

'Tooning' in: homecoming

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Everyone is "tooning" into homecoming this week.

Classic cartoons represent each grade for the theme this year, with seniors as "The Flintstones," juniors as "Toy Story," sophomores as "Looney Tunes," and freshmen as "Finding Nemo."

On Monday, students dominated the gym with the dodge ball tournament.

South Park won the tournament, consisting of seniors Evan Bernard, Christian Simanonis, Leo Bartyzel, Darryl Thomas, Jerrick Habecker, Kevin Stolzman, Nik Kmiecik, and Luis Guzman.

"Basically, we are the future of dodge ball. I was put on this earth to do two things, play dodge ball and look good doing it," Bernard said.

Wednesday was the first Minute to Win It game, right before the annual powder puff game.

Results were not available at press time.

Everyone can enjoy the food fest from noon to 2 p.m., followed by the parade from 12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., the JV football game at 5 p.m., and the varsity football game with homecoming court at 7:30 p.m. against Glenbard North.

"I'm really excited for homecoming, especially for the game because I get to perform for poms. I've been looking forward to this for a while," freshman Cristin Zaputail said.

Homecoming week will come to a close with the dance on Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m.



Photo by Helene Sankovitch
Senior Nathalie Lopez practices for the annual powder puff game.

New schedule takes casualties

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

from the superiority of being a senior.

When school began, students found several changes, including no more senior off-campus lunch.

According to dean Whitney Rusin, behavior issues in past years, like students coming back late or getting into accidents, put an end to off-campus lunch.

"There are kids who would be able to handle it, but unfortunately the students who can't cause us to re-evaluate," Rusin said.

Seniors were unhappy about the change.

"It annoys me because I was looking forward to [off-campus lunch] last year," senior Brian Bennett said.

Some argue it takes away

"I think it stinks because it kind of takes away from some of the seniority at our school," senior Kelly Dunn said.

"WeGo Through the Tube" also changed when advisory was cut. The program used to air during advisory.

"On Monday through Thursday, you'll get your announcements in the form of a radio show called 'Wildcat Wakeup,' and every Friday a video show called 'Wildcat Weekly,'" English teacher Dave Jennings said.

According to Jennings, during the radio show they will feature announcements and teacher and coach interviews.

See Changes, page 3

AYP prompts program

Four years of failure puts school in corrective action

Megan Hernbroth
Editor in Chief

After failing Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for four consecutive years, school administrators have implemented One School, One Goal in hopes that it will improve scores.

"[One School, One Goal] will help us become a better school," Principal Moses Cheng said.

One School, One Goal is the idea that all teachers will receive the same instructional training for the same topics.

"The whole idea is a common understanding about what we're supposed to do," Cheng said. "We will work together as a school to help

students learn, and this is especially important with new staff because they come from different backgrounds."

While the hope is to improve standardized testing scores over time, Cheng sees other improvements that could be just as beneficial.

"We are helping kids learn," Cheng said. "The Prairie State Achievement Exam [PSAE] is not the be all and end all, but it is important. What is also important is to see growth in character, potential, and that students know what it means to be good citizens."

Each year, the percentage that students must achieve in order to pass standardized testing is raised. Students are

divided into subgroups based on ethnicity, and if one subgroup fails AYP, an entire school is labeled as failing, according to Cheng.

AYP is calculated based on math and reading scores from the PSAE for each subgroup.

Overall, the Class of 2011 scored an average 48.1 percent for reading and 47.7 percent for math. The white student subgroup scored a 73.2 percent in reading and a 69.3 percent in math. The Hispanic subgroup scored a 21.8 percent in reading and 24.0 percent in math. Requirements for all subgroups were 77.5 percent in both math and reading tests, with close scores meeting requirements. Subgroups with less than 45 students are not

reported.

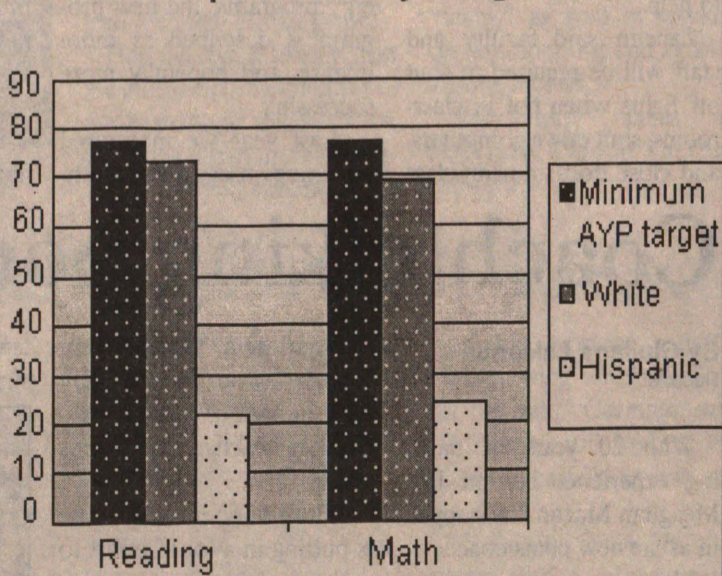
If a school does not meet AYP for two consecutive years, the state requires the school to make changes that aid students with testing.

"According to the state, we are in corrective action," Cheng said. "[Corrective ac-

tion] is a status from the state that means we need to make significant improvements."

AYP overall is based on standards instead of growth, so Cheng hopes the success in the One School, One Goal program will be reflected in scores.

2010 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)



The white student subgroup met the minimum AYP target, while the Hispanic subgroup struggled. Other subgroups were not reported.

INSIDE Helping hand

After reaching out over the summer in Minnesota, Habitat for Humanity looks closer to home as they build homes in West Chicago--see **NEWS**, page 3.

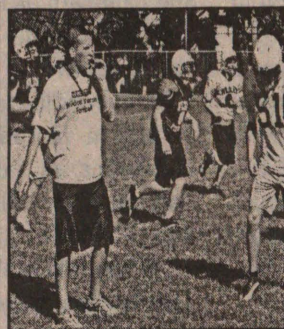


Card hard?

What happens when a student is caught with a fake ID? How can you tell the real thing from a fake? Are fake IDs really worth it?--see **CENTER SPREAD**, pages 8-9.

Changing lives

Between a summer romance and a service trip, two students' lives may be changed forever. How can a relationship affect you? How does a trip to Africa provide perspective?--see **FEATURES**, page 10.



Off the field

Behind every football game are individuals that make plays possible. Coaches, captains, and trainers may be the largest influence--see **SPORTS**, page 16.

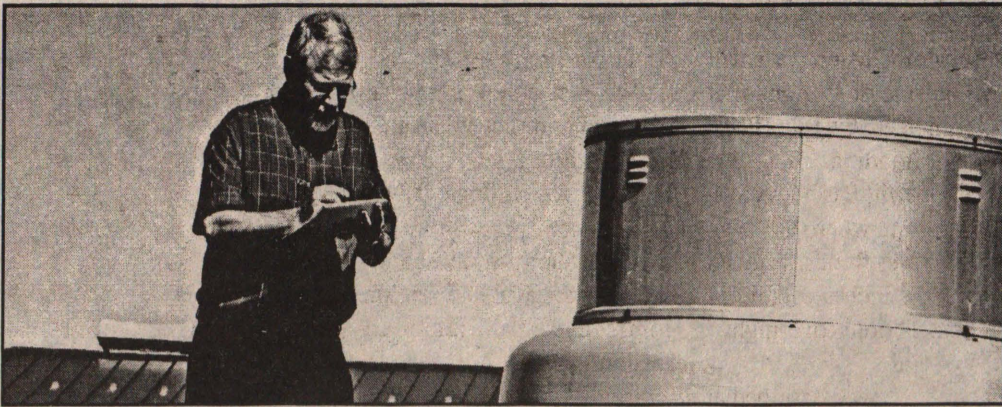


Photo by Megan Hernbroth

Energy Education specialist Donald Zabelin reads data output on the roof to analyze energy efficiency.

Unplugging high electricity costs

By Megan Hernbroth
Editor in Chief

Looking for ways to reduce energy costs, school officials signed a contract with Energy Education, a company that helps large corporations and facilities cut energy usage to reduce bills.

"The goal is to establish a sustained effort to reduce financial expenses and our use of resources to save money," Supt. Lalo Ponce said.

Last year, the school spent around \$850,000 on energy. The hope is to save about 20 percent of the original energy bills over four years.

"We can't tell until the end of the year [how much we have saved], but if we save even 10 percent it is still pretty good. If we fall short we are still doing pretty well," Ponce said.

Energy Education provided a specialist, Donald Zabelin, to help.

Zabelin said faculty and staff will be required to shut off lights when not in classrooms, shut down computers, and close doors during class

time in order to keep the air temperature stable.

The majority of savings will come from elsewhere, however, Zabelin said.

"One of the biggest pieces [of the program] is how the building is managed when it isn't occupied, such as the unnecessary heating and cooling at night when there aren't activities. The majority of savings will be from the changes in heating and cooling," Zabelin said.

Zabelin works closely with the faculty, maintenance staff, and Energy Education to create a program that does not burden teachers or students.

"Our goal is to have no negative impact on the school day or on teachers' jobs," Zabelin said. "If what we implement becomes a burden we talk with the staff that have concerns and work them out."

Compared to previous energy programs, the new program is described as more intense, and hopefully more successful.

"Last year we monitored our energy usage on a month-

ly basis when the bills came in," Ponce said. "But this year is more intense because we monitor the energy data on an almost daily basis."

Zabelin will monitor energy uses with the help of maintenance staff to make sure all rooms are using energy efficiently.

"The program is really based on common sense energy ideas," Zabelin said.

After the four-year contract is up with Energy Education, specialists will still be available to give advice, but the goal is for the school to be able to run the program independently.

"Hopefully, at the end of the four years, we will have mastered the skills necessary to maintain the program," Ponce said.

Ponce believes the money saved will be put to much better use.

"We hope to apply the money to instructional programs for the students," Ponce said.

The program began Sept. 1, but results will not be available until mid-spring.

What's Happening?

Higher standards

By Carly Tubridy
Sports Editor

National Honor Society (NHS) has raised its standards.

Students need a 3.5 GPA instead of a 3.3, and three recommendations from teachers.

Students also need to complete 50 hours of community service instead of the 30 hours that were required last year.

"[We want members to] maintain their GPA, balance priorities and be a service to the community and to the school," NHS adviser Kristina Mallon said.

All juniors with a 3.5 received a form to join NHS in early September.

The number of people accepted depends on the quality of the applications.

Forms are due Thursday and the induction ceremony will be held on Tuesday.

Scholarship opportunity

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

Students who compete in Voice of Democracy have a chance to win a national prize of a \$30,000 scholarship.

"The Voice of Democracy competition is a great opportunity for all CHS students to earn scholarship money while honoring the veterans who have sacrificed so much for their freedom," Mary Ellen Daneels, liaison to the VFW, said. "State winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. in March 2011. Students will

be able to tour the city and meet the nation's leaders."

National winners have a chance to win the top prize of \$30,000.

Last year, over \$5,000 was awarded to 40 students here.

This year's Voice of Democracy theme is "Does my Generation Have a Role in America's Future?"

Students must record a 3 to 5 minute speech and record the speech and submit the speeches by Oct. 15 to Daneels in room 206. Prizes are awarded at the local, district, state, and national level.

Class reaches out

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

World Wars classes are helping soldiers by sending care packages to soldiers who are connected to the community.

"We're asking students to make care packages and bring things in," World Wars teacher John Chisholm said. "Anyone can donate items and we're also looking for names and ad-

resses of people to send the packages to."

The goal is to send about three packages a month.

"We thought this would be a good thing to do, and the students have been really enthusiastic about it," Chisholm said.

So far, Chisholm has four names. Students who would like to donate items for care packages or who have names of soldiers to send packages to should talk to Chisholm.

Coach taking poms team to higher level

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

With 20 years of dancing experience behind her, Meaghan Martin has stepped in as the new poms coach.

Martin previously danced at the Patty Gray School of Dance and Western Illinois University, competed for four years, and taught for 10.

"I really like the new coach. She has a lot of dance experience, and she's trying to make poms recognized here. She works us really hard which is what I think our program needs," junior Janel Tomasoni said.

Martin came to poms

through gym teacher Pam Kavadas, who told her they were in need of a dance production teacher and poms coach.

"I love our new coach. She is putting in a lot of effort to make us better as a squad. We focus a lot on school spirit and community service. She's a breath of fresh air for the poms squad," junior Alison Miller said.

Team bonding is important to Martin in order for improvement, as well as basic skills and eventually competition.

"What I like about poms are the girls, they are learning so much and growing as a

team and individually. They strive for perfection, they are

determined, and put their whole heart and soul into

their dances," Martin said.

Placing at DVC is the team goal.

Martin hopes to get there by just being a team with no drama.

"What I would like to change is the confidence level of the squad as a whole. They are trying, but once something goes wrong they fall back into a slump. They are scared of change and it's time to take it into their control and run with it," Martin said.

Upcoming events for poms include a Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk on Oct. 3 and the homecoming game on Friday.



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

New poms coach Meaghan Martin works with the squad during practice.

Assisting in a crisis

Students help build duplex

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Helping out with a small-town crisis created long-time

memories and a new home for two families to share.

Habitat for Humanity adviser Chris Covino, his wife, and seven students traveled

to Rushford, Minn., a small town outside of Winona that was damaged by the effects of major flooding.

"[The town] has a levy system for rain when the Mississippi River floods. It failed and got 24 inches of rain in less than 24 hours overnight," Covino said.

The group was stationed at St. Mary's church, the only working facility after the flood. Working together, the group helped build a duplex for two families to live in, along with the help of four

Americore volunteers.

"We met a few people in the town and they all seemed to really appreciate the work Habitat was doing. It was cool to see the positive impact that the work of Habitat volunteers have had on the community," said junior Ellen Fitzgerald.

In order for the families to reside in Habitat homes, the owners must dedicate at least 200 hours of service towards building the house.

In less than four days, the group built the interior walls, put in windows and doors, and installed an entire roof.

"We were very excited about getting involved in this. It feels very rewarding, but the most rewarding part is seeing what you're doing having an immediate impact on someone's life in a positive way," Covino said.

Habitat for Humanity has created homes throughout America, including West Chicago. Thirteen homes will be built in West Chicago by DuPage Habitat within the next four years.

"We're very excited about getting involved in this," Covino said.

The next Habitat meeting is Oct. 4 after school in room 307.

Budget troubles in store

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

The school is once again faced with money problems as the state owes the school \$1,269,654.32.

Last year, the school dealt with an \$800,000 deficit and was forced to cut items such as advisory.

"We don't know when or if [we will receive the money]," Principal Moses Cheng said. "Very little is defined by the state about when, if ever, we'll get the money the state owes us."

However, the school is not looking at making cuts just yet.

"It's too soon to tell about what cuts need to be made, we still might receive money," Supt. Lalo Ponce said. "We'll start making those decisions in December and through the spring."

Last year, the school received a 4.0 out of 4.0 for financial health from the state commissioner.

This means that the school has been dealing well with its financial situation, and should be an example to other schools.

"We're in really good shape budget wise. They have asked us to coach other schools, we haven't yet, but would be happy to," Ponce said.

Last year, cuts were made in a series of the Board of Education meetings.

This year, however, Ponce hopes that if cuts need to be made, they can be dealt with in a more cohesive manner.

"We want to be able to put the reductions in a package and deal with it all at the same time," Ponce said.

Recently the school has been spending money to improve technology.

"You need money to be able to upgrade," Ponce said, "Technology is always changing, and we want to be up to capacity with all the equipment."

However, if cuts do need to be made in the coming month, Cheng is confident that the right choices will be made.

"We try to make budgetary decisions that have minimal impact across the school; a little bit here, a little bit there rather than taking money from only one area," Cheng said.



Photo courtesy of Chris Covino

Habitat for Humanity members (from top left) 2010 graduates Rino Loiotile and Kelsey King, junior Brooke Hennessy, 2010 graduate Alyssa Brinkman, an unidentified volunteer, Blair and Chris Covino, and (from bottom left) juniors Stefany Hernandez, Amarin Young and Ellen Fitzgerald traveled to Minnesota to help build homes after a flood.

Changes: new schedule

Continued from page 1.

"The video show will be a lot like 'WeGo Through the Tube,'" Jennings said. "It will feature clubs, organizations, sports teams, and current events news."

The new "WeGo Through the Tube" will be aired during the first 5 minutes of third hour.

Cutting advisory meant the schedule was changed from eight periods to 10.

Some students miss advisory, while others don't.

"I really liked advisory because it was time out of our day to just be with our friends and not worry about having to do school work and it was right after lunch so it was a longer break," senior Kaitlyn Anders said.

Sophomore Braeden Austgen thought otherwise.

"I'm happy there's no more advisory because we didn't really do anything and it was kind of boring," Austgen said.

The Board of Education eliminated advisory as a money saving measure.

Although the school day is now 3 minutes shorter, the classes are now a few minutes longer. The 10-period schedule was used three years ago.

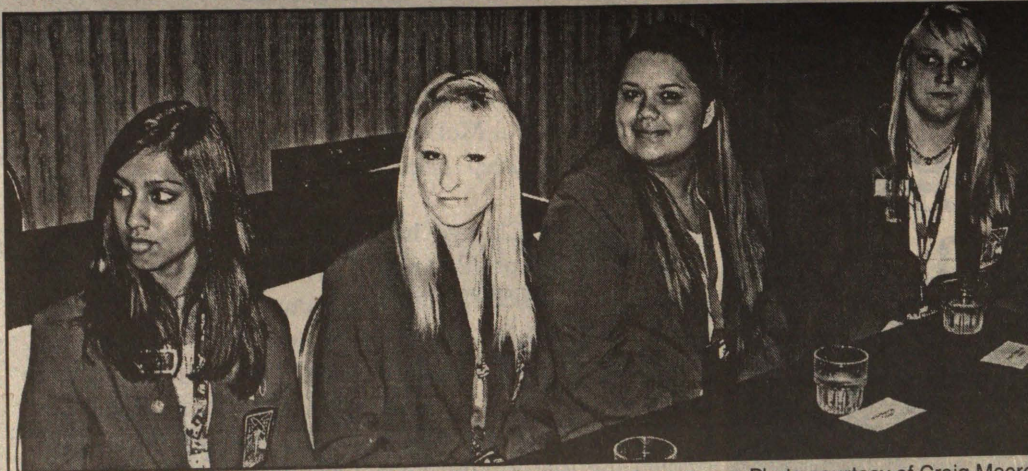


Photo courtesy of Craig Moore

SkillsUSA president and senior Mayuri Parmar (far left) meets with other SkillsUSA representatives from around the United States.

SkillsUSA travels country

By Beth Berg
Reporter

Newly elected national and local SkillsUSA officers, seniors Mayuri Parmar and Mehak Damani and junior Steven Celmer, headed off to Washington, D.C. for five days on Saturday.

"[The] Washington Leadership Training Institute has been a great experience. I have really enjoyed seeing all the memorials and the museums in D.C. The leadership training has helped me to better respect a team opinion," Celmer said.

They also met with Illinois state senators and state representatives, and the Congress in the White House.

Junior Jeff Pekosh showed

his skills at the SkillsUSA 46th National Leadership Conference in June, bringing home a third place medal in technical math.

"I totally didn't even expect to win because there were 35 other students competing. All the Illinois people cheered; it was just cool," Pekosh said.

Pekosh attended the conference in Kansas City, Mo. with Parmar, Damani, Celmer and junior Chelsea Madsen. During elections, Parmar was elected state secretary and local president, Celmer was elected state treasurer, and Damani was elected state historian and local vice president.

"When I won the local chapter, I felt really confident that I could live up to that

challenge and because I won that position, I feel more confident in myself than I ever did," Damani said.

Senior Megan Swiertz was elected local publicist, senior Andrea Siefert was elected local secretary, and senior Andrew Koettters was elected local treasurer.

"There was one day that everyone at nationals got to go to an amusement park and one day there was a dance," Parmar said.

New to SkillsUSA is adviser Brittney Bauer.

"It's challenging, but I really enjoy it and getting to know the students. I enjoy getting into the program and giving them the opportunity to do something besides sports," Bauer said.

Yearbook takes the challenge

After cancelling class due to lack of students, club looks to be successful

By Carly Tubridy
Sports Editor

Even though the Challenge yearbook class was cancelled because of lack of interest, 32 students attended the first meeting of Yearbook Club.

"We're surprised but really excited [about the number of kids]. I think it wasn't chosen as a class because kids weren't aware what it is all about," yearbook adviser Lauren Bentel said.

Over the summer, seniors Taylor Ballek, Haley Goranson, and Chris Phan attended a yearbook camp with Jostens, the company that helps with the yearbook. All three were in yearbook last year.

"I think [the summer

camp] helped because the people who went didn't normally do [the things they learned there]. Basically we designed the templates and made the page ladder, which is everything that is going on the page," Goranson said.

They also decided the theme of this year's book, "Unplugged."

Advisers Dave Jennings and Bentel plan to have their Jostens representative teach the students the computer program.

"We are planning to meet a total of four hours a week at four distinct times, based on when kids are available," Jennings said.

The advisers want to work with students' schedules, to

make sure that students involved in other activities can participate in yearbook.

"We would love to have more male involvement," Jennings said.

Staff organization will be slightly different this year.

"There is going to be one editor in chief and alongside the editor there will be content-specific editors," Jennings said.

The people involved in yearbook are optimistic for the upcoming year.

"I don't think it [being a club] will affect the quality of the yearbook because there are more people in the club than the class," Goranson said.

The club will meet before and after school on Mondays and Tuesdays in room 228. Students can attend any of the sessions.

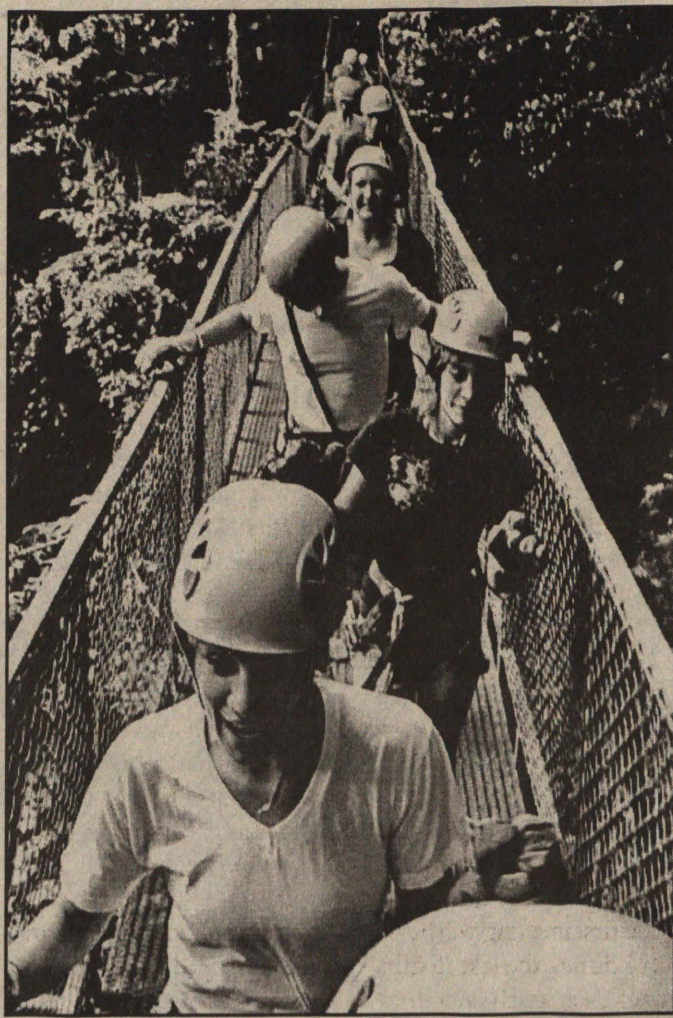


Photo courtesy of Robby Windisch

Eighteen students, including seniors Meagan Radloff (front) and Sara Benes (behind) explore the Costa Rican jungles.

An experience of a lifetime

Students overcome communication barrier to establish relationships

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

While most students were tanning in their backyards or working hard at their part-time jobs, 18 students traveled to Costa Rica for 22 days.

The trip was open to all students enrolled in Spanish 2 or up.

The students, along with Spanish teachers Susan Junkroski and Michael Schneider, took a six-hour flight to Orotina, Costa Rica on June 11.

"Everything immediately was so different. We were literally in the jungle, I sat on an open avocado [that fell on to the bus] on the way there," senior Sarah Norton said.

Students stayed with host families to see how Costa Rican families lived.

Orotina is a small, rural town and the students that lived there attended a technical school with classes on farming and agriculture.

"We did a lot of farm work on the weekends. I milked cows and herded sheep on horseback," Norton said.

When the American students weren't experiencing daily tasks with their families, they were exploring the area as a group. Activities

included trips to San José, a visit to the Gold Museum, and a three-day visit to Cloud Forest.

"The best part of the trip was when we stayed at a hotel for three days and went zip-lining, horseback riding, and hiking," junior Alison Miller said.

Along with learning about the exotic country, the students also had a chance to put their Spanish-speaking skills to the test.

"There was definitely a communication barrier. It was difficult to communicate with your host family because they virtually spoke no English," Miller said.

The language barrier wasn't the only thing the students had to get used to; the food was also different.

"We had rice and beans for every meal," senior Kelly Dunn said.

Junkroski admitted to not being able to eat rice for a while once they got back.

"The trip was really hard, it was mentally exhausting but fun. It's better traveling to a country and staying with a host family because then you get to see how they really live," junior Laura Dalla Costa said.

Teacher runs for charity

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Running for a cause gave gym teacher Paul McLeland motivation to keep helping others.

He ran the Chicago half-marathon on Sept. 12 to raise money for RISE International, a group that supports building primary schools in Angola.

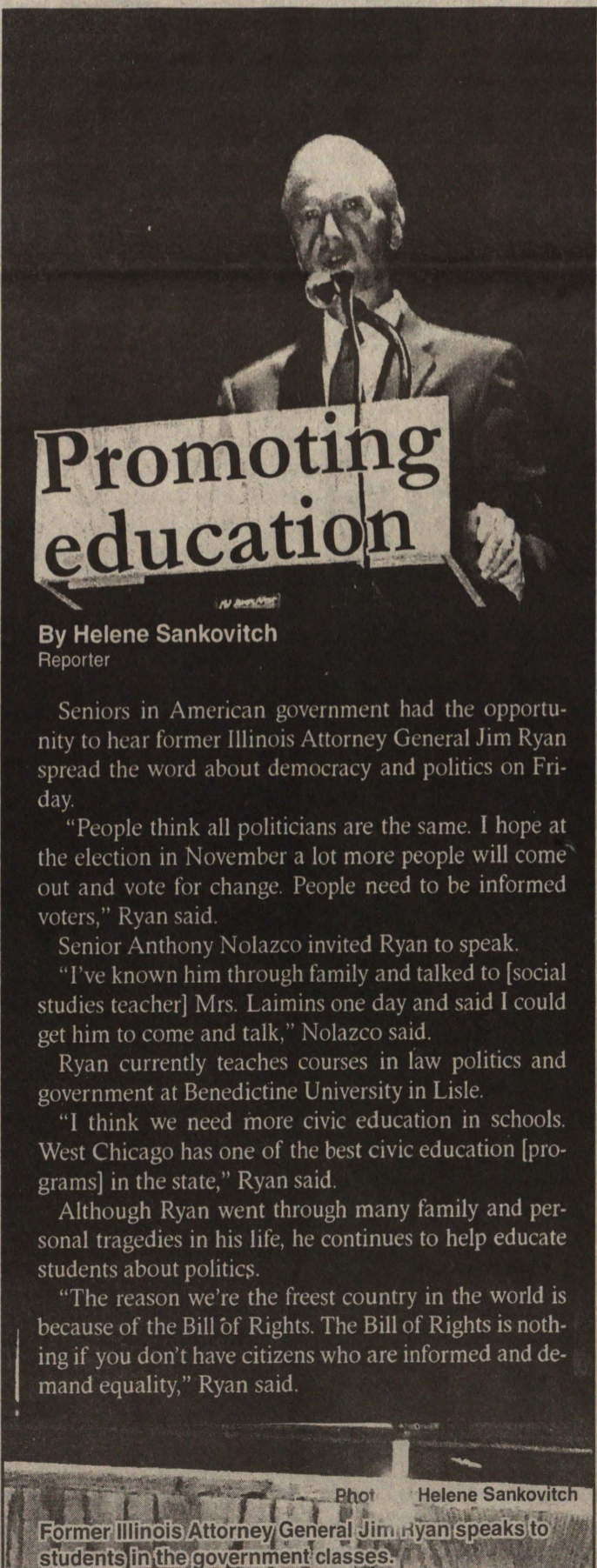
"Since I like running, I could use that to raise money. I made about 80 percent of my goal, [which is] a little over \$800," McLeland said.

There were over 13,500 runners, and McLeland placed 581st, with a time of 1:35:53. About 80 of these runners were raising money for RISE.

"What was cool was seeing [people you know] there, [like] former runners from WeGo. Although I didn't have family there watching, they were praying, and running gave me time to pray, too. It's a good chance to combine faith with what the schools are doing," McLeland said.

RISE International built their first school in 2003, and now has over 100 schools in Angola.

"I'm really glad I did it. When you do anything for something bigger than yourself, it makes a big difference," McLeland said.



By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Seniors in American government had the opportunity to hear former Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan spread the word about democracy and politics on Friday.

"People think all politicians are the same. I hope at the election in November a lot more people will come out and vote for change. People need to be informed voters," Ryan said.

Senior Anthony Nolzaco invited Ryan to speak.

"I've known him through family and talked to [social studies teacher] Mrs. Laimins one day and said I could get him to come and talk," Nolzaco said.

Ryan currently teaches courses in law politics and government at Benedictine University in Lisle.

"I think we need more civic education in schools. West Chicago has one of the best civic education [programs] in the state," Ryan said.

Although Ryan went through many family and personal tragedies in his life, he continues to help educate students about politics.

"The reason we're the freest country in the world is because of the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights is nothing if you don't have citizens who are informed and demand equality," Ryan said.

Photo: Helene Sankovitch

Former Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan speaks to students in the government classes.

Planning ahead

Freshmen start ACT practice early

By Liz Ramos
Reporter

Freshmen and sophomores in the 30 Plus Club can begin to start their studying early for the ACT test they will take their junior year.

"[The club] is called the 30 Plus Club because its intent is to help students improve their score on the ACT. Thirty is considered a high score so they're pretty much getting most of the questions correct," Supt. Lalo Ponce said.

The first meeting will be on Oct. 7 during the last 15 minutes of each lunch period.

Freshmen can sign up in commons on Wednesday.

It's not mandatory for freshmen to join the 30 Plus Club. Sophomores have the opportunity to join too.

Students who join the 30 Plus Club will meet three to four times a year to talk about activities that will help ready them for the ACT.

"I think a club like this will certainly appeal to students. [Students] believe a club like this might help them and we

want to provide it for them. I think it will be of interest to some but not all," Ponce said.

Ponce believes students should start to prepare for the ACT two and a half years ahead.

"As you prepare to do something, anything really, planning and preparation generally improves what you wish to improve," Ponce said.

Students who join the 30 Plus Club practice the skills and use exercises that will help them be successful on the ACT as juniors.

A packet will be given to the students which structures their time over three to four months.

"Participation doesn't guarantee improved performance on the ACT but it does provide opportunities for improvement on the problems that are on it," Ponce said.

Students who join the 30 Plus Club practice the skills and use exercises that will help them be successful on the ACT as juniors.

Freshman Vince Romano is considering joining the 30 Plus Club.

"I might [join] because you have to start thinking about your future after college," Romano said.



Photo by Carly Tubridy

InterAct Club adviser Ward Rau (left) accepts a certificate of partnership with Rotary from Rotary representative MaryAnn Manna.

Creating relationships within the community

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

After operating for five years without a partner, InterAct Club, formerly known as Key Club, teamed up with Rotary International to continue their humanitarian service projects.

InterAct Club's previous partner, the local Kiwanis Club, folded five years ago which left InterAct Club to serve the community alone.

The club worked with Ro-

tary at several of their service projects before the decision to charter a club with them was made.

"We're going to be mainly the same but it helps to have some adults in the community that can help us too," club adviser Ward Rau said. "They come here and support us."

For the high school branches of the club, Rotary uses the name InterAct Club, short for International Action.

"We've done donations for

the underprivileged in West Chicago. We've also helped with WeGo to Africa and we've sent relief to Haiti so the name fits," Rau said.

InterAct Club will continue to keep the Key Club name attached to it until it is recognized in the community as just InterAct Club.

"We've done a lot in the community, but as Key Club. So, we will use both names for a while, so people know it's still us, the same group," Rau said.

At-risk preschoolers move forward

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Preschoolers in Dist. 33 can have a solid education, and parents can learn interaction skills due to Educare.

Dist. 94 is backing the program.

"The high school supports it because we believe we will see the benefits when the kids get to high school, they won't be still struggling to catch up. Educare helps reinforce skills they need so they come in [to high school] ready to do as well as others who have other benefits," Dist. 94 Board of Education president Kathe Doremus said.

According to Chris Scheck, president of Dist. 33 Board of Education, Educare is "a year-round, all-day preschool for children at risk of academic failure. Many of these people do not have the resources necessary to succeed in school as do their middle-class peers."

Children who are at risk may have learning disabilities, have very young parents, come from lower-income

families, or may have outside influences that cause them to become behind in the skills needed for school, according to Doremus.

"[The Educare] philosophy is to start very early and have kids get skills before kindergarten, then evolve when the family participates and gets the child ready for school so [he or she] is not behind," Doremus said.

Educare also helps parents learn how to be more in-

teach an infant?" At that age, it's the parents that you teach," Scheck said. "Parents have got to be involved. They learn how to interact with kids, how to read with kids; it's not so much education for children, but parents."

Doremus agreed that sometimes parents don't know "what kids need to work on, so kids start school behind and it's much harder for them to catch up and stay caught up."

'Some people in the community ask, 'what can you teach an infant?' At that age, it's the parents that you teach. Parents have got to be involved. They learn how to interact with kids, how to read with kids; it's not so much education for children, but parents.'

-- Chris Scheck, Dist. 33 Board of Education president

volved with their kids.

"Some people in the community ask, 'what can you

Concerned parents had particular misconceptions about Educare at a board meeting.

"A man stood up and said that teens will get pregnant in West Chicago because of free Educare, which is not the case at all," Doremus said. "Many had concerns as to whether it would affect taxes, and a bit racist, as some were concerned that it only was for Hispanic families. They thought it would bring in Hispanic families or illegal residents just to go to Educare. They don't understand that all children have a right to public education."

Other parents were concerned about having to pay for Educare.

"Even if taxpayers had to cover the bill at some point in the future, the taxpayer will ultimately benefit because it will save us tax dollars we are already spending in education," Doremus said. "In the long run, it costs more money to catch them up at grade and middle school level than at preschool level."

Scheck said at-risk children who do not receive early childhood intervention will often be required to have supplemental services in el-

ementary school. These services fall on the district and the taxpayer.

"We're not going to see the benefit right away because they're still preschoolers, but when they come into high school we will see that long-time benefit," Doremus said.

According to Doremus, if parents have a child in Educare and a high schooler, "it can get families better educated on how to help their high school kids also."

Doremus hopes that parents realize that Educare will not hurt the community.

"I hope that, ultimately, people will start seeing that their fears were unfounded; the kids that will be in Educare are already in the community. It's one of those things time will have to teach," Doremus said.

Dist. 94 passed a resolution to support Dist. 33's decision to assist Educare of West DuPage on March 2, 2010. Doremus is proud that Dist. 33 is helping Educare.

"Opportunities like this don't happen all the time," Doremus said.

Our View

More than just a t-shirt

The Squad represents our school, our pride, and our never-ending support to our dedicated teams. For nine years, to be a part of the Squad and get a Squad shirt has always been an upperclassmen and sophomore entitlement. Until now.

This year, freshmen are allowed to purchase Squad shirts. They aren't allowed to get a name or a number on the back of the shirt, but they will still be getting the t-shirt with the design.

Allowing this is a break of tradition. Tradition makes memories. This tradition is what gives the upperclassmen and sophomores a sense of reward, pride and a little bit of entitlement.

What other traditions will be broken? Every freshman class has complained about not receiving shirts, so why should

this class be so deserving to be the first to ever receive Squad shirts?

You made it through freshman year, good job, now here's a cool shirt that represents our school's

pride and go sit in the best, most exciting part of the bleachers.

When freshmen receive Squad shirts, it reduces the specialness of the shirts. Now there is no accomplishment or reward. Freshmen won't ever get the joy of sitting in the Squad for the first time their sophomore year. They'll expect it instead of waiting for it.

Freshmen need to earn their Squad shirts. They need to prove they can at least survive one year at this school.

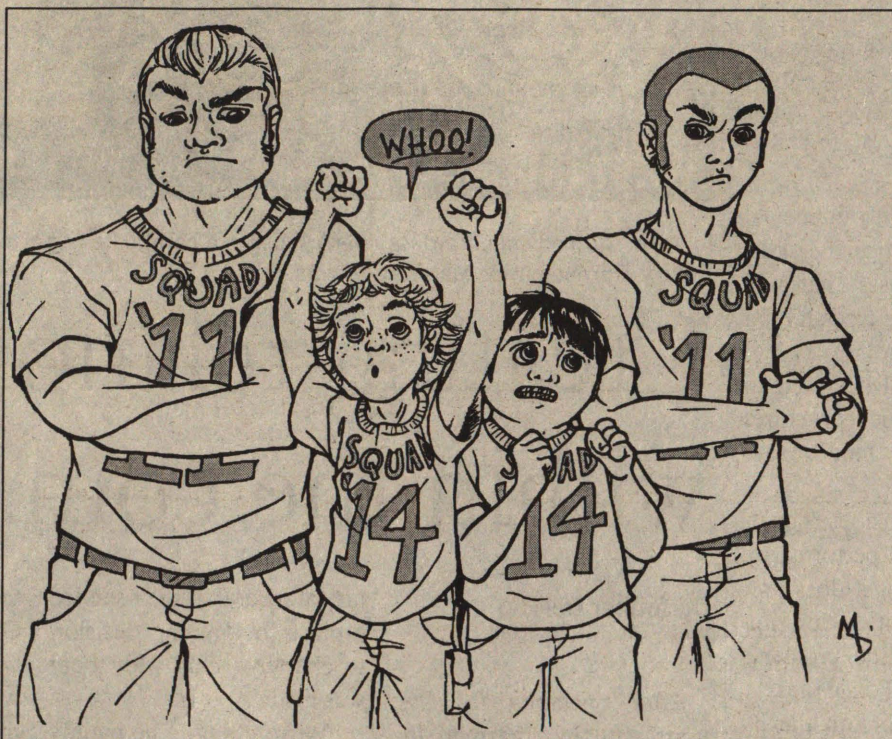
Not receiving a Squad shirt should be viewed as freshman bonding. Freshmen can bond by sitting together in a different part of the stadium, or at least being able to agree that they feel it's unfair they don't get Squad shirts.

It also gives the Class of 2014 a bad reputation. They will forever be known as the class that broke the tradition of Squad shirts.

Now, they don't care; they're just glad that they have the shirts.

But when they are seniors, or at least sophomores, they will understand just how important traditions, like the Squad shirts, are. It sounds strange, but for all upperclassmen and sophomores, they know it's true.

The upperclassmen and sophomores have earned their shirts and place in the Squad. Let the freshmen wait until they have.



Life saving research allowed...for now

For now federal funding for life-saving stem cell research is continuing, thanks to the Obama administration appealing a federal court judge's decision to put an end to government's money flowing to the research. But for how long will this reprieve last?

Lives are in jeopardy if federal funding is cut off because stem cell research helps create organs and

cells, and may eventually cure cancer.

Dr. Wuejun Parsons is experimenting to replace nerve cells for Parkinson's patients, according to the New York Times. Parkinson's disease is currently an incurable condition that affects motor skills.

Who wants to tell Parkinson's patients they will continue to suffer because federal funds cannot be

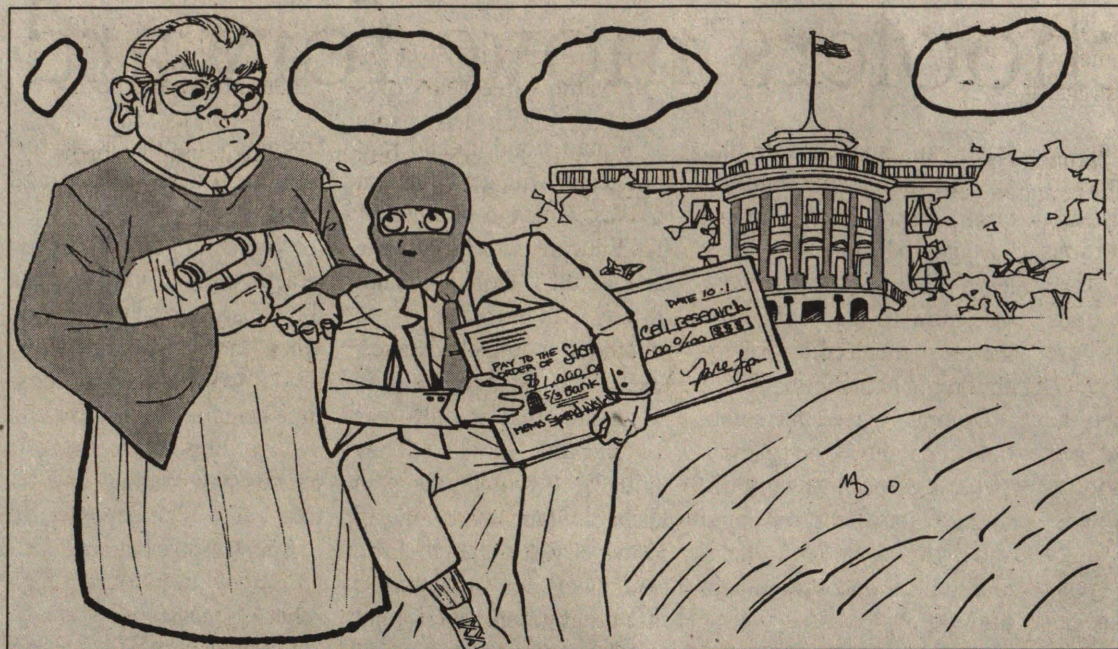
used to help with stem cell research? Chief Judge Roy Lamberth does, because he ruled that federally funded stem cell research violated the legislative ban of using government money to kill embryos.

People waiting for organ transplants will also lose if Lamberth's ruling holds. According to the New York Times, Dr. Ira J. Fox of the University of Pittsburgh has successfully transplanted liver cells that were grown from stem cells into animals.

Considering 101,000 people are waiting for organ transplants in the United States, according to www.mayoclinic.org, only 77 people receive transplants a day, and 19 people die waiting for their transplants each day, funding seems like a no-brainer. Potentially 6,935 lives could be saved every year if organs grown from stem cells were made available.

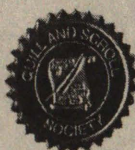
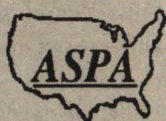
Cancer could also become a disease of the past with stem cell research since different studies have shown the research could one day cure cancer, according to www.umich.edu.

Some argue that the federal funds kill babies, but if parents have donated embryos to science, no one should say they have no right to dispose of their embryos any way they want. When the Federal District Court of the District of Columbia examines the Obama administration's appeal, let us hope stem cell research can continue without interference.



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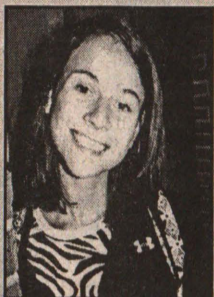
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Students Speak

Compiled by Beth Berg

Are you okay with there not being off-campus lunch?



Senior

Maggie Tihka

"I think it's really unfair. I think they should give us off-campus lunch. What's the problem?"



Junior

Alex Santillan

"No. Everyone wants off-campus lunch so we can be healthy."



Sophomore

Dan Stompor

"I don't think it's okay, the upperclassmen have earned the right to off-campus lunch."



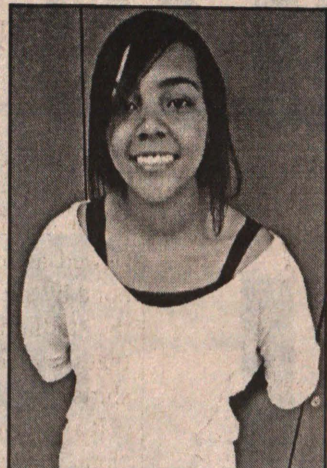
Freshman

Cassie Ciardullo

"I'm okay with it, I'd prefer to have it. It'd be a cool little bonus if we had it."

No more freedom during lunch

Seniors need a break



Yasmin McGee
Features Editor

For three years I waited until the day that I could leave the freshmen, sophomores and juniors behind in commons and go off-campus for lunch. But this year that dream was crushed.

Now seniors must endure over-priced lunches in the cafeteria or the over-used sack lunch while sitting among screeching underclassmen because off-campus lunch was cancelled.

I have to ask, why our class? What did we do to deserve this mistreatment?

I understand that with the new scheduling it's nearly impossible to have enough time to have off-campus lunch, but can't seniors have something else just to themselves regarding lunch?

For example, having lunch tables outside in front of the auditorium would allow seniors

to get some air throughout the day.

It certainly would break the monotony of eating in the cafeteria.

As long as the students are properly monitored by security or staff, students would be able to safely enjoy their lunch outdoors.

However, restrictions should guide who is eligible to eat lunch outside. Seniors should have to apply.

Students who have not been suspended during the previous two school years should be eligible.

Even with the new schedule, students would still have a half hour to have a decent lunch away from the school.

They may not be able to sit down and eat at a restaurant but they can stop by La India or Jewel-Osco to pick up snacks for their lunch like chips, drinks or candy.

We have these same snacks at school but seniors should have the option to purchase cheaper alternatives outside of schools.

Off-campus lunch may not be a big deal to some people, but when you have been waiting three years for the opportunity it deserves to be rightly given.

Just as sitting in the Squad at football games is a tradition, off-campus lunch for seniors was a tradition.

Saving up for college



Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

When the cancellation of off-campus lunch for seniors was announced, I jumped on the band wagon with the rest of my peers in feeling this new rule was unfair and unjust.

After three years of chomping on over-priced cafeteria food, I had been looking forward to the freedom off-campus lunch offered.

After taking a step back, and looking at the pros and cons of off-campus lunch, I realized the cons actually outweighed the pros. Now, the last thing I want is an army of seniors charging at me, pointing to this article and calling me a traitor.

I agree that it is unfair that the seniors this year had to watch three years of seniors before them trot happily off-campus once the lunch bell rang and are now being stopped.

However if you look at off-campus lunch, it's actually more of a hassle than it's worth. With the cost of gas these days, is a McDouble really worth the fuel it would take to get there? McDonald's is a quick, five-minute trip, but every penny counts.

Seniors shouldn't be spending money on McFlurries when they should be saving for college.

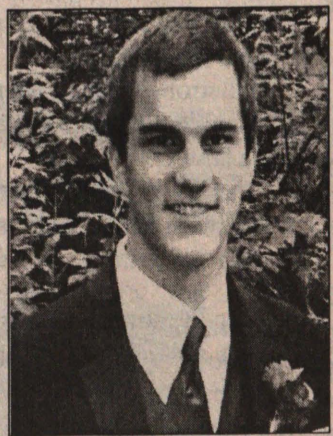
Our school should promote good prioritizing instead of tempting students to waste their money.

Also, the school is surrounded by McDonald's, Wendy's, Taco Bell, and KFC, not exactly healthy choices. With off-campus lunch, seniors are tempted to chow down on greasy cheeseburgers and tacos. True, you can get these items in the school cafeteria, but how about just brown-bagging a lunch that's healthier. With off-campus lunch, seniors are at higher risk of gaining the freshman 15 before they even graduate.

Seniors worked hard for their freedom and should be trusted enough to be able to eat where they want, as long as it's on campus. By getting rid of off-campus lunch, the school is helping seniors save their money and health.

So, seniors, don't be bitter about having to brown-bag lunch, it will pay off in the long run.

Life across the pond: Travel offers opportunities



Thomas Harms
Contributing Writer

For the following year I will be living and studying in the small town of Grebenstein, Germany.

I was a student at West Chicago Community High School the last four years, so I would

like to share a bit about my life this year with the current students of WCCHS.

I am hoping that at least a few of you reading this, and who will read my future columns, will be inspired to seek out your own experiences in Germany or elsewhere in the world.

After having lived eight weeks in Germany, I am beginning to get a sense of what daily life means to the average German here.

At least, I would like to think so.

I believe many people learn when they leave their home country that one cannot sum up an entire culture or nation with just one person's experience—or even many people's experiences.

There are simply too many personalities and sub-cultures contained within every corner of the world to do so. For every stereotype there is also an exception.

For example, Germans are well-known for being eco-friendly and healthy eaters.

I have met a few wasteful and unhealthy individuals.

However, I have also met those who fit the stereotype.

My point is that one should not try to pin specific qualities on any group of people and assume that they apply to the entire group, or any part thereof.

Rather, one should simply take all of the impressions he or she receives from a country, state, religion or what have you, and allow these impres-

sions to develop into a vague idea or sense of each entity prospectively.

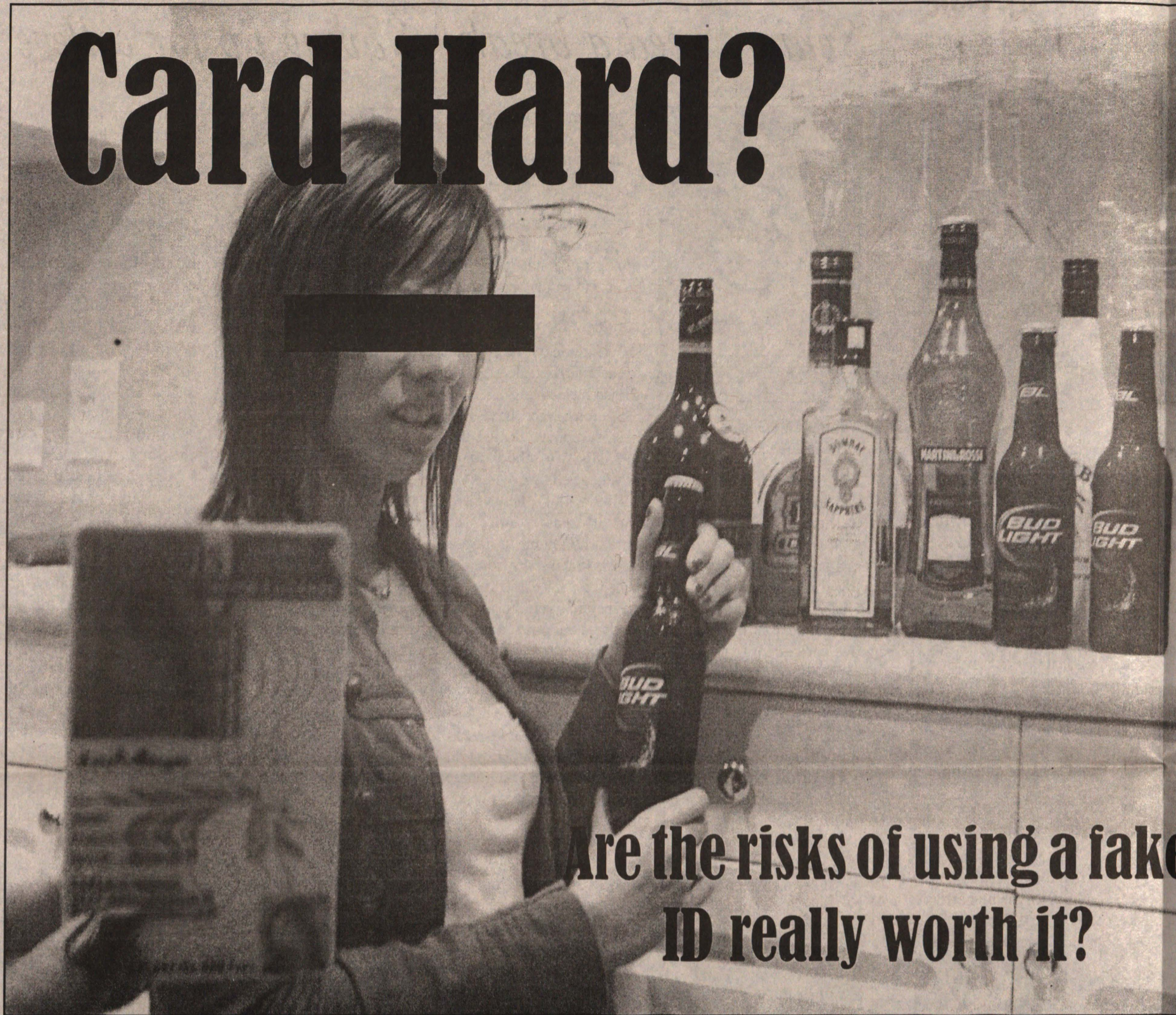
And of course, even with this approach, one should try to remember that there will still be exceptions.

An open mind will give you opportunities—opportunities to travel to meet new people; to improve upon your own character.

These chances should not be taken for granted, and, more importantly, should not be curtailed before they have the opportunity to develop into life-changing events.

(Thomas Harms is a 2010 graduate who is living in Grebenstein, Germany on the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Scholarship for a year. He will have an update of his trip each month.)

Card Hard?



Are the risks of using a fake ID really worth it?

Photo illustration by Sarah Berg

Risky business

Teenagers may be unsure about the consequences of using a fake ID, but police assure that the offense is not to be taken lightly

By Yasmyrn McGee
Features Editor

Students may see purchasing fake IDs as harmless, but they should keep in mind that it is illegal and police involvement is inevitable if caught.

Fake ID violations include any altering to an ID to show incorrect information, using another person's ID to obtain a false ID, possessing another person's ID for any reason and possessing, duplicating, creating, or purchasing any document or card which looks to be an official driver's license or state ID card.

Sgt. William Hall of the

West Chicago Police Department said that it is a serious offense and consequences vary from case to case.

"What we would do is arrest them for having a falsified document and lead them into the court systems. The consequences can range from a number of things," Hall said. "It depends on the age of the person because 17 and under we have to treat as a juvenile. Someone 18 or older can be treated as an adult."

According to Illinois law possessing a fake ID is a class A misdemeanor which is punishable by a fine up to \$2,500 and 364 days in county jail, plus suspension or revocation of the driver's license.

According to Hall, a past history of criminal activity can factor into what consequences the person will receive too.

"If they've [used a fake ID for other criminal activities] in the past and it's a continuing pattern, it can be more severe [punishment] determined by the judge," Hall said.

Hall said that he finds students usually get a fake ID to purchase alcohol, tobacco or obtain entry into a nightclub. However, these students should be aware that law-enforcement can easily determine whether or not an ID is legitimate or not.

"The IDs change and the secretary of state is the one

responsible for giving out IDs so they take different security measures [each time]. We know [what they are] and we rather not share them with the general public," Hall said. "There's not one particular security measure, there are several we can look at."

Hall strongly urges students to carefully think before buying a false ID.

"I tell everyone in general, think twice before you want to do something because there are consequences," Hall said. "I would prefer somebody to think twice, because more than likely if they are attempting to obtain false

identification, it's probably for a bad reason versus a good one. Knowing that, you never know what the consequences will be. That person might wind up going to prison."

There's a sure way to tell if one shouldn't be doing something they know is wrong, according to Hall.

"There's a reason why you get that butterfly in your stomach or the hairs stand up on your arm; that instinct that you have might be your body telling you 'I know this is wrong and I know I shouldn't be doing it,'" Hall said.



By the numbers

Faking it

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

**Some names have been changed in order to protect the privacy of the people involved.*

Sneaking out bedroom windows or smoking in the school bathroom is mere child's play for some minors.

Eighteen-year-old Rae* went to more extreme lengths to get the thrill that breaking the rules gave her by purchasing a fake ID.

"My best friend, Jackie*, and I wanted fake IDs because we felt like if we had them, we could do anything," Rae said.

Rae didn't have to look far for a source that would supply her with the fake ID.

"At a party, my friend showed me her fake ID. It looked legitimate, so I knew I could get one from her. Jackie and I gave her our birthdays, names, height, weight, hair color, and eye color. Our friend was the one who contacted the person that actually made the fake IDs," Rae said.

The fake IDs cost \$150 each and the girls had to wait a month for them to arrive.

"The first night we got them, Jackie and I wanted to try them out. We didn't want to go to a huge store, like Jewel Osco, because we knew those stores carded hard. We

ended up going to a small liquor store. I was too nervous to browse, so I just grabbed the first bottle I saw. The cashier didn't even question my ID when I showed it to her. After I walked out of the store, with the bottle in my hand, I realized I was wearing a school shirt from 2005," Rae said.

After realizing that as long as they flashed the fake IDs, Rae and Jackie felt free to do as they pleased.

"Jackie and I started go-

of the bars they asked to see our IDs. When they didn't believe we were 21, they asked to see our credit cards. Since we had fake IDs with our real names on them, they didn't question us further. We thought we had gotten away with it, but then a cop who knew us and knew we were underage saw us, and then arrested us," Rae said.

After being arrested, the girls had their mug shots taken, were fingerprinted, and had their names put into the system at the police station.

"Since we were 18, we didn't have to contact our parents, we were just given a court date," Rae said.

The pair was convicted

'We wanted fake IDs because we felt like if we had them, we could do anything.'

--Rae

ing out to the bars in downtown St. Charles every Friday and Saturday night. The first time we went to the bars it was nerve-racking. We could sense that people knew we weren't 21, but we had our cards so nobody stopped us. People at the bars kept trying to trick us into giving away our real ages, but we never fell for it. It took about three nights of going out before we started to relax," Rae said.

After two months, Rae and Jackie's party lifestyle ended.

"One Wednesday night, Jackie and I decided to go bar-hopping in downtown St. Charles. When we got to one

of possession of illegal IDs and sentenced to 30 hours of community service. Rae learned her lesson and hopes others will think twice before getting a fake ID.

"I think fake ID use among teenagers is a huge problem. Teens see alcohol as forbidden, so naturally they find a thrill in drinking it, just for the fact that it's forbidden. I think adults need to explain to younger kids the consequences of using a fake ID in programs such as D.A.R.E., because you could end up getting into a lot of trouble, and it could possibly ruin your life," Rae said.

The real thing: A visible difference

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

Teenagers who are caught using fake ID cards can face severe consequences, but how can the police tell the difference between the real thing and fake?

According to school police liaison officer Joe Gaztambide, advanced technology is required to create a fake ID.

"There are lots of little details such as seals and text that can only be seen in certain light," Gaztambide said.

For example, on an Illinois driver's license, the word "Illinois" is printed on the card multiple times, but is only visible if one holds the card at a certain angle under a light.

However, looking at the card is not usually the only thing that will give away that it is a fake.

Gaztambide also said that if a person acts nervous, it can be a key indicator that an ID is fake. In addition, every ID card, such as a driver's license has its own unique number.

Fake IDs often have numbers that have been

deduplicated, which will give them away as fake. They can check this through a computer system.

Gaztambide said that he will rarely randomly check IDs.

"If we have doubts, then we'll check it out," Gaztambide said. "If info is given and you look at the ID and it's different, then there's a problem."

In a club, for example, all IDs are checked when people enter, and this makes it more difficult to use a fake ID for this purpose. But when driving, for example, there is much less likelihood that the ID card will be checked.

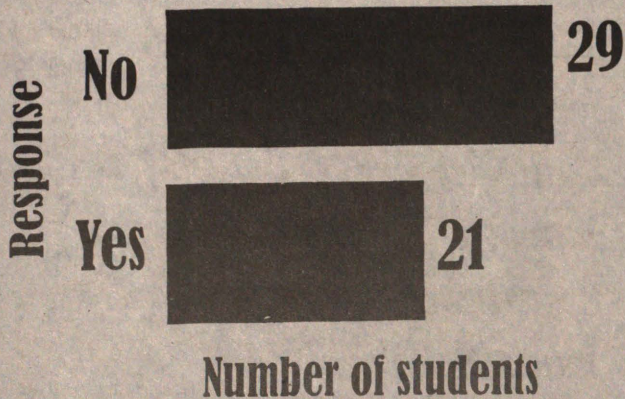
Despite the fact that advanced technology is needed to create the best fake IDs, there are also cheap materials available on various websites that can be used to create IDs.

However, people often do not design fake IDs carefully, and driver licenses with rough edges or fuzzy writing are often fakes. An ID that looks new but is dated from several years ago can also be a tip off that it is fake.

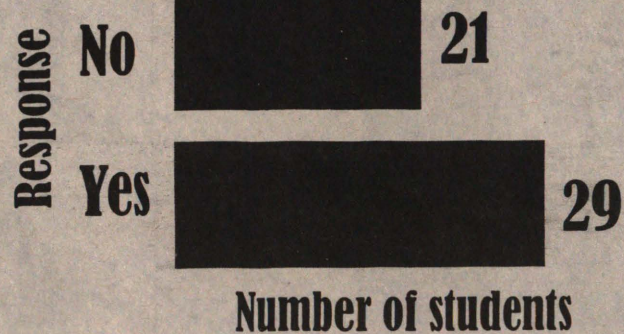
By the numbers

50 students were surveyed on their knowledge about fake IDs, and the results may be surprising.

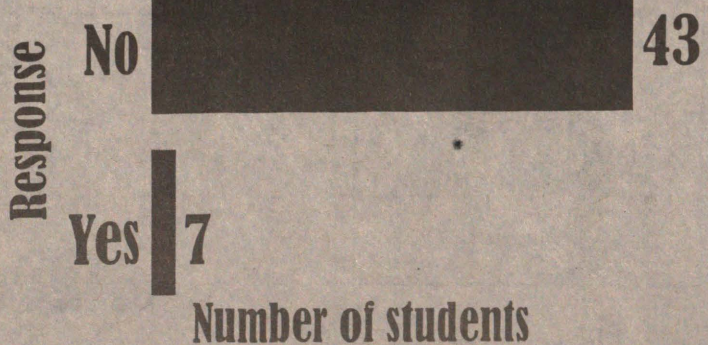
Do you know the consequences of having a fake ID?



Do you know someone with a fake ID?

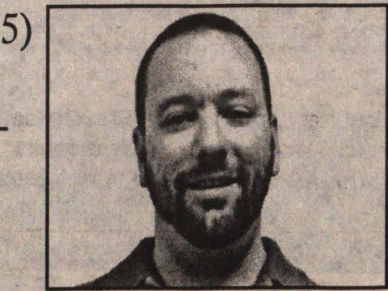
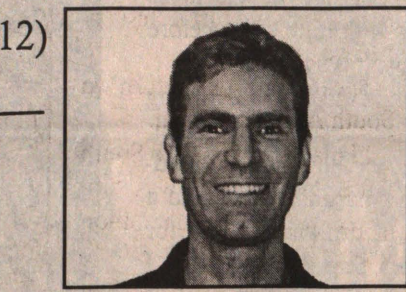
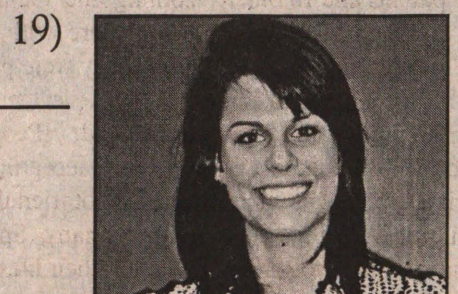
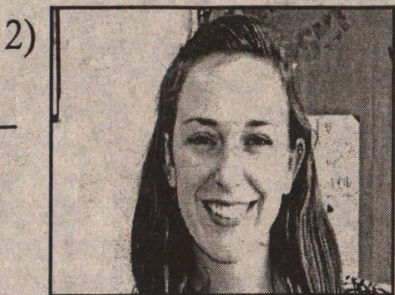
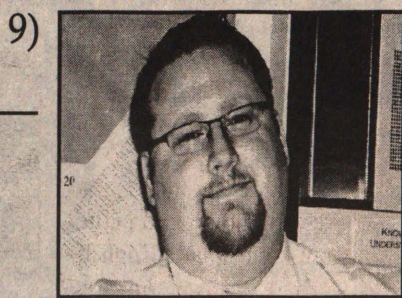


Do you have a fake ID?



Features

Test your knowledge: Can you match the new teachers to their faces?



A. Jonathan Bacheller

B. Brittney Bauer

C. Mark Begovich

D. Lauren Bentel

E. Brittany Blanchard

F. Guadalupe Cortez

G. Brigitte Debs

H. Susan Gillespie

I. Jennifer Huss

J. Emily Jacobs

K. Kurt Johnson

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N. Jennifer Linsenmeyer

O. Laura Mayer

P. Shawn O'Donnell

Q. Kristin Schaefer

R. Jenna Sokoloski

S. Eve Winiarski

T. Julie Wyller

- 20. B
- 19. L
- 18. G
- 17. F
- 16. K
- 15. T
- 14. S
- 13. J
- 12. A
- 11. Q
- 10. O
- 9. M
- 8. H
- 7. C
- 6. R
- 5. P
- 4. N
- 3. I
- 2. D
- 1. E

Answer Key

Photos by Amber Del Rio, Kristina Manibo, and Ahmad Zaidi

Changing lives, one summer at a time

South Africans open their hearts and homes to student

By Liz Ramos
Reporter

For senior Chelsea Spear, it took a trip halfway around the world for her to realize the impact she could have on children in South Africa.

Spear's adventure started on May 24 when her father took a trip to South Africa for a 56-mile marathon called The Comrades.

"I decided to go a week before [the group] was actually supposed to leave. I went with my parents and 18 other runners and their families on the trip," Spear said.

World Vision sponsored the runners and their families. World Vision is a humanitarian group that sponsors children in Africa and holds the marathon to spread awareness about the struggles those children have.

Spear was able to watch the marathon that started in Pietermaritzburg and ended in Durban.

Throughout her experience, Spear's pride for her father increased because of the challenge of the marathon.

"I felt like it was a great experience for him. Not only did it help him significantly grow as a runner but it was a huge commitment that not too many people would be

able to do," Spear said.

According to Spear, Durban is a lot like Chicago.

"[Durban] physically looks very similar to Chicago. There are tall buildings, shopping strips, and beaches. The energy on the streets also reminds you a lot of Chicago. There's also very wealthy areas and very poor areas," Spear said.

Spear also visited Bethany, a poorer village than Durban with people living in slums.

"People were very welcoming and thanking us for being there with World Vision. They were probably the nicest people I've ever met," Spear said. "[People] were a lot more accepting. The culture is a lot friendlier."

In Bethany, Spear had to adapt to their lifestyle.

"[People] showed us how to dance, how they planted crops, and how to make African jewelry," Spear said.

Spear's perspective on Africa shifted greatly on the trip.

"For me, the trip disproved the stereotype that [most areas of] Africa were [impoverished]. That's not to say that there weren't a lot of poor areas but we also saw very beautiful, wealthy areas as well," Spear said.

Spear's favorite part was that World Vision sponsors

children. Spear was able to meet, Nondimiso, the girl she was sponsoring.

"[Nondimiso] was the sweetest girl, quiet and petite. She couldn't speak English, so we had to have someone translate. When you meet them, you almost want to take them home with you," Spear said.

Spear feels that sponsoring children in need is very important.

"There are children and families in Africa that need our help; they need food and shelter and schooling that they are not receiving. Teenagers in America can really get involved with World Vision or WeGo to Africa to help those in need. It's also a very fulfilling experience," Spear said.

She said going to South Africa was one of the best experiences of her life.

Spear plans to return to South Africa next year.

"I plan to go back to South Africa next year. I was supposed to run the marathon with my dad and the World Vision team however, you have to be 21 years of age. So for the next couple of years I plan to go and support my dad and continue to work with the World Vision sites in Africa," Spear said.



Photos courtesy of Chelsea Spear

Chelsea Spear visited her sponsor child, Nondimiso, during her trip to South Africa (top). Spear also went on a safari where she saw giraffes, lions, zebras and rhinos (bottom).

For senior, summer lovin' happened so fast

By Keyuri Parmar
Perspectives Editor

A casual pool game led to a life-changing romance for senior Devon Tuma.

Tuma and Ryan met each other through her co-workers in June. The first time they met they didn't talk to each other, but a couple weeks later they were hanging out again.

He taught her how to play pool and they instantly fell for each other.

"I made fun of him and we talked a lot when we met and it just clicked," Tuma said.

Tuma declined to disclose her boyfriend's last name.

They share similar qualities that help their relationship remain laidback and fun.

"We both have a similar sense of humor. I can mess around with him and he'll laugh because he knows I don't mean it," Tuma said.

Tuma believes that spending time together before becoming

a couple, made all the difference.

"[The relationship] was more comfortable because we still hung out all the time. It felt better knowing [our rela-

tionship] was official and all of our friends knew," Tuma said.

According to Tuma, at first her parents weren't so welcoming of the relationship. However, as they got to know him, they saw what a great guy Ryan truly was.

Tuma was not anticipating the relationship to be such an immense part of her life.

"It has made me happier than I have been in a long time and I did not expect that to happen," Tuma said.

Even Tuma's friends can see that the relationship has affected her in a positive way.

The couple spends time together by going bowling, going to arcades, watching movies, shopping, and go-

ing camping.

"He's just a better guy than the others that I've dated; he's more of a gentleman and sweeter. We're serious about each other and it's just different and I can see it lasting a while," Tuma said.

This romance made Tuma's summer one to remember.

"Being with him has made me more comfortable being myself," Tuma said. "He boosts my confidence because every time he sees me he tells me I'm beautiful or something."

Since school started, the couple does not see each other as often, but they still manage to make time for each other.

"There isn't one thing I could say that describes him; he's just perfect for me," Tuma said.

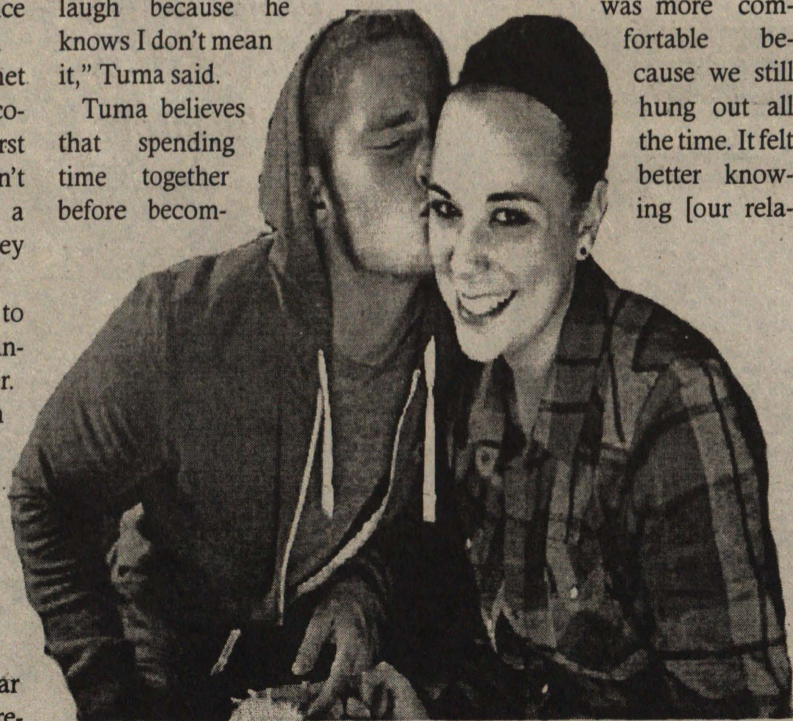


Photo courtesy of Devon Tuma

Devon Tuma gained a life-changing romance with her boyfriend Ryan.

Fresh from the Apple tree...

Back in touch

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

Apple's new and improved iPod touch offers the most advanced features yet.

According to www.apple.com, this updated version of the gadget now features Face-

Time, a retina display, HD video recording, and a Game Center.

FaceTime has taken calling and IMing to a new level allowing owners of the new iPod touch or the iPhone 4 to video call over Wi-Fi. The two cameras on the device let

users choose between a face-to-face chat and a see-and-share video.

The retina display has now reached such a high quality that images on the screen are smoother and sharper.

The HD video recording feature allows the user to edit the basics of the video right after it is recorded.

The iMovie application can also be purchased for \$4.99. With this app, users can combine and edit video clips and add music and pictures to the video.

After the creation of mini blockbusters, users can upload their videos straight to YouTube, Facebook, blogs, or attach it to an e-mail.

In the Game Center, users can download games from links within the app, and play against friends or anyone around the world.

Prices for the new iPod touch are starting at \$229, and the iPhone 4 starting at \$199.

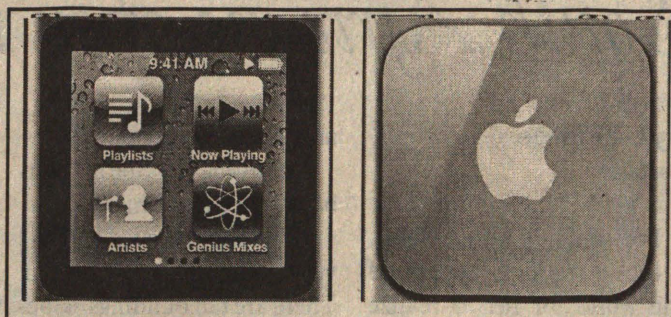


Photo courtesy of Apple

Taking a slice out of Apple's nano

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

Now 46 percent smaller, 42 percent lighter, and 100 percent touchscreen, the sixth-generation iPod nano has undergone some changes.

Besides the music, radio, and fitness features, the iPod nano now comes with new accessibility features for people with sight or hearing disabilities. These features include VoiceOver to make voice commands, a white on black display for people who prefer a higher contrast, and Mono Audio, so people can

change the volume in each earbud.

The nano also includes a clip on the back, to make it more portable and convenient for different activities such as working out.

For \$149, customers can buy an eight GB nano, or a 16GB for \$179.

If trying to decide whether the new Multi-Touch iPod nano is worth it over the old ones, according to www.gizmodo.com, it doesn't offer many capabilities as the previous ones and doesn't come with a video camera like the fifth-generation iPod nano.

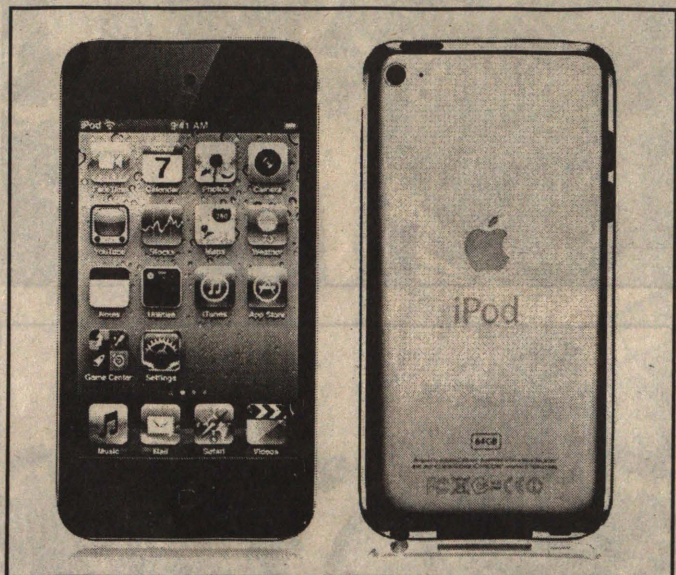


Photo courtesy of Apple

A little bit of everything

Apple's iPad is a mix of a giant iPod touch and a small laptop

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

Not quite an iPod and not quite a laptop, the iPad lies in a category between the two as the first tablet computer created by Apple.

On the iPad, one can surf the web, check e-mail, create photo albums, watch movies and music videos, keep an iTunes account, and play

music.

The iPad also includes an App Store, iBooks, calendars, a contact book, maps, notes, and built-in accessibility.

Just one-and-a-half pounds and half an inch thin, this 9.7 inches (when measured diagonally) of wireless, 3G touchscreen starts at \$499.

Will the iPad replace computers? According to www.ezinearticles.com, the iPad

cannot replace a primary computer, the biggest issue being it doesn't have any USB ports. Without USB ports it is difficult to use external devices or back up information.

However, the iPad serves as a good device for a secondary machine used for e-mail and Internet.

As for competition, according to www.pcworld.com, some other tablet computers, or possible alternatives to the Apple iPad include HP's Slate, The Notion Ink Adam, Fusion Garage's JooJoo, and Archos' Home Tablet.

iTuning into TV

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

Apple TV has taken a big step in the home-entertainment world.

This appliance makes it easy for users to rent HD movies and commercial-free TV shows as well as stream pictures and music straight from a computer to a TV.

According to www.apple.com, Apple TV is now 80 percent smaller than it was before and is energy efficient, using less power than a night light.

The cost of renting movies starts at \$2.99. HD movies are \$3.99. Renting TV shows is \$0.99 per episode.

The videos stream clearly without stutters and just like an actual DVD, the user can fast-forward,

rewind or pause the show.

Besides renting movies straight from Apple TV, users can access their Netflix accounts without having to get on the computer.

With Apple TV users can also watch YouTube videos, listen to Internet radio as well as view pictures from Flickr and browse Mobileme galleries.

Apple TV costs \$99.



Photo courtesy of Apple



Photo courtesy of Apple

American values attacked in game

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

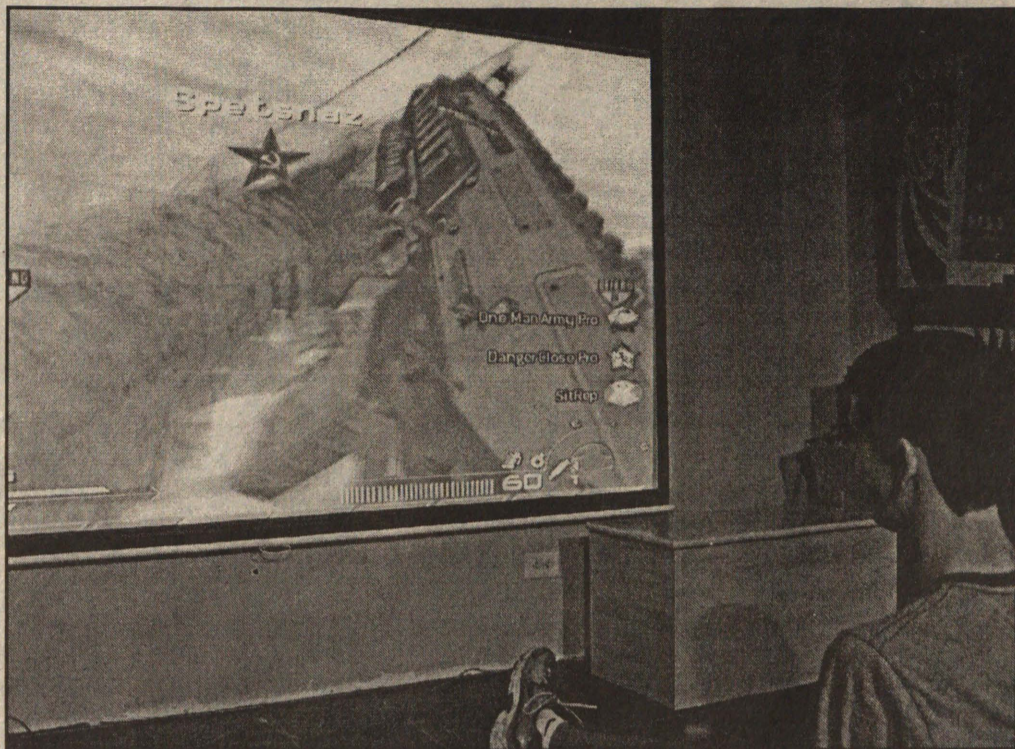
Electronic Arts (EA) is raising controversy in its upcoming game, "Medal of Honor," where players can play as the Taliban.

"Medal of Honor" has been banned from 49 Gamestop locations and all Post Exchanges on U.S. military bases worldwide, according to www.lup.com.

Stores are banning the game because it preaches anti-American values, such as oppression, terrorism, and anti-democracy.

Families who have lost loved ones in the war in Iraq find this game disturbing, saying that war is not a joke and is not something to be taken lightly.

"This game is bad and offensive to families who have lost their loved ones in the war," sophomore Maegan Daniels said, who knows someone who has died in



Senior Matt Bannon enjoys playing games such as "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2," which allows players to play as Russian terrorists called "Spetsnaz."

Photo by Megan Hernbroth

the war in Iraq. "War isn't a joke."

On the other hand, some people are indifferent.

"I think that playing first-

person as the Taliban terrorist group is not that big of a deal, since they have made games similar to this before," sophomore Michael Mccar-

thy said. "I mean, it's just a game, and parents have control over what types of games their children play, so don't buy it for your kids and don't

ruin it for others. This game is rated M for a reason."

Last fall, Activision's "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2" had a Russian terrorist group exterminate every person in an airport.

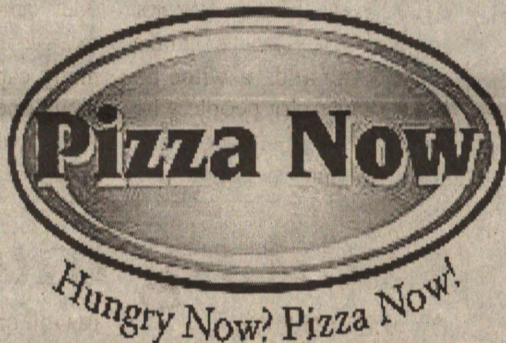
"Call of Duty" creators let players decide whether or not to do the mission.

When "Call of Duty" was coming out, many people said that the game should not be allowed to come out because of one certain mission where the player unloads on everyone in an airport.

Many were indifferent; it is just one mission. But unlike "Call of Duty" where the mission could be skipped, in "Medal of Honor," you are killing civilians and American troops throughout the entire game.

"They have made many games where you can play as the enemy, like the Nazis," Mccarthy said. "I don't see why you should make a big deal about this game because it most certainly is not the first time."

EA's "Medal of Honor" releases on Oct. 12.



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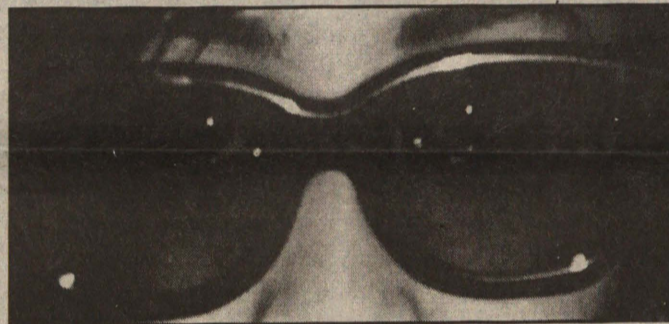
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Overloading senses with too much 3-D

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Repetition makes things dull. Just look at the recent torrent of 3-D movies.

Don't get me wrong, a good percentage of 3-D movies are pretty cool. But when movies that shouldn't be in 3-D started coming out in 3-D; for instance, "Clash of the Titans" and "Step Up 3," I decided that 3-D was overdone.

"Clash of the Titans" did not need to be released in 3-D. I felt ripped off when I had to pay extra to purchase 3-D glasses just to give them back to the theater. Many of the scenes were not as three-dimensional as I expected either. I paid for a 3-D movie, and I expected the movie to be full-blown three-dimensional, not as flat as a regular 2-D movie.

Movies like "Clash of the Titans" are made in 3-D, but are hardly viewed in 3-D.

In "Step Up 3," the main character shaking her hips in front of my face was un-

necessary and very uncomfortable. Normally I would enjoy 3-D characters, but does hip-hop dancing honestly have to be in 3-D?

"Alice in Wonderland," "Hubble," and "How to Train Your Dragon" were released in 3-D in March. Six days after it came out, "Clash of the Titans" was released.

During the summer, 3-D movies like "Piranha," "Avatar: The Last Airbender," "Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore," "Resident Evil: Afterlife" and more made it to the theaters, within weeks of each other.

In October, 3-D movies like "My Soul to Take," and "Saw 3-D" will be released; they will be followed by "Megamind," "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," and Disney's "Tangled," also in 3-D.

Before this flood of 3-D movies, it felt like a luxury to watch a 3-D movie. I enjoyed reaching out, trying to touch the characters that seemed to pop out of the screen. Now, the magic is gone.

Fighting to compete

By Katie Sladek
Reporter

Varsity football season is in full swing with one win, four losses, and the homecoming game against Glenbard North on Friday.

Senior and varsity captain, Christian Simanonis, is confident his team will play well.

"We're [going to] kill the Glenbard North Panthers," said Simanonis.

Varsity captain and senior Kyle Molskow agrees with Simanonis.

"I think [the game is] going to go good. We're going to put up a good fight," said Molskow.

Coach Paul Reinke is confident in his team but is respectful of the competition.

"They are an excellent team," said Reinke. "They are well-coached from top to bottom, and have been working hard and we are excited about the challenge."

Reinke thinks his team is doing very well this year.

"As a whole they are all pretty good... The kids know what's expected of them. [The kids] last year didn't know what to expect," said Reinke.

The team's summer practices have affected the way they play.

"We worked on executing the offense and defense and getting bigger and stronger in the weight room," said Reinke.

Molskow feels the team got a lot accomplished over the

summer.

"[Summer practices] were good... we had a lot of guys working hard [and] we learned a lot of new stuff,"

said Molskow.

So far, the team's record is 1-4.

Their first win was at home against Plainfield North. The team went on to lose in away games against Batavia, Wheaton North, and Glenbard East.

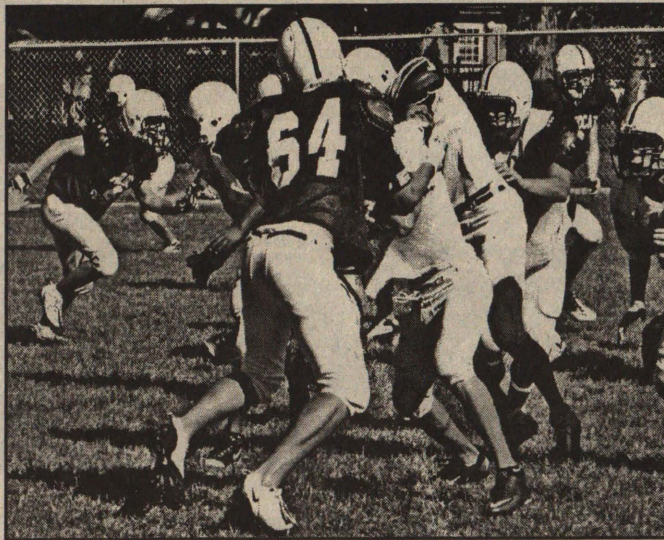


Photo by Beth Berg

Varsity scrimmages in practice to help produce game-like situations.

Hard practices yield personal bests

By Keyuri Parmar
Perspectives Editor

Many cross country boys and girls got their personal best times at the Peoria Notre Dame Invitational on Saturday.

Girls

With summer running behind them, girls cross country is in good shape for the season.

Freshman Linsey Sayner placed twelfth with a time of 19:00 at Peoria.

Sophomore Katie Yackey dropped 5:45 from her time last year.

"We've been having hard practices earlier in the season this year and we're in good shape. This is going to be a good season," senior captain Maggie Tikka said.

The frosh-soph earned third place at Wauconda on Sept. 11 and a fourth place trophy at Crystal Lake on Sept. 4. This is the first time in 7 years the girls have earned two team trophies in the same season.

Lindsey Sayner came in second at Wauconda with a time of 16:48 for two and half miles and came second at Crystal Lake 15:11.

Macias got seventh place at Wauconda with a time of 17:11 and Crystal Lake 15:30.

"I was very surprised, being a freshman on varsity, it's a privilege to run with such great competition," said Lindsey Sayner.

Boys

Even with a small team of 14 boys, coach Paul McLeland knows the cross country team has what it takes to compete.

Captain senior Gunner Sterne placed fifth on the all-time West Chicago list with a time of 15:10 on a three mile

course.

The next finisher was Derrik Pietrobon ran the course with a time of 15:40 and placed 15 on the all-time list.

"I think we'll finish in the top five at sectionals, which will lead us to state," said Sterne.

The boys did better at Wauconda taking fifth place out of 31 teams with their suspended athlete back.

At Crystal Lake the boys finished eighth as a team on Sept. 4. Individually Sterne came in fifth with a time of 17:15 and Pietrobon finished ninth with a time of 17:35.

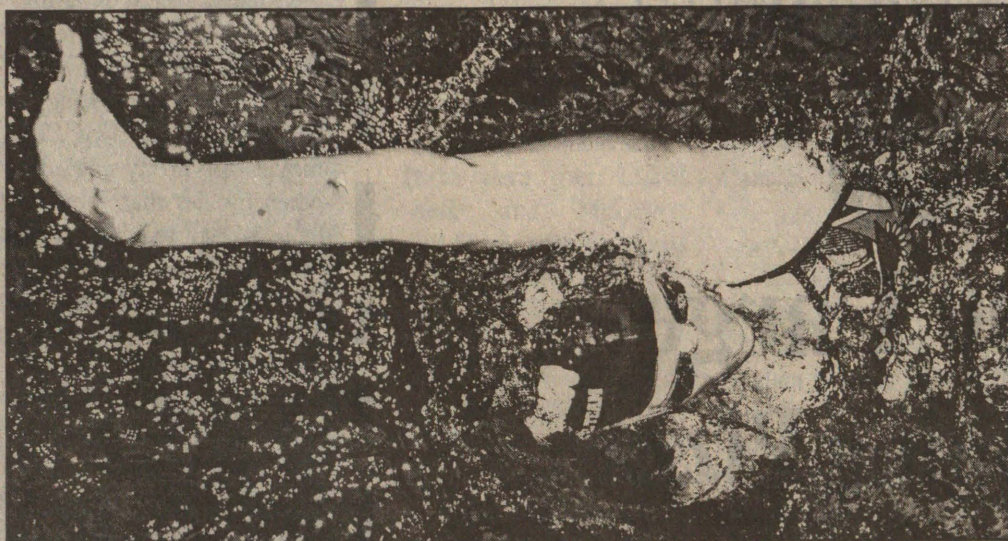


Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Senior Kelly Dunn practices hard and already looking forward to state later in the year.

"To do [score higher at state] our freshmen group needs to take it up to the next level because right now they're used to park district and club swimming," head coach Nick Parry said.

Dunn has been struggling to get back in the swing of intense practices after a three-week trip to Costa Rica in June.

"My summer training

wasn't too great, but I've been in the water as much as I can and [I] did a conditioning camp," Dunn said. "This year I really have to stay focused about state and still have fun. Last year I was over-focused, and I could have had more fun with it."

Kruk, on the other hand, struggles with staying motivated at every practice.

"Working hard in practice

every day when we're tired can be really hard," Kruk said.

Parry is confident that the team will be able to place higher at state than last year's 15th.

"We still have Kelly, and Yvette and Maya just need to set their expectations a little higher and they should be able to score points for state," Parry said.

Mixed results

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

Midway through the season, boys golf is fighting for wins while girls golf is continuing to improve.

Boys

Boys golf hit a bump on their path to a successful season.

The boys came up short in their meets against West Aurora and Wheaton Warrenville South on Sept. 14 and Sept. 16, giving them a record of 6-3.

The team took on Naperville Central on Tuesday. Results were not available as of press time.

Senior Robby Windisch and junior Kyle Martens lead the team as the number one and two seeds.

"I work hard [at practices]. I try to help guys out if they're struggling," Windisch said.

Despite Windisch and Martens' success, coach Eric Lasky would like to see more consistency from the other golfers.

"I think this year's team is lacking the depth we'd like right now, but we're doing okay, we're winning some," Lasky said.

The boys face Naperville North on Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

Girls

With 12 girls on the team this year, girls golf is taking off in a new direction.

"Our scores are getting lower and we're becoming more competitive," senior captain Karlie Becker said.

The team beat West Aurora 201-215 on Monday giving them a record of 4-6. On Tuesday, the girls faced Naperville Central. Results were not available at press time.

According to coach Mike Cain, the team is very young with only two seniors.

"I talked to the girls about keeping their heads in the game and focusing on the shot now and not the previous [shot] because that happened already and there is nothing you can do about it," Cain said. "Golf isn't like team sports. This game is tough."

The team takes on Naperville North Thursday at 3:30 p.m.

State-cut times early in season

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

With only a few weeks of the season behind them, the girls swim team is already beating times from last season and making state cut times.

Senior Kelly Dunn made state cut time in the 100-free-style with a time of 53.92, beating the cut of 53.99. The medley-relay team of Dunn, sophomores Maya Skorupski and Yvette Kruk and freshman Nicole Reitz finished with a time of 1:53.55, beating the time the medley relay team set at sectionals by nearly 1.5 seconds.

Holding their own with tough games to come

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

Varsity boys soccer are stepping it up this season, holding their own in the DVC with a record of 2-1-2.

"We have a lot of really good chemistry on the team this year, and it definitely shows on the field. The one thing we have to work on this year is scoring," senior Adrian Porcayo said.

Familiarity with each other on the field is what holds the boys strong in tough games.

"We did a lot of team-building over the summer and it really helped create a tight-knit group of guys," coach Steve Bruggmann said.

The boys work well as a team, but there are also a few exceptional players who stand-out.

"[Senior] Chris Quintana is captain and an extremely versatile player; he can play any

position and has the heart to win. [Junior] Richard Paret is a strong mid-fielder, and [junior] Esteban Fernandez is an amazing forward player and is a work-horse. He is selfless and willing to distract the other team in order for someone else to score," Bruggmann said.

Younger team members are making their mark this year as well.

"We have a lot of potential; we have a few young guys who work really hard, [like sophomores] Diego Martinez and Daniel Hernandez. The whole team just works really hard, and hopefully that hard work will pay off," Quintana said.

The boys' competition, though, proves to be just as hard-working as they are.

"Our toughest game was against Lyons Township. They are the best known team in the area and won state last

year. If we had kept possession of the ball and kept it on the ground we could've done better. We lost that game 1-0," Fernandez said.

Besides improving on scoring, the boys are working towards finishing at the top of the conference and getting farther in regionals than previous years.

"We do a lot of conditioning: lots of sprints, running, and ball technique. We've had minor setbacks like torn ACLs and absences that are holding us back a bit," junior Louis Boers said.

The boys keep pushing forward, though, and won't stop until they reach their goals.

"Being with other people and making new friends is the best. When I first started playing I was nervous, but once you get into the game you don't care about anything else but winning," sophomore Jenaro Terrazas said.



Photo by Sarah Berger

Senior captain Chris Quintana winds up for a shot against Wheaton Academy on Aug. 24.

Starting off the season with difficult losses

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Girls tennis is having a rough time starting off the season.

There will be a home game tonight against West Aurora.

The girls lost to by Rosary High School 6-1 on Sept. 18.

On Sept. 16, Glenbard defeated the girls 7-0.

The team didn't compete well at the DVC opener on Sept. 14 against Wheaton North, losing 7-0.

Rain cancelled the Sept. 11 Willowbrook Invitational.

"Every Saturday is taken already so we can't make it up," coach Sione Moeaki said.

The team dropped the home game on Sept. 9 against Illinois Math and Science



Photo by Kristina Manibo

Sophomore Elisha Dongon practices her swing.

Academy, 7-0.

"When we lose we get upset but we still look at it in a positive light; we look at it as practice," captain junior Frida Carmago said. "But we're looking forward to perfecting our season."

The girls won 4-3 against Willowbrook on Sept. 8, which boosted their confidence.

On their first away game against St. Francis, they lost 7-0.

"St. Francis had more experienced players because they play all year round. They are also more advanced in techniques and experience," Moeaki said.



Photo by Beth Berg

The girls get everyone motivated before the home game against Glenbard North on Sept. 14.

Undefeated team conquers in DVC

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

With a record of 16-0, the volleyball team continues to dominate their competition.

The girls defeated West Aurora 25-19 and 25-20 on Sept. 16.

On Tuesday, the girls took on Wheaton Warrenville South and won with scores of 25-19 and 25-20.

"We have a good group of girls. They respect one another and care about each other," coach Kristi Hasty said.

According to Hasty, the girls came into the season a very offensive team and have been doing well blocking on defense.

Senior captains Emily Paschke and Kathy Fletcher along with juniors Julia Conard and Payton Bayless lead the team during games.

Hasty is trying to empower the girls by letting them make more strategic decisions on their own when on the court.

"We have to communicate

a lot more because we have to be leaders on the court," Paschke said.

Though the team continues to be successful, they do not underestimate any of their competition, especially in conference.

Though the team already played two of their toughest competitors, the girls still have to face the Napervilles. However, Paschke doesn't doubt her team.

"We just have to bring our game every day because we never know what to expect from other teams," Paschke said.

The girls have set specific goals for themselves to win conference and go to state. With such an experienced team, Hasty says the odds are stacked in their favor.

Hasty also continues to emphasize the concept of "team," as well as working on conditioning and skills to ensure success.

The team takes on Naperville Central Thursday at 5 p.m.

Moeaki thinks the team is more experienced this season.

"They work hard every day," Moeaki said. "We always aim for improvement from last year, and win more games in the DVC."

Although they work hard, the team has much to improve on.

"I wish they would not over-hit the ball," Moeaki said. "I like more control and placement, and I would like them to improve their footwork."

Carmago thinks focusing more on doubles teams will help the team improve.

"For doubles, we need to

work on working together and knowing who's going to get the ball," Carmago said. "But we're still looking forward to perfecting our season."

Perfection is difficult to reach. Moeaki has the girls practice hard, but still focus on the basics.

"We hit repeatedly, forehand and backhand, and serving and returning. Mental preparation is very important," Moeaki said.

Some practices are more rigorous.

"The coaches are coaching us to our limits and teaching more intense techniques," Carmago said.

'10 Hut: Going behind the scenes of the football season

Aches, injuries all in a day's work

By **Giuliana LaMantia**
Reporter

When the door opens to athletic trainer Barb Andrews' office, chances are it is

a football player.

Each day, 10 to 15 football players visit Andrews, which is more than any other high school sport.

"You see more broken

bones and dislocations, and overall there are more injuries [in football]," Andrews said.

However, the most common reasons for coming to see the trainer are aches and pains, such as shin splints, rolled ankles, or ankle pains.

Tape, ice, and physical therapy exercises are used to treat minor ankle sprains.

"If it's more severe, then we take them out of practice and give them physical therapy," Andrews said.

For an injury that takes a lot of one-on-one care, players are referred out to ATI Physical Therapy or more formalized care since the trainers need to be on the field to take care of all the athletes.

The worst injury Andrews

said she's seen was a contusion to the liver and spleen.

"It may not have been the ugliest, but it was the most concerning," Andrews said.

Andrews' primary concern is prevention.

In order to prevent injuries, athletes should be well-hydrated, well-conditioned, eat a balanced diet, and be wearing the proper equipment.



Photo by Beth Berg

Varsity coach Paul Reinke (left) pushes the team in practice.

Beyond coaching

By **Carly Tubridy**
Sports Editor

Watching young men grow as football players and into men is one of the best parts of coaching according to varsity football coach Paul Reinke.

"Getting to work with the kids [is another great part]," Reinke said, who has coached for 10 years. "It's addictive; I can't get enough."

Reinke thinks accepting failure is the hardest part of being a coach.

To keep his team motivated, Reinke sets goals for his players.

"Goal-setting from small to large and just keeping them striving to do better [motivates the team]," Reinke said.

Just like most of the players, Reinke has his own pre-game routine.

"I like to relax. I get something to eat, maybe get my hair cut or listen to some music," Reinke said.

During the customary pre-game speech, Reinke tells the boys to think about translating practices to the game.

"A good coach can get his or her players to do something they can't," Reinke said.

Captains on and off the field

By **Yasmyn McGee**
Features Editor

After waiting three years, seniors Kyle Molskow, Ivan Kovanda, and Christian Simanonis have finally earned the title of varsity football captains.

Even though the boys expected to be chosen as cap-

tains this year, since they are seniors, it is not an easy commitment to take on.

Kovanda said that their practice obligations have increased as captains.

"We scout for the other teams and we go over our responsibilities as a team," Kovanda said.

Simanonis agreed that now

that they are captains, they must step up in all aspects of being on the team.

"We have to represent the team, [for example], if the referee needs to talk to someone on the team we're the ones that talk to them," Simanonis said. "We were voted to be leaders on the team and set the example for everyone else."

Molskow said that as captains they can't slack off and must work hard all the time as a part of setting a good example for fellow teammates. He wants to take the team farther than they have ever gone before in games.

"I want to have a winning season and go to playoffs," Molskow said.

Kovanda hopes that being captain will help leave his mark in high school.

"I want to be remembered as a good leader," Kovanda said.

All three captains agreed that there isn't a downside to being a captain. Simanonis said the best thing is guiding others.

"Everyone looks up to you and you get to lead everyone else," Simanonis said.

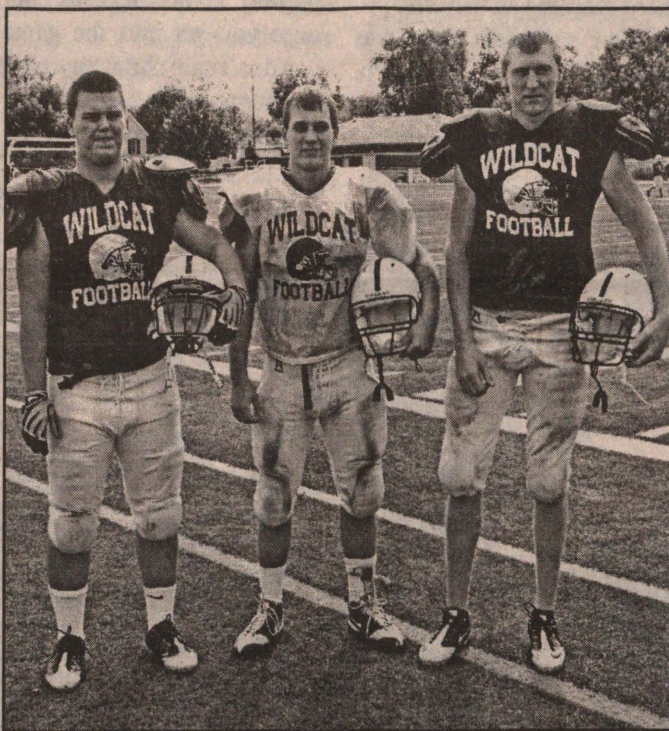


Photo by Beth Berg

Senior captains (from left) Christian Simanonis, Kyle Molskow, and Ivan Kovanda are excited to lead their team.

Score touchdowns, not reality TV shows

By **Carly Tubridy**
Sports Editor

When did football players become reality stars?

Chad Ochocinco, Terrell Owens, and countless teams have been a part of a wave of recent reality shows that center around football players. Ochocinco's reality show is based on his search for love, "Ochocinco: The Ultimate Catch."

Owens' show, "The T.O. Show," is centered on his 'everyday life.'

Finally, "Hard Knocks: Training Camp" films different teams training.

Currently the New York Jets are involved in "Hard Knocks."

People who do these shows have one of three motives: they are desperate for their 15 minutes of fame, they are trying to grasp onto the last glimpses of fame they will have, or they need money.

Obviously money is not the issue; in 2009 the lowest salary for the Jets was \$312,000 and the highest was \$11.5 million.

So why are these wealthy football players and teams involving themselves in reality television?

The risk for scandals seems to be too high to risk a player's career.

If the players become in-

involved in drinking, fighting, or other scandalous activities that tend to come along with reality shows, they could seriously jeopardize the team's

future as well as their own.

Here's a great example: Ochocinco has already been accused of sleeping with his dance partner from "Dancing with the Stars."

While this is nothing that he can be fined or jailed for, it is an unnecessary scandal that he would not be involved with if he wasn't caught up in reality television.

According to www.thehollywoodreporter.com, Ochocinco will also be involved in a new reality dating show called "The Tournament" on VH1.

Eighty-five girls will be chosen from across the country

and then will compete in tournament-style dating.

VH1 has a long history of scandal in their dating shows.

Ryan Jenkins, a contestant from "Megan Wants a Millionaire" was accused of killing his ex-wife.

And one of the more recent scandals involves a sex tape surfacing from Fantasia Barrino and her reality show "Fantasia For Real."

Scandals like this will distract the boys from what they should be focusing on: their game.

No matter the channel or the person, scandals follow reality shows and the teams can't afford to lose players because of them.



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