

# Wildcat Chronicle



Community High School

326 Joliet St. West Chicago, IL 60185

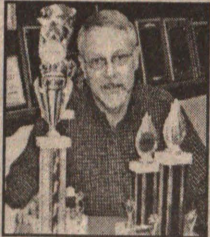
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## Inside

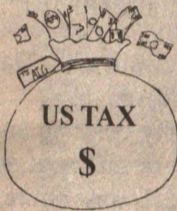
### News

Business teacher Donald Zabelin hits a milestone in his life. Read about his accomplishments on page 2.



### Perspectives

With the U.S. economy plummeting, politicians need to focus on helping those who need it. Read about it on page 6.

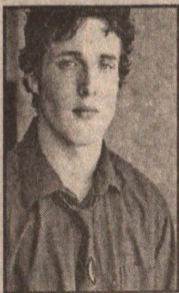


### Center Spread

The Democrats and Republicans will go head to head on Nov. 4. See how each candidate compares on pages 8-9.



### Features



Meet the models that walk the halls of CHS on page 11.

### Entertainment

Looking for a scare on Halloween? Read our suggestions of haunted houses you can go to on page 13.



### Sports

Record breaking swimmers are making their way to state. Read about their accomplishments on page 15.



# Obama wins!

*Illinois senator wins by a landslide in mock election, leaving Arizona senator in dust*



Senior Chrissie Rovtar casts her vote in the 2008 mock election.

Photo by Jacob Wucka

**By Alexis Hosticka**

If students had their say in the upcoming election, Barack Obama would assuredly win.

In the Oct. 7 mock election, Obama won with 72 percent of the vote over John McCain, who took only 22 percent.

U.S. Sen. Richard Durbin (D) defeated Steve Sauerberg (R), and Bill Foster (D) beat Jim Oberweis (R), granting the Democratic party an overall win.

Students can view results from other Illinois schools at [www.illinoisstudentvote.org](http://www.illinoisstudentvote.org). Any school in Illinois from grades K-12 can participate in a mock election.

Although only 594 students voted, about 30 percent, the mock election brought a realistic experience to school. Real voting booths and the vote-counting machine were supplied in a joint effort between the DuPage Election Commission and the League of Women Voters.

"I think it went really well. A lot of students were excited,

there was a lot of enthusiasm," said humanities department head Lisa Willuweit.

Although Willuweit did behind-the-scenes work, students from the community leadership class were election judges. Their jobs were to answer questions and distribute ballots to the student voters.

"It's a cool opportunity to see something in real life brought to our school," said senior and election judge Ethan Dean.

By registering to vote, showing identification, and using real voting booths, the voting

process was as realistic as possible.

Students had the opportunity to learn about candidates and the voting process in advisory, which was an objective of Willuweit's.

"Our goal was to educate students about the election and to give students an opportunity to talk about this coming election," said Willuweit. "We mimicked it [the election] as best we could and hopefully it will inspire students to vote once they turn 18."

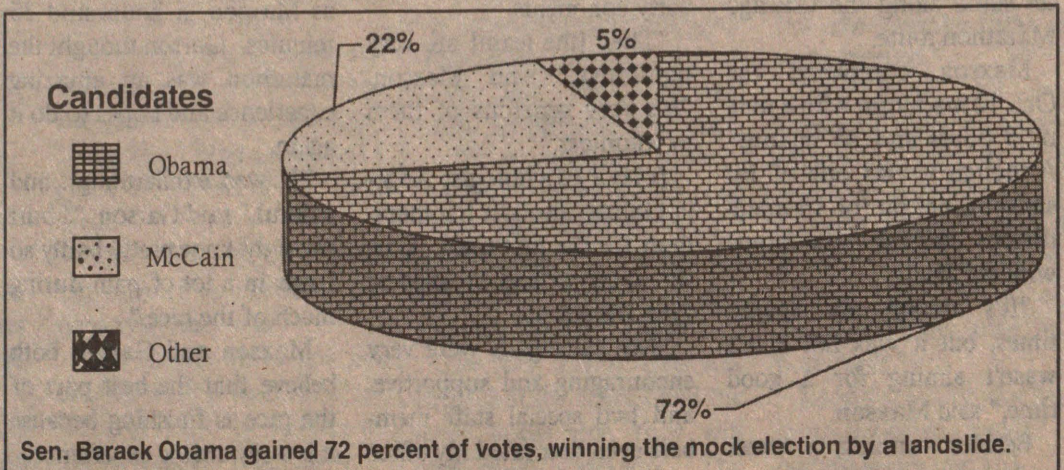
Based on how the election went this year, Willuweit

would love to do it again for the next presidential election in four years.

Senior and election judge Katie Bell was enthusiastic about participating in the election because it prepared her for the voting process.

"It's just really exciting to be participating in something like this," said Bell. "I think it was a really good experience for everyone to participate in an activity they wouldn't have a chance to otherwise."

As Nov. 4 nears, will the mock election results mirror reality?



# Long commitment pays off

## *Business teacher wins award for economics*

By Alex Lima

Rapping, winning first place in the Cabrera Stock Market Game, and finishing second place in LifeSmarts nationals has paid off for business teacher Donald Zabelin.

Zabelin received the 3M Economic Education Excellence Award for 2008 for his contribution and commitment to economic education.

"I really did not know too much about this award. When I received this nomination I was very surprised and overwhelmed," said Zabelin. "I was very appreciative that people who I worked with wanted to recognize me for the work I have been doing."

Zabelin was involved in

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), where he recruited top students from business classes.

Now, he organizes and coaches the LifeSmarts team, which consistently goes to nationals and finished second place last year.

"LifeSmarts is a great program because it gets students interested and excited about consumer education," said Zabelin.

Besides these activities, Zabelin created an investments course in 2001, as well as writing two textbooks.

In 2000, he wrote, "Consumer Education in Illinois Schools," at the request of the Illinois State Board of Education.

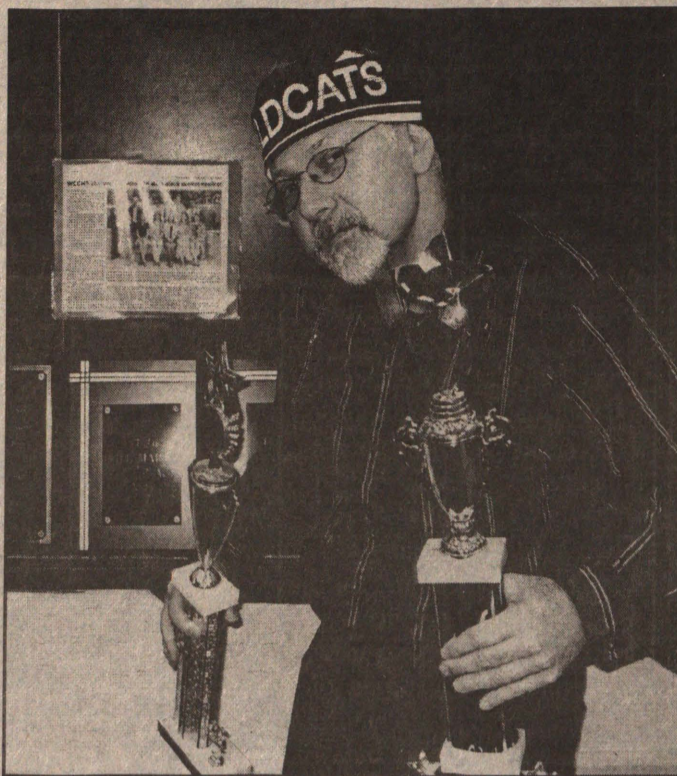


Photo by Alex Lima

While incorporating rapping into his lessons, business teacher Donald Zabelin is rewarded for his commitment.

He also wrote an investment textbook "Money Working for You" in 2002.

The book received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Association

of Educational Publishers.

The stock market game is an important part of Zabelin's consumer education and investments classes, which gives students a feel of how the stock market works, showing them how to handle risk and manage a portfolio.

Over the summer, Zabelin's winning students in the stock market game traveled to New York to visit the New York Stock Exchange as their prize.

"I still enjoy helping students make good financial decisions," said Zabelin, who is known for incorporating rap songs into his lessons in order to enhance the learning material.

Zabelin was honored Tuesday at the annual Economic Education Awareness Day Awards luncheon.

"I still enjoy teaching and I'm just as excited about every day like I was before," Zabelin said.



Photo courtesy of Bob Maxson

Members of the girls cross country team gathered on Oct. 12 to support their coach, social worker Bob Maxson, as he completed 26 miles for the Chicago Marathon.

## See staffers run

By Alexis Hosticka

The girls cross country team helped support its coach and school social worker Bob Maxson by running a water stand along the Chicago Marathon route.

Maxson completed the Oct. 12 marathon with a time of 5 hours and 35 minutes. Although it was one of his slower times out of 16 marathons, Maxson was happy with the result.

"It's among my slowest times, but it was hot and I wasn't aiming for a good time," said Maxson.

Besides running a water

stop, the team also wore decorated shirts supporting their coach. The fronts spelled out "SEE BOB RUN" and the backs each had their own witty comments.

"They [the team] are very supportive," said Maxson. "It's very generous of them to volunteer."

School psychologist Angela Garson also ran the marathon for the first time. Garson received lots of support from the school.

"My colleagues were very encouraging and supportive, and two special staff members even decorated my office

door and gave me pasta to carb up the night before the race," said Garson.

She finished with the marathon with the same time as Maxson, 5 hours and 35 minutes. Garson thought the marathon was an amazing experience and hopes to do it again.

"It was exhilarating...and painful," said Garson. "I hurt my right knee pretty badly so I was in a lot of pain during much of the race."

Maxson and Garson both believe that the best part of the race is finishing because it is a rewarding experience.

## *Author's success inspires students*

By Megan Hernbroth

Graphic novelist Holly Black is just one of many authors the LRC plans to host student meet-and-greets with.

Black talked about her latest graphic novel "The Good Neighbors" as part of a series on Oct. 3.

Black is the best-selling author of the popular series "The Spiderwick Chronicles." She has 16 books, 10 short stories, and two poems.

"She was very interactive with the students," said librarian Donna Leahy. "They created a small story together based off of a folktale and I think the kids really liked it."

Black took the folktale "Rumpelstiltskin" and modernized it with the students.

About 25 students attended the author meeting, and most were not let down with their expectations.

"It was really awesome and so much fun," said sophomore Alicia Murphy. "I'd never read any of her books before the meeting but she was cool so now I want to read them."

Black's latest novel "The Good Neighbors" was her first graphic novel, depicting

fairies as magical creatures that live among the current urban setting.

"They aren't cute Tinkerbell-type fairies," said LRC clerk Mary McGinty. "They have interesting powers and interact with all types of people in modern times, so students can relate to the books pretty well."

Black is an out-of-the-ordinary author with pink-colored hair. She was first published in 2002 with her book "Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale." She grew up in New Jersey and now lives in Massachusetts.

"She's kind of a new author on the scene," said Leahy. "She's so interactive and creative it draws people in."

With the success of this first visit under his belt, LRC director Eric Bodwell intends to try to convince other authors to visit.

"I'm going to get e-mails when other authors are in the area," said Bodwell. "If it's someone I've noticed the students are interested in, we'll try to get them to come and talk to the students."

A copy of "The Good Neighbors" and other books by Black are available to checkout in the LRC.



Senior Dave Hiltner and senior Sarah Brown rehearse their one-act play "The Mystery at Twicknam Vicarage," which is a murder mystery.

Photo by Alex Lima

## Diverse cast entertains

By Megan Hernbroth

Looking for a larger and more diverse cast, the drama department is turning to a group of one-act plays for entertainment.

"Sometimes it's hard to find plays with big casts and we wanted to get everyone involved," said director Mary Hafertepe. "This way we can combine beginners with the more experienced actors."

The selection of one-act plays is entitled "All in the Timing," by David Ives. Plays range from monkeys typing a new version of "Hamlet" to a tongue-twister in a bakery.

"Many scene changes are sure to keep the audience entertained," said Hafertepe. "I find a lot of these short plays to be really funny but sophisticated at the same time."

This is the first time per-

forming a series of one-act plays in about seven years.

With so many individual plays, the cast is slightly isolated from other cast members who are in different acts. The focus is more on the small groups they perform in.

"With this type of performance, the actors have to rely on performing and working together outside of rehearsals," said Hafertepe. "But they are just as motivated to do well in these small groups."

Senior Phil Lenertz is returning to the stage after his appearance in last year's musical "Grease," and finds the diversity of the cast to be helpful for those less experienced.

"It's a good mix of seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen, so we can help

show them what to do and work on anything they're having trouble with," said Lenertz.

Hafertepe hopes to see students at the performance.

"Usually with a cast as large as ours this year, you get a large audience," said Hafertepe.

Most of the actors aim to make these plays their own and rehearse on their own as much as possible.

"It's almost like our play when we're finished with it," said Lenertz. "It's so much fun to show something that's yours to everyone when you've worked so hard on it."

"All in the Timing" will be performed Nov. 13-15 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets cost \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

## Student of the Month balances work and play

*Student of the Month is based on a solid academic history, commitment in extracurricular activities, and community involvement. Students must be nominated by at least one staff member and the final decision is made by the student activities director and a committee made up of additional staff members.*

By Jessica Bergmann

As an active participant in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), National Honor Society, German Honor Society, and girls tennis, senior Rebecca Cisowski was chosen as September's Student of the Month.

"These activities have taught me how to be a better leader and how to communicate with other people," Cisowski said.

While maintaining a 3.96 GPA, Cisowski pushes herself to work hard in school while still having fun.

"Just taking a break on the

weekend to hang with my friends is the best. Friends are what make your high school years fun," said Cisowski.

However high school isn't all fun and games.

"Every day has its highs and lows. You just have to take what it gives you in strides," Cisowski said.

Cisowski encourages underclassmen to keep to their books and study.

"If there is one thing I learned, it is not to slack off, even during senior year," Cisowski said. But Cisowski tries not to make high school too hard.

"It is meant to be fun, so take time to get to know a lot of people. It goes by faster than you think, so just enjoy the time you have," Cisowski said.

After graduation, Cisowski plans to continue her education by majoring in marketing or athletic training.

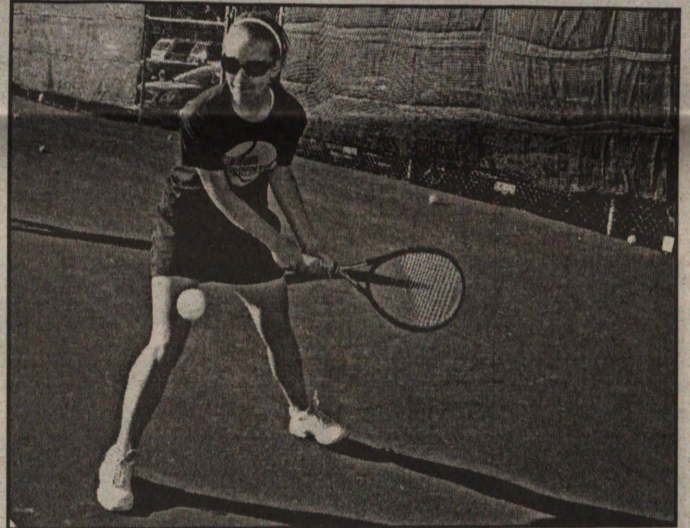


Photo by Amanda Rathe

Student of the Month Rebecca Cisowski balances tennis, homework and friends, all while enjoying her senior year.

## Talent sure to entertain

### Cowboys and Indians ride to FBLA's Variety Show

By Alexis Hosticka

From break dancing to band performances, the themed cowboys and Indians Variety Show is sure to be a hit.

"I think [this year] we have the most talent that we've ever had," said Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) adviser and Variety Show coordinator Maria Wirth. "Because it's a Variety Show, we try not to use the word 'talent' but this year we have a lot of talented people.

FBLA is in charge of the

Variety Show. They hold the auditions, pick the acts, meet with tech crew, and create the programs and tickets.

Some of the acts who made it are an Irish dancing duet, steppers style dancing, bands, singing duets and solos, and piano players.

Seniors Jozef Pavnic and Jason Foreman are performing songs by Tenacious D and Flight of the Conchords. Pavnic believes people will enjoy their act.

"I hope people will think it's funny but awesome at the

same time," said Pavnic. "I think I've got some talent that people [will] like to listen."

Students of all grade levels are in the upcoming show. Sophomore Joe Wais will play piano and sing an Elton John song, and senior Rachel Bass and freshman Jessi Bass will perform a steppers dance.

All profits from the show go to the non-profit organization March of Dimes.

"Because the national FBLA organization is a huge supporter of March of Dimes, we chose them," said Wirth.

Two shows will be held in the auditorium Nov. 20. The 4 p.m. show costs \$2 and the 7 p.m. is \$3.

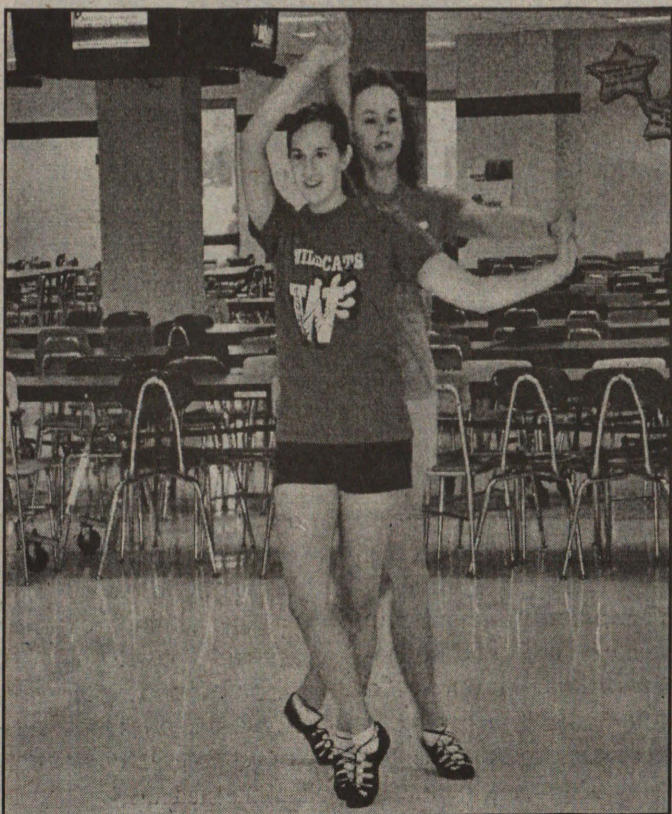


Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Variety Show tryouts brought out many acts, including senior Sara Smolucha (front) and junior Kelsey King, who are performing an Irish dance.

## Club Beats

### Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is a new club this year that is trying to raise money to help support the building of 10 houses in West Chicago over the next three years.

Adviser Blair Brown said that the club's goal is to raise \$5,000 to donate to one of the houses as a part of the West Chicago project.

Also, the club plans to team up with other high schools to build a house for teenagers in the local area.

Along with building the houses, the club plans to advise teenagers on housing issues and advocate for housing legislation.

The club will meet twice a month to discuss activities and fundraising, such as ideas for T-shirts.

"I think we'll be able to raise enough money to put to our community," said senior and president Danny Calabrese.

Students who wish to get involved should see Brown in room 310 or speak to Calabrese.

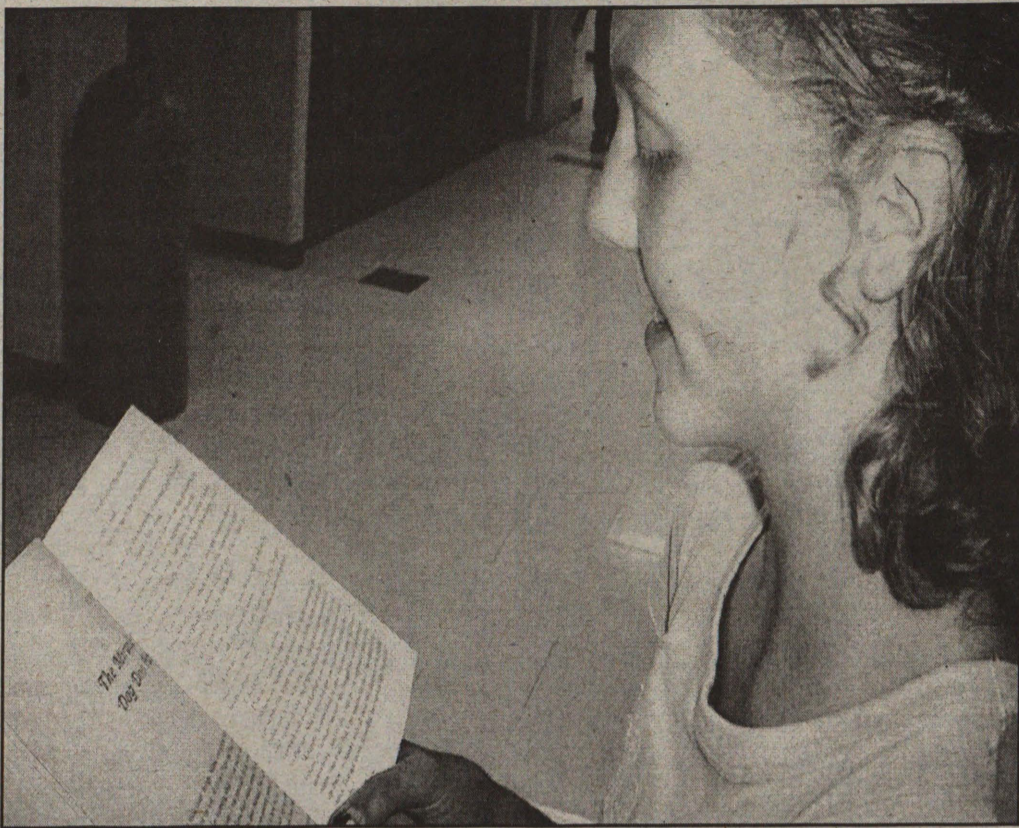


Photo by Jacob Wucka

The Abraham Lincoln reading contest's winner for October is freshman Kelsey Sayner.

### OLAS

The Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) has already been on many field trips, and their next trip will be to the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago Friday. Interested students should see adviser Lucinda Sanders in room 140.

### Reading Contest

The Abraham Lincoln reading competition in the LRC is still underway.

October's winner was freshman Kelsey Sayner, who won a \$10 Border's gift certificate.

Students interested in participating should contact any worker in the LRC for more information.

### Club Green

With its second year underway, Club Green hopes to change student perspectives on recycling and taking care of the Earth.

According to adviser Brianne Ferreiro, the club's first initiative is to create signs in bathrooms advising students on recycling.

In May the club plans on initiating recycling bins during locker cleanup.

Currently, the club is deciding whether or not to continue activities that were created last year.

The club plans on keeping activities like selling hot chocolate to promote global warming.

However, decorating and taking care of recycling bins in commons during lunch hours is still up for debate due to the amount of labor used to keep on top of the task.

If interested in joining, students should contact Ferreiro or Suzanne Burchacki.

The club meets in room 243 on Tuesdays throughout the year. The next meeting will be to discuss selling T-shirts.

# just watch me

# take the lead

Join us for an Open House

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Schaumburg Campus - 1400 N. Roosevelt Blvd.

Saturday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
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Roosevelt's five colleges offer degrees in programs including Biomedical Sciences, Business, Communications, Education, Performing Arts, Psychology and Sociology.

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## Homecoming travels the world



Photos compiled by Jacob Wucka

With homecoming week beginning on Oct. 6, students found ways to get involved through pep assemblies, powderpuff football, the homecoming parade, and the homecoming football game against Naperville Central.

## Students give back to military

By Alexis Hosticka

Staff and students who have friends or loved ones serving in the military have the opportunity to send them care packs created by advisories.

"Students can give us the names of military men and women they know," said social studies teacher Mary Ellen Daneels, who is in charge of the project. "They can also contribute to the WeGo care packs in advisories."

The VFW post spurred this project.

"[They] have been very generous to the school, so the community leadership class came up with this idea to give back to them," said Daneels.

The VFW has donated money to band trips, annual contests, and the WeGo 2 Africa project.

Daneels also hopes the project will reach out to students and staff and connect them with military men and women they know.

"I think it's a good idea because the people in the military know we still care, even though the war in Iraq has been going on for so long," said senior Kelli Lyne, who knows several people in the military.

To determine what to place in the packs, Daneels used the website [www.anysoldier.com](http://www.anysoldier.com), which has a detailed list of items to send.

"There are 121 advisories,

so our goal is to have a pack for every advisory to fill," Daneels said. "If we don't get enough names from students and staff we'll ask the VFW post for more names."

Advisories will receive lists and students are asked to contribute to their advisory's package. Items range from letters to Chapstick to Kool-Aid.

But buying and bringing in items isn't the only way to help.

"Connections to home, like letters and cards, are some of the items most wanted by soldiers," said Daneels. "Anyone can write a note [of encouragement] to a soldier and help make a difference."

On Friday, the advisory lesson plan will be centered around the WeGo care packs, informing students how they can get involved.

Teacher's aide Tammie Zegar gave Daneels four names: her son and three of his close friends who are stationed in Iraq. She thinks the WeGo care packs are a great idea.

"I think it's a wonderful, kind, supportive thing to do," said Zegar. "They share it [the packages] with each other like little Christmas presents. It's also a great way for students to support the soldiers."

The care packs will be sent on Veterans Day, Nov. 11 when they are presented to the VFW post.

## Writing for scholarship

By Amanda Rathe

Students who like to write have an opportunity to show what they can do, and win some scholarship money while they are at it.

The Midwest High School Playwriting Competition does not cost anything, and any high school student in Illinois is eligible.

"I think that anytime a student has the chance to write something that will be reviewed by someone else, it is a good opportunity," said English and drama teacher

Mary Hafertepe.

An \$8,000 scholarship to Indiana State University as a theater major will be offered to the three winners of the contest.

Additionally, readings of the winners' plays will be done at Crossroads Repertory Theatre, Indiana University's professional theater company, in July 2009.

All plays have to be e-mailed or postmarked by Nov. 22. Finalists and winners will be notified by Dec. 4.

Contestants must type the

plays in standard play format, and can make them as long or short as desired.

Hafertepe offers contestants some advice saying, "I would encourage them to share their script with some of their friends and get their feedback on the play."

Plays must have a cover letter displaying your name, address, e-mail, phone number, school affiliation, and year in school.

See Hafertepe in room 217 for an application and more information.

## Give more than blood

### Key Club awarded \$2500 for blood drives

By Jessica Bergmann

With the fall blood drive approaching, students have the chance to not only give blood, but also help non-profit organizations.

The drive, which takes place Nov. 14 in the small gym, is run by counselor and Key Club adviser Ward Rau, along with Key Club members.

Students can sign up during all lunch hours in commons until Nov. 7. However, those wishing to participate must be 18 years of age or 16-17 with parental consent.

Rau encourages students to sign up during lunch hours or

study periods instead of during classes. However, he realizes that not all students have study periods.

"We have enjoyed the support from the teachers because they're willing to put up with the students who miss class," Rau said.

Last year's blood drives earned the Key Club a \$2,500 check to put towards helping other non-profit organizations.

LifeSource provides awards to schools based on the number of units of blood they donate and the number of blood drives they hold.

Last year, the school donat-

ed around 150 units of blood from the fall drive; an estimate that Rau said exceeded LifeSource's expectations by 50 units.

The school is also recognized because it holds two blood drives per year.

"It was after 9/11 that we began holding two drives because people asked what they could do to help, and this was something that answered their question," Rau said.

Rau also mentioned that, by holding two blood drives in the fall and spring, the school is able to increase the blood supply for when it is needed most: during the holidays and in the summer.

"It's nice to be able to have the blood drive because it's a good deed in itself, but now we have the opportunity to



Photo courtesy of Ward Rau

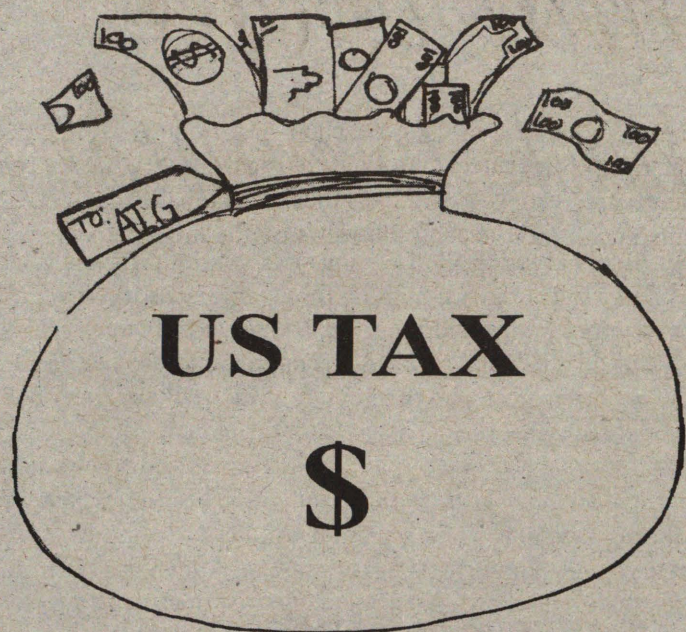
Key Club plans to use its check from LifeSource to give back to the community. From left, seniors Miriam Fernandez, Adriana Noceda, Sarah Kimball, Greg Vodicka, Patrick Stremel, Joselyn Meissner, Key Club adviser Ward Rau, and LifeSource blood drive coordinator Tiffany Minderman.

use our award for other good causes," Rau said.

Although Rau cannot personally donate blood due to a Hepatitis infection he had in 1985, he found a way to par-

ticipate in the process.

"If I can't donate, at least I can run the blood drives. Now, I'm donating 150 units of blood instead of just one," said Rau.



## Bail out middle class before helping the rich

It seems like history has jumped out of the books as our economy plummets much like the Great Depression, and politicians keep spitting out solutions that won't work.

In September, 159,000 Americans lost their jobs, and these people need help. A bailout for Wall Street won't help them.

Just like President Ronald Reagan helped the rich with tax breaks, and ignored the middle class, the middle class gets very few advantages from the new bailout plan. Since the government is buying up all the bad investments they have made, people will see no advantage to this plan.

America needs to stop this charity for the rich. Our government needs to focus on the middle and lower classes. The government needs to help them out of this tough time since they are the ones losing the jobs and doing the grunt work.

AIG, once the world's largest insurer on the brink of downfall, just received an \$85 billion credit line. However AIG blew the money, sending their top 100 sales people to a Ritz Carlton Spa in California. This little jaunt plans to take

a \$440,000 dip into the tax payer's money.

Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has called for \$150 billion to help the struggling Americans, who aren't the investment bankers and CEOs of the world. The money would go Medicaid, food stamps, unemployment, and federal infrastructure. Pelosi also hopes to give tax rebates to those who need it as well, according to the Washington Post.

This money will go to focus strictly on the middle and lower classes who are laid off, or people who cannot get a job due to the hard times.

This bill will not give money to corporations, who will most likely blow the money, like the bail out. It will support the middle class by producing jobs. Because infrastructures are improvements it will produce jobs for the unemployed Americans.

We need involvement in our economy to help our country stand on its own two feet. The government needs to give the money to the people who need it, and who will use it correctly, not to the rich Wall Street executives who got us into this mess and are now relaxing at the spa.

### Our View

## Time to take advantage of American freedoms

### Despite the election being simulated, students should have taken it seriously

With the presidential election looming, students were given the opportunity to make their voices heard in a mock election on Oct. 7.

With such a great chance to cast their vote, it's astounding that only 30 percent of students embraced the opportunity. Humanities department head Lisa Willuweit estimates that of the 2,100 students, 2,000 of them registered to vote, but only 600 actually voted.

Most students decided that since the election was only an imitation of a real election, there was no reason to vote.

Since the majority of students are not 18 years old, they will not be able to vote in the real election.

What students should have realized is that they were given an opportunity

to vote in an election that they otherwise would take no part in; but many did not take advantage of the opportunity.

However, those who did vote showed their support for Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama, who won the mock election with a majority of 72 percent

of votes.

Such a high percentage of Democratic votes are not the least bit surprising among a younger age group.

Many teens are deciding to declare themselves a Democrat because they believe there needs to be reform in Washington. To teen voters, Obama brings the hope that change is what America needs to rise

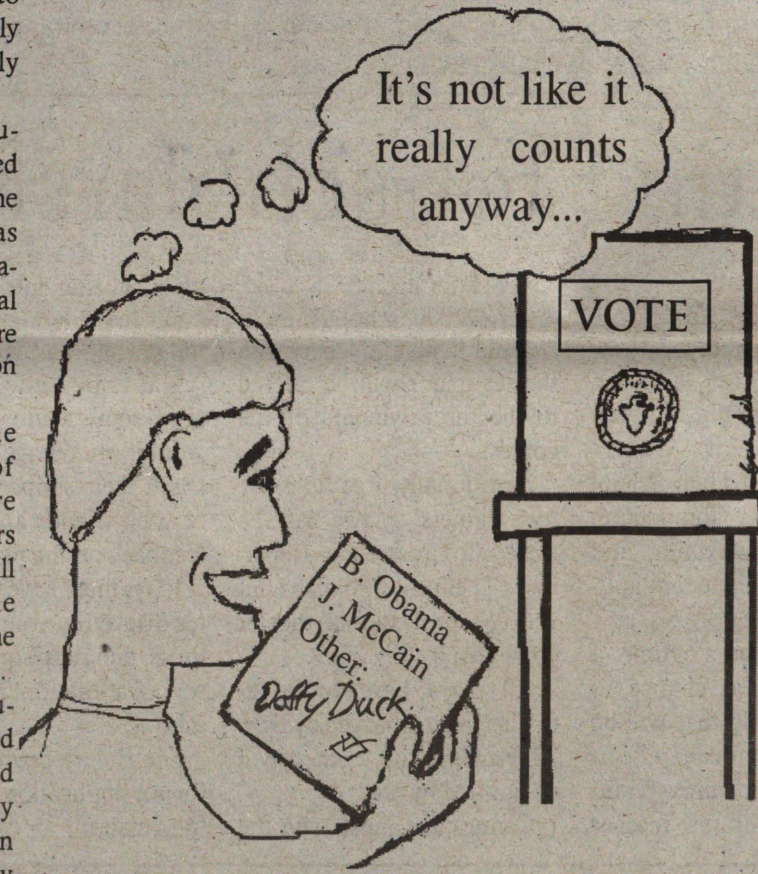
While voting for someone whom you truly believe would be fit to run this country is the right thing to do, it's important to remember that by voting for a member of an independent party, you are taking away from valuable votes that could determine the next president.

However, if you truly believe that Nader is on the right path, then it is better to vote for him than to not vote at all.

Teens need to realize that voting is one of the great freedoms of this country's democracy. And, with a monumental presidential election and the potential for an African American president or a female vice president, students should

have taken the 5 minutes to cast their votes.

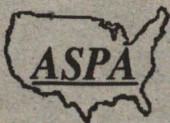
Casting a vote in a mock election is not a waste like many would think. It prepares young voters for the reality of the real experience of voting, and helps them learn how to make an informed decision on who they vote for.



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Laura Kuehn

**THE WILDCAT CHRONICLE** is the student newspaper at 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 paper's content. Unsigned editorials represent the views of the majority of the staff.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters must be signed, although staff members 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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## Abortion is a personal choice...



**Greg Vodicka**

As Americans head to the polls Nov. 4, one of the many deciding factors for casting a vote is abortion rights.

While Sen. Barack Obama believes a mother has the right to choose, Sen. John McCain preaches pro-life.

I admit if a couple feel they are mature enough to have sex, they should be mature enough to parent a child, but this is not how American society works today. It

would be ideal if teens were discussing parenthood before engaging in the bedroom. The fact is, according to [www.plannedparenthood.org](http://www.plannedparenthood.org), teens are getting pregnant at younger ages while being much less mature than their predecessors. As Americans, how do we handle the unplanned pregnancies?

With the Constitution behind my arguments, a woman should have the right to choose what to do in a situation involving her own body; keeping in mind abortion is not the only option.

In the case of rape, the government should not have the right to tell a woman she has to raise the child. Even if the case was investigated, I think it is enough torture to live through a rape, but to later be asked detailed questions about the event to prove it was in fact a rape seems unbearable.

Americans who are pro-life often argue that the children being aborted could be the next Einstein or find the cure for cancer.

I would argue that so could the parents that would otherwise go through a very dramatic life change. Can we expect teen parents to go through college while juggling multiple jobs to pay for both education and a growing family? Can we expect these teens to

ever consider grad school or consider experimenting in a career that could change the world? In that case, can we even expect them to graduate high school?

Respecting the views of the large percentage of Americans who will vote pro-life at the polls in November, I would have to ask them that standing question: What is life?

At what point in the human reproduction process do we consider a living organism "life"? While some consider the first stage of life a human fetus, I would argue otherwise.

Is a sperm cell not a living organism? The fact that it has not met its counterpart inside a woman doesn't make it any less living. If you agree, you should also agree that anytime sperm ejaculated from a male that is not intended on making a child would be considered abortion.

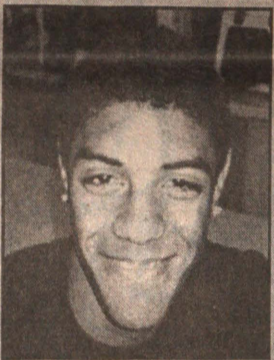
While I would never want to be responsible for terminating a child at its first stage, I have to argue that the issue will never be resolved without a proper definition of the first stage of life.

Until the definition of life is clarified, women should have the right to choose whether or not they are willing to have an abortion.

### Students Speak

Compiled by Greg Vodicka

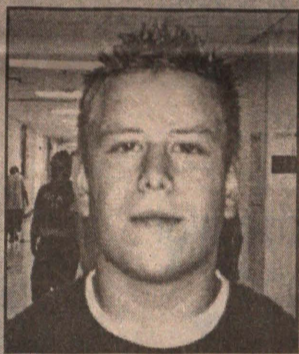
Does the issue of abortion have an influence on who you would choose for president?



Senior

**Edward Miranda**

"No, it shouldn't be up to the president to decide what a woman should do."



Junior

**Brandon Rhodes**

"Yeah, it's an important issue so I'd want my president to have the right idea about it."



Sophomore

**Kathryn Fletcher**

"Yes, it's a life or death decision. Of course it's important."



Freshman

**Juliet Santelli**

"Yes. It's bad because they're killing innocent babies."

## ...but not at the expense of lives

The issue of abortion is one that has been stirring controversy for decades. Between religious elite groups and hard-core liberals, both ends justify their positions on abortion.

However, when you look beyond just the religious aspect of abortion and embrace the moral aspect, it is easy to see that abortion is murder, and murder is illegal. While many pro-choice advocates believe the fetus is not a human until the second trimester, I believe that life begins as soon as the egg is fertilized by the sperm.

It is at that point that the embryo grows to a fetus and into a human. Without this unity, there would be no life at all.

By aborting an embryo within the first trimester, it is taking away the potential that a child could have within the world.

It is estimated that since the year abortion became legal in 1973, there have been over 48,000,000 innocent lives taken, according to National Right to Life at [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org).

Preventative actions need to be taken in order to end abortion in the United States.

For one, there needs to be an enlightenment

between couples across the country. Anyone who engages in sex should realize that there is always the possibility that the woman can get pregnant.

If neither is capable of parenting a child, they should not be taking part in sexual actions, and, if they are, they should be using protection.

There is no excuse to not be using protection while having sex, unless the intention is to have a child. Contraceptives and birth control are easy to receive through agencies such as Planned Parenthood.

Such easy access to preventative methods gives no excuse to those who choose not to use it. Therefore, if a couple decides to have unprotected sex, they should be aware of the resulting consequences.

Obviously, there have to be some exceptions for abortion. For one, abortions should be allowed for rape victims.

It would be unfair to tell a woman that she cannot have an abortion after she has been raped, for they did not voluntarily take part in sex.

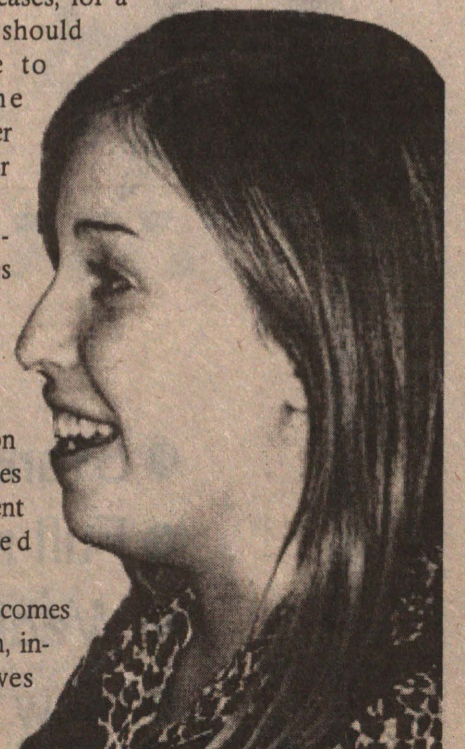
Personally, I don't believe that, given the option, any woman would choose to birth the baby of her rapist.

The same exception should be given to women

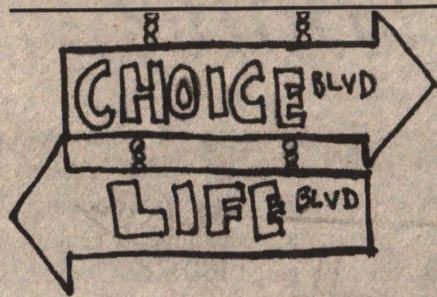
of incest cases, for a daughter should not have to birth the child of her father or brother.

However, besides these exceptions, there is no logical explanation why couples can't prevent unwanted pregnancy.

When it comes to abortion, innocent lives should not be at stake.



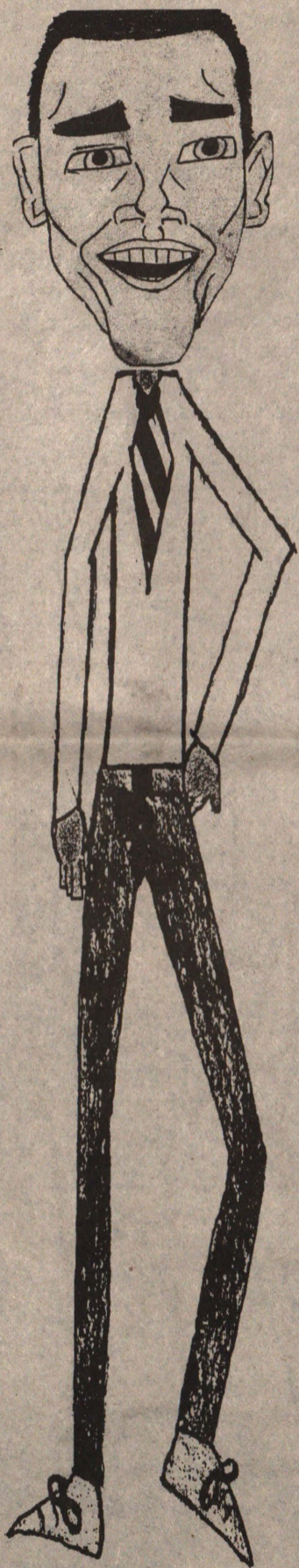
**Jessica Bergmann**



**Vote Nov. 4th!**

What issues are important to you? Out of 60 students asked, these were the top three issues:

Economy	Abortion	War
39	5	8



### Economy:

- Provide \$50 billion jump-start to economy
- Restore fairness to tax code providing 150 million workers with tax relief

### Abortion:

- Supports that women have the right to choose

### War:

- Mission is to end the war and withdraw troops

### Education:

- Plans to reform No Child Left Behind - provide adequate funding

### Gun Control:

- Wants stricter regulation on gun sales



## Ralph Nader

Independent

- Standardized tests should not be a main focus
- Full medical care for all
- Wealthy should pay their fair share of taxes
- New energy sources such as wind and solar power



# ... President

... important to you?  
... are their most influential issues.

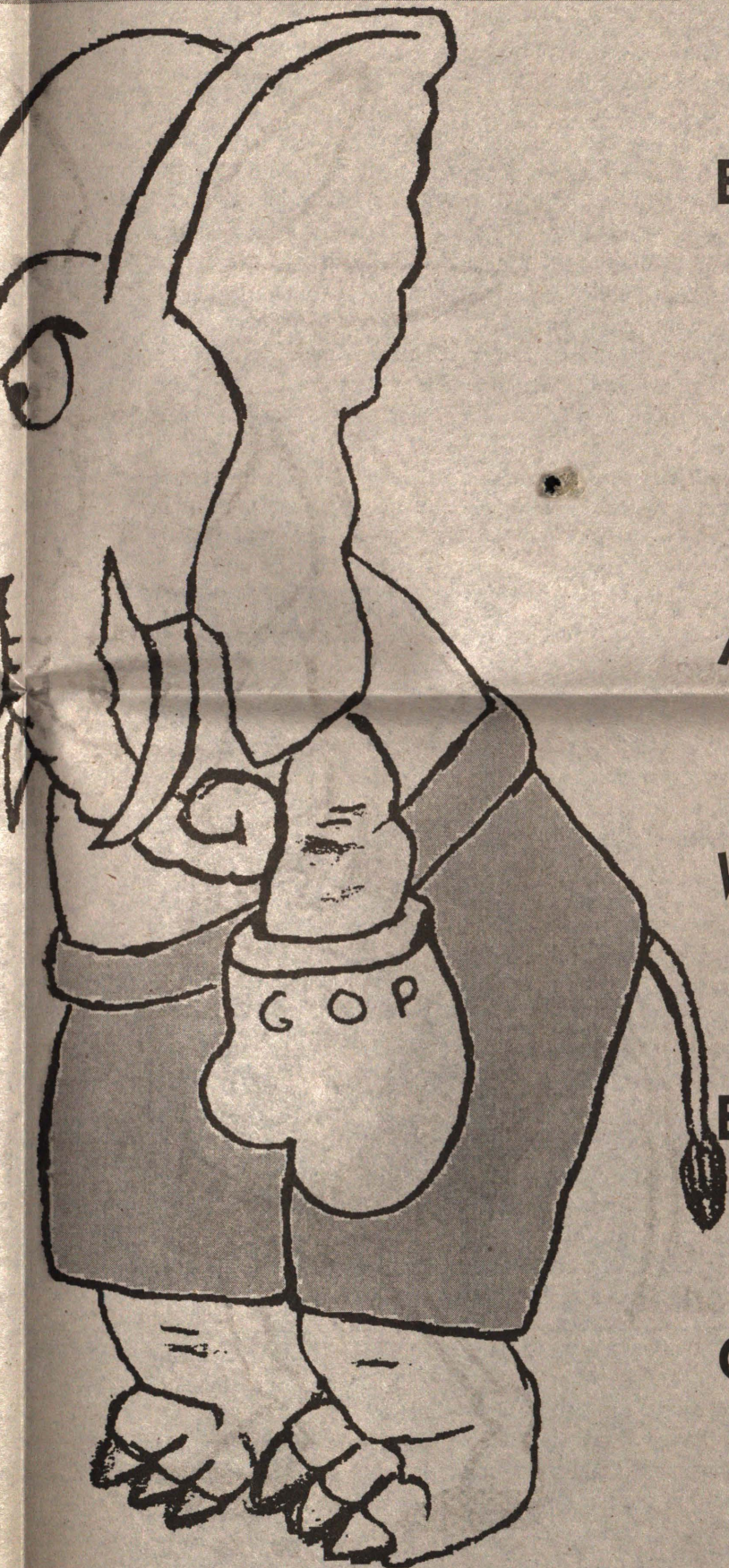
Vote Nov. 4th!

Education	Guns	Other
2	0	6



McCain:

The Views



**Economy:**

- Will work with banks to buy out bad loans to re-sell when market goes up.
- Cut corporate tax rate to 25 percent and repeal the alternative minimum tax

**Abortion:**

- Believes that the government should encourage women to give birth

**War:**

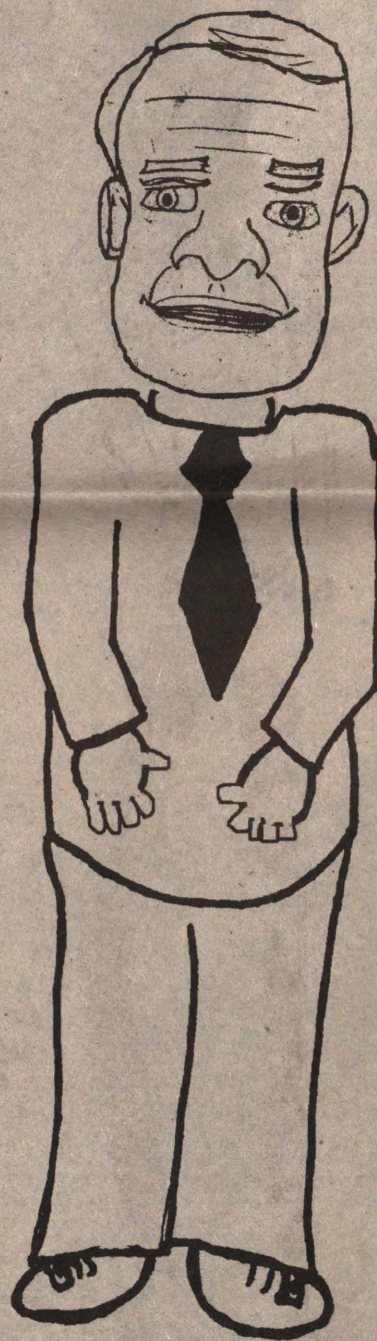
- Thinks it is essential for U.S. to continue supporting Iraq's government

**Education:**

- Believe the same standards should be expected from all students

**Gun Control:**

- Wants looser regulation on gun sales



**Bob Barr**

Libertarian

- Drastically reduce government spending
- Make taxation fairer and simpler for citizens
- Take education control away from government
- Free market should be the energy policy's foundation

## Living with a disability

### *Gaining freedom*

By Sarah Berger

At 15 years old, Jenny Youngwith has overcome many obstacles including two open-heart surgeries, six strokes, and hearing impairment. Despite this, Youngwith lives her life with a smile on her face.

Youngwith is a sophomore who was born with a mitochondrial disorder. Mitochondrial disorders concern the energy-processing centers of the body's cells. Along with the surgeries, strokes, and hearing impairment, her disorder also causes seizures, cerebral palsy, and hypotonia.



Photo courtesy of Jenny Youngwith

Sophomore Jenny Youngwith depends on her dog Simba.

Her life is filled with many doctor visits, but that doesn't stop Youngwith from enjoying her life.

"This summer I learned to do hula-hoop and last year roller-blading, said Youngwith. "During the summer I have friends over to swim and play basketball. I look forward to the We-Go Buddies activities this year."

Youngwith goes to school

for half a day because she tires easily.

"I have English, math, PE, and child development classes," said Youngwith. "I have a special PC computer to use at school and home. My nurses are Miss Sue and Mrs. Paton, they help me

with my oxygen and medical-monitoring."

Youngwith learns through activities. She learns social skills when she talks to friends, and gains independence when she tries activities on her own.

Youngwith has a tank of oxygen with her all the time for physical activity.

She has a partner, her dog, Simba.

"Simba is my best friend, he carries my oxygen everywhere. We train with the Morris Service Dog program. We play baseball and he takes ballet class with me," said Youngwith. "He's afraid of thunderstorms, fire trucks, and marching bands."

Having a disability is something no one can ignore, but Youngwith does her best living each day to its fullest.

## Planning a stable future with family

By Greg Vodicka

For most students, plans for the weekend are a major priority. For senior Will Riban, future plans are the concern.

At age 2, Will suffered from lead poisoning and brain damage leading to strep A and toxic shock syndrome when he was 12.

"He understands, and it's painful at times," said Will's case manager and special education coordinator Linda Gilbert. "But we try not to focus on that."

Due to the brain damage, Will has trouble monitoring how much is too much, according to Gilbert. He also struggles with motor skills such as reading and writing.

"I can read but sometimes it's hard," said Will.

Actions like typing proved to be difficult, but with an enlarged screen and keypad, Will manages.

"I like typing. It just takes long when I don't have the screen big," said Will.

Younger sister sophomore Torie Riban claims that Will is not ashamed.

"He's just a normal teen," said Torie.

While at school, Will attends independent living class focused on responsibilities like paying bills, keeping a budget, cooking, and other life skills.

"It's things you and I know how to do, he just needs a lit-

tle practice," said Gilbert.

When Will came to high school, he wasn't sure what he knew. Now, according to Gilbert, he is more aware of what he can't do.

"I always tell him, 'Let's not focus on what you can't do, let's look at the things you do well,'" said Gilbert.

When Will heard friends talk about going to college, he was excited about the idea.

"It was hard for him to accept he wouldn't be able to go when we told him," said Torie.

Will was even determined to get a scholarship for hockey.

"He was trying to find any way he could get into college," said Gilbert.

A strong point Will has is his memory.

At age 20 and six years of high school, Will leaves the halls at the end of the spring semester.

"I've been here so long it's like I own the place," said Will.

Friends of Will stay connected through Torie and phone calls, but not everyone has been nice to him.

"When people are jerks I walk away," said Will. "[Being a jerk] shows immaturity."

According to Gilbert, Will has a sense

of people getting mistreated, and won't stand for it.

"He told me, 'people look at me like I have a problem, but they have the problem,'" said Torie.

Torie admits it's hard to live with Will but can't imagine not having him around.

"We can't use big words," said Torie. "It frustrates him."

Working at Center Ice in DuPage and USA skate center in Romeoville, Will keeps busy. This year, he takes classes for the first half of the day and goes to work after that. He plans to continue classes at College of DuPage and keep his part-time jobs.



Photo courtesy of Will Riban

Senior Will Riban hopes to attend a college on a hockey scholarship.

## Accepting who she is

### *Working with animals to battle disorder*

By Amanda Rathe

For senior Emily Laffey, down-time is a rare occurrence because of her busy schedule.

She takes care of a cat, two rabbits, two horses, and two dogs.

Her main hobby is riding horses at the Fox Valley Saddle Club.

Laffey also has a job at the Hanson Center in Burr Ridge, where she trains service dogs.

"I have one dog with me now, and her name is Mini

and I'm training her," she said.

Laffey knows what it's like to need extra help since she has a neurological disorder that makes it difficult for her to read and write.



Photo courtesy of Emily Laffey

Senior Emily Laffey cares for dogs, rabbits, and horses.

She said, "Reading and writing is difficult, because my hand shakes a lot."

Laffey plans to work with animals in her future, but enjoys working with children also.

She works at Bright Horizons Early Learning Cen-

ter three days a week with the kids.

Because of her disability, Laffey needs help with things such as taking notes in class but she isn't shy about getting the help she needs.

"When I need help, I ask for it," said Laffey.

She uses a computer that she speaks into and writes text for her since she can't do it herself.

Laffey and her family have made sure that she is comfortable with who she is, and doesn't have any problems accepting help from others.

Laffey used to attend Glenbard West, but she prefers West Chicago.

"I like it better here because I get more help," she said.

One of the classes Laffey enjoyed was child development.

She came across one boy there who had trouble connecting with the group.

Knowing what it's like to be different, Laffey brought the rest of the group to him, making sure he was included.

Attending school and taking part in the many activities she does helped Laffey focus on what she would like to do in her future. Her disability hasn't held her back and she doesn't feel isolated from others.

Laffey is persistent on keeping up her busy schedule and realizes that she has to ask for help whenever it's needed.

## Next top models?

*Two students strut their way to the top*

By Megan Hernbroth and Alex Lima

With shows like "America's Next Top Model" and "Beauty and the Geek," it's been almost any teenager's dream to be the one in the picture on that billboard. For two students, this is more than just a dream.

Sophomore Nicole Burlin-

game works with John Robert Powers Academy, a company with the slogan "There is no such thing as an unattractive person, just people who don't know how to make the most of themselves," after representatives recruited her right out of the lunch line.

"They were handing out slips at school so I filled one out and they called me," said Burlingame. "I auditioned in Chicago and they immediately accepted."

She initially auditioned for an acting slot, but then realized modeling had more potential.

After going through classes of both modeling and acting for 10 months and

\$5,000, Burlingame was runway ready.

"I did a commercial for Barack Obama and a photo shoot with Babes and Bobes talent agency," said Burlingame. "But the commercial aired in a part of the country that I don't live in so I never got to actually see it."

In the popular show "America's Next Top Model," viewers get to see outrageous photo shoots contestants are put through on a weekly basis. Though not as outrageous, real photo shoots still carry just as much weight in a model's career.

"Oh they [photo shoots] are so much fun. They have all these clothes that they tell you to put on," said Burlingame. "A lot of people think you just have to sit there and look pretty but there is a lot more involved to get the right look."

An audition or photo shoot costs Burlingame around \$3,000, depending on the client involved. The biggest conflict she has had is between her modeling career and Poms.

"There were a lot of prob-



Photo by Alex Lima

**Sophomore Nicole Burlingame juggles her modeling career and normal school activities on a daily basis.**

lems with Poms over the summer because I had rehearsals and photo shoots when I was supposed to be at car washes or practices," said Burlingame.

Even with her modeling career taking flight, Burlingame doesn't plan on going much further.

"I talked to my manager in Los Angeles to work for Disney in 'Hannah Montana' or 'Wizards of Waverly Place,' but I've wanted to be a lawyer since I was 8," Burlingame said.

Junior Shaun Worthy has also experienced his time in the spotlight as a hair model, working with Royal Model and Talent for over a year.

"I started out wanting to get into acting because I thought modeling was kind of lame," said Worthy. "But they called me on the phone and said they wanted me so I tried it and I was wrong."

Worthy has been in a few modeling shows in Chicago, all of which have been exciting for him.

"It's cool getting up on those shows," said Worthy. "And you get a \$600 check, which is pretty nice."

Male models are not in primetime television as much as female models, but they work just as hard.

"I have to give up hanging out with friends or going to parties, especially on the weekends. Whatever I'm doing I have to give up to go to a show," said Worthy.

Not only has modeling given both students a boost of confidence, it has taught them lessons to pass on to other hopefuls.

"If anyone wants to get involved, they shouldn't be afraid of just putting themselves out there and they really shouldn't be scared," said Burlingame.

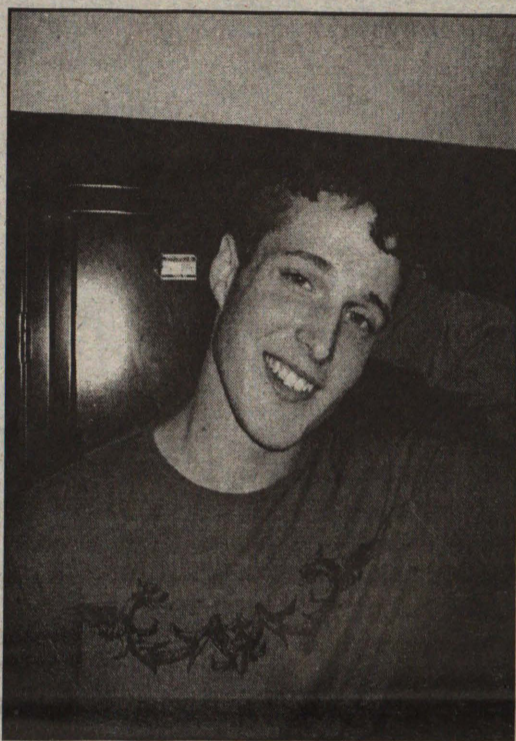


Photo by Megan Hernbroth

**Junior Shaun Worthy gives up a normal teen weekend to work at modeling shows.**

*Sophomores & Juniors:*

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## Vote for Rise Against

New album, "Appeal to Reason," is worth checking out for politicians and punks alike

By Clark Hudmon

Rise Against pumped out their fourth album, "Appeal to Reason," with a distinctive punk sound. This politically-charged band's album came out just in time for the upcoming elections.

These Chicago natives express their anger at the current political situation in their songs. The band also sings about climate control, war, and the economy. They discuss the pollution saying "the air we breathe will be the air we choke."

In "Hero of War" they sing about a young man who wants to be a soldier and make his family and country proud. In the next verses he talks about crying children and torturing prisoners to make your country proud. The soldier in the song in the last verse kills a young woman who tries to

surrender while she is holding a white flag in her hand.

Rise Against does a great job making the audience feel the song not only in the lyrics, but in the instruments. The guitar acoustic in "Hero of War" makes it much more emotional.

The album is not dull, it is a unique sound that Rise Against has kept fresh. Tim McIlrath's, Rise Against's lead vocals, makes you want to leave your seat.

"Appeal to Reason" is a perfect mix of vocals and melody, as Joe Principe, bass guitar, Brandon Barnes, drums, and Zach Blair, guitar, add the adrenaline to the album.

Rise Against started the album with the adrenaline pumping "Collapse." It has the loud drums and guitar to suck the audience in and get

them ready for the album, and then McIlrath's vocals appear, and get listeners instantly glued with the vocals that call for change in our country. They discuss the war in Iraq and our needing to do something: "To the fight in the desert where progress stands still. When we've lost our will."

A politically driven band, Rise Against mainly focuses on the corruptions of society. Rise Against's mix between vocals and sounds make it easy for all punk fans to listen even if you don't agree with what they are saying. Their music is enjoyable to listen to, and controversial as well.

As Nov. 4 comes, Rise Against's exclusive sound would make a great candidate for your next CD purchase.



Photo courtesy of Rise Against  
The band Rise Against calls for a change in America through their new album, "Appeal for Reason." Its angry punk sound is the perfect soundtrack for the upcoming elections.

## 'City of Ember' might as well be kept in the dark

By Alexis Hosticka

With a plot that moves too quickly and leaves many questions unanswered, "The City of Ember" bores viewers for the first half of the movie and leaves them wondering what happened in the overly fast-paced ending.

Stuck in the underground "City of Ember," two teenagers, Lina, played by Saoirse Ronan, and Doon, played by Harry Treadaway, take on the illegal task of finding a way of escape from the place they've always called home. Light bulbs illuminate their world, the city has frequent blackouts due to a malfunctioning generator, and the limited food supply is running critically low.

For reasons unknown, the citizens are not allowed to explore the darkness beyond the city and monstrous bugs and moles, bigger than the people, haunt the city. These oversized animals are a juvenile addition trying to attempt at scary scenes.

Lina discovers a metal box with a torn and incomplete message inside, but she thinks that it's a message from the builders of the city on how to exit.

The reason the 200-year-old message is torn is stupid: Lina's little sister chewed it

seconds before Lina reached it. Couldn't the writer come up with a better, more interesting reason?

At first Doon isn't sure that the message is really a way of escape, but after they both discover the mayor is hoarding the last of the food supply they're willing to take chances to escape from the doomed city.

Lina and Doon's determination and enthusiasm carried them from one step of the directions to another as they decipher the missing pieces and define unknown words.

They eventually must ride in flimsy boats down a roller coaster-like river, like the message states, to escape the city.

One pro of the movie was that the actors who played Lina, Doon, and the Mayor, played by Bill Murray, all fit their parts very well and did a nice job. "The City of Ember" has an original plot, but it isn't enough to keep viewers hooked.

The movie was on the edge of being scary: monsters, darkness, and screams all factor in but they needed to be more extreme. Overall, it wasn't that interesting and probably isn't worth your time or money.

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# Enter at your own risk...

*This Halloween get ready to be creeped out by haunted houses Dream Reapers and Statesville*

## Dream Reapers

By Sarah Berger

With Halloween just around the corner, teenagers flock to spooky trails and haunted houses to get scared out of their minds. Dream Reapers Haunted House is the place to do just that.

Dream Reapers has been voted the number one haunted house in Illinois by the state for three years in a row. With over 22 rooms and professional actors, it's no wonder why this haunted house is set apart from the rest.

Even the waiting line is flourished with spooks and thrills, like a coffin ride that simulates what it's like to be dead.

The real nightmare begins with a scary elevator ride

where a mad scientist backs the group into a corner as he creeps out the crowd by getting up close and personal. It only gets scarier from there.

Actors dressed as bloody doctors, creepy children, and maniac clowns get right in your face as you walk through the animated rooms. Each room has a different theme, whether it's a jungle filled with psycho killers or a hall of mirrors, every single one will chill you right to the bone. Monster cages and deranged mental hospitals are all part of the adventure as you travel deeper and deeper into the haunted house.

Then there are the professional actors that haunt every room. Whether it's a creepy little kid or insane old man, each character unleashes

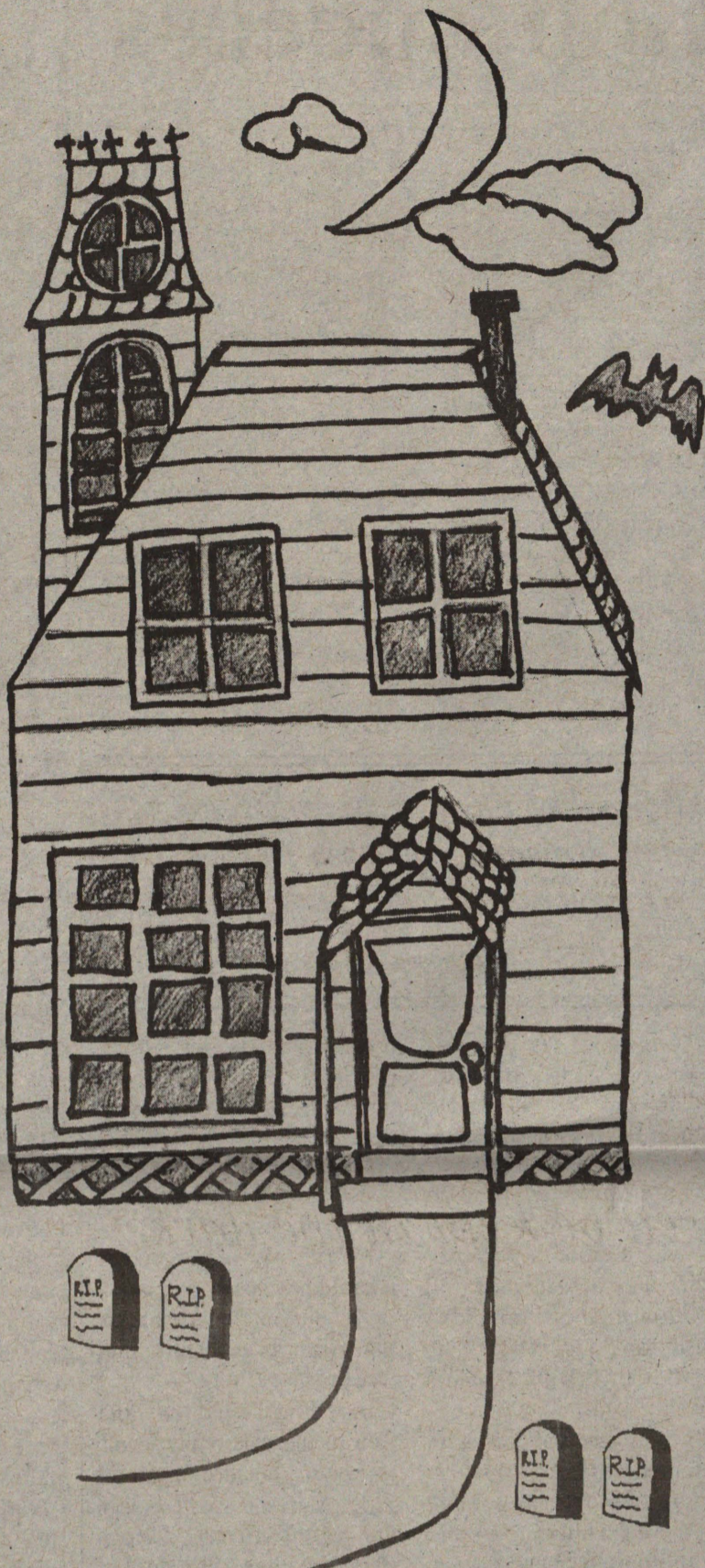
your inner fears. There's no escaping them, they make sure to surround you, making it impossible to get away. The costumes of the actors are unbelievable, each one is unique and as realistic as it gets. Actors are strategically placed around corners or dark areas, perfect for jumping out to scare the innocent spook seekers.

Optical illusions and mechanical objects enhance the haunted house and add a little something extra.

Admission is \$15 per person and is well worth the money. Dream Reapers is open every weekend and Thursdays of October until Nov. 1.

Dream Reapers Haunted House is scary, but unlike other haunted houses the actors won't touch you and it's not pitch black inside. Dream Reapers is the best haunted house to get scared, but not enough to have nightmares for weeks.

Dream Reapers is located at 1945 Cornwell Ave. in Melrose Park.



# Fright Fest

By Megan Hernbroth

Six Flags annual Fright Fest is continuing the tradition of fixing the scare-craving most teens get this time of the year.

For the price of admission, \$30 online and \$60 at the gate, visitors get some of the best scares available.

Masked actors and fog machines wait around every corner, disguising the theme park as something more haunting than just the usual rollercoasters and spinning rides.

The park is calm for younger or more easily frightened guests during the day. Mostly fog machines, colored water, and dried corn are in place to spook guests.

Once the sun began to set, the actors came out in full costume of clowns, pirates, vampires, or trolls to scare visitors.

Biggest crowd pleasers by far were the "It"-inspired clowns that ambled along until an unsuspecting visitor walked by. Running up behind them and shrieking was a sure way to get a scream out of even the most macho of the visitors. Some of the clowns had props such as a rubber monkey with a noose around its neck or a Jack-in-the-box to swing at the nearest garbage cans,

getting a shriek out of the nearest person.

Around every corner are Halloween-inspired props, such as tombs describing the seven deadly sins, fog machines for an eerie haze to settle over the crowd, and statues of the undead, depending on the section of the park it's located in.

Haunted houses such as Studio 13 and Area 51 redefine the frightening experience. After waiting in line for half an hour for Studio 13, visitors are shoved into a pitch black maze with scary movie characters popping at out them every few seconds. Menacing scenes from movies like "It," "Saw," or "The Exorcist" are decorated with twitching and screaming bodies on the ground. Visitors are encouraged to sprint to the end, followed closely by the actors.

After racing through the maze and hitting every wall on the way, most visitors will find themselves out of breath and scared out of their minds. A few minutes may even be required to regain normalcy.

Fans will not be disappointed with the scares, thrills, and chills that Six Flags Fright Fest has in store for them this year. Fright Fest is open Friday through Sunday and ends Nov. 2.



## Statesville

By Greg Vodicka

Blood soaked inmates, foul smelling beasts, and chuckling clowns are just a few of the monsters that wait around every corner of Statesville Haunted Prison and City of the Dead.

Upon entering the prison campus, customers take the roll of prisoners. Immediately after purchasing the \$30 admission ticket, guards are already barking orders at visitors.

While waiting in line, several actors interact with customers to get them in an eerie mood. They lurk around staring and picking on unsuspecting victims.

Once past the line, visitors file into a cage where security bark orders using harsh language to prepare the anxious group for the haunted prison.

Inside the first stage of the prison, the guards line up their "prisoners" shouting, "Shut up!" and "Get in line, you maggots!" over a bullhorn.

All the while strobes, black lights, and twisted colors confuse and startle the group.

Here is where rules of the house are hammered into the skulls of confused prisoners.

Rooms consist of prison cells, bathroom, kitchen, freezer or butcher room, insane asylum, and clown room.

Each room has its own unique taste to it that brings out certain senses. For example, the feces covered toilet sprays prisoners as they walk through dangling dirty toilet paper.

The insane asylum was a special treat. Plexiglas walls were the only thing holding back pounding actors, as visitors weave around the room. The fog made it difficult to

see other hidden actors that had escaped from their cells. These actors were particularly creepy.

A personal favorite was the clown room. Painted in red and white checkered pattern, clowns were nearly invisible because of matching costumes as well as several strobe lights. Next, customers are hurried into the next part of your admissions ticket, the City of the Dead.

The city was graveyard zombie themed, with plenty of actors with make up and tattered costumes. It seemed significantly shorter than the house yet still designed very well.

With a spooky atmosphere, great acting, and eerie special effects, Statesville is worth the price.

Located on 17250 S. Weber Road in Crest Hill, the prison's hours are Thursday 7-10 p.m. and Friday-Sunday 7-11 p.m. through Nov. 1.

## Golf success

*Team places after 25 years*

By Sarah Berger

For the first time in 25 years, the varsity boys golf team found itself at sectionals.

"We practiced pretty hard to get to sectionals; usually for two or three hours every day after school," said sophomore Robby Windisch.

Varsity golf coach Eric Lasky thought the boys would lack experience since they didn't play as many tournaments, but he was proven wrong when the team made it to sectionals.

Windisch.

The boys knew they were capable of achieving their goals, but performing so well and all at the same time was what got them into sectionals.

"At first we didn't take it very seriously, but as the season progressed, we worked a lot harder and that's how we made it to sectionals," said junior Blair Skarin.

The boys started off slow, but quickly improved their game as the season went on. "It was cool to come out of



Photo by Alex Lima

Boys soccer is climbing the ranks and hopes to make sectionals. Sophomore Adrian Porcayo, the only sophomore on varsity, practices before a regionals game.

## Joining DVC elite

By Alex Lima

Winning its first regionals match Saturday at Rolling Meadows, the boys soccer team is looking to become a member of the DVC soccer elite.

Putting on offensive pressure was definitely the reason the Wildcats won the first match, according to senior Jose Padilla.

Recently moved up from junior varsity to varsity, senior Alberto Aguado made a heads up play. Senior Alex Almaraz took a shot 30 yards away, and the goalie tried to punch the ball out of the ground and fumbled the ball. Aguado took advantage and scored, giving the Wildcats the lead with 10 minutes left in the first half.

During the first 10 minutes of the second half, Padilla passed the ball down the middle to junior Luis Ortega. Ortega then dribbled the ball

past two defenders and took a shot inside 18 yards.

The goal assured the Wildcats of the win, improving their record to 15-6-3.

Tuesday the Wildcats took on Schaumburg at Lake Park. Results were not available at press time.

If they beat Schaumburg, the Cats move onto a third game Friday at Lake Park.

"We have a pretty good shot at winning the regional championship," said senior Alejandro Alcantar.

After winning the Jacobs Tournament Oct. 3 and Oct. 4, the team has been on a roll.

"We were undefeated in the Jacobs Tournament," said senior Matthew Rizzo. "We started the season off slow but we have been picking it up. Ever since the Jacobs Tournament we have had momentum."

Fast paced offense and

good defense were connecting for the Wildcats in the tournament. The Wildcats went all four games with only allowing one goal.

Ortega was the only junior named Most Valuable Player in the tournament and is also ranked second in state.

"I was really excited when I found out that I was a MVP," said Ortega.

Ortega has been varsity since freshman year.

With junior varsity only losing one game, they are shaping up to be a team to beat.

"The team next year looks like a really good group of guys," said Ortega.

The Wildcat's leading scorer is Padilla with 12 goals.

In a recent game against Benet Academy, Padilla scored three of the five goals.

"The whole team knows we can win sectionals," said Padilla.

*'My goal for this year was to get two golfers into sectionals, and then we ended up getting the whole team into sectionals'*

-- Head coach Eric Lasky

"My goal for this year was to get two golfers into sectionals, and then we ended up getting the whole team into sectionals," said Lasky.

The team placed third in regionals with a score of 304, but with a score of 346 they didn't place at sectionals.

Although the team didn't finish top in conference as hoped, they still did extremely well.

"I think that the golf team is sometimes overlooked because of the football season, but there are only a few other sports that do as well as us. Hopefully that'll motivate the team to do even better," said

regionals as the underdogs, proving that we really could do well in a sport," said Windisch.

Nothing came easy, as the golf team showed they could overcome obstacles.

"Weather wasn't as good as it could have been. We had a lot of rainouts which meant less time to practice," said Skarin.

Including Windisch and Skarin, the varsity boys golf team also includes freshman Kyle Martens and seniors Steven Romanelli, Ryan Crawford, Sam Wais, Jordan Long, Zack Pazar, and John Kinsella.

## Needed change in mentality

By Jacob Wucka

With hopes of playoffs dissipated, and team and student morale at an all-time low, the football team is trying to keep hope alive that next year will be better.

"I really think we lacked in numbers to play where we're playing in this conference. We definitely don't lack attitude or work ethic," said head coach Hal Chiodo.

Even though the team has worked its hardest, its record of 2-6 does not reflect the effort.

At the start of the season, players and coaches hoped for the best and even planned on making a strive for playoffs.

Some began to wonder if the team was in over its

head. According to senior Pat Stremel, the team has been on the road to playoffs all along.

"We always have a chance to reach our goal of playoffs. If we don't set the bar to some standard, then we're selling ourselves short of what we can accomplish," said Stremel.

Senior Alex Puetz noticed some problems, but also thinks that the team has had difficulty getting over preconceived notions about its ability to win.

"We've had a few games where we made mistakes where we didn't execute as well as we could have. But the 'we're not going to win' mentality needs to change," said Puetz.

But Stremel has noticed some positive aspects of the season despite the juniors.

"I think we adjusted very well to the changes, and [Chiodo] is going to turn things around," said Stremel.

Sophomore Evan Bernard agrees with Stremel, and wants disgruntled fans to allow the team time to grow.

"I didn't expect [Chiodo] to turn things around in one year. It'll take a couple of years for everyone to notice all his changes," said Bernard.

Chiodo is looking forward to the off-season workouts and boosting the team.

However, after seeing the homecoming game, Chiodo is looking forward to next year.

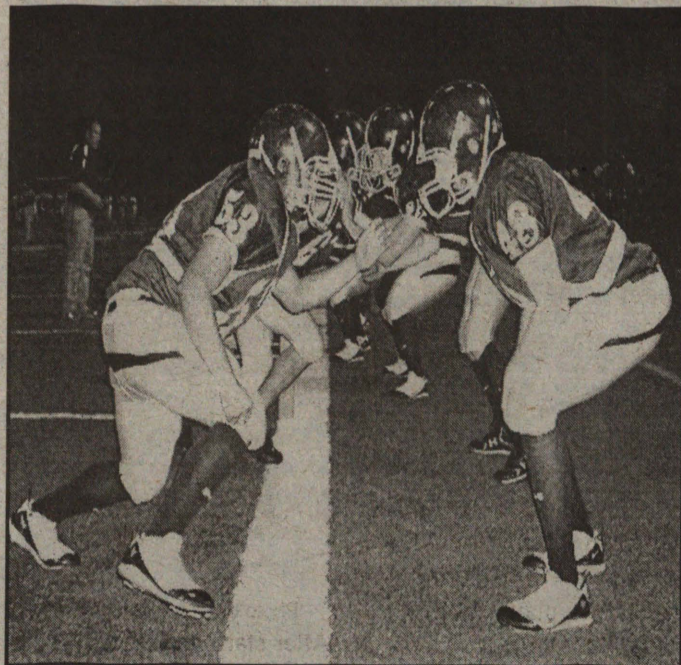


Photo by Jacob Wucka

After a tough defensive stand at Glenbard North, the defensive line warms up for the Oct. 10 homecoming game.

"We would have never thought our team has had a tough year because of our fans. Our homecoming crowd was out of this world," said

Chiodo.

Friday, the lights dim on the Wildcats as they play their last game at Wheaton North.

# Hard work pays off as team makes comeback

By Amanda Rathe

As varsity girls tennis ends its season, the team is proud of a 6-13 record.

"I think we did a bit better this year than last year, we had

a very successful DVC," said head coach Sione Moeaki.

One success for the team is attributed to junior Madeline Urban, as she took second in third singles at DVC.

"I was very excited because I got a medal and I upgraded from last year," said Urban.

However, the team knows that they could have made some improvements.

"We didn't incorporate some of the things we learned in practice to the match we were playing," said junior and team captain Jamie Antczak.

One issue that made a good performance more difficult was the roster.

"Getting switched around a lot on the lineup was hard to overcome. We didn't know what position we were going to play," said junior Alexis Brunelli.

But the girls focused on the positives of their team as well.

"We worked really hard in practice and it paid off," said senior and team captain Leigh Martino.

All the girls are proud of their accomplishments and are preparing to have a great new season.

"Next year I will focus more on improving my weaknesses during practice," said junior Eileen Damsch.

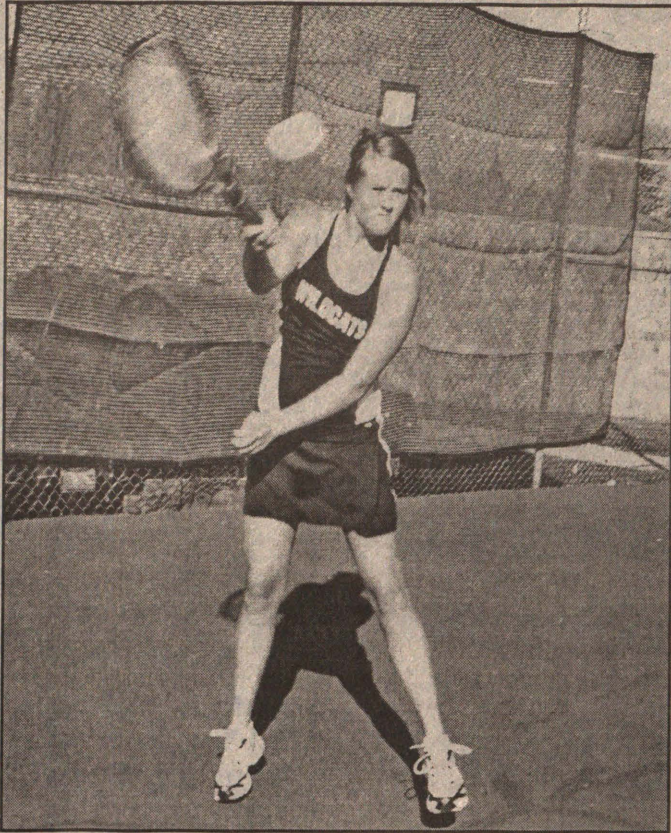


Photo by Amanda Rathe

In September, girls tennis suffered a string of losses. Since then, the team rebounded remarkably. Junior Madeline Urban prepares for a match against Wheaton Academy.

## Tensions on the court

By Clark Hudmon

Tension on and off the court may have cost girls volleyball from having a better season, team members have said.

"There are people that have a bad attitude, but they shouldn't because it will only hurt the team," said senior Lizzie Gola.

Gola noted team-mates began complaining about one another and playing time in practice and during games.

Problems were created because girls of all classes were playing together for the first time on varsity, said Gola. Varsity starters consist of two freshmen, two sophomores, and two juniors.

Freshman Payton Bayless, one of the youngest members on varsity, was in the middle of the tension.

"Before when we commu-

nicated better, we played better. We don't play together, we play as individuals. We don't talk as much and we blame each other on the court instead of taking responsibility," said Bayless.

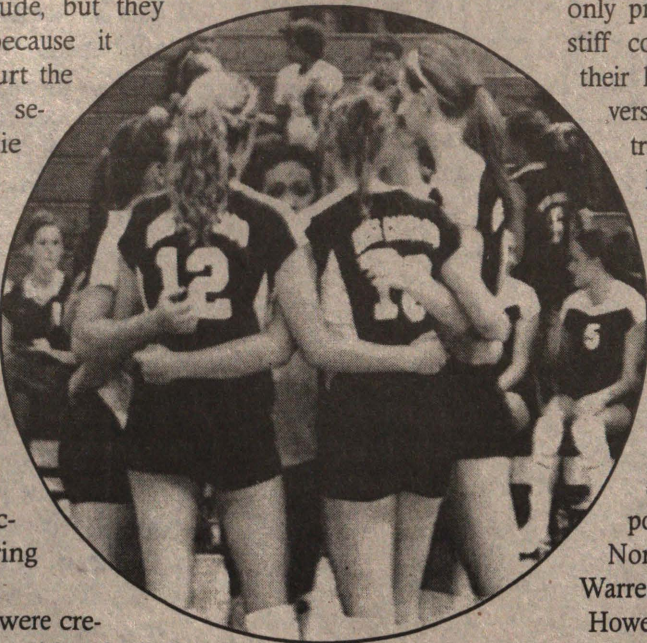


Photo by Clark Hudmon  
After starting the season strong, the friendship on the volleyball court became strained.

At the start of the season, having team slumber parties and some friendly pranks were common.

"I remember toilet papering [senior manager] Blaine

Flannigan's house, we got his house so bad, it was awesome," said junior Taylor Kutilik.

Standing at a record of 4-19 as of Oct. 18, the team's personal issues were not the only problem as they faced stiff competition, including their last conference game versus Naperville Central in a 25-9 and 25-12 loss.

The team started the year off solid, playing with a healthy competitive attitude, which led to a victory against Addison Trail, and several close calls against strong opponents like Wheaton North and Wheaton-Warrenville South.

However, anger began being voiced from the bench as the season went on with comments like "Why aren't I in? I could have done better," said Gola.

Coach Kris Hasty is looking forward to shedding the negativity next year.

"We have a lot of raw talent that we will need to refine. We will do so by playing in the off-season," said Hasty.

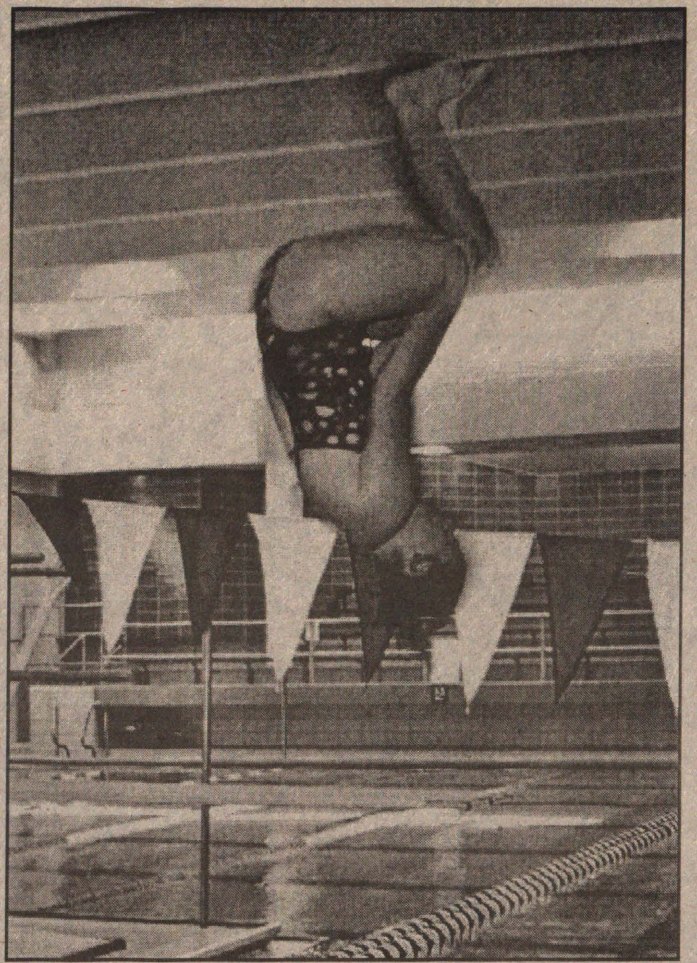


Photo by Alexis Hosticka

The sole member of the diving team, senior Kelli Lyne, takes advantage of one of her few practice opportunities by working her dives.

## It's a Dunn deal Sophomore smashes her third record of the season

By Alexis Hosticka

Sophomore Kelly Dunn smashed another record and qualified for state as she continues to swim her way to victory. Dunn broke her third record of the year in the 500 freestyle. Held for 13 years by Tawney Larm at 5:15.56, Dunn set the new time at 5:10.19.

"I think the team is doing really well," said senior and team captain Mikki Winn. "We're improving every meet and I'm confident we'll have some state swimmers."

Head coach Nick Parry knows that the team is improving through hard work, and there isn't much more they can do to move up in the DVC.

"The girls' confidence has grown," said Parry. "I wish we had some more girls, but the team trains hard and they're keeping an even keel after the good and bad meets."

Senior captain Ania Skorupski sees the improvement compared to last year at this time. With a stronger team, the progress is evident.

"We're coming towards the end of the season and we're still working hard," said Skorupski. "We're doing much better than last year and still dropping times."

The Nov. 1 DVC meet will be held at the school and the team hopes that they will have many observers. The

team expects many swimmers to qualify.

"We want a bunch of swimmers to make DVC because it's going to be here. We want excitement and lots of people here," said junior Caitlyn Madsen. "It would be awesome to even have the Squad."

However, the swimming team is not the only one in the pool. Senior Kelli Lyne makes up her own diving team.

Although she doesn't have an official coach, assistant swimming coach Byron Delcid assists Lyne in her diving.

"I like having just Kelli on the team," said Delcid. "It gives me time to help her out when there's something to be corrected, and it's easy and quick to fix."

Lyne took first place at the home meet against Morris on Oct. 16 with a score of 125. This is the second year Lyne is the sole diver on the team, but she wishes there were more people.

"It's hard, not having someone there to share the experience with you," Lyne said. "You have to pep it up yourself. Being the only diver is lonely, but it's kind of fun because you can do something everyone else in the pool can't."

Lyne's goal for the season is to make sectionals. Her highest score was 163.



Photo by Evan Morgan

Rain pre-empted the boys cross country DVC meet on Oct. 17, where key runner and junior DJ Muzzy (far right) finished the race, being outrun by sophomore Gunner Stern (not pictured).

## Chasing down victory

By Megan Hernbroth

Girls cross country wrapped up the season with lifetime bests recorded at DVC on Oct. 17.

"The girls' best times of the season were expected for DVC," said coach Bob Maxson. "They've all run their best times of the year in the last few weeks."

Of the 18 girls who ran, 16 ran lifetime bests. Freshman Kelsey Sayner finished 12th with a time of 18:46 and was awarded all-conference. Sayner is the first all-conference runner in seven years.

With the largest team Maxson has seen in his time coaching this team, at least two or three girls are expected to qualify for regional and sectional meets.

The team's last meet before DVC was the Lisle Invitational, where Sayner placed second after taking a wrong turn in the last quarter of her race. Sayner was placed on the varsity team half-way through the season.

"She [Sayner] is one of our best runners in every meet," said Maxson. "She places in every race and always wins medals."

Other students that ran well this season were juniors Annette Eichenberger, Tanya Starkey, and Emily Hahn. Eichenberger returned from a hip injury earlier in the season and still managed to run her fastest races to date. Hahn also was able to take

off about 1 minute and 30 seconds in her last race.

"I saw a lot of progress this year, but a lot of potential for improvement, too," said Maxson. "This year was more of a learning year with so few varsity runners. Next year is where I expect a lot of improvements."

Sophomore Alicia Waldshmidt accomplished some of her personal goals as well as team goals.

"I got a few ribbons," said Waldshmidt. "That was one

of my big goals. But as a team we placed in a few invitationals which was really good."

On top of being able to race well on the course, the team was able to interact together in a positive way.

"I'm very proud of the team this year," said Maxson. "But what I'm most proud of them for is the way they all get along together. I'm a social worker so I know how hard it can be for girls to get along, and with this team the positive attitude goes from

the captains down."

### BOYS

Boys cross country finished seventh at DVC on Oct. 17 and compete at regionals on Saturday.

"This is one of the best teams we've had in about five years," said coach Paul McLeland.

Thirteen of the 22 boys that ran achieved personal best times. Sophomore Gunner Stern finished 22 overall, and first for the team with a time of 16:12.

At the last meet before DVC, the Lisle Invitational, the team as a whole finished fourth, the best they've done at that meet in many years. Top runners were seniors Doug and Brian Mateas and junior DJ Muzzy.

"This year the team was a better pack to run with," said Muzzy. "We were a lot closer running and just in general."

At a meet in Bartlett, the team placed second, also the best at that meet in many years. Looking to the future, both coach and athletes have their sights set on improvements and possibly qualifying for state.

"Hopefully we can qualify as a team for state next year," said Muzzy. "And this year we're thinking more of sectionals than state with such a young team."

McLeland hopes the success and hard work of his team this year will carry over into other seasons.



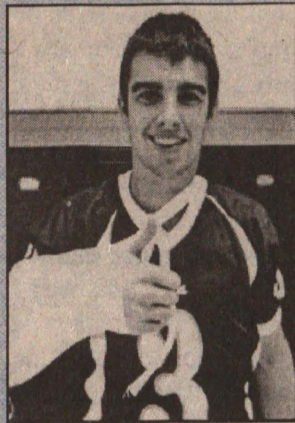
Photo courtesy of Bob Maxon

A hip injury didn't stop junior Annette Eichenberger from running her fastest race at DVC on Oct. 17

## Finding the easy way out

Another timeout on the field, as a player is lying on the turf holding his wrist, knee, or shoulder. Soon the sidelines are littered with players who have injuries. Or do they?

Players do get hurt, but there are always the players, who for some reason, fake the injury. Whether they do it to just wear the jersey, or to suck up all the attention, the fact



Clark Hudmon

remains that some athletes have the mentality that when it gets tough, sit out.

Sports are difficult, they require a lot out of athletes including time, commitment, and occasionally blood. Most athletes know the time and commitment they give to the team when they sign up. But there is always the exception, the player who doesn't want to be humiliated and quit so he fakes an injury.

Injuries are an easy way out without actually having to do the activities you do not enjoy about your sport. It makes it hard for the weak minded to push through a sport when their team is not doing so well.

For example, on Oct. 4, homecoming kicked off with a pep rally, and everybody was jumping up and down showing their pep, including some players that did not dress for the football game.

In fact one player even sprinted out and picked up the winner of a pep event. Then, while getting ready for the game that player said he couldn't play because his knee hurt.

Sports aren't easy, but having a successful team is even harder when people are not dedicated. Athletes should reconsider going out for the team if they refuse to stay committed until the end of the season.