50's lyrical skills is beside the point. If these tracks aren't socially irresponsible, I don't know what is.

Music like this has even made heroes out of Chicago

gangster Al Capone and fictitious drug lord Tony Montana, among others.

Young hip-hop fans buy t-shirts and posters immortalizing these "heroes" and praise their mostly negative achievements and lifestyle, just like their rapping heroes.

Other frequently played songs include the Dem Franchize Boyz hit "Lean Wit It, Rock Wit It." The song disrespects women with laughably ridiculous lines like "I got a crack-headed broad, and we headed to my house."

Chamillionaire's "Ridin'," one of Chicago's top requests according to B96.com, glorifies driving while intoxicated. Guest rapper Krayzie Bone raps, "Doin' a hundred while

I puff on a blunt... with no regards for the law we dodge 'em..."

A select few mainstream artists, such as Common, Mos Def, and Kanye West, rap with a social conscience about important issues.

But these names are few and far between. You're likely to flip on MTV and hear another rap about loose women, brutal violence or abuse of hard drugs.

Popular tracks like "Lean Wit It, Rock Wit It" are prime evidence that the genre has lost its creative spark. Hip-hop has sunk into a predictable rut of misogyny and violence.

Or, to be fair, maybe the artists have just lost too many brain cells to think of anything else to write about.

2006 Summer Music Preview

Summer. The season of touring. Every year, hundreds of bands perform in festivals and tours around the world. Here's a quick preview of all the major music events happening in and around the Chicagoland area.

Festival to end all festivals

What do the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Kanye West, and the Queens of the Stone Age have in common?

One word: Lollapalooza.

With over 130 bands scheduled (and many more coming, according to the website) on eight stages, everything seems to be set for Grant Park to rock and girate to the tunes of "Dani California," "Jesus Walks," and "No One Knows."

Other bands include Manu Chao, Wilco, The Racontuers, The Secret Machines, Matiyashu, Ryan Adams, Sonic Youth, and Iron & Wine. When & Where: Aug. 4-6 at Chicago's Grant Park. As of print time, three-day passes are available on the concert's website for \$140.

Metal extravangza

Despite his failing health, Ozzy Osbourne is still scheduled to headline the tour that bears his name. It's unclear whether he'll appear at all venues, but the heavy metal godfather has assembled an impressive line-up for Ozzfest 2006.

Main stage bands include System of a Down, Disturbed, Hatebreed, and Lacuna Coil, with guitar legend Zakk Wylde headlining the second stage with his band, Black Label Society.

According to the website, another band has yet to be named to the main stage.

When & Where: July 16 at the First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre in Tinley Park. Prices depend on seating.

The Underground's raging ascension

If Lollapalooza is too "mainstream," and Ozzfest is not "metal" enough, then one needs to look no further than the Sounds of the Underground Tour.

Leading the charge is As I Lay Dying and In Flames, two bands that offer roaring guitars, slamming bass pedals, and torn cartiledge in the neck.

Other acts include Cannibal Corpse, Terror, the Black Dahila Murder, Behemoth, with special guest Evergreen Terrace at the August show.

When & Where: July 9 at the First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre in Tinley Park. Aug. 2 at Pop's Outside in Sauget.

Milwaukee: City of Summerfest

Every year, the city of Milwaukee holds Summerfest, an 11 day festival complete with 12 stages, numerous outdoor eateries, and T-shirt stands with shirts that say "Keg Security."

Once inside, all the concerts are free, with the exception of the acts inside the Marcus Amphitheatre.

Because of the numerous bands and stages, only the bands playing at the Marcus Amphitheatre will be listed. Students who want to learn more about who's playing at Summerfest are encouraged to visit the festival's website.

Prices at the gate are \$8, but tickets for 10 or older on weekends or evenings (after 4 p.m.) jump to \$10.

June 29 Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers w/ Pearl Jam at 7:30 p.m.

June 30 Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers w/ Pearl Jam at 7:30 p.m.

July 2 Nine Inch Nails w/ Bauhaus at 7:00 p.m.

July 3 Mary J. Blige w/ Ne-Yo at 8:00 p.m.

July 4 Kenny Chesney at 7:30 p.m.

July 5 Nickelback w/ Hoobastank & Chevelle at 7:30 p.m.

July 7 Steely Dan & Michael McDonald at 8 p.m.

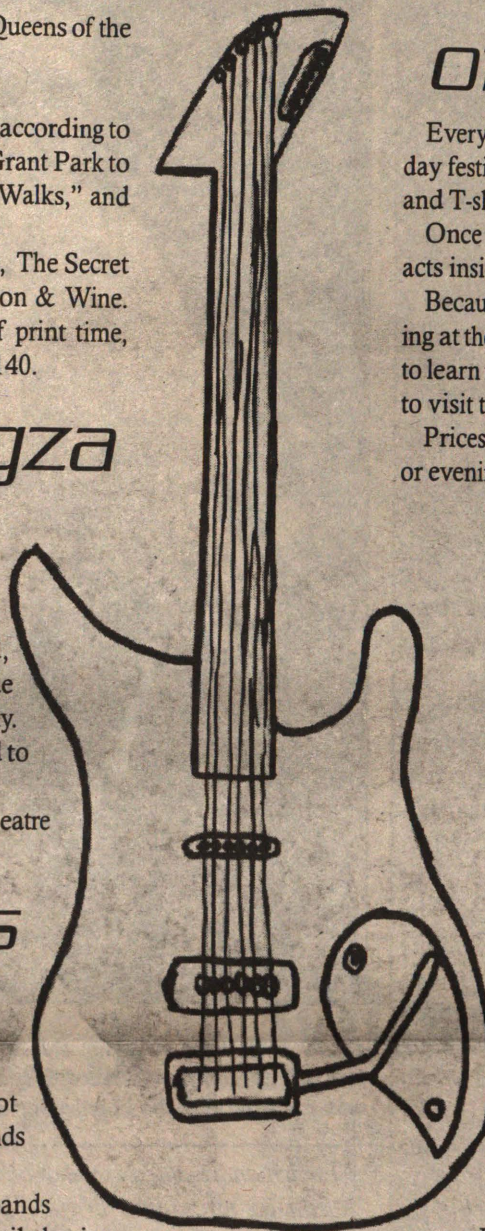
July 8 Alan Jackson w/ Carrie Underwood at 7:30 p.m.

July 9 Goo Goo Dolls & Counting Crows at 7:30 p.m.

Ribs + music = Grand ole times

Every year, the delightful folks in Naperville hold Ribfest, an ingenious combination of award-winning ribs and music.

Located at Knoch Park, July 2-5, the festival will host musical legends such as the Doobie Brothers, REO Speedwagon, and the Charlie Daniels Band.



Please Note:

All information regarding bands, dates, times, etc. were from the official websites and were accurate as of publication. Therefore, schedules are subject to change.

SOUNDS of the UNDERGROUND
METAL AND HARDCORE WILL RISE AGAIN
MUSIC CHOICE HOT TOPIC
JULY AUGUST 2006 US/CANADIAN TOUR

AS I LAY DYING IN FLAMES
TRIVIUM CANNIBAL CORPSE TERROR
Behemoth GHARIOT DEER HEAD
JULY 9TH

OZZFEST 2006

MAJOR MAINSTAGE BAND TO BE ADDED MAY 23. STAY TUNED.

SECOND STAGE
Zakk Wylde's Black Label Society
Alissa
UNEARTH
BLEEDING THROUGH
NOUMA HAN

OSBOURNE
SYSTEM OF A DOWN
DISTURBED
LACUNA COIL

JULY 16TH

WARPED TOUR 2006

WARPED TOUR IS PRESENTED BY CINGULAR

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UNDERTHEATH • SAVES THE DAY • SENSES FAIL • HELLBOGGED • AGAINST ME
LESS THAN JANE • THE CASUALTIES • JOAN JETT AND THE BLACKHEARTS
THE SOUNDS • THE LIVING END • HELMET • THE ACADEMY
THE BOUNCING SOULS • FROM FIRST TO LAST • EVERYTIME I DIE
BULLEY FOR MY VALENTINE • BILLY TALENT • ARMOR FOR SLEEP • EL VESPERIN
IN VISIONS • THE EARLY NOVEMBERS • GREELEY, ESTATES • GYM CLASS HEROES
REIGN AND THE FULL EFFECT • THE SLES • FROM AUTUMN TO ASHES • MOTHER
SAMUEL • PROTEST THE HERO • GOV'T MURDER • THE FALL OF TROY
SHE JUMPED APPARATUS • STRETCH ARM STRONG • PISTOLITA • AIDEN
FLASHLIGHT SHOW • THE PINE SPIGERS • BIVESSOUY GAMBLERS • VALENT THOR
VAUX • DIE MOONS • THE FULLY BLOWN • CLASSIC CRIME • EMERY
GATSBY'S AMERICAN DREAM • MERRY SIGNALS • MY AMERICAN HEART
THE AUDITION • ABASH • THE SMASHUP • WE ARE THE PUPY
CASTEL • RIGHT FINERE DOWN • THE SUNSTREAK
SO THEY SAY • HE IS LEGEND • MUTE MATH
NEW PIER BONES • CRYSTAL BONES STAGE
BAND BATTLE OF THE DAMN
MADON LEONAR • SERRALL VAGHANT RECORDS STAGE
SHERWOOD CROSS • VAN MATHE QUARTY JAZZ
SO MAD VOICE MUSICAL KARAVAN EXPRESS WAVE TENT
ABERLIS CROW STREET FIRE STUNTS

JULY 30TH

Tickets available at the Charter One Pavilion box office, all ticketmaster outlets, online at LiveNation.com and Ticketmaster.com or call 312-559-1212.

All dates, acts and ticket prices are subject to change without notice. A service charge is added to each ticket price. All events are rain or shine. First Midwest Bank Amphitheatre, formerly Tweeter Center, is located in Tinley Park, IL.

Coach's Corner

Walters' goal to lead by example

By Kellie Virnich

Wanting to give teens guidance and share his love of sports, teaching and coaching seemed like the perfect career choice for John Walters.

Walters led an extremely active childhood revolving around sports. He said that he does not remember a time when he and his younger brother were not involved in some kind of athletic activity.

"I have always loved being active. When I was growing up, being inside meant we had to eat dinner or go to bed," Walters said.

His main inspiration to coach came early on in his education, as his elementary school P.E. teacher transferred to his junior high school, serving as his teacher and mentor for seven years.

"My becoming a coach was born out of a love for games and wanting to affect lives, but Rita Crawford set me on the path to P.E.," he said.

Though Walters played varsity football for four years, and said that it is his favorite sport, he chose to play baseball in college at Eastern Illinois University, where he majored in physical education and eventually earned a master's degree in exercise physiology.

"Eastern offered all facets of the college experience with a great small-town atmosphere," said Walters. "The

staff was there 24-7 to help students and better their educations."

Having grown up in Carol Stream and attending Glenbard North High School, Walters did not have to travel far to find a job. He currently teaches P.E. and driver's education, in addition to coaching varsity boys baseball and being a varsity football defensive coordinator.

"I wanted to make a difference in young lives," he said. "I wanted to correct mistakes that I've made and give them direction that I didn't have as a kid."

Walters' number one priority for his team is always to teach fundamentals and respect for the game. He feels that athletics teaches life lessons and that playing sports "is a great foundation for surviving in the business world and other future encounters."

One of the more negative aspects of Walters' job is dealing with disappointment when games don't go well.

He said that he always wants his seniors to have good seasons, and for all of his athletes to get the most positive experience possible.

He dedicates a great deal of his time after school helping his players, and commends his wife on being so understanding about all the time he spends at school.

"I love this school, and the kids here are amazing," said Walters.

Athlete of the Month

Blue Wildcat earns honor



Photo courtesy of Nick Nolte
Senior Nick Nolte says that although he loves baseball, football will remain his favorite sport. Earlier this month, Nolte was honored with the prestigious Blue Wildcat scholarship.

Each month a different coach nominates an Athlete of the Month. Head baseball coach John Walters selected senior Nick Nolte for his talents shown throughout the baseball season.

By Andrea Bradley

Nick Nolte is May's Athlete of the Month for his contributions to the Wildcat's baseball team.

Nolte has been playing baseball since he was 5-years-old.

Nolte has played many positions on the field, but while on the varsity team, he has played at second base.

After two years of varsity baseball, Nolte says he will miss being a part of the team's successes.

"What I like most about baseball is the feeling I get after winning, and knowing that I helped contribute to the team victory," he said.

Nolte attributes his success

to his parents whom he considers his biggest supporters.

"They always try and make every game, and are proud of me no matter how I play," said Nolte.

Even though Nolte's parents help relieve pressure from the game, he says that the team members can still put pressure on themselves.

"When I know there is pressure at a certain part of the game, I just try to relax and focus on making the play if the ball is hit to me," he said.

The game the day after prom this season is a game that Nolte will never forget.

"We won all three games and swept our rivals, Glenbard North," he said.

Though Nolte plays baseball during the spring, he is active on the football team in the fall. The defensive player says that football is his favorite sport, and that he will never forget this year's game against Wheaton North.

"One of my high school memories is when we avenged our last year's loss and upset Wheaton North on their homecoming," said Nolte about this season's victory. "In the end, it knocked them out of the playoffs."

Although Nolte is planning on attending Northern Illinois University as a business major, he does not plan to play baseball.

Nolte also won the Blue Wildcat scholarship, giving him \$5,000 towards college.

"I've been myself and have tried to do what I thought was right. I provide leadership when called upon to do so," said Nolte about winning.

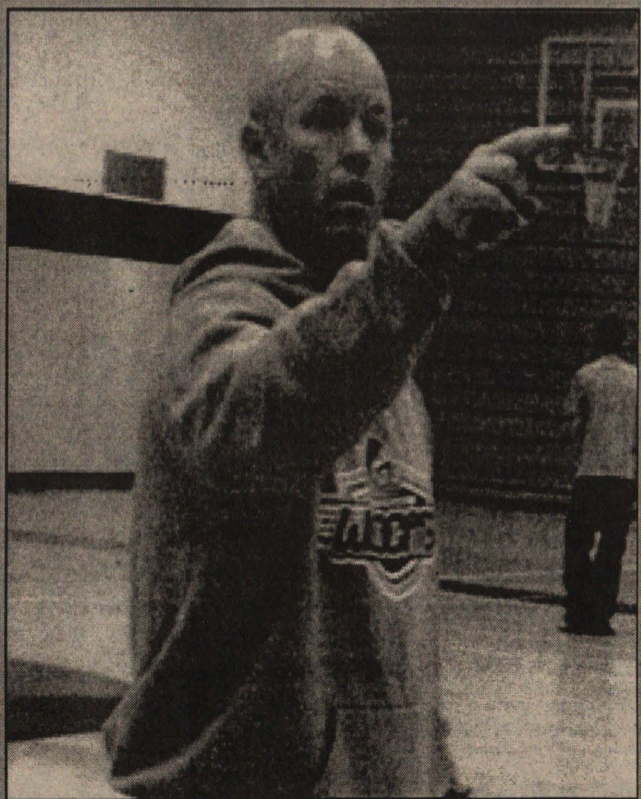


Photo by Kellie Virnich

Baseball coach John Walters helps students during physical education.

Senior night celebrated with win against Glenbard North

By Kayla Harris

The boys volleyball team, now 4 of 8 in the DVC, celebrated their senior night and final home game May 16 with a win against Glenbard North.

Coach Kris Hasty commended the seniors on their progress throughout the years.

Senior Ryan Foytik returned the compliment, pointing out Hasty's leadership.

"Coach Hasty has taught us so much that it's going to be tough to leave," he said.

The team will lose five players, seniors Joel Barker, Steve

Vlasvich, Eric Lindner, Brian Brewster, and Foytik.

"Joel really asserts his leadership for the team, we started off shaky but lately we've been pulling together since he started setting," said junior Nate Sullivan.

Brewster said he was proud of how the team was playing this season.

"Senior year has really been the best. This is our final shot to make a mark," he said.

Ranked 5 out of 20 teams in regionals, the boys attribute their success to the team's

unity, dedication and hard work.

The boys played regionals Tuesday, however information was not available at press time.

Despite the loss of the seniors, the boys are confident in next year's team.

The JV team, with a record of 28-5, recently placed first at the Leyden High School Eagle Invite.

"There are a lot of good players returning on varsity and there are a lot of promising players from JV," said junior Eric Sorgatz.

Season comes to a close

Team record does not reflect attitude of girls

By Kait Taylor

Girls softball continues to compete for the DVC crown with special focus on winning regionals Wednesday.

The Wildcats faced Rosary for their first regional game Wednesday at West Aurora. Results were not available at press time.

With a current record of 13-19 overall and 3-9 in the DVC, Coach Jim Schaudt is optimistic about the season as a whole.

Although they lost 12-1 to Glenbard North May 15, Schaudt was excited about three scoreless innings.

"Coach Davidson and I have worked hard to prepare the team for the season," Schaudt said. "We try our best to keep the kids up and positive even through some trying times."

Schaudt noted many games in which the girls competed ex-

tremely well.

The "best come from behind victory" was against Elmwood Park when senior Kayla Kramer came to the plate and hit a home run that won the game with a score of 5-4, according to Schaudt.

He also mentioned a great offensive output against Plainfield Central when the girls hit an amazing 11 run first inning to win 18-8.

The best pitching effort came against Glenbard North when junior Christine Williams threw 11 strikeouts and allowed only four hits in a tough loss 3-2.

Another outstanding game came when the Wildcats defeated Naperville Central 3-2 with zero errors in eight innings.

Schaudt said four varsity players lead the team.

Short stop Kramer is "the team leader in most offensive categories" according to Schaudt, with a batting average of .416, nine home runs, three triples, and 42 hits.

"She has evolved into a great senior leader," Schaudt said. "She's dedicated herself to softball and is an extremely hard worker."

Catcher and sophomore Linnea Detrick is second in most offensive categories according to Schaudt.

"She is one of the best catchers in the DVC," he said. Schaudt also recognized Williams for her pitching and junior center fielder Keri Mederich for her batting.

Next season, Schaudt looks forward to improving the team's overall record and competing for the DVC title, even without his senior girls Kramer, Veronica Beth, Kari Johnson and Jackie Boyd.

"I will miss the four senior players when they leave," he said. "All four were excellent role models for our younger

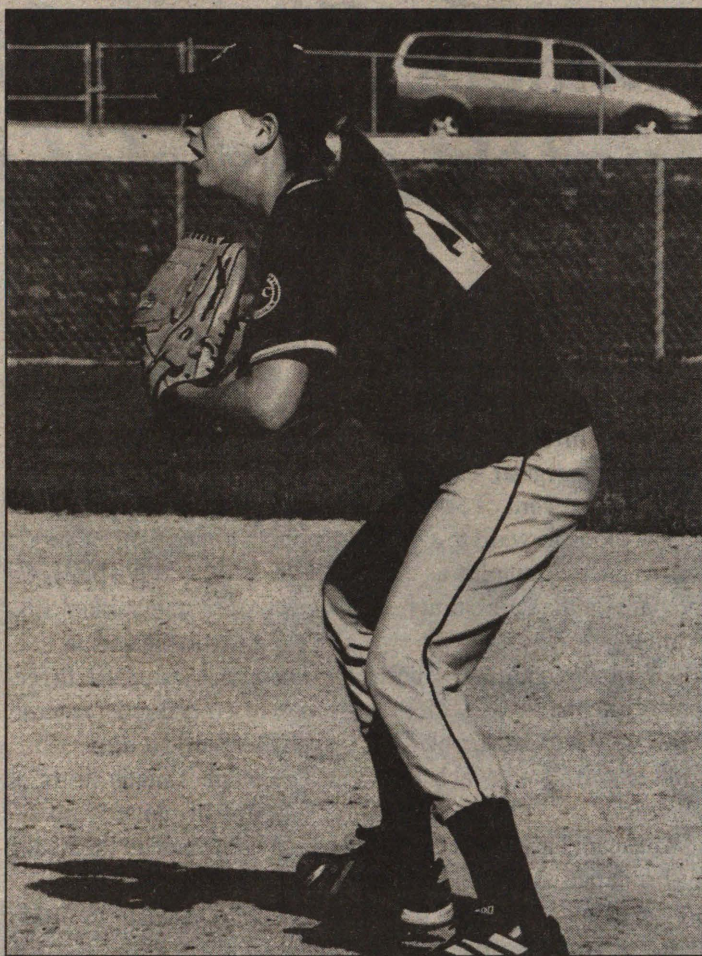


Photo courtesy of James Schaudt

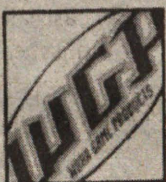
With the loss of seniors, junior Megan Stuhr will be one of the many juniors to step up during next year's season.

players. I wish them well."

With the season coming to a close, Schaudt looks back on the year with no regrets.

"I love coaching my girls. I look forward to seeing them each day," he said. "It will be sad when it ends."

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Wildcats lose 3-2 to top ranked Falcons in double overtime

By Brittany Blanchard

The girls soccer team almost created an upset as they forced nationally ranked Wheaton North into double overtime during their final regional game on Saturday.

Ultimately, however, the team was defeated during the second overtime when the Falcons scored, ending the game 3-2.

Captain Sara Kufra said the loss was difficult.

"It was a bummer because we played an awesome game but we really gave Wheaton North a run for their money," Kufra said.

However, according to Kufra the team was grateful to be able to play the second regional game after earning their spot by defeating Glenbard North in their first regional game on May 17.

During their previous two meetings, the Lady Wildcats were unable to defeat the Panthers but in the third attempt during their first post-season game they defeated their DVC opponents 1-0.

Kufra said the win was well deserved.

"We've worked so hard all season and we're really disappointed with our last two losses against the Panthers," Kufra said. "We played really well at the first regional and it felt great to defy everyone's expect-

tations that were based on our past games against the team and come out with a win."

However, the team achieved their highest scoring game of the season, 5-0, against West Aurora on the team's senior night.

Kufra said it was an excellent way to end the season.

"It was such an awesome way to end our last game at our home stadium," Kufra said. "We played really well and ended our home soccer experience on a really high note."

In their last game of the DVC against the Blackhawks, the Lady Wildcats knew they had to come out with a win to tie for fifth place in the conference.

Captain Jessica Crawford noted the strong contributions from all 20 of the team's players.

"Everyone played this game with a lot of heart and even though it's sad to be leaving, we know the program will continue to be strong in the future with a lot of young talent remaining on the team," Crawford said.

Sophomore Kayla Radloff is a great young talent and has the ability to lead the team to numerous victories in seasons to come, Crawford said. She also mentioned juniors Jamie Volez and Nancy Martinez and sophomore Jessica Jones as particularly vital to next season.

Baseball team looks to catch consistent efforts

By Nick Gorski

The varsity baseball team has overcome some rough stretches to finish up a respectable season on the diamond.

Going into its final two games of the regular season, the team has a record of 14-15.

They look forward to a deep run in postseason play as they prepare for the state's toughest teams.

"Up to this point we've been pretty inconsistent, which is how we've ended up with a .500 record," said coach John Walters.

The team has shown flashes of brilliance in certain facets of the game, but has been unable to piece together a long stretch of outstanding play.

"It seemed like when we hit well, we didn't pitch well or play good defense. It was hard for us to put it all together,"

said Walters.

Senior Nick Nolte agrees. "There was no consistency. It seemed like we could go out and win by 10, then get beat the next day," he said.

According to Walters, the long regular season produced two high points for the team.

One of these was a blowout victory over state ranked Elk Grove early in the season.

They also won all three games of a tripleheader against rival Glenbard North.

The team is made up of a solid core of players, all of whom contribute to their success.

"Overall, you can go back and look at a number of guys who were team leaders," said Walters. "There was always a lot of guys pitching in."

Statistically, senior Roel Martinez led the team in most

offensive categories during conference play, including RBIs, runs, and doubles. His .356 batting average also leads the team.

Sophomore Barrett Serrato leads in overall hits with 23.

Dan Francik is the team's top pitcher in most categories. He has a 2.25 earned run average in conference.

"We definitely had leaders, but they weren't always there," said Nolte, speaking again to their lack of consistency. "So we all came together as a team and picked each other up when we needed to."

The team carries 11 underclassmen on a 20-player roster, so they foresee continued success in the next few years.

"We certainly have the ability to succeed," Walters said of the team's future.

As the postseason begins, the



Photo by Kait Taylor

Junior Jimmy Mazzone was the starting pitcher in a home game against Naperville Central May 19.

team hopes to succeed in each part of the game, and play up to its considerable potential.

"When we win, we play the

game well in every facet," said Walters. "We need to respect the game and play the game right."

Smashing success at badminton challenge

Lesniak goes to state and places fourth in singles

By Ellyn Fortino

The badminton team showcased their skills during the end of the season badminton challenge on May 18.

Team captain and senior Jenny Linsenmeyer said that the challenge has been a tradition for a few years and is a fun

way to end the season.

"The challenge is a great way to raise money for new T-shirts, equipment, and team dinners, it clears up any misconceptions that badminton is easy," she said. "It shows people that it really is a tough sport."

The challenge consisted of mini matches between team players and students and faculty. Students and faculty paid \$3 to play the match and if they won they kept the money, if

they lost the team kept the money.

Freshman Miriam Fernandez said she came out to the challenge to support the cause and have a good time.

"This is for a good cause because badminton sometimes goes unnoticed and I'm more than happy to help out."

Team player and senior Naiya Panchal, is happy with the turnout of the challenge.

"It was a lot of fun and there were a lot of people who showed up. I was able to make \$15," she said.

The season overall has had its ups and downs, according to Linsenmeyer and the team

has had many tough matches. Their record for the season was not available for press. However, the team did very well at sectionals placing in the top eight and qualifying senior Kelsey Lesniak for state where she placed in the top four.

Although tryouts are not required, team members must have the same level of commitment as other sports.

"I'm very happy with the turnout this season," said badminton coach Jessica Inch. "West Chicago does not currently have tryouts for badminton. Anyone who wants to join can join. I am extremely pleased with the girls who

joined the team this year because we have had a bunch of girls with really great attitudes and who are willing to work."

Inch said the team's main weakness was time.

"There just isn't enough of it to give the girls a chance to really grow and develop, but we did our best," she said.

Inch said the freshmen were really strong athletes and competitors this year.

"They have been competing really well and have been a great deal of help to the JV team," she said.

Inch hopes the team next year will improve the consistency of their skills.

Andie's Angle

MLB remains undecided, while Congress stirs

By Andrea Bradley

The 2006 drug policy might be out the window for MLB players and owners, if they do not agree to the new labor contract by Aug. 1.

If the players terminate the new policy and decide to play the 2007 season without a labor contract, the 2005 drug rules will be in effect.

The new, tougher rules against drug use in the MLB will no longer be followed, which is causing concern among congressmen.

Congressmen want to make sure that the 2007 season will be safe and fair for the players, which it should.

If players disagree with the

labor contract, steroid use will result in penalties, but those penalties will be nowhere near as severe as they



are this season.

This means that Barry Bonds may bring his average up from this season's .245 to his .299 career average if he chooses to go back to his alleged drug use.

It's not fair to the legendary

Babe Ruth, who is now tied with someone who is viewed by many baseball fans as a cheater.

Bonds tied Ruth this season without steroids, but what about all of those long balls hit while possibly on the performance enhancers? Ruth has lost his title to a cheater.

Although the 2006 rules are much stricter than the rules that were in place earlier, the rules were fair for those baseball players who chose to play the right way.

Now, without this new labor contract in place, the MLB is compromising foul play. Hopefully Congress will keep up their fight against the weakening of these rules.

MLB players should not exercise their rights to go back to the 2005 rules, but if they do, Congress will be quick to follow them.

Sen. Jim Bunning has sponsored a bill for stricter steroid use, which can be brought back to legislation at any time.

This threat to put steroid testing into law has worked before, as the players agreed earlier this season to the 2006 set of rules.

Bunning is in the right mind to fight against steroid use. Baseball has come too far to fall back on cheaters and complainers.

Think back to when Mark McGwire was accused of steroid use. He nabbed the home

run record from Sammy Sosa, and all of Chicago was complaining. Baseball cannot go back to those days.

The MLB teams need to win on their own, or lose on their own, without excuses.

Steroid users need to understand that they create a lost respect for their teams. Who could be proud of the White Sox if five players were caught using steroids?

Players and owners need to come to an agreement, so the 2007 season can be played with respect for the game, and for other players. We do not need any more Barry Bonds.

We need players who can accept great awards with honor.

Wildcat Chronicle Special Edition

Volume 1

West Chicago Community High School

May 25, 2006

Congratulations Seniors!

High school: You loved it. You hated it. You'll always remember it.

Inside:

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Family messages: page 3-5

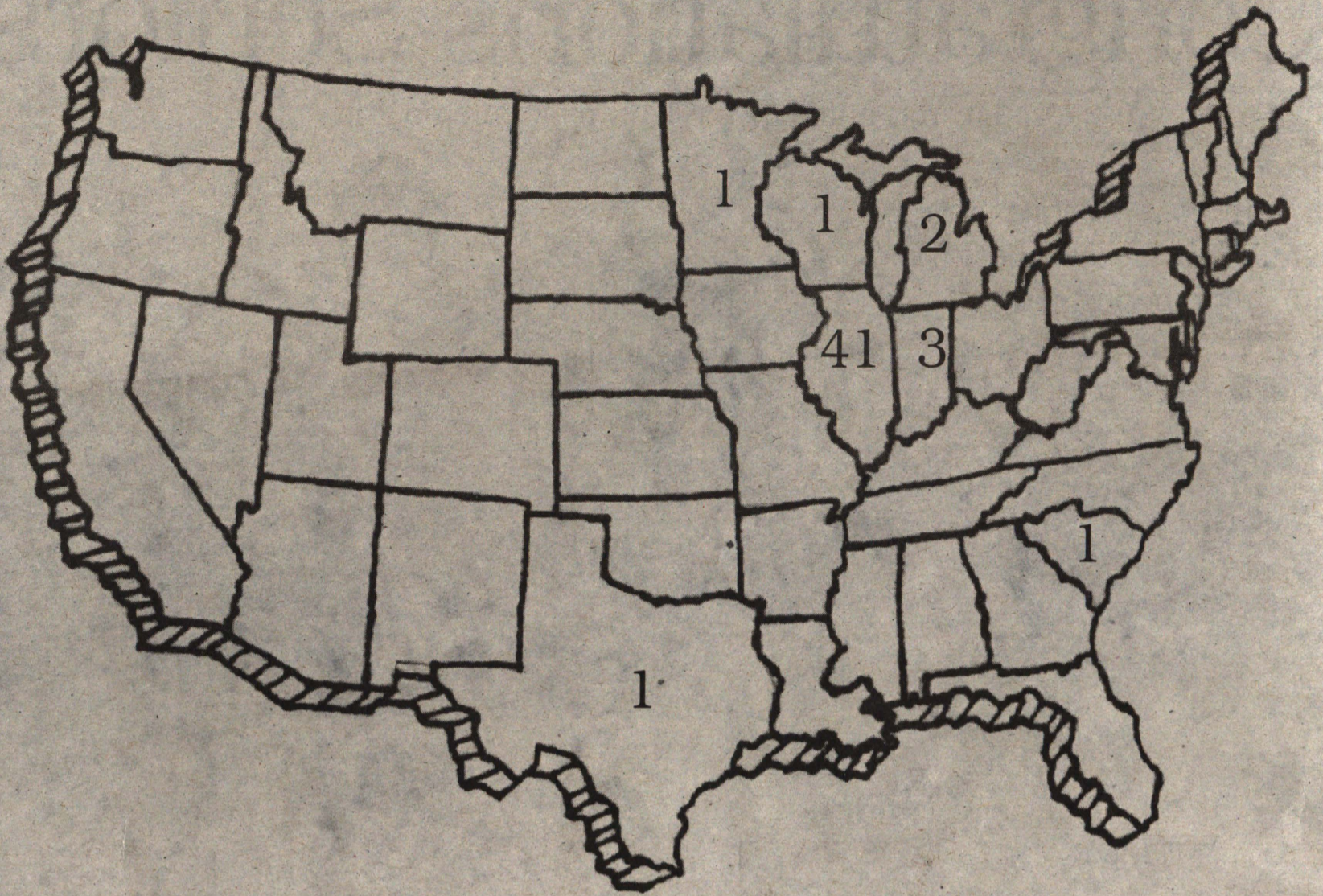
Senior memories: page 6

Student inspirations: page 7

Final farewell: page 8



We-go Across America



Illinois



Bradley University
Whitney Link, Undecided
Marisa Nichols, Math

College of DuPage
Ryan Foytik, Fire Science/Paramedic
Matt Hodge, Business
Brandi Arwood, Advertising
Katie Birkey, Undecided
Katherine Roberts, Communications or Culinary Arts

Columbia College Chicago
Terri Molo, Journalism
Michelle delValle, Instrumental Music Performance

Illinois State University
Lora Vodicka, English/Theatre (Secondary Education)
Lauren Buscemi, Early Childhood Education
Brittney Peters, Communications and Education (double major)
Vicky Mounghounsavath, Physical Therapy

Julie Youngwith, Special Education
Kelly Jezior, Education
Lindsey Wheeland, Elementary Education

Knox College
Dan Dydra, Education

Loyola University
Kayla Harris, Social Work/Women's Studies
Nick Gorski, Fine Arts

Millikin University
Amy Ackerman, Elementary Education

Northern Illinois University
Taylor Alperin, Elementary Education
Andrea Bradley, Communications
Laura Steere, Engineering
Eric Wiechert, Business
Angelina Panozzo, Music Education

Southern Illinois University
Sara Kufta, Animal Sciences, Criminal Justice

University of Chicago
Dustin Hedmark, Physics/Math

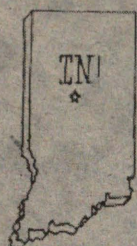
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Jennifer Wojcicki, Meteorology

Jenny Linsenmeyer, Special Education and Speech Communication
Danielle Romano, Biology
Carolyn Blackman, Undecided
Brittany Blanchard, Spanish Education
Dennis Rocha, Chemistry
Kevin Grobe, Undecided
Jackie Boyd, Food Science
Bee Vollmuth, Speech Communications

University of Illinois Chicago
Dianna Photopulos, Psychology
Jennifer Kamphaus, Pharmacy

Western Illinois University
Sam Lawson, Elementary Education
Tracy Opel, Elementary Education

Indiana



Ball State University
Eric Lindner, Architecture

Indiana University
Amy Axelrod, Finance

Purdue University
Charlie Blanchard, Pharmacy

Michigan



Calvin College
Daniel Visser, Political Science
George Visser, English History

Minnesota



University of Minnesota
Carol Fortman, Environmental Science

South Carolina



Clemson University
Jessica Crawford, International Business

Texas



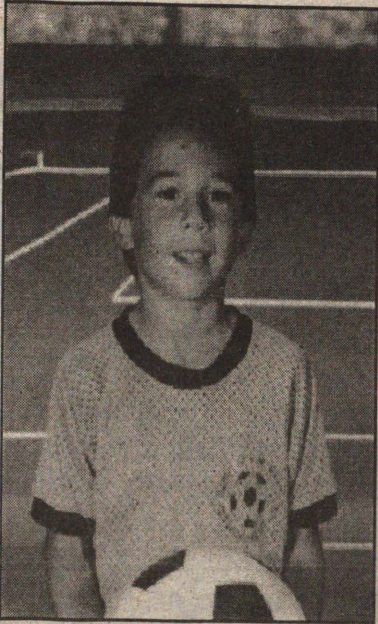
Letourneau University
Andy Lane, Mechanical Engineering

Wisconsin



University of Wisconsin
K.C. Gronke, Education

Family and Friends Send Love to Graduates



Jen,
Good luck at U of I. Be
good and stay out of
trouble.
Love ya,
Erin



Dear Vic,
Congratulations on your
graduation! We are so proud of
you. The future is bright.
We love you!
Dad, Mom, Jesse, Curtis
P.S. It's time for a new haircut!

Jenny,
We're very proud of you and we love you.
Dad, Christine, and Jacob

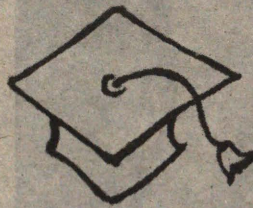


Jazmine,
As you begin your new journey in life, remember to enjoy
all of life's stepping stones... even if you trip over them.
We know that your exceptional values and great person-
ality will help you reach your highest goals and we will
always be right behind you cheering you on!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Vivi and Sergio



Dear Jenny,
I wish you the best of luck at U of I. I'll be thinking about you. I love
you very much.
Go Illini,
Your brother Jeff

Dear Kellie,
You are an amazing person. Since you were quite young we knew just
how amazing you were. We are so proud of you and all of your accomplish-
ments. We know you will succeed in all your future endeavors, because
you have what it takes to do so. We could not have asked for a better
daughter or for our daughter to be such a good person. You are definitely
the top of the line! We will miss you when you are away at the University
of IL, but you know this must be the next step in your life to fulfill your
future plans. We love you so much.
Congratulations!
Love,
Mom and Dad



Oh-Tay!
From ABC's...
To earning degrees...
May you enjoy every step of the way.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Family and Friends S



Jenny,
Good luck at college.
I'll miss you.
Love,
Melanie

Dearest Brittany,
Always chase your dreams and follow your heart. You are a very special person with many talents. Let your talents and dreams lead you on the path you want to pursue. Know that you will always hold a special place in our hearts, no matter where you are or what you do. As you enter into your next journey, stop along the way to enjoy each moment. Your inner self is just as beautiful as your outer self. Always remember that!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Katie,
It just seems like yesterday we were playing Barbies and flying in a box! HA! Good luck in college. Congratulations!
Love you,
Kim



Hi Jen,
Congratulations on all your successes in high school. I'm so proud of you. I love you sweetie,
Mom

Dear Katie,
We want to wish you all the love and happiness as you start a new chapter in your life. Congratulations and luck at college.
We love you Baby-Boo!
Mom and Dad

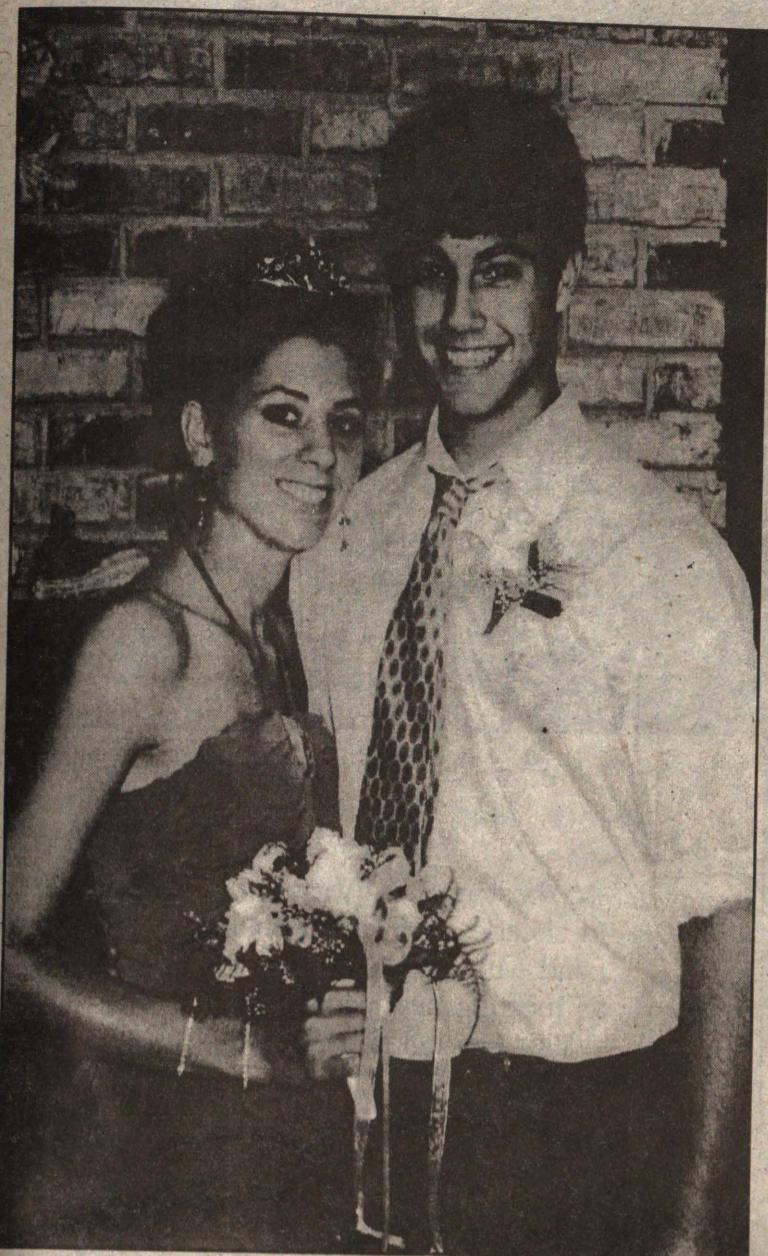


Go get 'em Lauren! Don't let anything get in your way!
Love you,
Mom and Dad



To Our Kayla,
We can't believe graduation is here! Watch out world - Here she comes! You will be awesome at whatever you choose to do! Just remember we love you no matter what! And of course - Reese's Pieces!
Love,
Your MooMa and Tim-O

Send Love to Graduates



Congratulations Lauren B.!! Good luck in college!
Love,
Mr. and Mrs. J. and Amanda

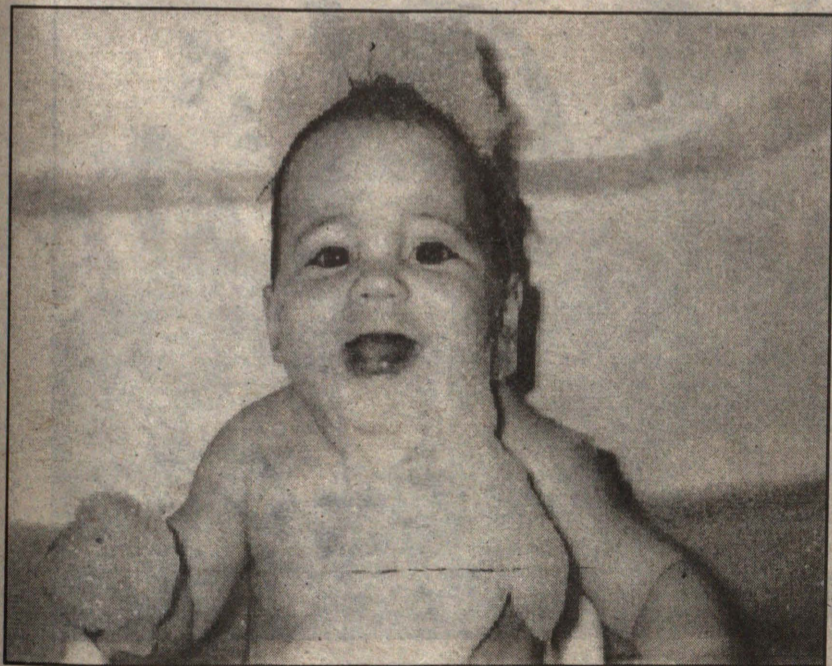


Congratulations, Kelly!!
We are so proud of you and all that you have achieved in high school. Have a great time at the University of Northern Iowa. It's great to be a UNI Panther!!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Brian and Doug

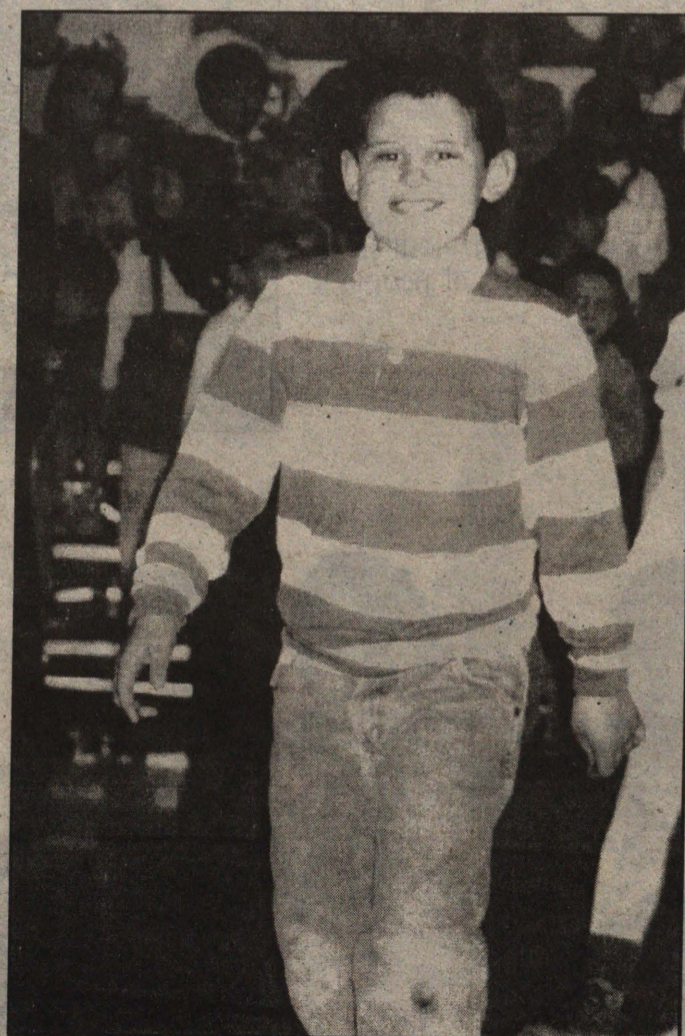
Hey Sweetheart!
Congrats on graduating! I knew you could.
Love you lots,
Matt



Congratulations, Shannon!



Nick Gorski,
Good luck at Loyola! Let's get some Chipotle and celebrate!
Love you,
Kait



Nick,
Walk confidently through life.
Love,
Mom

Nick Nolte,
Congratulations on your graduation. You have made us proud with all that you have done.
Good luck at NIU.
We love you,
Dad, Mom and Sam

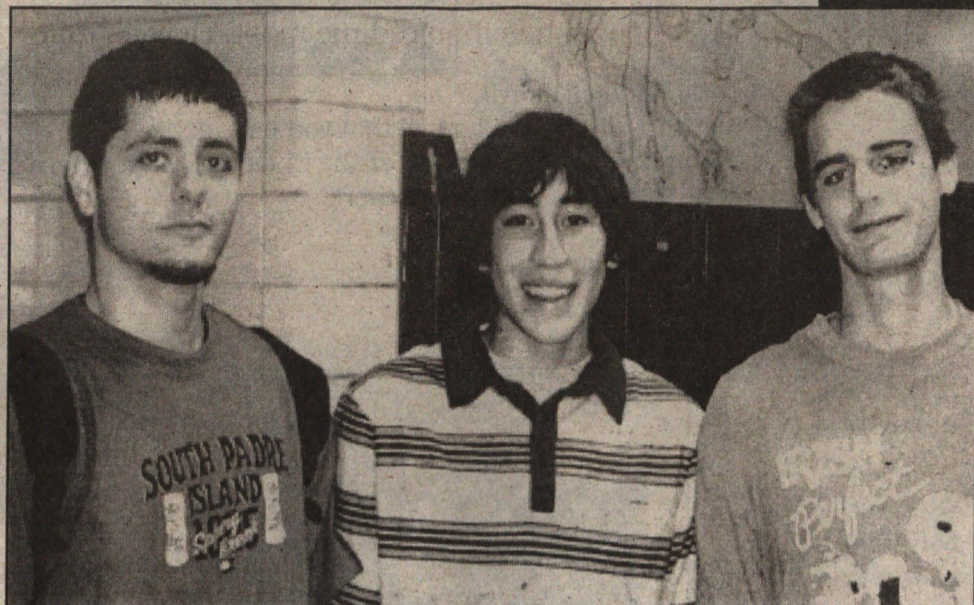
Senior Memories

"I loved going to all the football games, and especially the last one was a real tear jerker!"

-Sara Kufta

"Miss Malinsky picking up Joe Malandrucolo and carrying him into the hall."

-Carol Fortman



"My best memory was being involved in cheerleading which enabled me to bond with my closest friends as well as meeting new people."

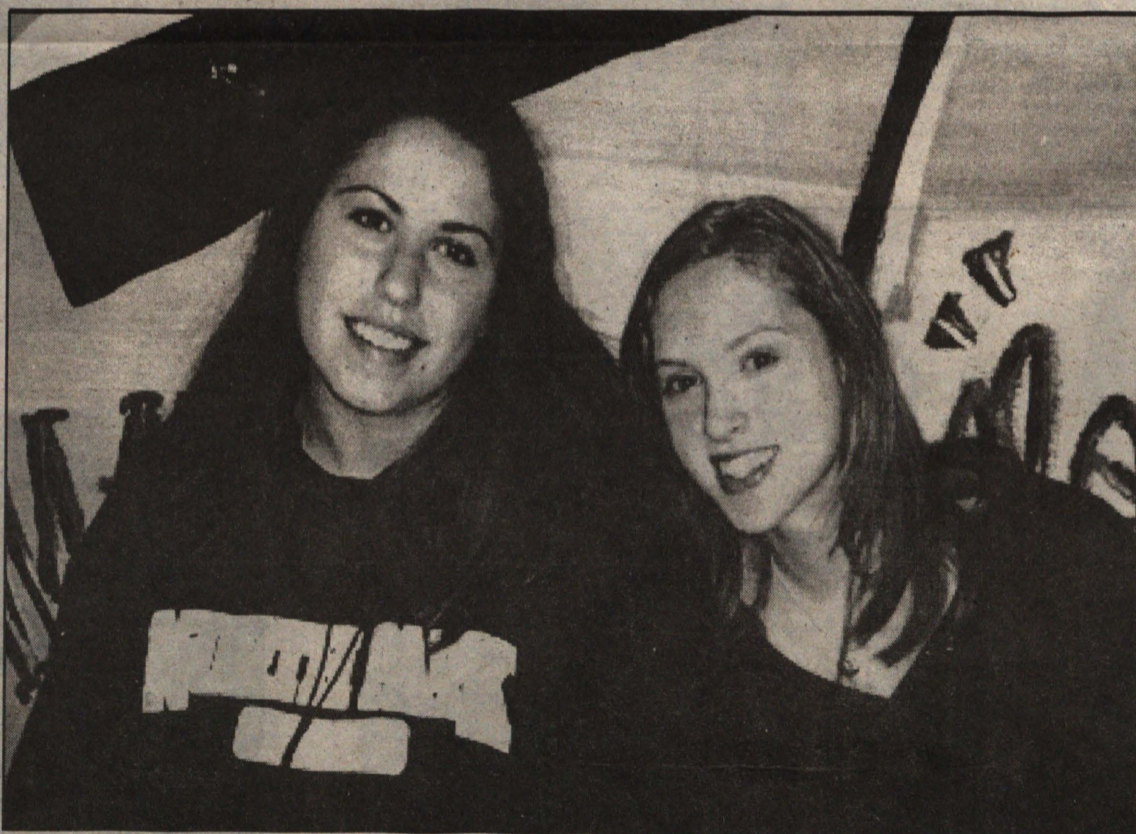
-Vicky Mounghounsavath

"Performing pantless in Brigadoon."

-Daniel Visser

"My brother throwing me into a garbage can my freshman year."

-Dianna Photopulos



"Playing dodgeball and volleyball in gym class and hitting tons of people in the face!"

-Jackie Boyd

"Winning against West Aurora twice and storming the floor. It was so exciting."

-Brittney Peters



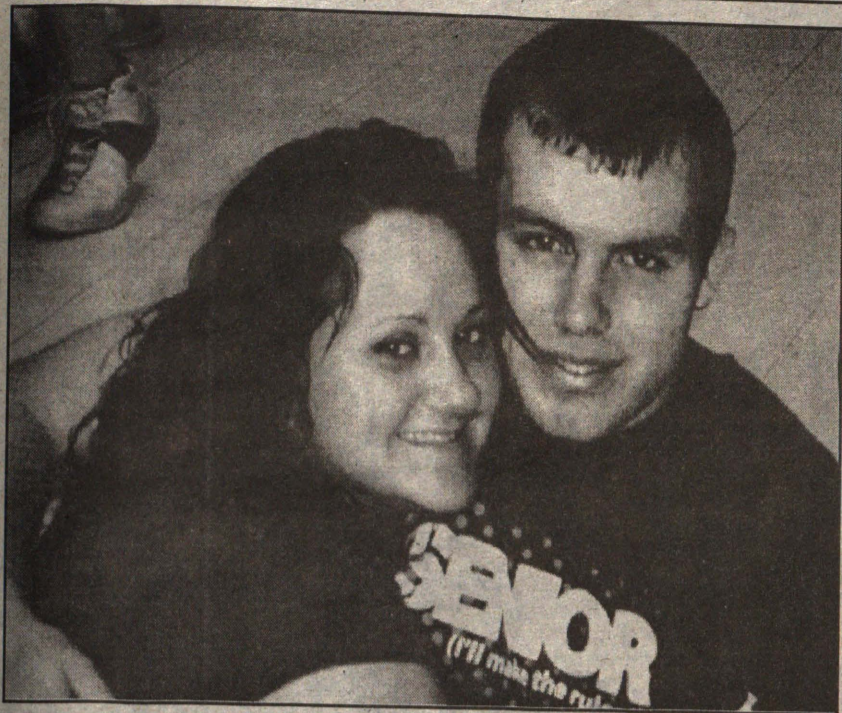
"The spring musicals and the half-time shows!"

-Lora Vodicka

"Friday night football games, cheering my heart out for our football boys under the lights."

-Breezy Blanchard

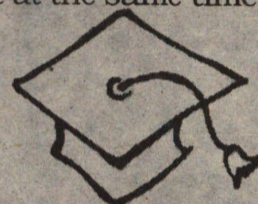
Who Inspires You?



“Ms. Jones gave me a really good foundation for writing and she really relates to her students.”- Jessica Crawford

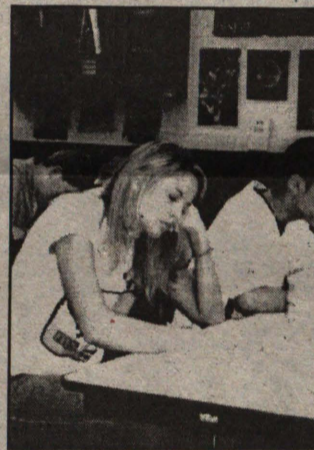
“Coach Chambers. When my dad died back in August, I talked to him often about it and I believe he helped me get over it. It inspired me how much he cared.”- Charlie Blanchard

“Mr. Fantozzi has inspired me most. He was just someone easy to talk to and he taught me to work hard at school but to enjoy it at the same time.”- Jennifer Wojcicki



“Mr. Govertsen helped me out in rough times and was always there to give me a positive word. I've known him for almost two years and he has affected my life for the countless years to come.”-Michelle delValle

“Mrs. Willuweit. She's just amazing and she knows how to get the job done.”- Sarah Gibbons



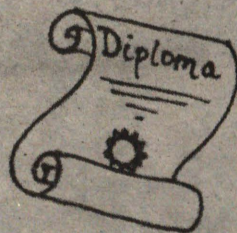
“Mr. Kling because he refined my English skills.”- Dave Lam

“Mr. Lukas made learning fun. I took a lot out of his class and still know what he taught me.”-Eric Wiechert

“There has been a lot of teachers that have been very inspiring throughout my years at We-go but the one that touched me on a more personal level would be **Ms. Wilson.** Her words of wisdom have never led me in the wrong direction.”- Sam Lawson

“Mr. Bardey and **Mr. Exner** equally because they consistantly push for positive outcomes from their students.”- Andres Acosta

“Mr. Kellner always provided the perfect classroom environment by combining high expectations with a good sense of humor. He's absolutely hilarious.”-Breezy Blanchard

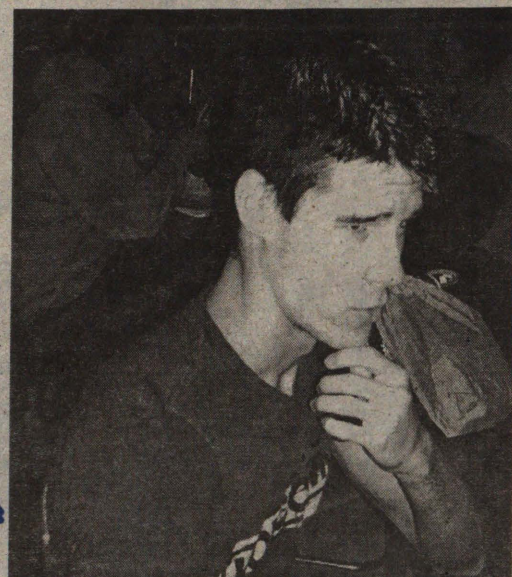


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Photographs and Information compiled by:	Brittany Blanchard, Nick Gorski, Kym McDaniel
Artists:	Nick Gorski, Cristina Sarnelli

Wildcat Chronicle Special Edition



Good luck



Class of



2006!

