

Flu season underway



Photo illustration by Jacob Wucka
Nurse Beth Jones uses senior Erin Gebhardt to demonstrate how to take someone's temperature.

Rumors of H1N1 rampant, no cases confirmed yet

By Jacob Wucka
Editor in Chief

As flu season begins, so does confusion over the spread of the H1N1 flu.

"I know rumors are out there, but there are no cases in the school. We are much better than I had anticipated," said nurse Beth Jones.

Jones has taken control of H1N1 monitoring, sending daily reports to the local health department since school started, detailing any illnesses for both students and staff.

"On [Oct. 13], we had an ill rate of 1 percent, and an absent rate of 8 percent for students altogether. This is very low," said Jones. "For any contagious disease, 10 percent ill rate is when we have to start taking more measures. We're good so far."

Jones said that she has been receiving lots of e-mails and phone calls, and the school will post an informational letter on the website.

'[If a student has H1N1] they will be treated the same as if they had a seasonal flu.'

— Nurse Beth Jones

If a student does think they have H1N1, they will have to undergo two tests for it to be confirmed.

The first is a nasal test taken at the doctor's office. This will confirm if the student has a Type A influenza strand, which could be either H1N1 or the seasonal flu. The second test requires the results being sent to Georgia and confirmed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. However, Jones said that no matter if the Type A test is H1N1 or seasonal flu, it will be handled the same.

"[If a student has H1N1] they will be treated the same as if they had seasonal flu. They will get the same medication, and stay home until they get better," said Jones.

Currently, the school maintains its same cleaning tech-

niques, and Jones has asked that teachers keep desks, light switches, and other objects utilized by students in their classrooms clean.

"Besides monitoring the situation, we're asked to keep the areas reasonably clean. If we had a huge number of cases we would be asked to wipe down all hard, commonly used surfaces with bleach," said Jones.

Concern was raised on Oct. 8, when 14-year-old Michelle Fahle of Naperville Central died from what was first reported as H1N1 flu.

Although Fahle had the flu, it was later proven that she died because of an underlying, undiagnosed heart condition that made her more susceptible to illness.

"For kids that have health concerns, parents need to be

more careful. But for the general population, they would realize that there was an underlying condition in this [Naperville] case and most of the deaths related to H1N1," said Jones.

If cases are confirmed, Jones wants students to know that the health department no longer recommends closing schools.

"They're not seeing a mutation like they feared when schools were closed initially. Now it's not recommended to close schools, because we haven't seen any radical change in H1N1," said Jones. "If it started mutating, we'd have to start over at step one."

If there was a mutation, which is highly unlikely, Jones believes closing school would not be a wise decision.

"Kids congregate here, at malls, at churches; it would be nearly impossible to minimize the risk. It is not a viable option at this time to close schools," said Jones.

In the red

School facing budget shortfall for 2010-11

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

With a budget deficit of at least \$850,000 looming in the 2010-'11 school year, the administration has many decisions to make regarding spending, possible cuts, and budgeting.

"We receive money from different sources: property taxes, state funds," Supt. Lalo Ponce said. "As we know, the State of Illinois is in debt, and we will most likely not get all of the funds [that we should]."

Along with not receiving all of the money the school is due, the school will also have to deal with salary raises and rising health insurance costs, which, according to Ponce, are already built into the imbalance.

However, as of now, the school is not exactly sure how much over \$850,000 the deficit will be.

The possibility of eliminating programs is being discussed with staff members, and the administration has not made any decisions yet.

"We're in discussions right now, and everything has to be on the table," Principal Moses Cheng said. "We're still figuring everything out."

By November or December, Ponce believes that they will have made some definite decisions.

"We haven't decided anything yet, but we want to decide soon," Cheng said. "We don't want to have to back track, so we're waiting until the numbers are solid enough."

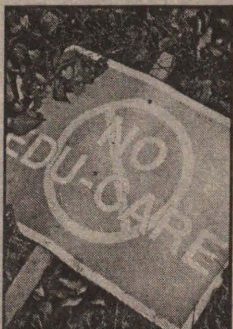
On Oct. 13, teachers met with Ponce to discuss their ideas for budget reductions.

"We came up with about 100 items," Teachers' Association president Brandon Fantozzi

See Budget, page 4

Educare

"No Educare" signs litter neighborhoods around Indian Knoll Elementary School. Read why a proposed preschool is drawing heat--see **NEWS**, page 3.



Trick-or-Treat

Walk the spooky trail, visit a costume shop, and learn about how Halloween came about without leaving your chair-- see **CENTER SPREAD**, pages 8-9.

Bravery

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we honor a breast cancer survivor and her daughter, and a son whose mother is struggling with terminal lung cancer -- see **FEATURES**, page 10.



Strong Season

Although girls volleyball has fallen short of reaching the DVC championship, their fight towards achieving regionals success rages on --see **SPORTS**, page 16.

A little bit of magic

By Megan Tennis
Entertainment Editor

The musical "Little Shop of Horrors" is bringing horror and a little magic to school in November.

"Little Shop of Horrors" is based on an old horror movie about a venus flytrap that eats people and shows America in a much simpler time.

The musical is set on the east side of New York in a florist shop.

The cast includes seniors Chelsea Ross, Tom Sanders, and Brad Cole; juniors Nadia Pelletier, Danielle Pacelli, Emma Roberts, and Jeff Pierpoint; sophomore Noah Strayve; and freshman Josh

Brown.

Directors Mary Hafertepe and Brandon Fantozzi wanted to do a musical in place of a play this year because Hafertepe is retiring in June.

"I'm not thinking about it being my last year. I will when I get to the spring show. Working on the show just seems like always," said Hafertepe about her retirement.

The musical has a cast of nine actors, the smallest cast Hafertepe has faced in a musical.

"It's a really small cast so you have to support yourself. Everybody has something to do so it's really exciting," said Pacelli.

Funny, energetic, and

touching is how Hafertepe described the musical. She also commented on how bizarre the musical is.

"I love how it's a show that also has a dark side," said Hafertepe.

She expects enthusiasm, laughter, and appreciation from the audience.

Pacelli thinks the audience will be surprised because the show is so different.

"I've never played a character like this before and you really have to step out of yourself," said Pacelli.

The Thespians and Hafertepe hope to bring their production to TheatreFest, a festival of 4,000 students from around the area.

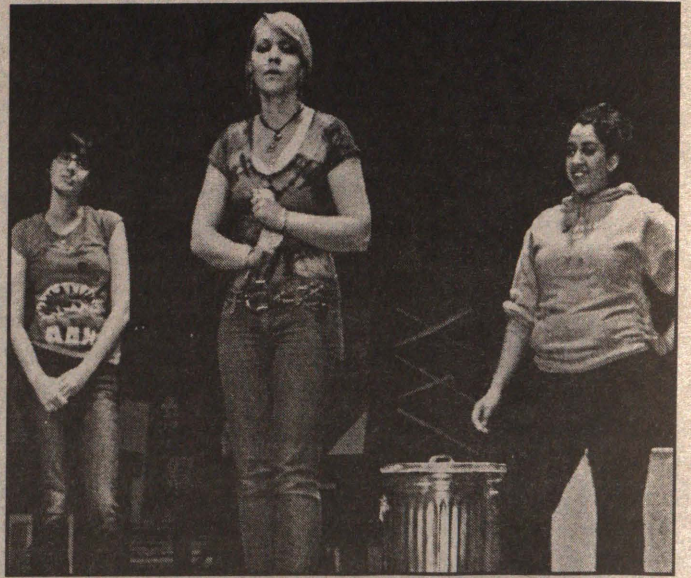


Photo by Megan Tennis

Juniors (from left) Danielle Pacelli, Emma Roberts, and Nadia Pelletier rehearse for the first fall musical.

TheatreFest is nonstop theater involving classes, workshops, and performances from other schools.

It's held over three days and alternates between the University of Illinois and Il-

linois State University. If the school is invited, the whole musical is performed.

Adult tickets are \$5 and student tickets are \$3. "Little Shop of Horrors" plays Nov. 12-14 at 7:30 p.m.

What's Happening?

Exploring career options

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Career Exploration Day gives students a chance to discover what they want to do in life, from a pediatrician to a radio broadcaster.

Fifty-seven students are signed up to attend Career Exploration Day on Nov. 6. Students shadow a person in the career field they are interested in.

"This is a beneficial activity for students," said Peggy Peach, cooperative work training

coordinator. Students have the opportunity to explore careers or majors that they might be interested in.

Students will shadow at different places such as hospitals and with the S.W.A.T. team.

"Students shadowing [the S.W.A.T. team] take a tour of the FBI building and talk with the agents about what they do," said Peach.

A committee made up of local business leaders and parents is responsible for finding professionals for the students to shadow.

Developing leadership

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Over 50 students with skills from the culinary arts to graphic design joined SkillsUSA, a club in which students prepare for careers in technical, trade, and skilled service occupations.

Soon officers will be heading to the annual Fall Leadership Development Conference. The conference is held in Bolingbrook from Nov.

6-7 and emphasizes leadership, motivational, and employability skills activities.

Conference participants include local officers and some of the lead students.

"Those that are interested in running for state officer have the first choice," said adviser Patty Kozlowski on how students are chosen to attend the conference.

Officers include seniors Angela Gentile, Kevin Szul, and junior Mayuri Parmar.

Rhythm in their soles

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

With a clap, a stomp, and a shout, the steppers team is headed to a "Step Clinic" on Nov. 14 where they will learn from professionals and watch other schools.

"Steppers is a dance team that does rhythmic, synchronized stepping and clapping," coach Amanda Cordes said.

Fifty-five students attended the tryouts, and only nine made the team, adding to the eight returning members.

Cordes would like to have a bigger team or JV squad, but she is the only coach and cannot coach more than one team herself.

"Hopefully we have everything good, and are invited to more competitions," sophomore captain Ariel Berumen said.

Showcasing talent for national cause

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

From Irish dancing to piano to school bands, the annual variety show is full of talent and ready to showcase it for a cause.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is again

getting ready for their variety show, which they use to raise money for a not-for-profit organization, March of Dimes. March of Dimes provides medical and social services for children and pregnant women.

"We chose to support it because as a national organiza-

tion," FBLA adviser Maria Wirth said.

Every year, the school chapter of FBLA votes on a theme for the show, and this year, the theme is "Under the Sea."

"We incorporate the theme with the emcees and how they announce the acts," Wirth said.

The variety show, which began in the '80s, is on Nov. 19. The 4 p.m. show will cost \$2, and the 7 p.m. show will cost \$3.

"It's a lot of fun," Wirth said. "I was in theater and choir as a kid, and enjoy the whole onstage aspect of the show. It provides a great place for kids to show their talents."

Junior Joe Wais tried out for the variety show for the second consecutive year, again playing piano and singing, but this time adding the harmonica.

Wais, who played "Piano Man" for his audition picked the song mainly for the reason that he liked it.

Junior Darryl Thomas break-danced for his audition to a mix that ended with "Boom, Boom, Pow" by the Black Eyed Peas.

"When I was little I would dance around all goofy, but it just comes naturally to me," Thomas said. "Break-dancing is fun and one of my favorite things to do."

Members of FBLA judge the auditions to determine whether acts make it to the show.



Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Junior Joe Wais tries out for the annual variety show for the second consecutive year. He plays piano, harmonica, and sings "Piano Man" for his audition.

Moving towards success

New all-day preschool aims to provide better opportunities for high-risk children

By Megan Hernbroth
Features Editor

With low Adequate Yearly Progress scores in District 33, the hope is that the newest Educare facility will make all the difference.

Educare is an all-day preschool program for low-income children, where others in the district are only a half day.

"Our preschool program is a half-day program," said director of community relations Becky Koltz. "So this program is twice as long, and twice as expensive. We wish we could do something like this within the district but we would not be able to afford it."

Children identified as being in a high-risk category will attend the Educare center that is in partnership with District 33.

"Educare will only serve the neediest families in District 33," said Koltz. "The first criterion to being accepted is family income. It has nothing to do with how much time a family has to educate their children if they're making \$90,000 a year."

The goal of Educare is to

ultimately prepare students for kindergarten and elementary schools, where they will be introduced to standardized testing beginning in 3rd grade.

"[Educare] equalizes the playing field for families where parents may be working two to three jobs or may be in poverty," said Koltz. "Those children may not have been able to learn the essentials for kindergarten like some other children. Without a doubt it will help with testing and AYP."

This center is one of 10 centers, and the first ever bilingual center and the first center in a suburban setting.

The district's responsibilities as a partner include providing land and maintaining the building after it is built, but everything else is up to Educare.

"There will be no busing for these students," said Koltz, "so parents will need to drive them to the center themselves. This is not a public school, so we do not need to provide the buses and taxpayers are not paying for the cost of building the facility. There are a number of private organizations donating

to make this happen."

The center itself will cost around \$8 million, but families will have to pay a small fee in order to participate in the program.

The Educare program is being covered by state and federal grants.

Because of the many potential benefits for the students, many believe the Educare center to be nothing short of a gift to District 33.

"This is a \$10 million gift to help our kids succeed at school," said Koltz. "Ultimately it will make a difference in our student achievement."

Others, such as the High Lake residents in the area surrounding Indian Knoll, do not see the program as optimistically.

At a District 33 Board of Education meeting, residents said they wanted the center to be located in the neighborhoods of the students who would be attending it.

Other issues, such as traffic, plumbing, storm water, and wetlands were also brought up, and another town hall meeting will be held to discuss concerns.

The center should be finished in 2011, ready for students to begin their journey, hopefully helping out test scores in the process.

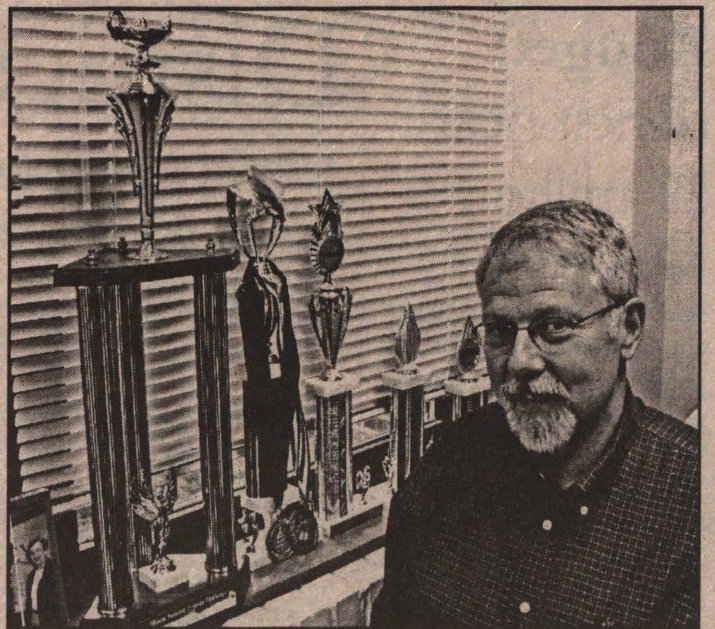


Photo by Jacob Wucka

Economics teacher Donald Zabelin has won many awards, including his latest, the Econ Illinois Star in the Classroom.

Economic triumph

By Jacob Wucka
Editor in Chief

Steven Romanelli, '09, won the Invest Write challenge, writing the best essay in Illinois.

After last year's success in many economic challenges, business teacher Donald Zabelin is being honored as Econ Illinois's Star in the Classroom.

"This award did surprise me because after all the recognition I received last year, you don't expect to get another award again," said Zabelin.

Zabelin will be honored at a lunch on Tuesday for his success in teaching Econ Illinois programs.

"All of Econ Illinois programs do marvelous jobs teaching business concepts, and my students were very successful with them," said Zabelin.

Last year Zabelin's students won six awards: two stock market championships, the Illinois Capitol Challenge, Invest Write Challenge, Illinois Personal Finance Challenge, and the LifeSmarts competition.

"I bring them there, teach them the techniques, but they are the ones that have to deliver," said Zabelin.

The 2009 school year was the first year the school has participated in this particular challenge.

Also, after winning the Illinois Capitol Challenge, the team and Zabelin were honored on the floor of the Illinois House of Representatives.

"These students worked very hard to be competitive, and usually a little bit of luck comes our way. Last year a lot of luck went our way," said Zabelin.

Being Zabelin's last year after a 33 year career at West Chicago, he hopes to leave a legacy of energizing students about business education and competitions.

"Maybe my legacy will be that I can get students excited about competing, which in turn made them more knowledgeable on a variety of subjects," said Zabelin. "I like giving students the basic foundation of knowledge so they can have a good quality of life from a financial standpoint."



Photo by Megan Hernbroth

The new Educare program is facing much opposition from the High Lake residents. Indian Knoll Road is filled with signs opposing the program.

Small efforts can make a difference

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

The contents of a care package include more than just common necessities; they provide the feelings of appreciation and love.

In honor of Veterans Day, the community leadership classes have organized WeGo Care Packs, which provides care packages for soldiers serving overseas. The care packs will be received sometime around the winter holidays.

"This is the second year we are doing the care packs. Last

year we sent out about 50 care packs and received thank you letters and notes in return," said community leadership teacher Mary Ellen Daneels.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6791 and the community leadership class put together a list of suggested items such as homemade cookies, books, socks, and old magazines.

The items will be put in a flat-rate box from the post office and the community leadership classes are asking local businesses to pay for the postage. Advisory classes can put together a WeGo Care Pack

using the list as a guideline.

Care packs hit close to home, affecting staff and stu-

dents alike.

"My son Dan, who was a 2003 graduate, was serving in



Photo illustration by Alexis Hosticka

Students will have the opportunity to make care packs for soldiers in advisory.

Iraq and received a care pack. He was very excited to get a box from the high school he went to, it was very special to him. It was the first box he received when he went to Iraq," said LRC clerk Susan Callahan.

Even something as small as a care pack can make a huge difference.

"The freedoms that we enjoy here in the US are directly related to the service of the men and women serving overseas, and it's important to support them, especially during the holidays," said Daneels.

Budget: deficit near \$1 million

Continued from page 1

said. "The ideas were all generated with students in mind, and without losing teachers."

One of the fundamental ideas that the Association would like to get across is that they don't want any one section of the school to be hit harder than the others.

"If reduction needs to happen, we should spread it to all facets of the school," Fantozzi said.

The school currently has a fund from property that was sold, known as the High Lake Fund. In this fund, the school has over \$6.5 million, but it is only used on capital improvements.

The \$6.5 million is used as a nest egg from which the school can collect interest and its use is controlled by the Board of Education.

"Sometimes you don't see [the improvements], but they have an impact," Ponce said.

The board could choose to use the money for other purposes.

District 33 fails to meet AYP

Similar to high school, elementary schools fall short of state standards

By Megan Hernbroth
Features Editor

As the high school struggles to meet AYP, similar trends are hitting District 33, with four out of six elementary schools failing AYP.

With more diverse populations than other districts, District 33 emphasizes the fact that if one subgroup of students fails, the entire school is labeled as failing.

"Overall, students are learning, teachers are teaching, and schools are passing the tests," said director of community relations Becky Koltz. "We are working hard to get this across to parents in the district."

Students are grouped by ethnicity and background into 20 groups, and there are 50 categories, called cells, in which a subgroup can fail.

Because Gary, Turner, Currier, and Pioneer elementary schools failed AYP two years in a row, students attending

these schools were given the choice to pick one of the two passing schools to attend.

Of the 4,000 students in District 33, only 46 chose to change.

"The state's numbers on students who pick school choice matches up pretty well with our data," said Koltz. "They said about 1 percent of students would take advantage of this, and about 1 percent did."

In order to get to their new schools, students take their original bus to their home school where another bus is waiting to take the students to the new schools.

"It would have been extremely expensive to pick every student up at their home and bus them to their new school," said Koltz. "The way we are doing it is no problem."

With another testing season looming ahead, district officials are concentrating more on stabilizing the core

curriculum throughout District 33 instead of concentrating on individual teachers.

"If you think about it, we have six elementary schools that each has three third grade classes," said Koltz. "If each third grade teacher teaches a different way, that is 18 different ways our students are being taught, yet they are tested the same. We are making sure items that will be on the test are taught before the test, because that was not happening in some cases."

the officials have been doing for the past two years.

In addition to the plan, school choice will be available again and the district will have to provide supplemental services unrelated to the school for all students.

"We would have to hire something like Sylvan or some kind of tutor to help out," said Koltz. "But we are not allowed to use our teachers for it."

Koltz believes the risk factors for students have in-

'Overall, students are learning, teachers are teaching, and schools are passing the tests'

--Becky Koltz, District 33 director of community relations

AYP's standard passing rate from last year to this year jumped from 70 percent to 77 percent, putting schools at more risk than before.

If the same schools do not pass AYP next year, the district has to file a school improvement plan, something

increased, including students that go without breakfast in the morning.

"It's hard to really learn without breakfast in the morning," said Koltz. "It'd be interesting to see our trends along the high school's trends."

New opportunities to become involved

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

Special Olympics Illinois is coming this way, giving special education students new opportunities to become involved in basketball and track and field teams.

"It's a chance for the students to compete, to become part of a team," coordinator Gavin Engel said. "Something like this can go a long way with [the students]. It gives them an opportunity they wouldn't normally have."

Beginning in November, special education students in the Developmental Learning Program can join the co-ed basketball team which will practice once a week and will have six games and a tournament.

Depending on how well the team does, they can also advance to a statewide tournament in Peoria.

The basketball season, which ends in January, will be followed by a track and field season that will go until the end of April.

Due to budget problems,

the school is not funding the program. Different organizations have donated money and are sponsoring the program.

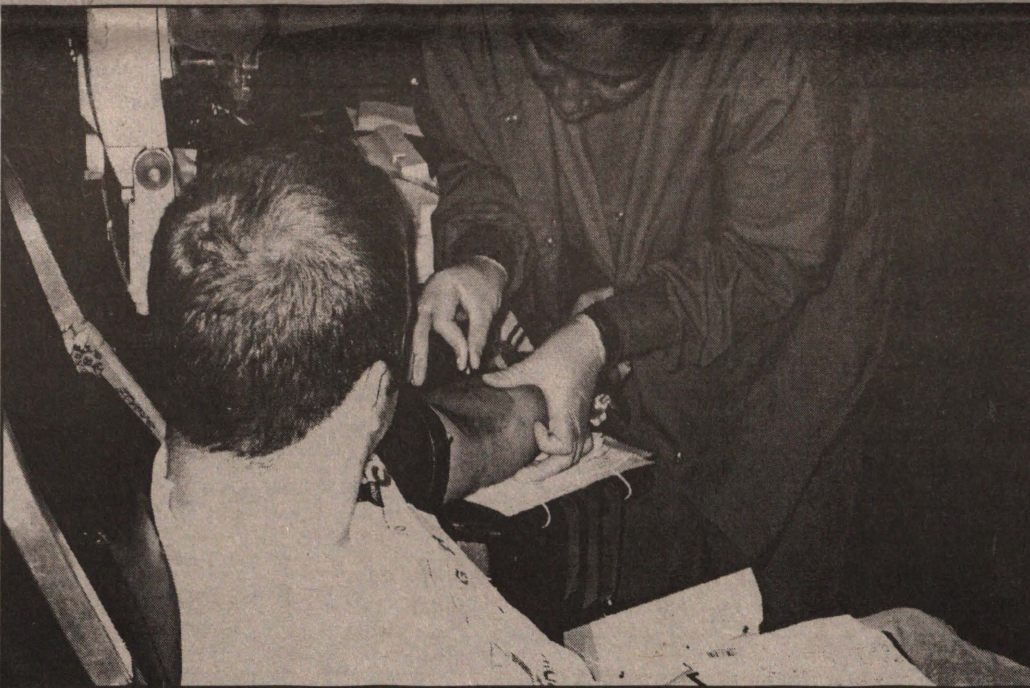
"We have a lot of support from the mayor and community," Engel said. "A lot of people have pledged their support."

Student volunteers have already been established, so Engel is not looking for more. Science teacher Krysta Schoenbeck will coach the basketball program and special education teacher John Parker will coach track-and-field.

"This is a great opportunity for our students to participate, volunteer, or attend the game," Engel said. "We'd really appreciate it if the students could come to the home games and cheer us on, that would be great."

Engel hopes to expand the program in the future to include other sports and potentially the feeder schools.

"Hopefully this program will be a success," Engel said. "Students can help by just giving the athletes a high-five in the hallway."



Wildcat Chronicle archive photo

Senior Matt Matson gives blood at last fall's Key Club sponsored blood drive. Students will again have the opportunity to help their advisories win ice cream and pizza.

Giving back a pint at a time

Yasmyn McGee
Perspectives Editor

In November, students will be able to give back by donating blood.

The blood drive sponsored by Key Club will be held in the small gym on Nov. 13.

Students must be at least 16 or older and those who are 16 must have a parent's consent.

Students must also meet the blood bank's strict requirements in order to ensure that the blood is safe. Donors can not have illnesses or traveled recently.

According to Ward Rau, Key Club adviser, the small donation can make a huge impact.

"[It can help] people who need blood because they had surgery or people who are getting various kinds of cancer treatments who need blood transfusions," said Rau.

Rau feels that the good that students can do through the blood drive will also help themselves in the long run.

"It's a good practice for people to do but it takes a commitment for people to choose to do it. If kids get into

the pattern of donating blood and they realize it doesn't hurt or affect them that badly, they will be willing to do it continually throughout their lives," Rau said.

Refreshments will be provided for all donors.

The blood drive will run from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Students can sign up in commons or in advisory until Oct. 30.

Key Club will be giving away ice cream and pizza as prizes to advisories that have the highest percentage of participation.

Hobby leads to success

Yasmyn McGee
Perspectives Editor

Sewing doesn't just get you a piece of clothing anymore.

For junior Mayuri Parmar, what began as a simple membership into SkillsUSA for her craft in sewing freshman year lead to her earning a grant for national leadership training in Washington, D.C.

Parmar, who is a state officer, traveled Sept. 19-22 along with SkillsUSA adviser Patti Kozlowski.

She was the only student to take the trip and Kozlowski and feels that she was qualified.

"She's very intelligent, gracious and respectful," said Kozlowski. "What I like is she's sort of shy [but] she's really blossoming and learning how to voice her opinion in a business-like fashion. She represents our school very

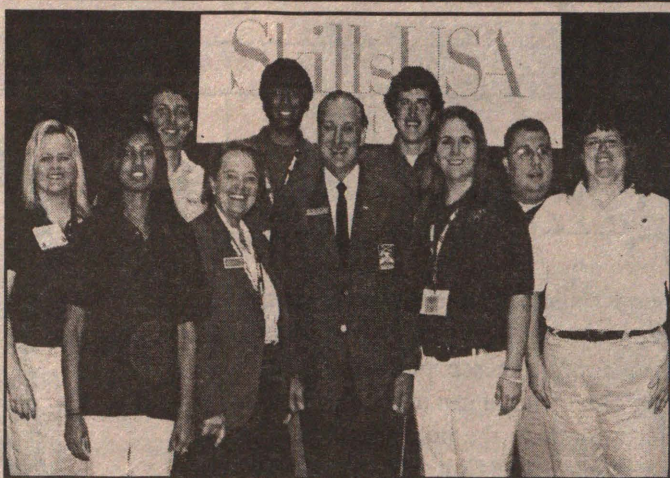


Photo courtesy of Patti Kozlowski

Junior Mayuri Parmar, pictured second from left, traveled to Washington D.C. as part of SkillsUSA with adviser Patti Kozlowski, pictured third from left.

well."

Parmar prepared for the trip by writing an essay and creating a PowerPoint on Perkin's funding which is the basis of all funding for career and technical education. She gave presentations to Rep. Peter Roskam and Sen. Dick Durbin.

"They learn how education is funded and how it all works," Kozlowski said of the purpose of the presentations.

Parmar also received her statesman pin which is one of highest honors one can get in SkillsUSA.

To do so, Parmar had to memorize the code and creed and repeat it back to the national officers and say what it meant to them and how they would apply it.

"It was hard [but] I just read it over and over again [to remember it all]," said Parmar.

One memorable experience Parmar said she's sure she won't ever forget is the Arlington National Cemetery ceremony she attended.

Parmar also attended a memorial service at the Pentagon and ended the trip with a dance with all the students.

Experiencing life as much as possible

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

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 committee made up of additional staff members.

Being involved in National Honor Society, WeGo Ambassadors and the Wellness Committee as well as doing lots of community service has paid off for senior Kelly Loftus, who was named September's Student of the Month.

What was your reaction when you were crowned Student of the Month?

I think it's cool; it looks re-

I college and swim, and I'm going to become a veterinarian.

Why do you want to be a veterinarian?

I've always loved animals. The more we talked about career options during school, the more I kept hearing that it's best to do something that will make you happy. And working with animals everyday actually started to sound like a dream come true. I think making animals better will outweigh having to see them in a bad condition. I'd really enjoy working somewhere like a zoo, because I get all dorky and in astonishment over animals like lions and kangaroos and wolves. They're just so cool.

Who influences you the most?

I know I should probably

Sophomores & Juniors:

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Photo by Kristina Manibo

Senior Kelly Loftus has been swimming since she was 12 years old, and her commitment has helped her to become September Student of the Month.

ally good on college applications because not many kids get chosen for Student of the Month.

Are you involved in any sports?

I am one of the varsity swimming captains.

Why did you decide to take up swimming?

I wasn't really into competitive swimming until I was about 12. I wanted to spend my summer doing something new, so I joined swimming. I never really thought of it as a sport until I joined. I'm absolutely in love with it; I can't think of a better way to spend my time.

What do you want to do in your future?

I want to go to a Division

say my mom or grandma or something like that, but it's honestly my club swim coach. Dan Johnson [my swim coach] is probably one of the most awesome people I've ever met. He's just an all around amazing guy and if I could end up like him, I'd be quite satisfied with life.

What do you value the most in life?

I value life in general, and living it. I try to experience as much as I can, because life, as cliché as it may sound, is way too short. I want to see everything and feel everything and hear everything and just experience everything I can. It's a waste to focus all your energy toward one thing. I like doing everything much better.

New plan in Afghanistan

It's still a ways away, but the impact of the following sentence is incredible: In March, the War in Afghanistan will surpass the Vietnam War as the longest war in American history.

Since the invasion of Afghanistan following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the main focus of the United States has been to eliminate al Qaeda and the Taliban. Eight years later and the goals are still yet to be achieved.

Sidelined by the War in Iraq which started in mid-2003, the United States' focus has once again shifted back to the War in Afghanistan.

However while distracted by Iraq, the Taliban, which had a much weaker presence by the start of 2003, has reemerged as a larger, and much more deadly threat.

The debate in Washington has now moved from health care and the economy, to how the Obama administration is going to handle this war.

With a 40 percent approval rating for continuing operations in Afghanistan according to the Associated Press, conversations are being held between both parties for their ideas.

On the right, a troop surge is being pursued. On the left, pullbacks of troops and the use of more unmanned drones is deemed best method. Both sides have reasonable opinions.

A troop surge is needed in Afghanistan. As Gen. Stanley McCrystal pointed out, this war cannot be won without additional support.

This new surge could be very effective, citing the Iraq War troop surge of 2007 where 24,000 troops were added to some of the most populated but hostile areas of Iraq in order to establish order.

Adding more troops to the populated areas of Afghanistan will allow the United States to force terrorists out of these areas, as well as to protect civilians.

With that being said, the unpopulated and more isolated areas are not safe for sending troops there as was seen in the death of the eight soldiers earlier this month.

The use of more drones will also allow the United States to monitor the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan better.

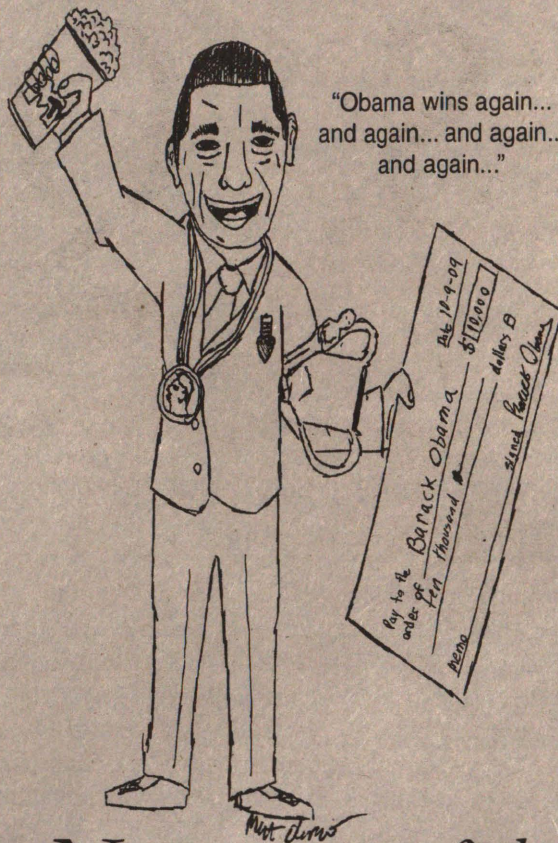
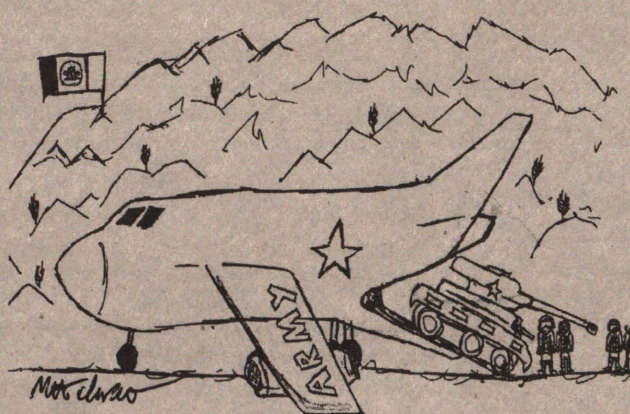
It was in Pakistan where these militants prayed at a mosque before crossing the border to attack the army base in eastern Afghanistan.

A recent political cartoon by Newsweek magazine depicted the White House in 1968, and in 2009. In both panels there is a talking bubble saying "We need to send more troops."

The cartoon mocks the current situation by comparing it to the failed situation in Vietnam saying that if we send more troops this war will end with extreme casualties and in the United States' defeat.

This war will not end in defeat if we show the enemy that we are capable of resurging.

It may have been eight years since 9/11, but we cannot give up.



Not so peaceful peace prize

When the announcement was made that President Barack Obama won the Nobel Peace Prize it shocked the public, to say the least.

Some people were outraged and wondered what he had done to even deserve the award. But their outrage was completely misguided.

For those angry at Obama receiving the award, remember it was not the president's fault that he received the prestigious award.

"To be honest, I do not feel that I deserve to be in the company of so many of the transformative figures who've been honored by this prize," said Obama.

Obama even admitted that he too is puzzled as to why he got the award. So who's to blame? The Norwegian Nobel Committee, that's who.

The five-member committee told the Associated Press that awarding Obama the peace prize could be seen as an early vote of confidence intended to build global support for the policies of his young administration.

But this early vote of confidence has prevented those who have already contributed great things from earning the award.

Other nominations included Colombian activist Piedad Cordoba, Afghan women's rights activist Simi Samar, and Denis Mukwege, a physician in Congo who opened a clinic to help rape victims. These are all people who have already shown that they deserved the award, unlike President Obama.

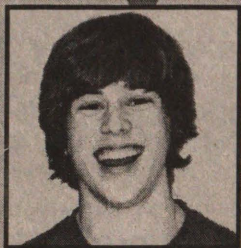
Obama will surely do great things for this country, but until then recognition should not be given to him.

Basically, give credit where credit is due.

Students Speak

Do you think Obama deserved to receive the Nobel Peace Prize?

Compiled by Yasmyn McGee



Senior

Josh Calthamer

"Yes, Obama's going to make changes."



Junior

Tracey Sanchez

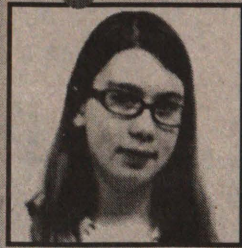
"No, what did he do to deserve it?"



Sophomore

Konita Petties

"Yes, Obama's the best. He deserved it."



Freshman

Emily Latham

"No, he didn't do anything to deserve it."

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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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Editors give their opinions on different issues surrounding the

S Q U A D



Megan Tennis
Entertainment Editor

The last time I was in the squad, I heard the usual "Go WeGo, Go WeGo, Go!" But I also heard something that made me a little uneasy.

The second one freshman stepped foot into our area everyone yelled, "Freshman leave! Freshman leave!" I was waiting for empty cups and half-eaten food to be thrown at them.

Yes, it is true that everyone is a freshman at one point in their lives, and everyone goes through the embarrassment of being the underdog, but shouldn't the school be overly welcoming given these facts?

The school cannot succeed at anything if we don't work as a whole. Students need to feel comfortable and accepted at any school-sponsored event.

We can easily make room for more support for our football team and when you get down to it, that's what the games are really about. Showing off your Wildcat spirit and giving the team motivation to win. The other team is the enemy, not our fellow Wildcats.

It may be ridiculous for the freshmen to make their own squad shirts and to sneak into the squad, but they wouldn't have to do that if we included them in the first place.

I'm not the kind of sophomore who pretends I never was a freshman but I know many people who do. We were all freshmen once. We all have something in common.



Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

Every year, students look forward to getting their latest squad shirt personalized with a quirky nickname. This year, however, the students gave the harmless wildcat claw design a sexual connotation.

The student who created the shirts only intended to draw an original, interesting design. That's what I saw it as – until someone decided to point something else out.

I would have rather never seen the other interpretation. The shirt is only what you make of it, and obviously the majority of our school population is very immature.

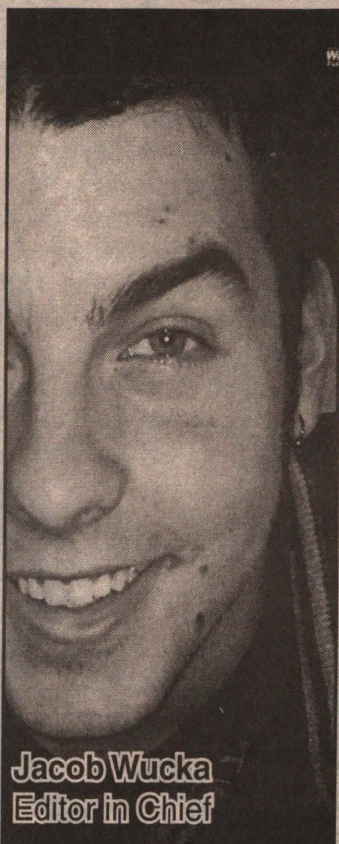
This sexual connotation started fourth hour the day we got the squad shirts, and by the end of the day, had spread to Facebook and even alumni wanted to know what was going on.

It's incredible that this spread across Facebook and that people actually cared. However, if something positive happened at our school, most graduates could probably care less.

Did anyone even stop to consider how the designer of the shirt was feeling? I don't think so.

The immaturity level necessary to spread this rumor so rapidly and successfully is sad. I had hoped that by high school, students had become mature enough to consider other people's feelings and keep their mouths closed when necessary.

The squad is not supposed to hurt anyone's feelings or encourage rumors and immaturity, but do just the opposite.



Jacob Wucka
Editor in Chief

Being a freshman and going to football games was always a special event for me. Of course, I wore the blue and white paint, and would cheer for the seniors on the field even though I had never heard of any of them.

I also remember being a sheepish freshman and avoiding the squad at all costs because I had no right to be there. The squad was a place for the older kids that earned their spots there, and it still is. Freshmen should stay out of the squad.

First and foremost, it's the tradition. For as long as any recent students remember the squad had always been exclusive to the upperclassmen.

We don't allow freshmen in and get mad at them when they try to join because we have respect for the tradition. We abided by the rules and they should too.

Freshmen can call it stupid or unfair, but it's how it's been. You can claim that this is a bad tradition like slavery, or women not being able to vote, but it's completely different.

This tradition is just a simple high school tradition, nothing more, nothing less. It doesn't cause any physical or emotional harm to these freshmen.

Also I highly doubt this debate is just about being allowed to cheer with the squad. It's most likely about buying the t-shirts.

Freshmen need to wait. The class of 2010 waited for their turn, the class of 2013 can wait too.



Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

The support the squad shows for the football team is contagious; it affects everyone from the players to the parents keeping them in high spirits throughout the game, win or lose. So why is this amazing school spirit only shown at football games?

Nobody can deny the fact that football is the dominant sport in the school; it's everywhere. Friday night football games come with an elaborate halftime show and a stadium filled with energetic fans. The presence of the squad, though, is what really separates this sport from the rest. The 12th man section of the bleachers is filled with students dressed head to toe in blue and white chanting out battle cries.

True, about half the squad shows their support at a few home volleyball matches, and during basketball season the squad dominates the bleachers, but what about all the other sports in the school? The cross-country, tennis, swimming, golf, and soccer teams are all currently in season, but where's the support? The squad's purpose is to support every team at the school, and without their presence, these teams might mistakenly assume that their peers don't care about their sport.

Being a part of the squad is about more than just an excuse to wear a cool t-shirt; it's about showing support for every team at our school rain or shine and win or lose. It's about being united as a school and showing the DVC that no matter what sport it is, we support our athletes.



Megan Hernbroth
Features Editor

It is as much of a tradition as the squad itself to go to a friend's house before the game to get dressed up, or down, and paint every inch of exposed skin blue and white. The tradition stops there.

This harmless tradition becomes careless, hazardous, and illegal once students break into their family's liquor cabinets to pre-game "like the college kids."

In order to pre-game like a college kid, students need to actually attend a college instead of a high school. This notion makes these squad members look even more immature compared to the college students. By trying to look cool, they have made themselves look stupid.

Being intoxicated at the football games is completely disrespectful to the football team on the field which fights hard for a win every week, to the school that puts together an event that all family members are welcome to attend, and to every other member of the squad who showed up to the game sober.

Think back to freshman year; did you need a water bottle filled with alcohol to have fun with your group of friends?

One day, these squad members will look back to reminisce about high school football games, yet will realize they have no memories of them.



Timeless Treats

Halloween has stood the test of time, proving that spooks will never go out of style

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

Although trends come and go one thing has remained the same: the innocent chills and thrills of Halloween.

English teacher Mary Hafertepe reminisced about the times when all you needed was a white sheet and an empty bag.

"The main thing to do on Halloween when I was a kid was trick-or-treating. I lived in a suburb of Minneapolis and we had long blocks with lots of houses. We literally ran to each house and covered about 12 city blocks," said Hafertepe.

Unlike Halloween today, you wouldn't see kids out in costumes when the sun was still shining.

"Back then, nobody started trick-or-treating until it was dark and you had to be done by nine. I was a kid during the baby boom, so my parents would buy enough candy for about 250 kids," said Hafertepe.

Nowadays, dangers such as child abductors and poisoned candy are a concern for parents with little ones, but in Hafertepe's time, things were much different.

"By the time you were in first or second grade you

could go trick-or-treating by yourself. When you hit sixth or seventh grade, though, you usually stopped trick-or-treating and went to Halloween parties. Bobbing for apples was the big thing to do, which is a bit unsanitary now that I think about it," laughed Hafertepe.

As always, though, there weren't just treats, there was also an abundance of tricks.

"The main pranks were chalking people's screens and soaping windows. Another real nasty one was the older kids would put ice cubes in the little kids' paper trick-or-treat bags so it would eventually make a hole in the bag and all of the candy would fall out," said Hafertepe.

Dressing up was one thing that has remained pretty much the same over the years, including elaborate costumes and face make-up.

"I went to a private Catholic school and we would have to dress up as saints on Halloween. At night, though, my dad would do theater make-up on our faces and one time we dressed up my brother in a pink coat and hat and made his face look like a pig," said Hafertepe.

On the lookout for tricksters

By Jacob Wucka
Editor In Chief

Halloween night is the time for pranksters to come out and lurk on unsuspecting houses; egging them and smashing the jack-o-lanterns placed innocently in the front yard.

However, pranksters and underage partiers beware: West Chicago police treat Halloween like any other day.

"Our biggest concerns on Halloween are the curfew, the safety of trick-or-treaters, traffic, pranks, and the potential for vandalism, underage drinking, or unsupervised parties," said police liaison Joe Gaztambide.

This year, Halloween falls on a Saturday meaning that people can trick-or-treat until 11 p.m.

Of course there are exceptions for supervised trick or treaters, but according to Gaztambide there are clear differences from kids coming home late from trick-or-treating, and those up to no good.

When there are kids up to no good, Gaztambide, says appropriate action is taken by the police.

"[If a kid is caught smashing pumpkins] it's criminal damage to property and you can actually get arrested for that," said Gaztambide.

The two biggest complaints Gaztambide says the police get are for egged houses and

prank calls.

"[When a house gets egged] we find out who it was, and then we either have the kid wash it off or pay to have the eggs washed off," said Gaztambide.

As for parties, Gaztambide says that cops are still on full force, listening to noise complaints, and other tips that may lead to underage drinking or other illegal activities.

"We check for three things: to make sure there is no underage drinking, that the noise levels are appropriate, and that the party is supervised," said Gaztambide.

He says the police just want to make sure that Halloween is a safe and fun holiday for all.

Spooky past

By Yasmyn McGee
Perspectives Editor

About 2,000 years ago in what is now Ireland, the United Kingdom and northern France, a group called the Celts, celebrated their New Year's Eve on Oct. 31. On this day they called All Hallows' Eve, the Celts believed that at night ghosts returned to earth to cause mischief and damage crops.

To keep ghosts away from their homes, some would place bowls of food outside of their houses to appease

the ghosts and prevent them from entering. Others, who believed that the spirits were friendly, would set places at the dinner table, leave treats on doorsteps and alongside the road and light candles to help loved ones find their way back to the spirit world.

Celts also thought that Druids or Celtic priests could easily make predictions. To celebrate the event Druids built sacred bonfires for crop and animal sacrifices to Celtic deities.

As Romans conquered Celtic territory Roman tradi-

tions were combined with the celebration of All Hallows' Eve. Romans traditionally commemorated the passing of the dead and honored the Roman goddess of fruit and trees, Pomona, in late October. The tradition of bobbing for apples came from these events because of the apple which symbolized Pomona.

When European immigrants came to America, they brought their different Halloween customs with them. However, Halloween was most commonly practiced in Maryland and the southern colonies. Halloween traditions during this time included throwing "play parties" which were held to celebrate the harvest, share stories of the dead, tell each other's for-

tune, dance, sing and create mischief of all kinds.

Once Irish immigrants fleeing from the Irish potato famine of 1846 arrived in America, the custom of dressing up in costumes and going house to house asking for food or money began to spread which led to today's trick-or-treating practice.

By the 1930s, Halloween had grown into a community centered holiday with parades and town-wide parties as the featured entertainment.

Vandalism rates also decreased within towns in the 1950s once families realized they could avoid tricks being played on them by providing tasty treats to neighborhood trick-or-treaters.

Source: www.history.com



Most Common
Costume:
Witch

*based on a survey
of 80 students

A haunted family business

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

Creepy costumes, haunted barns, and ghostly wagon rides all play a part in the annual Fall Festival at Sonny Acres in West Chicago.

The festival, which has been going on for over 50 years, started off small but has rapidly grown to include a costume shop, petting zoo, amusement rides, spook shed, haunted hay rides, and more.

"Originally, it was a regular farm, it was a dairy farm at one point," said Ellyn Feltes, who has been working at the family-owned and run business for 22 years. "Then in the '70s, it began to evolve with little corn mazes, and school fieldtrips. In the '80s, we turned the cow barn into a haunted barn."

Feltes refers to the business as 'agro-tainment', or agriculture based entertainment. The Feltes family originally changed

it from a regular farm into a family attraction because it brought in more money.

"It's a really fun place, a place where you can make memories worth repeating," Feltes said, quoting the Sonny Acres slogan.

costume show every February where we pick out our costumes so that we have them in time for the festival," Feltes said. "Our most popular is the black robes and a mask."

The prices on different pieces of the costumes range from \$15 to \$50.

The entertainment portion of the festival is more popular than the shops, and typically, just the shops are affected by the economy.

"Retail has gone down over



Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Community High school alumna Karen Brooks has been happily working at Sonny Acres for the past eight seasons.

The most popular attraction at the festival is the haunted hay wagon. The ride lasts 20 minutes and has 30 live characters along the way to frighten the visitors. Tickets cost \$9 and Feltes recommends the ride for the whole family.

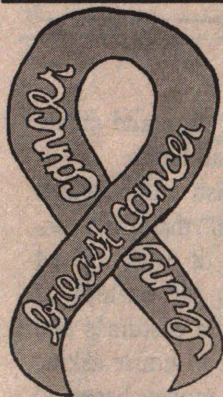
Another part of the festival is the costume shop, which opened in the '70s and is stocked with a variety of costumes and masks.

"We go to a Halloween

the years, but overall the entertainment has stayed the same over the past five to six years," Feltes said.

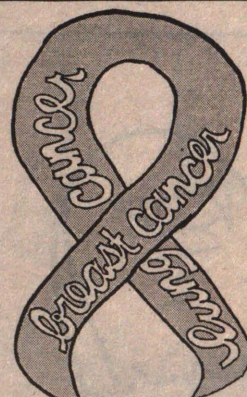
Tickets for the rides cost \$1, and each ride costs between three and five tickets. During the week, the hours for the festival are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on weekends until 10 p.m. through Oct. 31. Some attractions are only open on weekends, and more information can be found at www.sonnyacres.com.





One day at a time

Two students adjust to life with a mother with cancer



Personal strength comes from mother's survival

By Jacob Wucka
Editor in Chief

Last year when Julie Koehring, mother of senior Kelli Koehring, came to Volley for the Cure she wore a pink scarf over where her hair had once been.

This year Julie came to the game with her black hair grown back and knowing that she is one of many women who has overcome breast cancer.

"Probably every day [you think about dying] until they tell you they got all of the cancer out," said Julie.

Julie was diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer in March 2008, following a self-examination in which she discovered a lump.

"I was in disbelief because no one in my family has had cancer. I was also fearful be-

cause when you hear you have cancer you automatically ask 'am I going to die?'" said Julie.

At first, she thought it was impossible for her to have breast cancer.

"I had always gone and gotten a mammogram every year for 10 to 12 years now. I had one in August of 2007, and I was diagnosed in March of 2008," said Julie. "I found out there are two kinds of breast cancer and the kind I had doesn't show up on mammograms."

Kelli had known something was wrong with her mother around the time she was diagnosed. When Julie was going to a doctor's appointment, she told Kelli she was going furniture shopping with a friend.

Kelli could tell her mom was lying and asked where



Photos by Jacob Wucka

Junior Kelli Koehring and her mother Julie have a stronger bond than before her mom was diagnosed with cancer.

she was really going, joking that she would want to know if her mom was getting tested for breast cancer. When she learned of Julie's diagnosis, she was completely surprised.

"I was very shocked and scared," said Kelli. "I didn't

know how bad it would be."

Following her diagnosis, Julie promptly began chemotherapy; having six sessions every three weeks.

"Right after I had chemo I felt worse but progressively I got better. I just felt really tired and nauseous," said Ju-

lie. She also began losing her hair quickly after her first chemotherapy session.

"The anticipation of losing my hair was scary," said Julie. "I was told that by my

See Survivor, page 11

Being terminal is no longer the end for one junior and his mother

By Megan Hernbroth
Features Editor

Three years ago, junior Bobby Giese's biggest worry was high school and video games, but once his mom was diagnosed with lung cancer in April 2007, all of his other worries disappeared.

"When we first found out she had a tumor, we were really hopeful that it was benign," said Giese. "We were hoping that it was pressure that was causing my mom's pain."

Giese's mother began experiencing back pain in December 2006. After many doctors' appointments during five months, she requested an x-ray where doctors discovered a tumor 7 1/2 inches in diameter in her lung near her heart. A lung tumor over 3 inches is considered to be large.

"We were really hoping that it wasn't cancer," said Giese, "but she smoked a lot

when she was younger and her dad had cancer."

Test results were in on April 11, 2007, and the results were not what the family had hoped for. Stage 3 Type B lung cancer has a low survival rate, and Giese's mom had six weeks to six months

would either shrink or at least stop growing. After two months, the tumor decreased to roughly half its original size.

"It was miraculous," said Giese. "We were really optimistic about it. We were amazed by the results. They

'To be terminal just means that you're dying now, and you'll eventually die from the disease because you ran out, but you could still live for 20 years and be terminal.'

-- Junior Bobby Giese

to live.

"My whole family came over when we found out," said Giese. "Everyone was upset and completely dumbfounded, but we were all trying to hold it together."

In response to the diagnosis, doctors gave Giese's mom the harshest chemotherapy available, hoping the tumor

gave her a few weeks to live, and then the chemo actually worked, so it was just amazing."

The "big, bad chemo," as Giese describes it, became less effective over time, as the cancer cells became immune to it. Since then, she has been bouncing from treatment to treatment, hoping for some-

thing better to come along.

"They told us that the tumor wasn't going to get any smaller than it was after the big, bad chemo," said Giese. "That's how we found out she was terminal."

Finding out his mother was terminal was not the worst part of the struggle with cancer for Giese. He then discovered being terminal was not a death sentence.

"We weren't happy when

we found out she was terminal," said Giese, "but we were still grateful. To be terminal

See Courage, page 11

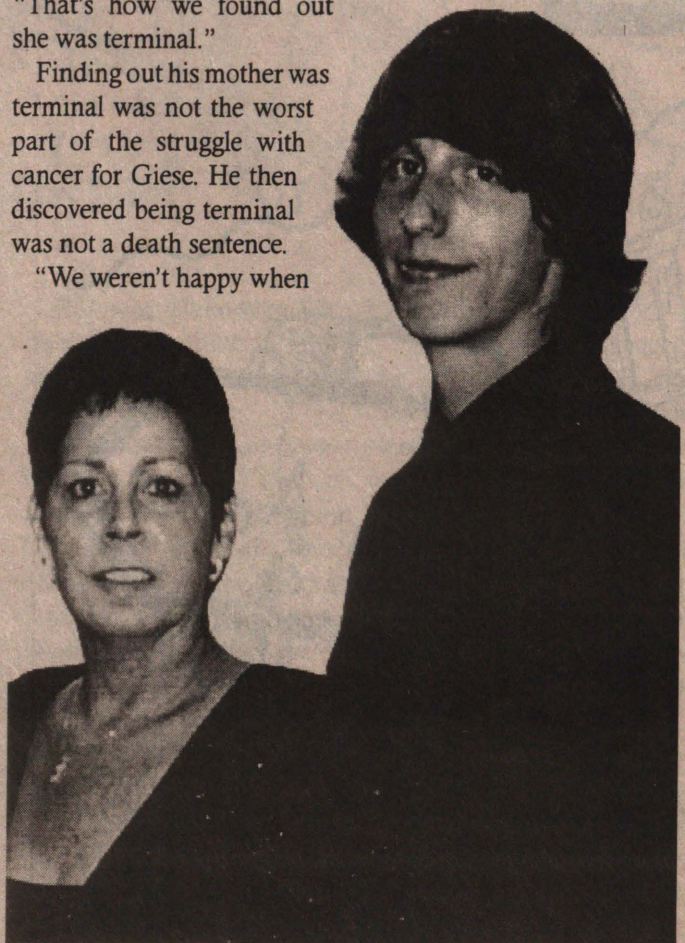


Photo courtesy of Bobby Giese

Junior Bobby Giese helps his mother battle through terminal lung cancer on a day-to-day basis.

Survivor: Having a positive attitude through struggle

Continued from page 10

second chemotherapy session my hair would be falling out. One day I could grab it and it would just come into my hand. I eventually shaved my head."

In August 2008, Julie received a double mastectomy, a surgical procedure in which both breasts are removed. It was during this procedure when Kelli thought she could lose her mom.

"We were sitting in the waiting room, and the doctors would come out and hug the other families and tell them that the procedure went fine for their family member. But the instant her doctor came out and said 'Can we see the family in the consultation room?' I really had a bad thought," said Kelli.

However, the surgery went fine and Julie was officially cleared of breast cancer. She was then approved for ra-

diation therapy, which began mid-September and lasted every day for a month.

Through this time, things got hard but Julie kept up with household chores as she normally would have.

"Having a positive attitude is important," said Julie. "Sitting around and feeling sorry for yourself will only hurt you and your family."

After the radiation therapy, she underwent reconstructive cosmetic surgeries with her first in November, and her most recent surgery in June.

Now that she is in remission Julie goes about her life as though she never had cancer. However the fear that the disease could return will always stay with her.

"That I could get breast cancer again is always in the back of my mind, but I just go on with my life, I try to be a good mom, take care of my kids, and go on as though it's normal," said Julie.



Photos by Jacob Wucka

At Volley for the Cure on Oct. 8, (top left) junior Reid Howington cheers on the team as (top right) freshman Sarah Pearson gives survivor Pam Stotz a ceremonial flower, and (bottom) senior Alex Schreiber-Deam, right, and mother celebrate overcoming breast cancer together.

Courage: family put to the ultimate test of love

Continued from page 10

just means that you're dying now, and you'll eventually die from the disease because you ran out, but you could still live for 20 years and be terminal."

One point Giese emphasized was that his mother does not want anyone's pity, and his house does not run all that differently than it use to because of his mother's cancer.

"She does not want to be pitied," said Giese. "I'm not going to personally avoid arguments with her because of the cancer because I don't want to act that way out of pity, but some of my not-immediate family members may pity her because they don't always fully understand everything. She does not want to be looked at as someone with cancer; she wants to be looked at as Debbie Giese."

Beyond family, Giese's mother has a support system to keep her strong.

"Her friends come over all the time," said Giese. "They get off work to take her out to lunch and celebrate their birthdays together. Sometimes we are able to take her friends on our vacations so my mom is able to hang out with them and have some fun."

Throughout two and a half years, marked exactly Oct. 11, Giese has learned lessons he will carry for the rest of his life.

"You hear all these stories of cancer," said Giese, "and you never think it'll happen to you. You truly find out how much that person means to you and how much you care about them. You want to help them so much, but you know there is really nothing you can do."

Presently, Giese's mother is back on the "big, bad chemo" treatment because her back pain increased and the tumor increased to its original size. She gets three different chemotherapy treatments in one day, and then repeats this process once a month.

"We sit through her six-hour chemotherapy sessions with her," said Giese. "And, as a family, just try to spend time together because we really don't know how much time we have left."

Giese's worries now only include his mother, and whether today is a good or bad day.

"I look at life completely differently," said Giese. "I understand how fragile and important it is. Even though she's still here, I see how different my life would be without her."

Joining the fight as a community

By Yasmyrn McGee
Perspectives Editor

With October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month, two sport teams and a local hair salon have showed their support by hosting events to commemorate those who have or did have the disease.

Girls cross country hosted the Run For The Cure invitational in order to raise money for cancer. Proceeds went to the Ronald McDonald's cancer organization.

Members of girls and boys cross country were involved as they raised money through t-shirt sales and cookies and drinks sold during the invite.

"It could have been better organized and it would have been cool if more schools were there but it was a good start," said sophomore Kelsey Sayner.

Coach Robert Maxson doesn't doubt that next year's invite will be an even bigger success.

"[Why it matters to students] is a question that each student will have to ask themselves," said Maxson. "I think that West Chicago High School has done a terrific job teaching opportunities that people can use to give back to

their community and make the world a slightly better place for everybody. I think we all know people who've been affected by cancer."

The meet also had a personal meaning for senior captain Annette Eichenberger.

"I think Run For The Cure went really well and the other teams really enjoyed our meet because we were really open to them," said senior Eichenberger. "My mom has cancer so that race meant a lot to me."

The girls volleyball team also showed its support for breast cancer awareness by hosting a game to raise money through admittance fees, a 50/50 raffle, t-shirt sales and other promotional items for sale on Oct. 8.

The team also held a ceremony recognizing breast cancer survivors to celebrate those who have overcome the disease and hung ribbons around the gym with people's names who died trying to fight it.

"My best friend's mom had breast cancer so [it's nice that] the money went towards the breast cancer foundation," said freshman volleyball player Amy Bartyzel.

In honor of Breast Cancer

Awareness Month the Suzanne Denee Salon and Day Spa in St. Charles put pink extensions in customers hair for \$10.

"[Girls volleyball] did it as a program for Volley for the Cure to help raise money for breast cancer awareness," said junior Christin LaCour "The salon sent over a few ladies and they set up little stations in the hallway outside the locker room. We would pay them, they'd hand us the hair clip and we would go to someone else, they'd melt it in our hair and the next one would trim it for us."

For junior Lucy Fuentes it was a team bonding experience as well as a way to recognize those who had the disease.

"I work with a woman who has recovered from breast cancer and we're really close," said Fuentes. "I got it because my whole cross country team got it [to show our support]."

However, students not involved in sport teams got involved in the event too.

"All the money goes to cancer research and my grandma had cancer so it was an easy decision," said freshman Katie Yackey.

It's time for horror movie season

'Paranormal Activity' toys with your deepest fears

By **Jacob Wucka**
Editor In Chief

Most horrors films nowadays consist of blood, gore, and cheap thrills.

However "Paranormal Activity" exploits simple fears like a dark hallway, the feeling of being watched, or hearing things go bump in the night, in the most effective horror film of recent years.

Built on a tiny budget of \$15,000 but with domestic revenues already topping \$33 million, the R-rated

"Paranormal" follows a similar formula to that of 1999's successful "The Blair Witch Project."

Like "Blair Witch," "Paranormal" is filmed completely on a hand-held camera and is said to be true archive footage from the San Diego Police Department.

"Paranormal Activity" tells the story of Micah and Katie. They are an average couple, Micah a day-trader and Katie a student, living in San Diego in 2006.

Katie has been haunted by some paranormal phenom-

enon since she was 8 years old. When spooky happenings begin occurring in their home she calls a psychic.

The psychic tells them that they are not dealing with a ghost, but a demon: the difference being that ghosts are harmless, and demons, on the other hand, know no bounds.

He warns Micah to not exacerbate the situation by calling on the demon, but Micah, who just doesn't listen, buys a camera and records their day-to-day lives in hopes of capturing this activity on tape.

Coincidentally as Micah begins recording, the demon's presence grows and in some circumstances becomes violent.

The best and most goose-bump inducing scenes occur at night, when the night-vision comes on, and time begins to fast forward.

Everything from footsteps to loud thuds can be heard, and even creepier things can be seen like doors moving on their own, and the shadow of a figure that isn't there.

This movie's spook factor is its greatest quality, along with how the audience reacts.

Whenever the night-vision setting comes on, and the timestamp slows, the audience's heart rate speeds up as each person grips the person next to them tightly, even if they are strangers.

When something does happen, the entire auditorium erupts in collective screeches, gasps, and eager anticipation for what's next.

These interactions and outbursts from the audience make "Paranormal" one of the greatest movie-watching experiences to have in theaters.

Everything about this film was effective: its original approach, its perfectly executed

scenes of creepiness, and its modest structure.

What made this film more genuinely scary was the fact that it wasn't just a ghost popping out for a quick shock.

"Paranormal" shows that the idea of a demon skulking and waiting beside their bed is much scarier.

This movie is not for the easily spooked, although they add to the atmosphere and make the film more entertaining. Nor is this movie for those that think this is true archival footage (spoiler alert: it's not).

"Paranormal Activity" is mainly for horror movie fans that are sick of remakes and bloodbaths.

After seeing this movie you will not be able to lie in bed without glancing at the bedroom door every now and then, wondering if there's something watching you in that dark hallway.

Been there, Saw that

Should the 'Saw' series continue, or are five films enough?

They're Awesome!

By **Megan Hernbroth**
Features Editor

The most recent phenomena in the horror movie category is the blood and guts genre. And no other series captures this better than the R-rated "Saw" series.

"Saw" movies have paved the way for other gore-driven movies, using swimming pools of fake blood in the process. But there's a reason the "Saw" movies draw more followers than any other gore-fest, and that's because it's not just gore.

Some audiences are not able to see past the sawed-off legs and acid-burned bodies, yet there is a plot beneath the nail bombs and lethal viruses.

Even though the "Saw" movies contain extensive amounts of fake blood and body parts, audience members should be able to overlook that because of the utterly amazing plot, leaving audiences completely stunned. Each movie builds on the last in a way never seen coming by the audience and in a way that is absolute genius.

Genius plot twists and turns keep audiences on the edge of their seats the entire 90 minutes. For the last 10 minutes, jaws drop and typically this audience member gets frustrated with the lack of answers you're waiting for the entire movie.

Needless to say, the sixth "Saw" was needed to set the bar even higher for gore movies that are way more than blood and guts.

They're Overrated!

By **Jacob Wucka**
Editor In Chief

When R-rated "Saw" first debuted in 2004, it was praised by critics and fans as being not only scary, but an intelligent horror film.

But six films in, this franchise has become one of the most boring franchises in history. Yes, every movie ends with a twist, but what's the point of seeing a movie that you already know that it's going to end with a twist? It's a waste of time.

Secondly, the antagonist, the Jigsaw killer, has been dead for three films now, and in "Saw IV," "V," and "VI" the antagonist has been one of Jigsaw's apprentices.

Honestly, this guy has more apprentices than Donald Trump and it's annoying that the direction of the franchise is now following a completely new killer.

Next Halloween, expect to see "Saw VII," because it was announced last year with "Saw V" that the franchise will continue way on into 2010.

However, unlike previous "Saw" films, "VII" is supposed to be in 3D. It seems like the producers of these movies are willing to do whatever it takes to still milk whatever money is left in this franchise.

Although horror movies do not always have the most original plots, audiences want to see something different. People have had enough with the same old torture films, and are ready to move onto something better.


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With the rise of the Internet, so has come the start of social networking, and blogging. Join the Chronicle as we look at the progress made in how we communicate and how we get our news.

Leaving the nest: The history of social networking sites from MySpace to Twitter

By Yasmyrn McGee
Perspectives Editor

With social networking more popular than ever, MySpace, Facebook and Twitter are competing for the number one spot.

MySpace started in 2004 by co-founders Chris DeWolfe and Tom Anderson, the original purpose was to create a new social network combined with personal self-expression enabled by other sites like blogs and webpages.

Features such as commenting on others' personalized profile pages, updating one's status and the newly added instant messaging kept the site the number one used social networking site in the U.S.

But in 2008 MySpace ran

into safety issues involving an increasing number of pedophiles and sexual predators, provocative images and reconstruction of social security numbers from users' profile information.

But since Facebook came into the picture in 2004, founded by Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg and created with the purpose of having a social network just for college students, it has passed internationally as far as users with 117 million members.

The features that make Facebook popular and unique

are groups that users can create and join according to their interests, gifts and flairs they can receive and send out to friends and applications such as Scrabble and Graffiti.

"We can talk to people [on their walls] and on MySpace you can't do that," said freshman Keyuri Parmar.

Jack Dorsey for social networking, is the most up-and-coming social site to rise in popularity. Most of its users are older adults with 11 percent being teens.

"I have a Twitter account but I don't use it because it's really stupid,"

can be summed up by industry analyst Jeremiah Owyang.

"Most of Twitter's usage comes from older adults who might not use other sites before Twitter.

Adults are just catching up to what teens have been doing for years," said Owyang at www.mashable.com.

While the number of teen members may be small, a number that continues to increase is the number of celebrity membership. Celebs such as Britney Spears to Shaquille O'Neal have a Twitter profile.

The feature that is most popular with Twitter is the updating of messages known as "tweets" of no more than 140 characters which users can read and send.



"You can also take tests."

Twitter, created in 2006 by

said junior Kristina Terry. "It's like a copycat of Facebook but a worse version of it."

A reasonable explanation to why Twitter's popularity

They may not always be true but... Bloggers, the next generation of news

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Print journalism is being replaced by bloggers that now define what journalism is becoming.

Traditional printed newspapers, like the Daily Herald, are slowly declining, moving towards online news for their readership.

Since cell phones like the Blackberry and iPhone have Internet access, it only takes minutes to type in a website and check news updates and stories.

In March 2008 a 150-year-old newspaper, the Rocky Mountain News, folded. It's only a matter of time before all print ends.

Time Inc., one of the biggest magazine companies, cut 600 jobs, and Gannett, the largest publishing company, recently slashed 3,000 jobs. These companies have sought refuge in the Internet.

However, bloggers like Arianna Huffington have job security. huffingtonpost.com claims to be "the Internet newspaper." But content featured on the site is not necessarily news; it consists of opinionated stories.

Main news networks like ABC, NBC, and FOX now have online blogs so people are able to join the circle and discuss opinions without leaving their computers. This is growing more popular as different people become connected within the same story. This allows people to feel like they are part of making and reporting the news. Also, TMZ and Perez Hilton's entertainment reporting is booming.

These gossip websites make fun of the latest star couples or the week's worst outfits, and talk about what a star has done that can be made fun of.

Websites like these are popular because, for some, gossip is a source of entertainment. It may not be true, but it still sells.

These bloggers and Internet news sources are forcing print newspapers and magazines into extinction.

Going viral to be famous

By Megan Tennis
Entertainment Editor

The newest way to get your 15 minutes of fame is the Internet. All you have to do is upload your videos to YouTube and see who watches. Check out three YouTubers that got pretty lucky.

Lucas Cruikshank

Cruikshank, or better known as Fred, started uploading videos of himself talking like a crazed 6 year old and goofing off thinking nothing of it. Little did he know that his videos were going to be watched by millions. Cruikshank started the Fred channel in October 2005. By April 2009, the channel had over 1 million subscribers. His hit videos are centered around a fictional character named Fred Figglehorn who has a dysfunctional family and anger management issues. Cruikshank took his ability to entertain others to the next level by guest starring as Fred on Nickelodeon's hit TV show "iCarly" and making an appearance at the 2009 "Teen Choice Awards."

Justin Bieber

The 15 year old entered a local singing competition when he was just 13. Videos of his performance were soon uploaded to YouTube and discovered by So So Def Jam marketing executive Scooter Braun, who later became Bieber's manager. But if that wasn't enough for the soulful singer, hot recording artist Usher took Bieber under his wing and helped him rocket into a world outside of YouTube. Bieber's single "One Time" was a crowd pleaser and he is scheduled to record his first album soon.

Esmee Denters

Back in August 2006 the Dutch singer-songwriter started uploading videos of herself performing covers of popular songs by Mariah Carey, Beyonce, Natasha Bedingfield and Brandy. Denters' powerful pipes caught the attention of superstar Justin Timberlake in 2008. She became the first artist to sign with Timberlake's new label Tennman. Timberlake and Denters even recorded a single together called "Follow my Lead." Her single and music video for "Outta Here" was released this year.



Sectionals within sight

Cross-country making strides as meet approaches

By Megan Hernbroth
Features Editor

Outpacing previous years, both girls and boys cross-country have the state meet within their grasp.

With three teams left to beat, the sectionals meet is within the girls' sights.

"My goal is to make it to sectionals," said senior Annette Eichenberger. "And I think we'll end up getting a few girls to state, hopefully."

Competing at the DVC meet on Friday at West Aurora, the girls came in seventh overall.

"We had some huge personal records in freshmen and open races," said Eichenberger, "but I think it was a wake-up call for us to be prepared for regionals. We need better starts and we didn't warm up enough before the race."

At the Race for the Cure home meet at Reed Kepler Park against Plainfield East on Oct. 10, the team ran well in order to win.

"Tanya and I set the pace for the girls," said Eichenberger. "We won overall, so it was good."

Eichenberger believes she has worked hard this year, and it has paid off with a 15th place ranking in the state.

"Coach Maxson has been cracking down on our hard workouts this year," said Eichenberger. "I think

it has really helped out and I think we have surprised ourselves on how much we can do as a team."

At their last meet against Lisle, Eichenberger placed fourth with a time of 20:20.

"Kelsey and I have been running together throughout the season," said Eichenberger, "and at that meet we both ran really well. I think she ended up getting seventh overall."

Newcomer junior Kaitlyn Anders joined the team in order to train for the upcoming track season, yet found new strengths by the end of the season.

"I really improved on my endurance," said Anders, "and I became better at distance running in general."

At the Lisle meet, Anders worked as hard as the rest of the team, and was rewarded with a time of 26:20, 20 seconds faster than her old time.

"I was really happy with that personal best because that was a hard course," said Anders. "But I'm really glad I joined because it has been a great experience."

BOYS

With the best team since 2003, the boys cross-country team is wrapping up its season with thoughts of the sectionals meet.

"The guys are finishing off very well," said head coach Paul McLeland. "Everything is coming together."

Junior Derrik Pietrobon looked back on the season,

hoping practices pay off with a spot for the team in sectionals.

"As a whole we've all been doing well," said Pietrobon. "We've had lots of improvement and a lot of personal bests. We want to place in the top six at the DVC and the top five at sectionals to hopefully make it to state."

At the DVC meet at West Aurora on Friday, the boys placed seventh out of eight teams.

"Even though a lot of the team got personal bests, we had to overcome a lot of obstacles during the race," said sophomore Marcus Delatorre.

The boys competed against Plainfield East at the Race for the Cure at Reed Kepler Park on Oct. 10, where the results were described as "dominating."

"We totally dominated the other team," said Pietrobon. "I got fourth overall, and my time was 16:47, but our team did really well."

At a previous meet at Lisle, hopes of overall success were left in the dust as the team seemed to come up short.

"We went into that meet having high expectations," said Pietrobon. "A few guys placed high, but not as high as we expected."

Both teams will compete at the sectionals meet on Oct. 31.

Serving strong

By Megan Tennis
Entertainment Editor

Hard work clearly paid off as the girls tennis team beat their opponents at several recent matches.

After a strong fight, the varsity team lost 6-1 to West Aurora on Oct. 3, to Wheaton Academy on Oct. 4 with a score of 3-2, and to Naperville Central on Oct. 7 with a score of 6-1. However, at a match on Oct. 1 at Glenbard North, varsity won 5-2.

"We are doing really well at most of the meets. I wish we could do better in the DVC," said varsity coach Sione Moeaki. "They've really improved compared to the first day of practice."

Moeaki said that senior varsity captains Madeline Urban and Jamie Antczak are doing very well because they have

been playing for four years and have more experience than the other players.

Urban also believes that team morale is better.

"We all get along," said Urban. "It's like a family."

Junior varsity captain Kelsey Malan said her personal goals are to win as many matches as possible.

"The team has to have fun. If you always expect people to win, it crushes them when they don't," said Malan.

Urban believes the team to be successful next year.

"We need to work on serving and staying in game no matter if we're losing or winning," said Urban.

Antczak agrees. "They need to work on keeping a positive attitude next year," said Antczak. "We always go in thinking that we are going to lose so we need to be more optimistic."

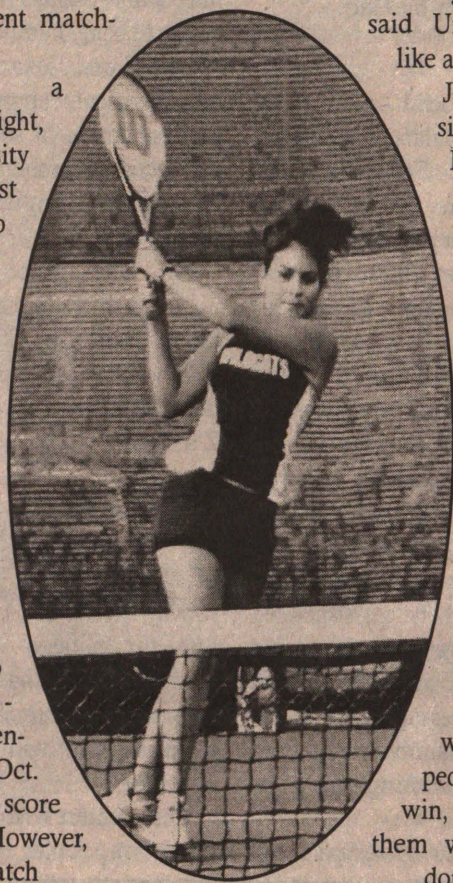


Photo courtesy of Matt Ackerman

Exerting her strength, senior Jessica Munoz strikes the ball back across the net when facing an opponent.

A lot of hard work needed for girls to get to state

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

With a rough start to the season and tough competition ahead, the girls swim team is confident in its ability to advance to state.

"Due to the increased intensity of practice the girls are much more sore and tired than they were last year. This means that the girls get frustrated a lot of the time at meets when they are not going as fast as they thought they should go," head coach Nick Parry said. "However, [the coaching staff] tries to remind the girls that our goals are for the month of November not the month of October and that they need to keep plugging away and good things will happen during our

championship schedule."

The team has a record of 26-13, and countless individual first place finishes. On Saturday, they came in second place at Naperville Central. Senior and captain Caity Madsen and junior Kelly Dunn both had two first place finishes and freshman Yvette Kruk had one. The strongest swimmers include Madsen, senior captains Maria Sedjo and Kelly Loftus, Dunn, Kruk and freshman Maya Skorupski. Varsity swimmer Shawn Staton agrees with Parry, and feels that the team is getting stronger.

"We've had a bumpy season, but we've gotten stronger physically and emotionally," said Staton. "We've gotten past our bump, and it's going

to help us at the conference meet."

The swimmers believe that the team has improved drastically from last year, in part due to the fact that two excellent freshmen, Skorupski and Kruk, are now members of the team.

"We're definitely doing better than last year," Sedjo said. "We're just determined and worked really hard during the off-season."

It takes a lot of work, but the work pays off in the end.

"The team is improving a lot," Dunn said. "We're all tired, but we're also close to, if not beating, our best times."

Although the girls are, of course, striving for perfection, it's difficult to achieve, and they're happy just to be

improving.

"You always have this perfect idea in your head, but I always want to go faster," Sedjo said.

Overall, Parry is content with how the team is doing compared to last year.

"For the most part we are much more competitive that we were in the past couple of years. Our relay times are around a second faster that they were last year, but when it comes to individual events were are at about the same place," Parry said.

Dunn would like to place in the top six in state, and her goal for the team is to send as many swimmers as possible to state, and to have three relays compete in state.

As Dunn said, "It's going to take a lot of hard work."



Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Junior Shawn Staton swims laps without using her legs, but by just using her arms.

Not going down easily

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

After a tough start to the season, the varsity boys soccer team finished up strong with a record of 8-11-3.

The boys won their first IHSA regional game against Plainfield South on Saturday. Results from their second game against Neuqua Valley on Tuesday were not available as of press time.

"We haven't been seeing too much success on the field; there have been a lot of single goal games, which has been frustrating. Since we are such a young team, most of the success came late in the season," said head coach Steve Brugmann.

Although many of the

games were low-scoring, the boys held their own and didn't go down without a fight.

"Our team started playing a lot better, Wheaton Warrenville South is a tough team and we tied them 0-0, and Wheaton North was a tough team but we beat them 1-0," said senior captain Dorian Carrasco.

Still, specific obstacles are what kept the team from dominating the DVC.

"The hardest challenges we've had to overcome this season was overcoming injuries and scoring the goals," said junior Cesar Gonzalez.

Although they are a young team, by the end of the season the boys managed to get past that factor.

"Our passing has been a

lot better, the first few games we played were sloppy, but now we know where the ball is going without saying a word. Our team morale has improved as well, if someone does something wrong we pick each other up," said Carrasco.

Along with improving as a team, players grew individually over the season.

"This season I've really learned to not get down if I'm not starting and to give 100 percent every time I step onto the field," said junior Denis Mahmic.

Despite the record, the boys varsity soccer team has proved that they could overcome any obstacle, whether it's age or injuries, and still enjoy the game of soccer.



Photo by Sarah Berger

Sophomore Richard Paret practicing skills at practice before their regional game on Saturday.

"In terms of teams I've had over the years, this team has good kids who really want to

learn the game, and it was a pleasure to coach them," said Brugmann.



Photo by Jacob Wucka

Junior Evan Bernard runs drills with the other junior quarterback Josh Stein (background).

By Jacob Wucka
Editor in Chief

Although they missed plenty of opportunities on the field, the football team is looking forward to building strength in the off-season in preparation for next year.

"Single handedly, we beat ourselves with turnovers, penalties, missed tackles, and other missed opportunities on the field," said head coach Paul Reinke. "But this is all stuff we can control and get better at."

This year varsity had a winless record, with most recent losses against Naperville Central and Wheaton Warrenville South. Junior Evan Bernard believes that this year's changes in the program affected this season's outcome.

"It's a whole new system, and I know that I shouldn't make excuses, but it's hard to

learn and expect to do it perfectly," said Bernard.

Still, Reinke was impressed by his team's dedication for sticking to this new program.

"From the freshmen to the seniors, the willingness they had to adapt to yet another new system [impressed me]," said Reinke. "It has to be hard for them but I was impressed by their eagerness."

Junior Sean Paler believes Reinke is the reason why the team has become more dedicated.

"He's made the players in the football program more dedicated and he made our desire to win higher," said Paler. "He also made our expectations of ourselves go through the roof."

Reinke hopes that the dedication keeps all of the football players on board for next season.

"We need to focus on keeping everybody committed to

the program and not wanting to quit. We want them to be a part of something great," said Reinke.

In order to make something great, the team is focusing on off-season workouts as well as what went wrong this year. Senior Matt Matson believes the team did not do enough to keep hold of the football.

"We didn't handle the ball and we fumbled too much. At one point we had an average of four fumbles a game. We got to protect the ball better," said Matson.

Still, the team is ready to work out and prepare themselves for next year. Bernard believes that the team's experience will pay off, especially since the majority of the team this year were juniors.

"Coach Reinke has installed a new workout, and with another year under our belts we should be able to execute better," said Bernard.

Struggles at DVC void regional bids

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Since the beginning of the season, boys and girls golf worked hard to end up where they are now.

Boys golf took fourth place at DVC but did not make it to regionals.

"This season the year was great up until regionals," said coach Eric Lasky. "We met all our goals in conference, just not in regionals. They just go out and do their best, so I didn't really have to motivate them," said Lasky.

Lasky felt the best performers were senior captain Blair Skarin and junior Robby Windisch. Skarin's lowest score was a 37, and Windisch's was a 35.

"I wish we had better success in the regionals, but conference was a good accomplishment for the team. It was the best finish in 10 years," said Lasky.

GIRLS

Girls golf played at the DVC championship Oct. 1. Although they were last in DVC, they played to their best ability.

"We've become a lot more consistent in scoring," said junior captain Karlie Becker.

Since last season, several girls had the lowest numbers they have ever had, including Becker and sophomore Aubrie Sole.

"For the most part, I was proud of their effort," said coach Michael Cain. "As long as I saw effort, I couldn't be unhappy."

At regionals the girls beat two schools which included Glenbard North, bumping them up to 10th place. They weren't far behind Glenbard East.

"All of the schools were really competitive with us but mostly it was Wheaton Warrenville South," said Becker.



Photo courtesy of Eric Lasky

Junior Robby Windisch practices, hoping to get another low score of 35.

Looking at 2020

Why not hosting the 2016 Olympics is best for Chicago

Like I do on most days, I woke up and proceeded to not care about the Olympics.

But something was different about the morning of Oct. 2 when Chicago's 2016 Olympic bid was denied after the first round of voting.

Something about that denial I felt was completely insulting to the city as a whole.

Of course there were people that strictly did not want the Olympics, then there were those that fervently fought for the games, and then there was the silent majority that didn't care either way, but still thought it would be cool if Chicago got it (like me).

As we all know Rio de Janeiro, Brazil won the Olympic bid and will host the 2016 games, following London in 2012.

For all we know maybe Chicago will have a chance in 2020. But in my opinion, the city needs to work out a few major issues before they apply for the games again.

First is the issue of financing the games. At first, Chicago said that the 2016 games will cost no more than \$5 billion.

But already facing a budget crisis, Chicago would not have been able to finance these games without a tax raise, which would not flow in Chicago where new income, property, and food taxes were recently put into effect.

The Olympics in Chicago were pushed as this big economic stimulus to the city. But this was not a guarantee, it was a bet.

Chicago could have either had success like Los Angeles in 1984, where they made \$200 million from their hosting duties.

Or Chicago could have had an economic failure like Athens. That city initially pledged \$2.4 billion for their 2004 Olympic games. By the end of it all, \$9 billion was spent.

Chicago could not have expected to raise \$5 billion only to fall short and ask for more.

Also, the games wouldn't have created any new, useful facilities for Chicago right now.

For the Atlanta 1996 games, they built facilities that are still used by the Braves and the Falcons.

After the Beijing games in 2008, the public now uses the Water Cube where swimming events were held. However, the expensive Bird's Nest stadium remains vacant.

Chicago cannot risk building a new stadium just for it to sit empty.

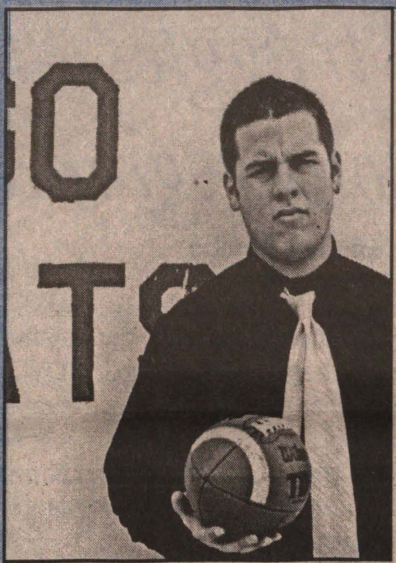
Secondly, Chicago needs to work to rally support around the games.

According to the Chicago Tribune, only 42 percent of Chicagoans supported the Olympic bid. This in variance to a government report for Brazil which found 78 percent of Rio de Janeiro's residents approve of the games.

What will unite Chicago in an Olympic bid will be when both sides of the Olympic argument can work together on an Olympic vision.

Opponents want the city to focus more on violence, and fixing public education, transportation, and a plethora of other issues. Once we solve these problems, everyone will be rooting for the Olympics.

Honestly, I am glad Rio de Janeiro won the 2016 games because their win gives Chicago time to regroup, and more importantly, reprioritize itself.



Jacob Wucka
Editor In Chief

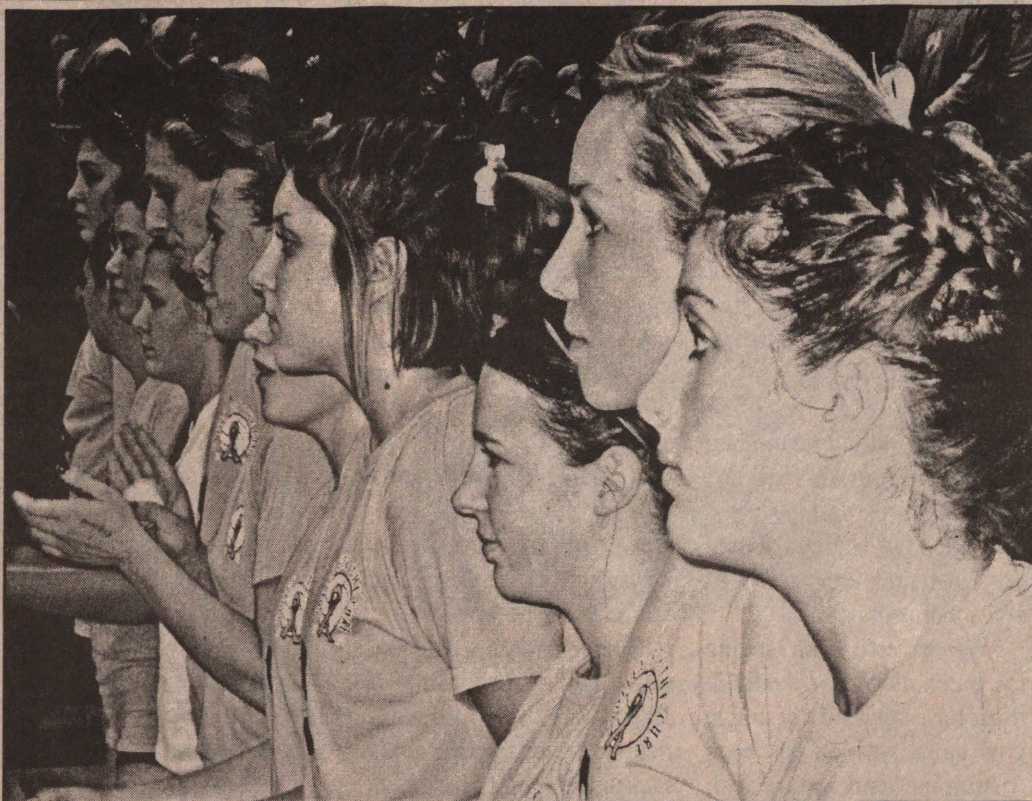


Photo by Jacob Wucka

Before games, the volleyball team gathers in reflection for the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Volley for the score

No longer in running for DVC title, girls set focus on regionals next week

By Yasmyn McGee
Perspectives Editor

Although girls volleyball will no longer be in the running for the DVC championship title, they are looking towards next week when they play Hoffman Estates in regionals.

"Our team has worked so hard and hit levels the girls volleyball team has not hit in so many years," said senior Quin Gable.

On Tuesday, the team was beaten by Naperville Central. If they would have won on Tuesday, and on Thursday's game against Naperville North, they would have split the DVC title.

Their most recent win was against Waubonsie Valley on Saturday.

"Although we lost the first game to 25, we fought back and ended up winning in three. The team worked so well during this game by covering hits, passing during serve receive, and blocking. Overall it was a great win," said Gable.

With all the games they've been playing, head coach Kris Hasty said that one of the most memorable games was the one for Volley For The Cure on Oct. 8.

"Everybody did a great job," said Hasty of the team's efforts. "We pitched in together and got everything looking really great. We had about 16 breast cancer survivors here."

Along with winning the game against Glenbard North

Hasty also said that the team met its goal.

"We filled the stands with pink and it was wonderful," Hasty said. "The kids felt really good about serving the

19-10

more successful.

"It's a change for West Chicago and it's refreshing," said Conard. "We basically have our own squad with people painting their faces and everything."

But co-captain Taylor Kutilek blamed the other teams

'Teams just weren't prepared for us to be good so they would come into the game with a mentality that we weren't good... And when we put up a fight they weren't ready for it.'

— Senior Taylor Kutilek

community and doing something good for breast cancer research."

Junior Kathy Fletcher also remembers all the positive support they received from fans during the Volley For The Cure game.

"We played a good game and had a really good crowd and energy," said Fletcher.

Hasty also said that another good game was the one against Wheaton North on Oct. 1.

They are confident that they can continue to have a strong season, especially with the fans' support.

"I always say we have great fans and to get a team out on the floor that's winning makes it even more fun," said Hasty.

Sophomore Julia Conard agreed that a winning team is very different for the school and fans are really stepping up this year. She said that because of the support, the girls have been able to be much

for underestimating them during the season.

"It's definitely unexpected," said Kutilek. "But teams just weren't prepared for us to be good so they would come into the game with a mentality that we weren't good and it was going to be an easy game. And when we put up a fight they weren't ready for it."

Gable believes that the team's skill is an advantage over others, and sets this team apart from previous years.

"Mostly everyone played club this past off season thus creating more experience of the game," said Gable. "Also we are used to playing with each other because the varsity team last year was made up of most of the varsity players this year."

On Thursday, the girls face Naperville North on their senior night. On October 29, the team faces Hoffman Estates at Glenbard North for their first regionals game.