

DVC CHAMPS!

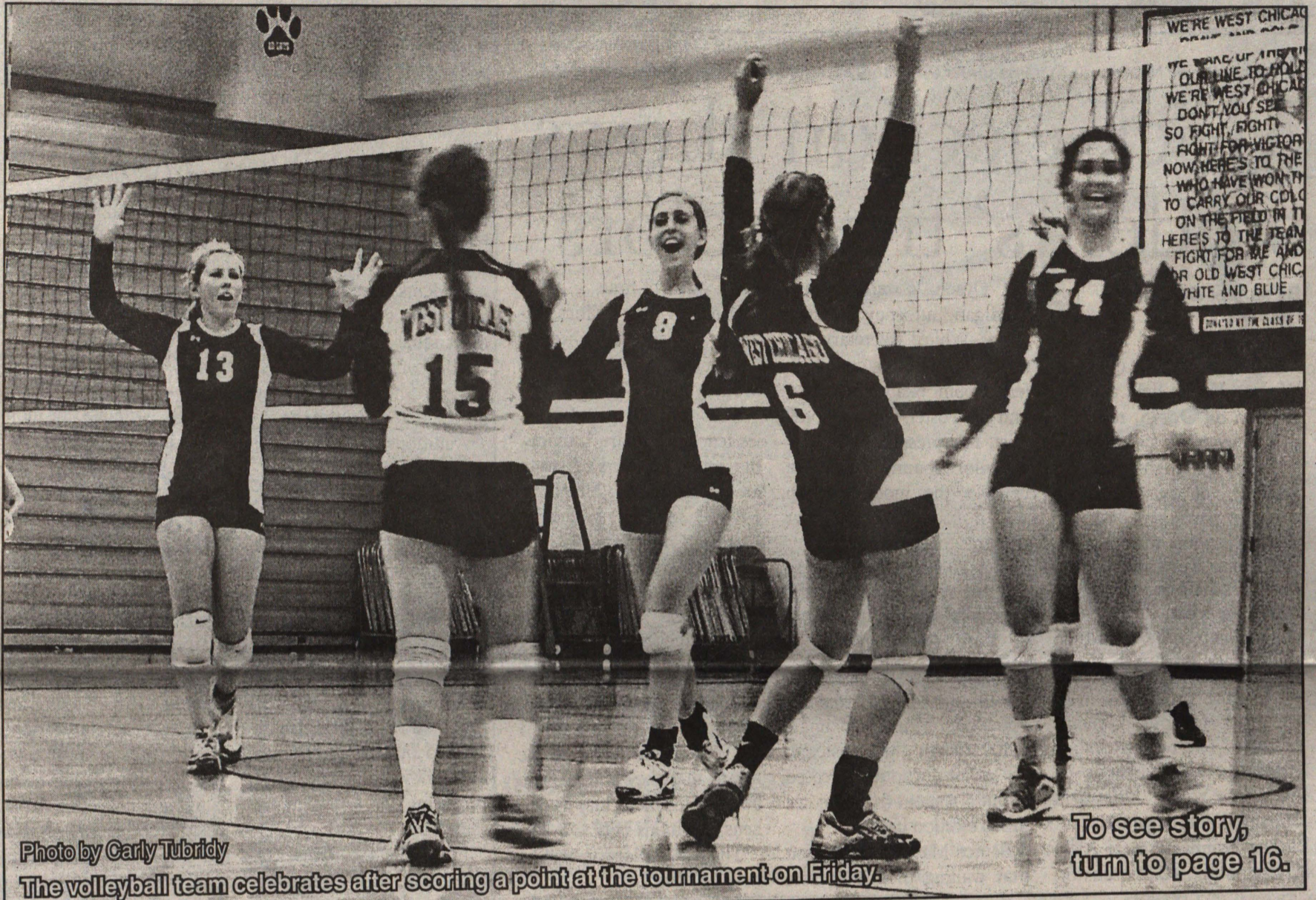


Photo by Carly Tubridy

The volleyball team celebrates after scoring a point at the tournament on Friday.

To see story, turn to page 16.

Seniors end on a different stage

Finals, honors night dates moved forward

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

The class of 2011 will be the first to end its school year on a different stage with gradua-

tion moving to the College of DuPage (COD).

Along with the location change from Bishop gym to COD, the graduation date moved up to June 3, and to an

evening time, 7:30 p.m.

Due to the change of date, seniors will be taking finals May 25 and 26. Finals for freshmen, sophomores and juniors will remain May 27, 31, and June 1.

Honors night will be held on June 1 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

"The Bishop gym is a nice setting, however it doesn't provide the space we need," Supt. Lalo Ponce said.

There will be 543 seniors graduating.

"The size of the senior class increases each year, and in order to fit everyone, we were thinking of limiting the graduates to three guest tickets. Three tickets per graduate is unreasonably few. We want this to be a celebration and we want to invite as many guests as possible," Ponce said.

Holding graduation at COD will allow graduates to have as many as eight guests, versus last year's limit of four guests per graduate.

Parents had the opportunity

to vote on whether or not they wanted graduation to stay in the Bishop gym.

Out of 443 parents, 12.4 percent voted to keep graduation in the Bishop gym; 87.6 percent voted to move the ceremony to COD.

Parking will also be more convenient at COD rather than at the high school.

"Parking will be around the building instead of way down the street. [Graduation] will also be comfortable because it won't be so crowded," Ponce said.

There will be no increase in cost to the graduates or the school.

For the district, graduation costs \$15,500.

INSIDE Tie-Dye 4 Haiti

Making a difference, one teacher decided to take a creative approach to fund raising. To see how much money they made--see NEWS, page 3.



Day of the Dead Answering the call Swimming state cuts

Although its name is spooky, Day of the Dead is more than just skeletons. How does the traditional Mexican holiday differ from the traditions of Halloween?--see FEATURES, page 11.

As the latest installment of the popular "Call of Duty" video game hits shelves, players will be in for numerous changes from plot to overall game play. For all the changes players can expect--see ENTERTAINMENT, page 12.



More than halfway through the season, girls swimming is already making state cut times. For swimmers' successful times--see SPORTS, page 15.



Photo by Amber Del Rio

Senior Anthony Nolazco (left) helps junior Pilar Bonilla register to vote at the mock election.

Mock election shows students' true colors

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

The Illinois League of Women Voters held a mock election on Oct. 5, resulting in a Democratic sweep.

Thirteen high schools around DuPage and Cook counties participated in the mock elections.

Students were able to vote for U.S. senator, governor, attorney general, secretary of state, comptroller, treasurer, and congressional Dist. 14 representative.

"It really is fun for us to do the mock elections at schools because we're educating student voters," League of Women Voters President Missey Wilhelm said.

The "winners" were Alexi Giannoulas, U.S. senator;

Pat Quinn, governor; Lisa Madigan, attorney general; Jesse White, secretary of state; David Miller, comptroller; Robin Kelly, treasurer; and Bill Foster, congressional Dist. 14 representative.

Senior Joanna Wierenga believes the mock election was a good experience for students to participate in.

"It's good practice because I get to vote [this election]," Wierenga said. "It's just a good exercise to learn the process of voting. It teaches you how to be citizen."

Although only 625 students voted out of the approximate 1,800 students that registered, the voter turnout increased about 5 percent from the last mock election in 2008.

Senior Mayra Monroy felt that waiting in line to vote

was a waste of time.

"I'm not into politics. Either way there's a chance the person I voted for won't win," Monroy said.

According to social studies teacher Barbara Laimins, the voting numbers of youth are going down. Out of the 699,406 eligible voters in DuPage County, 554,112 are registered voters, or 79 percent.

However, out of the 554,112 registered voters only 136,750 voted in the 2008 presidential election giving the county only a 19 percent voter turnout.

"We want to make people aware that they should vote because it's their duty as citizens," Laimins said.

The actual election will be held on Nov. 2.

Hot stuff in the kitchen

By Keyuri Parmar
Perspectives Editor

Something spicy and delicious was cooking in the best-tasting chili competition in foods 2 on Oct. 4. Teacher judges sampled each chili before declaring the winner: the Hawaiian chicken chili.

Sophomore Yvette Kruk, junior Rachel Pioch, and senior Ivan Kovanda made up the winning team.

"We won because we had pineapple in our chili and it was different and unique," Pioch said.

Wendy's-style chili came in second place and lunchroom-themed chili came in third.

The contest isn't just for the entertainment of the students; it also teaches them about flavor.



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Business teacher Brigitte Debs samples chili at the foods class' annual competition.

"This competition brings out the competitiveness in the students and at the same time teaches them how to blend spices and flavors," family and consumer science teacher Patricia Clifford said.

Students created displays to go with their chili to entice judges to vote for their teams.

It was all about taste for information and technology head and judge Marc Wolfe.

"I look for taste when judging; it's the most important," Wolfe said.

Each group created a recipe, tested it the week before the competition, perfected it, and made their final product for the competition.

What's Happening?

Deepening friendships

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

Community Life 2:12 is a new club for students to relax, discuss problems, and meet new people.

"It's a group, really open to anyone, and we have a lesson and discuss hard things high school students go through," senior and club member Maggie Tikka said.

Senior Joanna Wierenga

started a similar club last year as a Bible study, but together Tikka and she decided to make it less exclusive.

Tikka encourages students who join to have an open mind, meet new people, and make new friends.

"It's our goal to work together to better each other's lives," Tikka said.

The club meets Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m. in room 236.

Jersey Shore' inspired

By Liz Ramos
Reporter

Students can audition to showcase their talents in the annual Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Variety Show on Tuesday and Oct. 28 in commons.

Auditions are from 3-5 p.m. Sign up sheets are posted outside of room 201.

The Variety Show will be held on Dec. 2 with the theme of WeGo Shore.

"I've been doing this for 11 years and not once have I had someone juggle. I want my juggler," FBLA adviser Maria Wirth said.

Tickets will cost \$3 and proceeds go to March of Dimes.

"[FBLA donates the money] as a community service project. It's fun and [students] can showcase their talents. It gives [students] the opportunity to perform," Wirth said.

SkillsUSA off to conference

By Katie Sladek
Reporter

SkillsUSA is working hard to help out the community and fellow members, while preparing for a conference this fall.

From Nov. 4-6, SkillsUSA takes part in a conference against different SkillsUSA groups from around the country in Matson.

"It's really cool because

you get to see kids from all over...who have the same interests as you," senior and SkillsUSA secretary Andrea Siefert said.

SkillsUSA will also be organizing a collection for St. Mary's food pantry place at the end of November. The food will be delivered in time for the holidays.

SkillsUSA meets the last Wednesday of every month in room 106 at 7:15 a.m.

Academic competition

By Connie Kim
Contributing Writer

Scholastic Bowl starts off its season with a tournament on Nov. 6 at Wheaton North and has its first conference meet on Nov. 15 against West Aurora.

The club met on Wednesday and is looking for new members.

"It's a fun way to get involved in school and a great

way to show off your superior knowledge," Scholastic Bowl adviser and social studies teacher Nick Caltagirone said.

During a meet, teams consisting of five people compete against each other in subjects ranging from math and literature to science and history. Both Varsity and JV teams meet every Monday and Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. in room 177.

Delicious fundraiser

By Brandon Jackson
Contributing Writer

Halloween is time for sweets, so get involved in this month's cake raffle.

Tickets will be on sale for 50 cents tentatively, and students will be able to choose between seven cakes.

"We've been doing this for at least six or seven years," foods teacher Patricia Clif-

ford said, "and the teachers are always welcome to share the cakes with their class."

Cakes are tentatively scheduled for display on Oct. 27, in the administrative office. Foods 2 usually holds the raffle second semester; however this year they decided to get a head start. Proceeds will go to Family Consumer Night, which is held second semester.

Preschool looks for students

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

High schoolers won't be the only students roaming the halls in November.

Children ages 3 to 5 from the community will be enrolling in the preschool in room 108 starting Nov. 29 until Dec. 16. The preschool restarts second semester in March.

Preschoolers who take the class learn the regular curriculum.

"We make sure [lessons are] age appropriate for the preschool age group," family and consumer sciences teacher Brittney Bauer said.

One method of teaching the preschoolers is the high scope method, which is learning through play.

Preschoolers participate in dress up, and play restaurant, pet shop and house.

The preschoolers also participate in art activities.

"It's anything from painting with car tracks, using bubble wrap in art, to creating their own pictures," Bauer said.

Every high school student in the class comes up with a lesson plan with games and activities.

"Five different aspects we focus on children are physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language. Every single activity has one or more of those aspects," Bauer said.

Students are split up into three groups. One week they are head teachers, another week they are the assistant teachers, and the last week they are the observers.

"The high schoolers get hands-on experience on how to work with children at a preschool age," Bauer said.

The morning class during second and third period cost \$50 per child, and the afternoon class during fifth through ninth hour cost \$60 per child. Per session there are 15 to 20 children.

"We don't profit. We use the money to buy snacks, art supplies, and toys," Bauer said.

Students can earn dual credit by having an A or a B in the class in second semester of child development 2.

"We are still looking for preschoolers and we are welcoming any preschoolers to join," Bauer said.

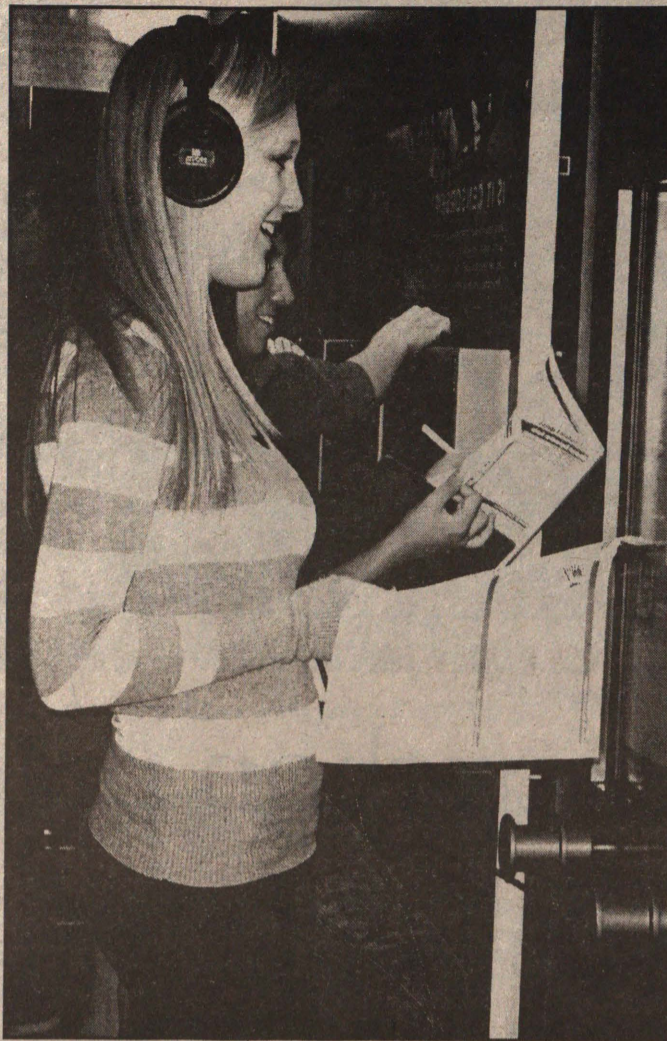


Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

Senior Haley Goranson explores the Freedom Express with her government class.

Museum comes to visit students

By Giuliana LaMantia
Reporter

Government students learned about the 1st Amendment on the Freedom Express, a mobile museum that recently came to them from Chicago.

The Freedom Express is a museum inside a bus, with hands-on activities to teach high school and middle school students how the 1st Amendment applies to their lives.

Exhibits came in the form of touch screens or flip cards that taught students about the history of the 1st Amendment as well as freedom of speech through music, media, and more.

"I think it's important for students to learn that freedom is an ongoing struggle," museum educator Meelam Jumma said. "It's something

that you constantly work at." Government students enjoyed the bus visit in late September.

"I thought it was a great way to not only see the rights we have as Americans but also to see specific situations where they were used," senior Alisha Taylor said. "I learned that there have been a lot of people I didn't know about that stood up for their rights and they're great examples."

According to social studies teacher Mary Ellen Daneels, the mobile museum was started by the McCormick Foundation. The foundation used to run the now-closed Freedom Museum in Chicago.

"The foundation decided, since students could no longer come to visit the museum, they would bring the museum to students at their schools," Daneels said.

Creatively contributing

By Megan Hernbroth
Editor in Chief

Looking for a creative way to make a difference, ESL teacher Mark Poulterer decided to begin Tie Dye for Haiti.

Tie Dye for Haiti raises money for Smile Train, an organization that helps children with cleft palates get surgery. Each surgery costs about \$250 and takes about 45 minutes.

"I would like to raise \$1,000," Poulterer said. "All the shirts were donated, so not a penny of the money is going to pay for the shirts or for my hours of work. It's all going to Haiti. And Smile

Train gives 100 percent to the field where they are working and it all goes towards the operations."

Poulterer tie-dyed each shirt and sold them for \$12.

"[Making the shirts] took hours and hours worth of work," Poulterer said.

A raffle was held on Monday, where students won raffled off shirts. Raffle tickets cost \$1 each or \$3 for five tickets, raising \$156.

Poulterer also designed the symbol, which says "4 Haiti" when read carefully, decorating the halls recently.

"I had too much time to think over the summer, so I started to doodle," Poulterer said. "Last year after

the earthquake, I wanted to know what we could do, and my students wanted to do tie-dye shirts, but we never got the ball rolling. So I made the symbols over the summer and went from there."

Poulterer chose a circle design instead of usual school posters for a specific reason.

"I wanted to go with a circle because it was different," said Poulterer. "Everything at school is either a box or square, like posters and pieces of paper, so I thought a circle would really stand out."

Students were also able to purchase plain t-shirts, and are able to tie-dye them with Poulterer after school Nov. 15, 18, and 19.

Bands play for Africa

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

Battle of the Bands returns to raise money for WeGo to Africa on Oct. 29.

Nine bands signed up to audition, eight bands tried out, and seven bands will compete.

"There are some bands that have been reconfigured so there are some people returning [from previous years]," social studies teacher Mary Ellen Daneels said.

Tickets for the show will be \$3 in advance or \$5 at the door. The community leadership class will also be selling WeGo to Africa t-shirts for \$10 in commons the week before the contest. Those who buy a shirt will receive free admissions for the show.

All profit from the performances will go towards WeGo to Africa.

This year's band line up includes performances by Goodbye Music, Grewsome Twosome, Sunday Slip and Slide, Justin Vollmuth and Rajesh Pillai, ¡Nobody Panic!, and James Alfaro.

"My partner, Alex Marano, and I wanted to introduce the hardcore rap genre in the mix," senior Justin Mandruccolo said. "Acoustic guitar and wanna-be metal bands are a little cliché."

Battle of the Bands will be held at 7 p.m. in the field-house.



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

Junior Noemi Cinto and ESL teacher Mark Poulterer organize the display table in commons where they are selling t-shirts to support Smile Train.

Musical senior's dedication pays off

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

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

Drumline captain and involved senior Joanna Wierenga, who has maintained a 4.0 GPA, was named Student of the Month for September.

How did you feel when you got the award?

I felt really honored that my work was being recognized by teachers. I definitely did not see it coming.

What clubs are you in?

I am in Scholastic Bowl,

band, orchestra, drumline, Drama Club, NHS, and Spanish NHS.

What is your favorite class and why?

I like Spanish because I enjoy the language. I also enjoy math and science.

Where do you plan on attending college?

I am looking at Indiana Wesleyan University right now and hope to go there.

What do you plan on being in your future?

I am going to double major in nursing and in Spanish. I plan on working on mission relief work overseas.

Who influences you the most to work hard?

Definitely my parents. They are very supportive of my work inside and outside of school. They encourage me to work hard in school.



Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Senior Joanna Wierenga's dedicated involvement in band and orchestra helped her earn September Student of the Month.

Students encouraged to save North Star is only credit union in state with student employees

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

In hopes of educating students about finances, North Star Credit Union has created its newest location within the school walls.

"We want to provide easy access for students to [their] money," senior Kate Williams said. "If students are interested, they can open an account."

Williams as well as seniors Justin Rigler and Pamela Paddilla, work at the credit union in commons during lunch periods, and at the Warrenville

location during after-school hours.

The school is one of six in the state to have a credit union within its walls, and the only one with student employees.

"We found out about [the credit union] through BTI and applied and did interviews over the summer," Williams said.

Students can open an account at any age with a first deposit of \$5 that stays in the account for its lifetime.

To open a checking account, students must be 18 years old or have parent permission.



Photo by Megan Hernbroth

Senior Kaitlyn Anders helps distribute water during the Chicago Marathon with the cross country teams.

Marathon provides a challenge for faculty

By Liz Ramos
Reporter

Athletes from the cross country teams went to the Chicago Marathon to support staff members running in the race and volunteer Oct. 10.

Social worker Bob Maxson and social studies teacher David Sayner ran the 26.2-mile marathon. Maxson was hired to run as a pacer.

"For the last 14 years I've been running marathons and the past eight years the Chicago Marathon has hired me to pace some of the runners to help them finish. I was hired again this year," Maxson said.

Maxson ran the marathon in 5 hours, 38 minutes.

"I ran slower at the start because of the goal I had and unfortunately I couldn't keep

that pace because of the heat and the injuries I had before," Maxson said.

Maxson quickly recovered after the marathon.

"I'm surprised at how quickly I've been able to recover," Maxson said.

Sayner took more than six days to recover.

"I'm starting to play some light basketball and bike. Hopefully by the end of the week I'll be okay," Sayner said. "I didn't spend enough time training beforehand. I was probably in more pain because I've been exercising but not running."

The Chicago Marathon was Sayner's third marathon.

"I've done two previous marathons but the last one was nearly 10 years ago and another teacher got hurt training for [the marathon] and there was another spot,"

Sayner said.

Sayner ran the marathon in 3 hours, 42 minutes.

"It's great when you start and when you cross the line but during the run you have to play mental gymnastics with yourself," Sayner said.

Sophomore Eddy Rubio helped at tables filling cups with water and Gatorade and passing them out to runners.

"I went because I thought it would be a fun experience and it was a chance to spend time with friends and to help out with something I love doing. I also went to watch [David] Sayner run," Rubio said.

Senior Meghan Nichol volunteered with Rubio.

"It was really exciting to see the people running that much. It was fun to see the people in wheelchairs being a part of the marathon," Nichol said.

Comedic rendition of Shakespeare

By Carly Tubridy
Sports Editor

Even if you hate Shakespeare you'll still love the fall play, "The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged."

"If you love Shakespeare you'll love the play, if you hate Shakespeare you'll love the play," director Mark Begovich said.

An ensemble cast, where every performer has multiple roles, will present the play which consists of all of Shakespeare's works performed in a funny, understandable way.

"It's not an easy script but it's awfully fun. I like doing challenging work that pushes

everyone," Begovich said.

He has also introduced dramaturgy, a detailed analysis of the script, to the cast.

"[Dramaturgy is] important for actors to communicate ideas more effectively and on a deeper level to the audience," Begovich said.

The cast agrees with the importance of dramaturgy.

"It's great because you get to learn about all the plays you're making fun of. It's very interesting," junior Breanna Kmiecik said.

The cast is excited for the play and thinks it will be very successful. The play runs Nov. 18-20 at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for adults.

Bringing different options to light

As seniors make decisions about after high school, counselors offer suggestions

By Katie Sladek
Reporter

Choosing a college isn't an easy task. But, good advice and knowing your options can make the task a little easier.

According to director of student services Maura Bridges the two college options are a four year school or a community college.

Before deciding where to go, students should take a

look into the future.

"You want the school to match with the career," Bridges said. "[The] choice depends on what you are interested in doing."

The cost of tuition and dormitory fees should also be factored in as well.

"The cost of a community college is less... to go to a four-year school, you will often be living away from home," Bridges said.

Not every student is ready

to take on the cost or the responsibility of living away from home.

"Some students are ready for a little more independence, and some aren't," Bridges said.

Scholarships can help cut costs.

According to counselor Jill Holubetz, scholarship companies are looking for more than good grades.

"A lot of companies are looking for a well-rounded

student. This includes academics, extracurricular activities, and community service," Holubetz said.

Students should not slack off when trying to earn a scholarship.

"There is a lot of money available but you have to be willing to do the work," Holubetz said.

They should not wait to apply either.

"Start early. There is a lot you have to do," Holubetz said.

Look for college visits in commons and in the announcements throughout the year.

Habitat gives to town

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Habitat for Humanity continues to help out those in need, this time right in their own backyard.

"[There are] three areas in DuPage that [Habitat for Humanity is] building in Carol Stream, Glenview, and West Chicago on Sherman Street," adviser Chris Covino said.

According to Covino, the Sherman Street project is the largest in the Chicago metro area.

"Eleven homes will be built when [the project] is done. It started two years ago, with two homes completed, four under construction, and five more [will be built] before 2013," Covino said.

The group of about 30 students worked on the project for four days in the last two weeks.

"It was a lot more work than I thought! I was really nervous being on the roof, but once I got the hang of it, it was a blast," senior Stevie Limbrick said.

Along with the Sherman Street project, Habitat came up with a creative way to raise awareness and earn money called Nickels for Nails.

"A 16-penny nail costs about one nickel per nail," Covino said on how the project got its name.

Habitat volunteers raised about \$350 in four days while carrying buckets for change and handing out stickers.

"At first I didn't think Nickels for Nails would be a success, but we decided to do it anyways. We are really glad we did it because we ended up raising a good amount of money," Limbrick said.

Imagined, inspired emotions

By Liz Ramos
Reporter

Historical fiction author Jennifer Donnelly revealed to students how she used inspiration, imagination, research, and emotion to write her new book "Revolution."

"Revolution" is about Andi Alpers and Alexandrine Paradis, two girls from different centuries. When Alpers find Paradis' diary the two worlds eventually combine.

"['Revolution'] is a hybrid of historical and contemporary genre," Donnelly said.

Donnelly spoke to about 340 students Monday in the auditorium.

The steps to writing a book include inspiration, imaginations, research, and emotion, Donnelly said.

Donnelly's inspiration was an article she read from the



Photo by Liz Ramos

Historical fiction author Jennifer Donnelly shares her writing tips with about 340 students during her visit on Monday,

New York Times about a small, old heart in a glass jar that supposedly belonged to the heart of Louis Charles, the son of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette.

Donnelly used her imagination to create Alpers and Paradis.

"The world doesn't belong

to iTunes and XBOX. It belongs to you. Imagination is power. Block out everybody's noise including my noise," Donnelly said.

Donnelly then researched the French Revolution and musicians, actors, and students in private schools to know how they live and what

they do.

"In 'Revolution' emotion is what matters the most in the 1930's," Donnelly said.

Students were also able to purchase "Revolution" and have Donnelly sign it after the presentation.

"Revolution" was published on Oct. 12.

Parents connect with school: Chat provides info for public, families

Kristina Manibo
Reporter

The first ever Community Chat provided the opportunity for parents to get on the same page with the school administration.

"While we wanted to see more citizens come out we were pleased to see the numbers we got. It was an engaging group," Supt. Lalo Ponce said.

Eight citizens attended the Community Chat on Oct. 14.

Business manager Gordon Cole reviewed the financial picture, and Principal Moses Cheng presented the renewal plan, and went over different areas where the school is focusing professional development and growth.

"The public is interested in the financial picture of community entities because of the fact that their children come here," Ponce said.

Ponce said the parents asked questions and gave advice related to the renewal plan and public relations ef-

forts.

"Some gave advice, which was around what we should do related to public relations and grant writing. Someone suggested engaging someone to write our grants. Another idea was to hire a part time public relations officer who can get all the positive things out about what is going on at the school," Ponce said.

Ponce appreciates the questions asked.

"I believe as a school district we should give an opportunity for the public to

ask questions," Ponce said. "Obviously, individuals can call in [and ask questions] or come and schedule a private meeting. We have an open door policy. But when we schedule a public meeting we are responsible to be available and to fulfill our mission to communicate with taxpayers and parents."

Another Community Chat will be held sometime in the spring.

"I don't want to have a Community Chat without there being interest in the

community. If there are too many [Community Chats], interest would be lost and there would be fewer in attendance," Ponce said. "This is the first year we have done this; if we need more meetings then we can schedule."

However, Ponce already declared the first meeting a success.

"We reached out to our community. The conversation was open, lively, and it met our expectations. I look forward to the next one in the spring," Ponce said.

Our View

The DREAM that needs to be a reality

For many immigrants, the DREAM Act is literally that, just a dream.

Now, though, after 10 years of heated debate that dream is closer than ever. The question is, what's all the controversy over the act?

The DREAM Act stands for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors, and gives illegal immigrants a pathway to citizenship, after meeting certain standards.

Those standards include being under 35 and having arrived in the U.S. before age 16. They must have earned a high school diploma or GED and not left the U.S. in the past five years. This would allow conditional status. Conditional status lasts for six years, and during this time the immigrant would have to complete a college degree or two years military service.

This act seems like a no-brainer; not only does it give

hope to millions of young people but it also promotes people, no matter what race, to contribute to society in an effective way. The young people who had parents that brought them to this country illegally should not have to pay for their parents' mistakes.

These kids have grown up here; they are the kids whose lockers are next to ours, kids who sit behind us in class, and kids who come out and support our school at Friday night football games.

They are just as much of an American as everybody else, and deserve the opportunity to obtain legal citizenship to the country they call their home.

Some people may debate that this act is simply rewarding people who have broken the law by coming here illegally.

Yes, illegal immigration is wrong, but the act does not reward criminals. Would it be

fair to put a murderer's child in jail just because his parent killed someone?

It's the same concept for the kids whose parents made the bad decision to immigrate illegally. It is unfair to block these kids from being able to obtain legal citizenship solely because of a decision they didn't make.

By having standards that promote doing something productive with life, such as continuing education or serving in the military, more and more immigrants will have motivation to contribute to our country, and in the end this act will benefit American society.

The DREAM Act solidifies the fact that our country truly is a melting pot, and eliminates labeling all illegal immigrants as criminals.

The DREAM Act is an act that gives hope to millions of people, which is what America is all about.



Graduation's a farther walk

Seniors will no longer take their final walk across the stage at graduation at the place they've called home the past four years. Instead, graduation will be held at College of DuPage (COD).

According to Supt. Lalo Ponce, space in the gymnasium could no longer accommodate the families of graduating seniors which forced the school to look for other options.

The class of 2011 has already endured enough changes with a new bell schedule, no more off-campus lunch and the addition of a senior research paper. For only having to survive one more year of high school, that is a lot to adjust to.

Graduation should not have been moved to COD. Seniors should be able to end their high school careers the same place their careers began.

Yes, with three tickets families would have to decide which sibling to take or between grandma or grandpa. It seems unfair to make families decide; that's understandable.

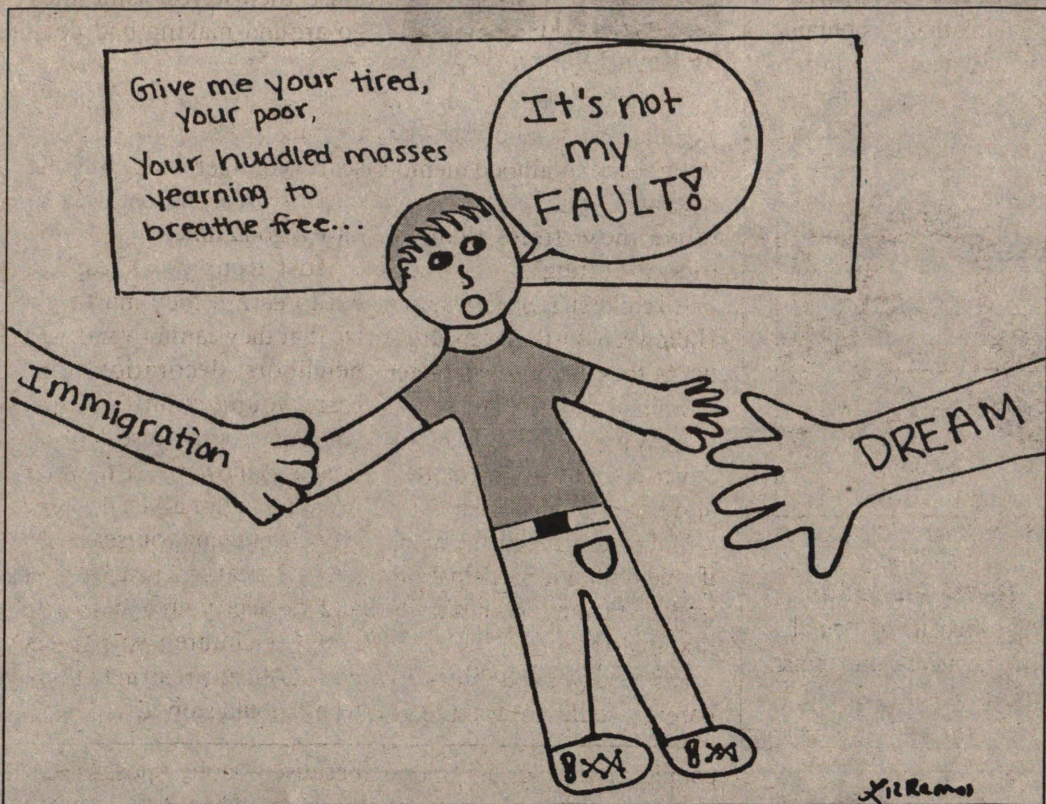
However, is it really necessary to take crying babies and fidgety little kids who have no

idea what is going on? The ceremony is not something short to sit through.

Having graduation remain at the school gives seniors that last trip down memory lane of the place they've been at for the past four years, the place where they became best friends with a complete stranger, the place they started to define themselves. This is the school they called home during sports events, the school they cheered rain or shine, the school that was the last stepping stone into adulthood.

Instead of moving the ceremony completely, the school could leave graduation in the Bishop gym and open up the small gym so those who arrive late or have small children, can watch the ceremony on a closed circuit TV. Or why not have graduation on the football field? Chairs can be placed on the turf for the graduates and parents can sit in the bleachers.

Seniors should get to walk out the same doors they first walked into four years ago. Graduation would not be the same anywhere else.



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Politicians: Clean up dirty campaigns



By **Megan Hernbroth**
Editor in Chief

With elections just around the corner, TV shows are peppered with more and more ads from political candidates.

Watching a news program in the morning without attack ads on at least three candidates per commercial break has become

impossible. But the question is: how many of these ads are true?

It is assumed that a politician cannot successfully run a campaign without bending the truth ever so slightly, especially when attacking opponents. And though it has just become accepted, it is not right.

Republican candidate Rep. Mark Kirk had one attack ad against opponent Democrat Alexi Giannoulias, where Giannoulias was tied to his family's banking troubles and the BP fiasco, neither of which were supported by facts, according to www.factcheck.org.

Giannoulias was accused of making loans to convicted mobsters through the family

bank in Kirk's advertisement. However, Giannoulias was not personally responsible for the actions of the entire bank, according to www.factcheck.org.

Kirk also attempts to contrast his heroic abilities to the villainy of Giannoulias concerning BP's involvement in Lake Michigan.

Kirk claims that he personally stood up for the purity of the lake by voting against BP dumping waste into the clean water.

In contrast, he states in the ad that Giannoulias was a "long-time BP lobbyist," and supported the pollution of the lake, according to www.factcheck.org.

Giannoulias, on the other

hand, pushed ads that marketed Kirk's lies about his military history, stating that he "cannot be trusted," according to www.chicagotribune.com. Kirk apologized for his expansions of the truth in multiple ads, but the damage was already done.

According to www.chicagotribune.com, Giannoulias is ahead at the polls, with a large amount of voters still undecided.

Kirk and Giannoulias are certainly not the only politicians on the attack during election season. The lengths some politicians are going to in order to secure positions are ridiculous. There is no need to attack an opponent's family business or dig up old issues

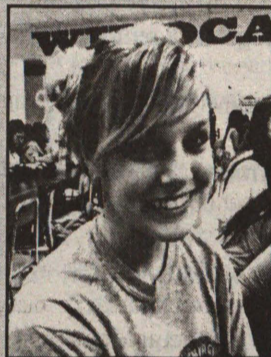
that are no longer relevant.

Candidates should focus on their own issues and educating the public about their positions instead of trashing opponents to make themselves look better.

According to www.chicagotribune.com, recent elections, especially those in Illinois following the Rod Blagojevich trial, are based more on how much the public trusts candidates more than their stances on different issues.

Voters should take the negative attack ads into account and ask themselves if the candidate is telling the truth, as some already are, and investigate the claims.

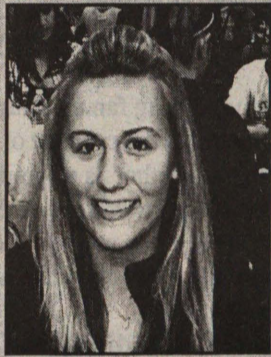
Only then can the best candidate win.



Freshman

Devan Orr

"I don't think they should do negative stuff. That's mean!"



Junior

Deirdre Hofman

"I think that it is unfair to use negativity in a campaign because no one wants a jerk as a leader."

Halloween for all



By **Keyuri Parmar**
Perspectives Editor

Halloween is a holiday that brings back childhood memories, and what better way to relive those times than by trick-or-treating?

All children look forward to Halloween so they can dress up as their favorite character or animal and get candy.

As you get older, Oct. 31 is a day to be creative with clothes and hang out with friends.

Halloween is not the same if one does not participate in trick-or-treating; it's just tradition to do so.

It's understandable why parents would not want teens

trick-or-treating because teens have a reputation for pulling pranks on neighbors, egging houses, or taking the entire supply of candy in the bowls people put out on Halloween.

Parents probably assume that Halloween gives certain teens the opportunity to disguise themselves while they go around making bad decisions.

Some teens may go trick-or-treating to annoy parents and scare younger kids, but the majority of teens just want to have a good time.

Most teens want respect, but to earn it they must realize that they cannot vandalize neighbors' decorations and scare young children. Teens who continue to cause destruction on Halloween are the ones who ruin it for all teens.

So teens enjoy yourselves, go trick-or-treating, just be civil and respect your elders and younger children so parents don't have any reason to think teens should stop it.

Students Speak

Compiled by Carly Tubridy

Do you think politicians should use negative campaigns?



Sophomore

Jared Baranowski

"Yeah, because it points out the negatives of the opposing person."

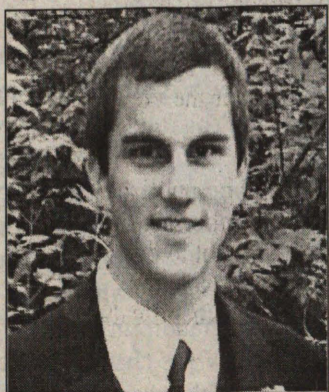


Senior

Darik Pietrobon

"No, because if you allow negative campaigns, things can get twisted."

Communication is key



Thomas Harms
Contributing Writer

Hello again from Grebenstein, Germany! For those of you who are interested in

traveling or living abroad in the future, I have a few tips you might find useful on your journeys.

I've had three months so far in this country to observe the people around me, make mistakes and even fix a few of those mistakes. In this time, one factor in living abroad has always played a key role: communication. While living abroad in a country that speaks your native language, you may or may not have much issue with communication, if you simply talk with

the people around you. In this scenario, you just need to remember to remain open and honest with yourself and your hosts.

However, if those around you are speaking a foreign language, you will have to put forth a conscious effort to express your wants, needs and emotions in an understandable way. Trying to live without direct communication in a foreign country will undoubtedly lead to homesickness, unhappiness and irritability.

As humans we need the

people around us to understand what makes us tick—to some degree—even if we feel we are the toughest, emotionless brutes on the planet.

Technology has opened up the possibility of instant connection with family and friends back home, but that window of opportunity is a false one, and will only sharpen the sting of homesickness. Seeing your normal life will only embolden—and make more ugly—the differences in your new one. For example, for those living in a land with a foreign tongue, speaking the native language can bring you closer to those around you, and often lead to happier days,

because more possibilities open up when you improve your skills in language.

However, when you speak too frequently in your own native tongue, you are most likely hindering your progress in your second language and happiness. (This is not to say that video chatting infrequently is a bad thing; it can actually be a very good thing for staying in contact with loved ones when used properly.)

So, when you travel abroad, talk (to natives)!

(Thomas Harms is a '10 graduate who is living in Grebenstein, Germany for a year. He will have an update of his trip each month.)

Is the traditional family disappearing?

Compiled by Katie Sladek



Freshman

Mary Cyr

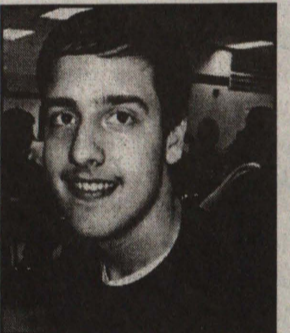
"There are lots of divorces and gay and lesbian couples now."



Sophomore

Nancy Hernandez

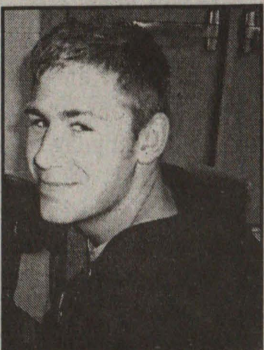
"Yeah, the values are gone."



Junior

Sam Spyrison

"Yes, more families are having economic troubles and they are not able to afford the 'traditional' family."



Senior

Luke Somen

"A little bit. I don't really eat dinner with my family anymore."

More than a meal

By Sarah Berger
Center Spread Editor

Family dinner has always been a trademark of American culture; it's the one time of the day that Americans can slow down and share a meal, as well as good conversation, with the people they love. But as the world is changing, are American family values, such as family dinner, changing as well?

"There are so many suburban families whose lives are jam-packed with activities that deny family time, whether it's work or after-school activities," social studies Nick Caltagirone, who has two step-daughters and a son, said.

Social studies teacher Marc Taylor, who has two kids, believes the disappearance of family dinners are more of a problem on the other side of the spectrum.

"I think that about one-third of suburban families don't eat dinner together every night as a family. I think it's more of a problem for inner-city families because the parents are busy working all the time," Taylor said.

Although life can get in the way, most families try to find the time to eat together.

"My family doesn't eat together every night, it's more like three times a week. I definitely value my family dinners. We all work so much so we don't get to spend that much time together," senior Jessica Infelise said.

Time spent together during family dinner isn't spent solely chowing down on some good grub after a long day; family dinner is a crucial part of creating a strong family bond.

"Eating consistently together as a family is extremely important. It's an opportunity to reflect on the day. In my family, we always ask each other what their favorite part of the day was, whether it was my daughter who was a senior or my 6-year-old-son," Caltagirone said.

Not only does family dinner provide light-hearted conversation, but helps with several more serious issues.

"I believe that there is a direct correlation between crime, pregnancy, and drug-use among teenagers with adult contact time. It's important to have time where teenagers can talk to adults, whether that be breakfast, lunch, or dinner," Taylor said.

Special Education Director Tiffany Chavez is the mother of two kids, and also has a strong opinion on the importance of family dinners.

"I think that society puts too much pressure on teenagers. Family dinner is the perfect opportunity to have good conversation. If we just stop and take time with each other, I think it'll help society in general," Chavez said.

Senior Nick Shurba knows the importance of family dinners.

"I eat dinner with my family every day. We have a close connection and we all love each other very much," Shurba said.

Generation gap reveals itself

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

As technology takes over, fashion changes, and the views and values of two generations differ, a generation gap is created.

Many aspects of life impact the generation gap, which, summed up, is just the differences between two generations.

In fashion, new styles can create disagreements between parents and children.

"I think that clothes are more provocative now and that is disturbing to older people because they are too

revealing," fashion technology teacher Judy Harwood said.

The parents of this teenage generation, for example, would not have worn skirts as short or bikinis as small as what is now considered appropriate.

However, Harwood believes that this gap exists for every generation.

"Every generation has its own style and it's important to each generation to have a unique style," Harwood said.

In a similar way, music also differs greatly from generation to generation.

"Every generation doesn't

understand the music of the next generation," music teacher Steve Govertsen said. "In that way, it's a never-ending cycle, and it's good to keep in mind when we have new music that a lot of it is about perspective."

The teenage generation, for example, is accepting of and fascinated by Lady Gaga, whereas many adults don't think the same way. However, Govertsen doesn't deny the fact that sometimes the older generation may be correct.

"There's good and bad music in every generation, and when the older generation complains, sometimes they're

right," Govertsen said.

Technology is another influence on the generation gap.

"Everyone has a camera now, and anyone can upload to YouTube in 30 seconds," broadcast teacher Dave Jennings said. "Technology has caused an inundation of products without guarantees of quality, which the older generation isn't used to."

TV has changed drastically over the years.

"[The teen generation] has been heavily influenced by reality TV because it blurs the line between what's real and what's not," Jennings said.

Divorce takes toll on family

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

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

As families are split by divorce, it takes a toll on more than just the parents.

"Originally [divorce] was really hard on my siblings and me, and it really hasn't gotten any easier, but we've learned to deal with it and how to handle the stress," senior Ashley* said.

Ashley's father was verbally and emotionally abusive, which pushed her mother towards divorce, when Ashley was in 8th grade.

"[My mom] stayed with my dad for about seven years before she could work up the courage or money to say she wanted a divorce," Ashley said.

The divorce affected her mom positively. She was proud of sticking up for herself and she was finally independent.

"She was happy all the time, even when things were stressful she saw the brighter side and things were easier for her. She dated one guy seriously before she met Adrian*, who she married this year in June," Ashley said.

Her dad was affected negatively.

His family was taken from him, so all he had left was his work, Ashley said.

"In my opinion, I think he is depressed because he thought he had everything and he lost everything," Ashley said.

The hardest part of the divorce for Ashley and her siblings was losing their father figure.

"As cheesy as it sounds, I'll never have my dad walk me down the aisle, or dance with me at my wedding. He won't be at my graduation, he isn't told about how I'm spending my birthday, he hasn't seen me all dressed up for prom, and he'll never be there for me. That's the worst part of it all. For my sister and me, that's what we lost," Ashley said.

When senior Mike's* parents filed for divorce two years ago, it had a devastating affect on his life.

"My dad never really explained why he decided to leave, which is one of the reasons it left everyone in the family so stunned," Mike said.

This sudden divorce made life a lot more difficult.

"[It made] me feel like my life was spiraling out of control and it made it really hard to focus on school, so my grades dropped. It affected my sister by making her cut our dad out of her life. She refuses to ever see or speak to him again," Mike said.

The divorce strongly affected both parents.

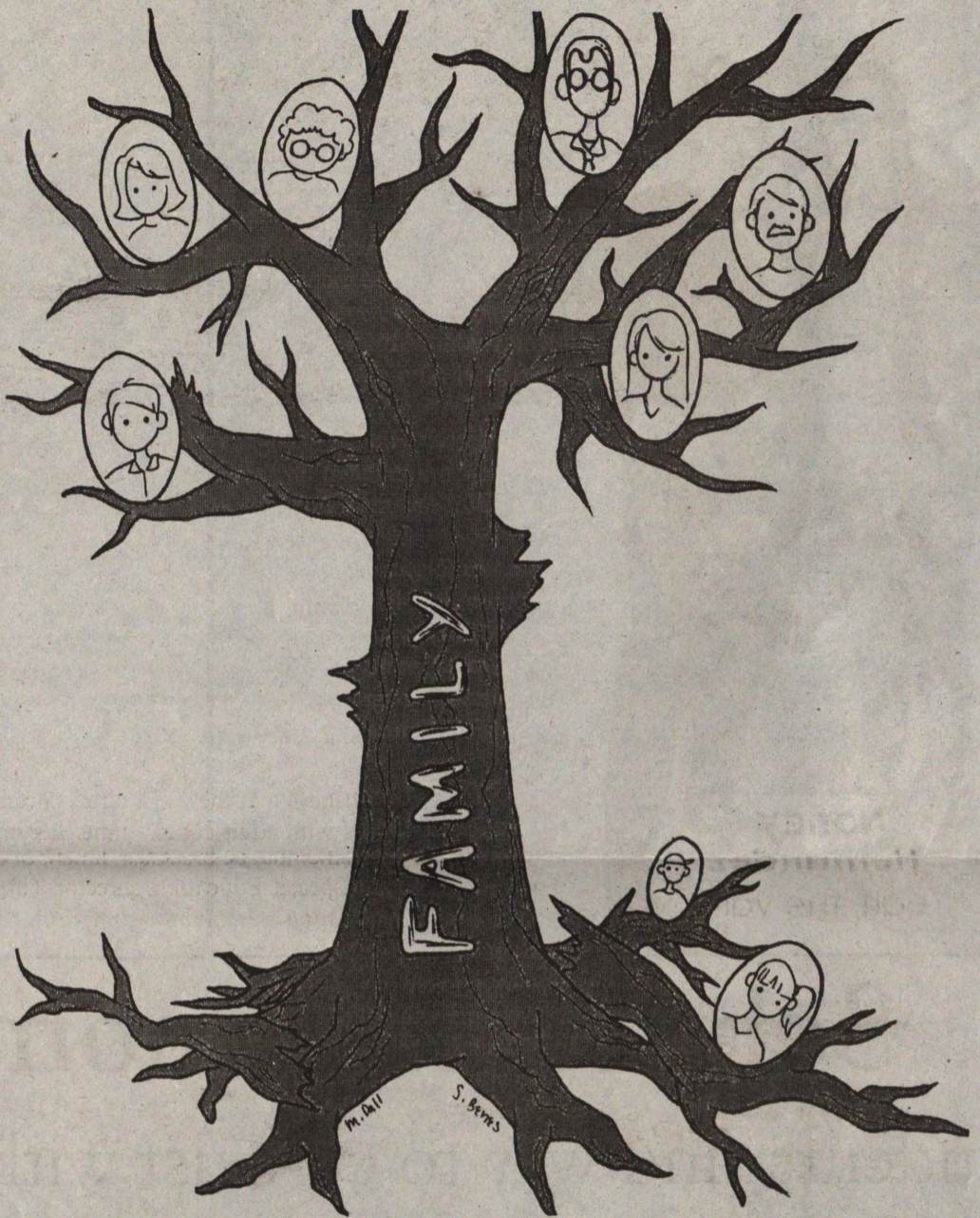
"It affected my parents by making them both really different, almost unrecognizable people, in some ways for better and in other ways worse,"

Mike said.

His parents have not yet gone to court, but the reality of divorce has sunk in.

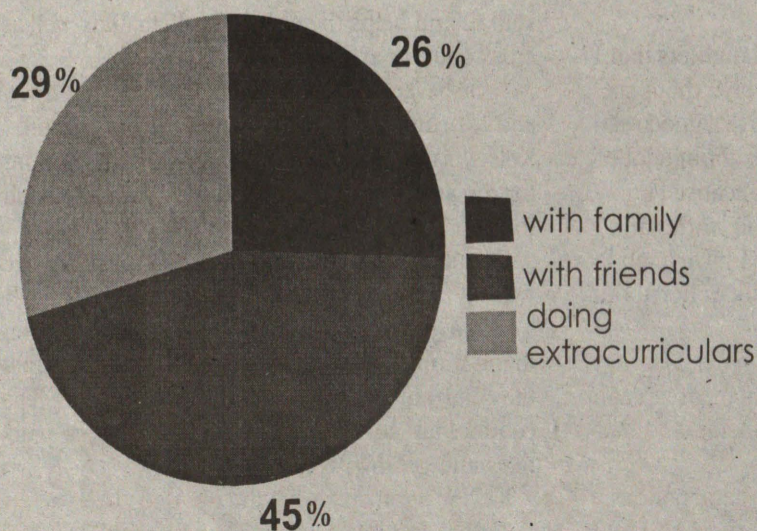
"I'm upset they're apart,

but I know that things would be just as bad if they stayed together, so it's just something I'll have to live with," Mike said.

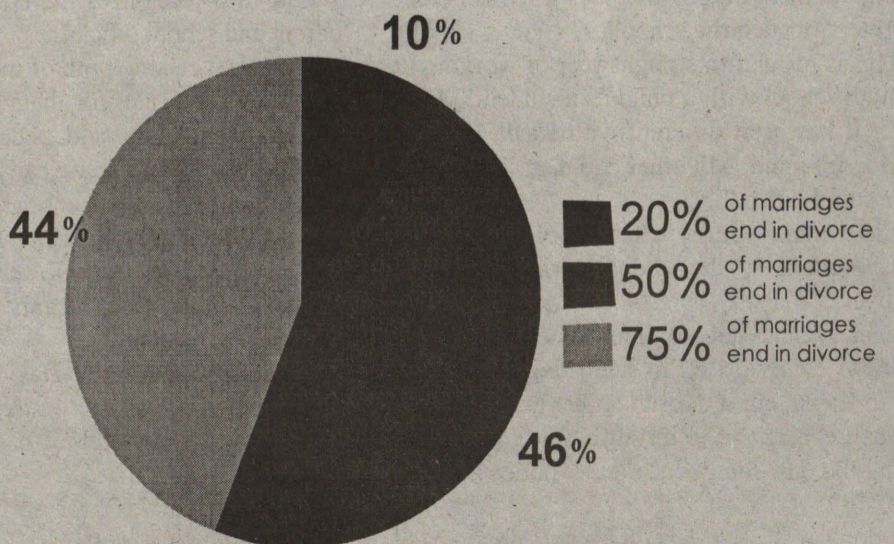


Students sound off on family issues

How students spend the majority of their free time



Percent of marriages students think end in divorce

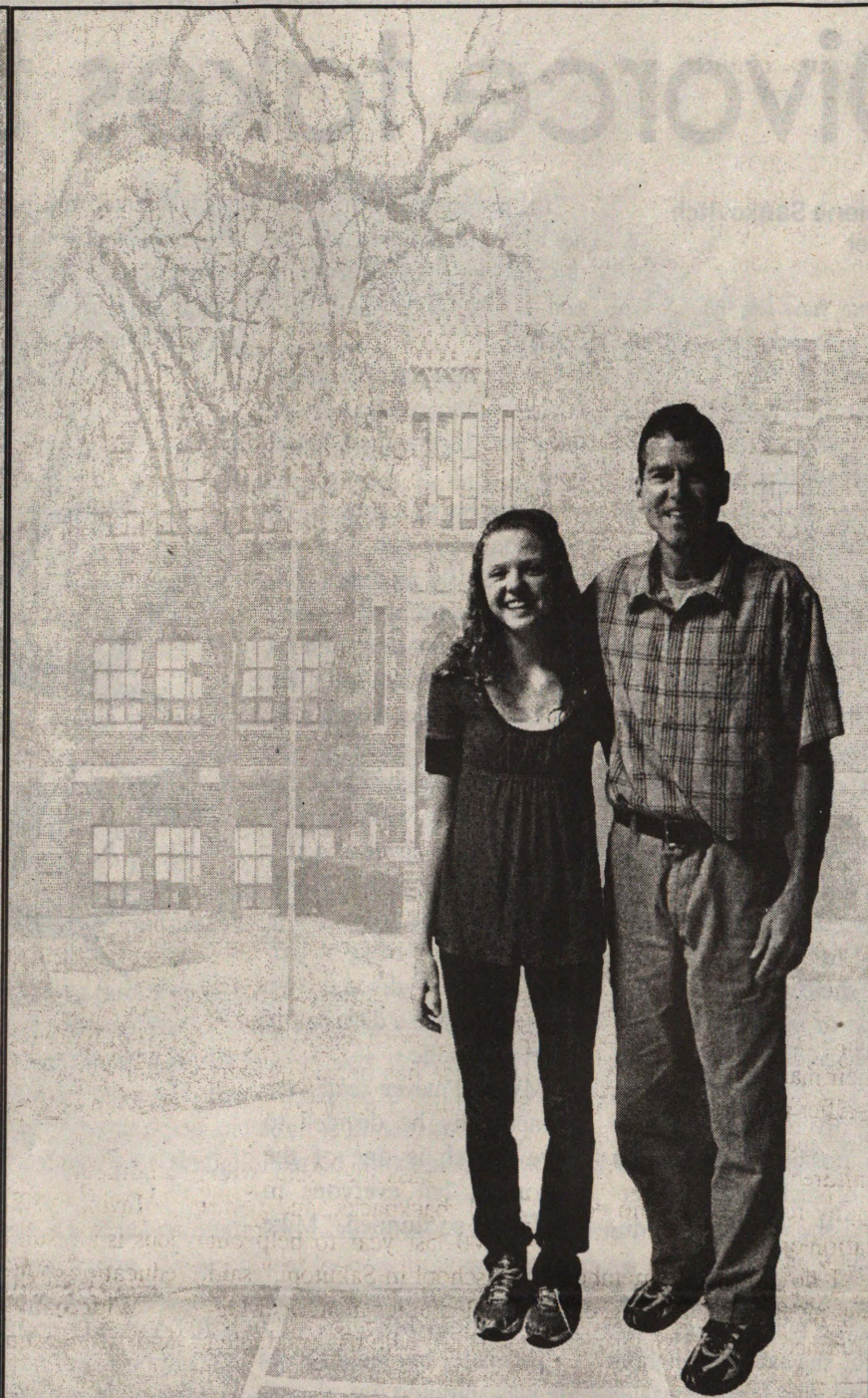


In reality, 41% of marriages end in divorce.

According to www.divorcerate.org

Compiled by Katie Sladek

Based on a survey of 100 students



School with mom and dad

Students find way to co-exist with parents in the halls

By Megan Hernbroth
Editor in Chief

High school students may have rocky relationships with their parents and, sometimes, teachers throughout high school. However, when a parent is a teacher in the building, family lines may become a little blurred.

Senior Kayla Freund has dealt with her mother, Edie Freund, working in the building her whole high school career. Edie is currently a dean's assistant, but has worked other jobs when her older daughter attended the school.

"This is my eighth straight year of working in the high school with a child as a student," Edie said. "It has been different with Kayla because she doesn't mind. My other daughter, Leah, was more stand-offish."

Edie worked security when her older daughter was a student, so the feedback was not always positive.

"Leah would get comments because I was security," Edie said. "I'm sure things have been said to Kayla, but it doesn't bother her."

Because Kayla doesn't always see her mom during the day, she doesn't really notice a difference.

"I don't really see her often, so I don't really mind [her working here]," Kayla said. "If I need something, it's easy for me to go see her. The only bad thing is she can talk to my teachers."

Although Kayla recognizes the advantages

and disadvantages of her mother working at the school, she knows their relationship will not change.

"It doesn't really affect our relationship," Kayla said. "We are able to talk about stuff at school and think it's kind of funny. She's more serious here, but still the same person. I don't get special treatment, like, this summer, I worked at the school but I still had to apply and do the interview like everyone else."

Edie also recognizes the boundaries between parent and school official.

"I made it clear to both of my daughters that I wouldn't break rules for them or give them special treatment," Edie said. "I do have a good relationship with Kayla so we can talk about a lot of things that are going on at school because I know so many students so she can tell me stories and I can picture the student. However, I have a job to do and there are things I cannot talk to her about as a dean's assistant."

Social studies teacher David Sayner also has the benefit of seeing his two daughters, freshman Lindsey and junior Kelsey, both inside and outside of the school day.

"Both of the kids have strong personalities," David said. "If I put myself in their shoes, I wouldn't want my parents at school. I think Kelsey and Lindsey are able to handle the pressures of having a parent in the building."

Kelsey embraces the difference in her school

day as compared to other students.

"I like having my dad here," Kelsey said. "I wasn't as scared to come to the high school when I was a freshman because he was right there."

David sees his job as a large advantage to relationships with his daughters.

"We spend a lot more time together," David said. "We drive together before and after school, and I get additional time with my children that most parents don't get."

Aside from teaching, David also coaches basketball and helps the girls in basketball as well as cross country and track.

"For basketball, my dad really helps me a lot, and for running he really expects a lot from me," Kelsey said. "I think he has higher expectations for me and pushes me a lot harder than he would for another student."

David is thankful that Kelsey's coaches are willing to let him get involved as well.

"As a coach, I try to give them more recommendations," David said, "but I am happy that they have other coaches than just their dad. The coaches are good for allowing me to watch practices and get involved."

Kelsey appreciates having her dad close.

"It has improved my environment to have him here because I can see him before or after school, so I can talk to him a little bit," Kelsey said. "It also helps because he isn't obnoxious or annoying."

Civil war rips country apart, leaving students wanting

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

After almost three decades of war, Angolan students are desperate for an education, and appreciate whatever help comes their way.

"We were struck with a 27-year war, and we did not have good education," said Adriano Huambo, executive member of RISE International.

years in a refugee camp and only received two pairs of clothes one time for all four years. They would give you the same food everyday and you could not leave the camp without a permit."

As a result of the war, few schools exist and there are 50 to 100 kids in a class.

"Many children try to enroll in the few schools we have," Huambo said. "Little

many fundraisers to help out children in Angola.

Huambo said that supplies are very sparse and don't last long.

"The thing we now need the most are supplies, like pencils and books," Huambo said. "Few children get supplies because people come and steal the supplies."

According to Haas, students don't understand how lucky they are to be schooled in the United States.

"For students in the U.S, small things go unnoticed and students don't think about how grateful they are for being in school," Haas said. "We don't appreciate the small things we have here, like pencils and paper."

The lack of education has affected other aspects of Angolan life. Huambo said that thousands of people are uneducated, most of them being war veterans.

"It is difficult for us Angolans to find jobs outside of Angola," Huambo said. "Angolans don't get the same treatment."

Having difficulty finding jobs is a result of the lack of education.

"With many Angolan men and women uneducated and



Photo courtesy of Maggie Haas

Executive member of RISE International, Adriano Huambo, talked with community leadership students about life in Angola and how WeGo to Africa has benefited life there.

For students in the U.S. small things go unnoticed and students don't think about how grateful they are for being in school.'

— Maggie Haas, social studies teacher

"We were being schooled under trees, in the open air, and in church buildings."

Huambo shared stories with community leadership students about life in Angola and how WeGo to Africa has helped children there through their many projects.

After the war, Angola was torn apart, leaving 4 million children uneducated and many refugees with no education or jobs.

"I do not like remembering my life [as a refugee]," Huambo said. "I spent four

kids ages 7 through 10 have a better chance of being enrolled into schools."

Students who have good grades have a better chance to enroll as well.

To help improve educational opportunities WeGo to Africa has helped Angola by building a school in Sakutopi.

"My class has sent over 2,000 backpacks and over \$1,000 last year to help out the school in Sakutopi," said social studies teacher Maggie Haas, who has conducted

jobless and many Angolan children uneducated, Angola needs all the help they can get to get their country back on track," said Huambo. "We need to be educated; we need it for a better life."

Haas said students here have money to donate.

"Students come to school drinking coffee and other things, but if they take those \$5 and donate it to Angola, it could help send a child to school," said Haas.

The next fundraiser for Africa will be Battle of the Bands on Oct. 29.

Welcoming the dead

By Yasmyrn McGee
Features Editor

The candles are lit, flowers litter the ground, and there's a chill in the air. What sounds like a weird scene is actually a holiday called Day of the Dead.

Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday that starts at midnight the night of Oct. 31 and continues until Nov. 2.

According to Spanish teacher Susan Junkroski, Day of the Dead is a mingling of indigenous beliefs and the influence of the Catholic

church that came to the new world with the Spaniards.

"The indigenous peoples of the new world set aside an entire month to honor the dead. The Catholic church's beliefs included a day that was connected to Halloween, originally called All Saints' Day," Junkroski said. "[It started] when the Catholic traditions of the All Saints' Day mixed in with the already-existing tradition of celebrating and revering the dead and ancestors."

Despite its connection to Halloween, Day of the Dead does not involve traditions like trick-or-treating or dressing up in costumes.

"The Day of the Dead celebration in Mexico is a unique celebration. People in Mexico take the time to go to the cemetery, clean up the graves and decorate [them] with flowers," Junkroski said. "They spend all day baking and cooking all the things that the dead liked and set up an altar in their house or at a grave of all the things that person liked. [The reasoning is] the dead come back and visit."

Junior Pamela Campos

has been celebrating Day of the Dead since she was a child.

However, her family doesn't travel all the way to Mexico to carry on the tradition. Instead, they celebrate Day of the Dead right here in West Chicago.

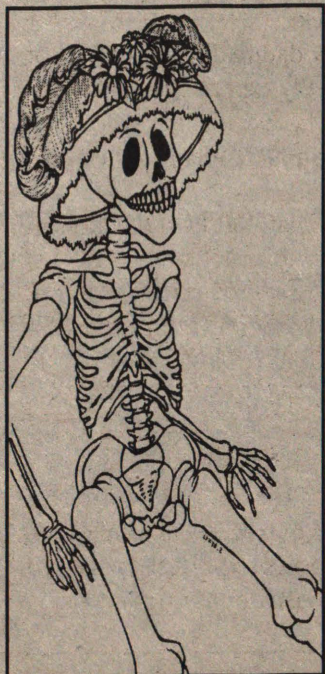
"Most of my ancestors are in Mexico so I can't just go there [to celebrate]," Campos said "We put up pictures of family members [at home] who passed away and put their favorite food by the picture."

Food isn't the only way to feel closer to their ancestors.

"You light their way by using bright orange flowers called zempasuchitl in Nahuatl [which are similar to] marigolds," Junkroski said. "If you leave trails of flowers the dead are supposed to come follow those trails and find you."

Even though Campos prefers to celebrate Halloween, she still enjoys Day of the Dead.

"[My favorite parts are] cooking the food, talking about memories and remembering ancestors," Campos said.



Halloween or Day of the Dead Quiz

Fill in the blanks to whether each description is a Halloween or Day of the Dead tradition.

- 1) Trick-or-treating _____
- 2) Leaving food out for the dead _____
- 3) Dressing up in costumes _____
- 4) Decorating an altar _____
- 5) Leaving a path of flowers _____
- 6) Carving a pumpkin _____

Answer Key

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1) Halloween | 5) Day of the Dead |
| 2) Day of the Dead | 6) Halloween |
| 3) Halloween | |
| 4) Day of the Dead | |

'Black Ops' called to active duty

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

After Activision's previous hit, "Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2," they are releasing the long-awaited game "Call of Duty: Black Ops" on Nov. 9.

Activision is making many changes and additions in "Black Ops" that weren't in "Modern Warfare 2."

One of the main changes in "Black Ops" is in-game currency. According to www.shacknews.com, players can unlock guns, grenades, equipment, attachments, killstreaks, and everything else through in-game currency, which is earned through playing the game. This way, players can choose what guns and equipment they would like to unlock and what not to unlock. Players can earn currency from Wager Match-

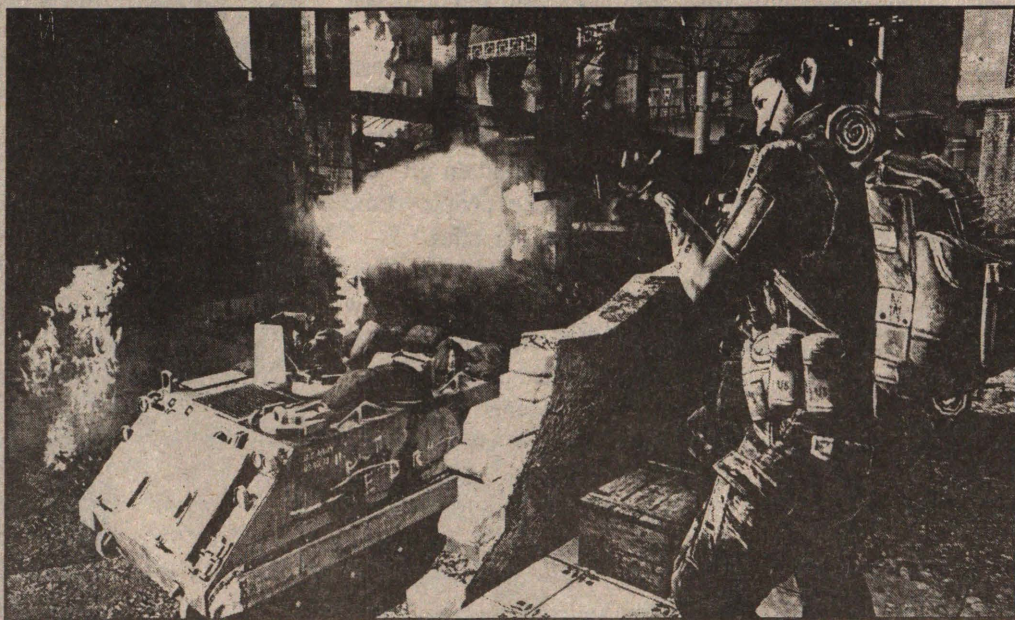


Photo courtesy of Activision

"Call of Duty: Black Ops" is changing to make the game more realistic and convenient.

es, like Sticks and Stones, Chamber, Sharpshooter, and Gun game.

"I like this system of unlocking guns and other equipment better than the other games," sophomore Mason

Clark said. "This is better because I can pick and choose what I want and not have stuff that I don't use."

Like every sequel-to-shooting videogames, there are always new guns and equip-

ment, similar to the previous ones. However, "Black Ops" is mixing it up this time around, with explosive-tipped crossbows, semtex equipped RCXD car, and more.

According to "Game In-

former Magazine," "Black Ops" is launching a theater mode where players can take multiple segments from a match and put them all together, or one crazy moment from different angles. The screenshots and video clips can easily be uploaded to the web.

According to www.callofduty.wikia.com, "Black Ops" is returning with Nazi Zombies from "Call of Duty: World at War." Nazi Zombies is a game mode where players must survive endless waves of attacking zombies buying weapons and perks in the process, and optionally repair nearby defenses to keep zombies out.

"Depending on how the online game play is, Nazi Zombies could be one of the best parts of the game," Clark said. "I'm glad they're bringing it back."



Scaring up some fun

Not worthy of a second chance

When commercials for "Paranormal Activity" showing crowds of people screaming in a movie theater first came out, I naturally wanted to see it.

I expected to be at least a little bit scared.

But rather than sitting on the edge of my seat, I almost fell asleep. Watching a dark bedroom waiting for a door to move half an inch isn't the most exciting thing.

After about an hour and a half of a few scary occurrences, I was very disappointed.

All the hype about how frightening this film was got me way too hopeful for something legitimately scary and when I saw the same misleading, eerie commercials for "Paranormal Activity 2," which comes out Friday, I just rolled my eyes.

The whole point of the first movie was to trick people into thinking it was real, so how would a sequel make any sense?

Maybe the new director, Tod Williams, will do better than the last one, Oren Peli.

It'll be interesting to see how the main characters return to the sequel, since Katie mysteriously disappeared and Micah's body was found by the police.

It will be even more interesting to see how the director intends to keep the audience thinking that it's real.

Without the anticipation of thinking, "Is this real?" the movie completely loses its point.

A sequel only adds to the fact that it's all fake, so the audience gets to sit through an hour of watching more doors open and close "mysteriously."

Maybe the fact that "Paranormal Activity 2" comes out right before Halloween is supposed to make it seem a bit freakier, but I highly doubt it will be any scarier than the first.

For those of you who want to sit through more scenes of a demon-possessed lady staring blankly into space, or see a door open and close a few times, "Paranormal Activity 2" should be quite the thriller.

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

Haunted houses are getting their scare on with new technology and scare tactics.

Name: Dream Reapers

Hours: Sunday-Thursday: 7-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday: 7-11 p.m.

Location: 1945 Cornell Ave., Melrose Park

Claim: "#1 Haunted House in Illinois for three years."

Size: Over 14,000 sq. feet of sheer terror, over 22 rooms, over 40 animatronics, over 40 actors and actresses.

Cost: \$16 per person

Scare: Nightmare Inc. created Dream Reapers with high-tech scare effects. There are dark, misdirecting and actor-based scares using new technology like animatronics, high detail, and "touching four of your five senses."

More Information: www.dreamreapers.reachlocal.com

Name: Basement of the Dead

Hours: Sunday-Thursday: 7-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday: 7-11 p.m.

Location: 42 W. New York St., Aurora

Claim: "One of the top three haunted houses in 2009"

Size: Unknown

Cost: \$15 per person

Scare: In 1964, Walker Laundry's boiler that provided steam for the presses exploded. Employees Imus Kilya and his son Al always complained to get it replaced, and after the explosion, they vowed to get even with Walker Laundry. A year after the explosion, people from the laundry started to disappear and body parts were found in sewer lines. After that, the basement closed and was never used again, but some say Imus and Al are still there.

More Information: www.42fear.com

Name: Evil Intentions

Hours: Sunday-Thursday: 7-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday: 7-midnight

Location: 900 Grace St., Elgin

Claim: "The most terrifying experience of your life"

Size: Unknown

Cost: \$15 per person

Scare: In 1980, a nearby cemetery became overcrowded, and bodies were dug up and moved to a new location. The bodies were prepared by Elgin undertakers and used Elgin-made caskets. There were so many bodies that the company was given a new site, the Evil Intentions Haunted House. There were reports of an unexpected paranormal activity in various areas in the building and groups of mysterious people in cloaks began occupying the Evil Intentions Haunted House.

More Information: www.evilscarescrew.com



Helene Sankovitch

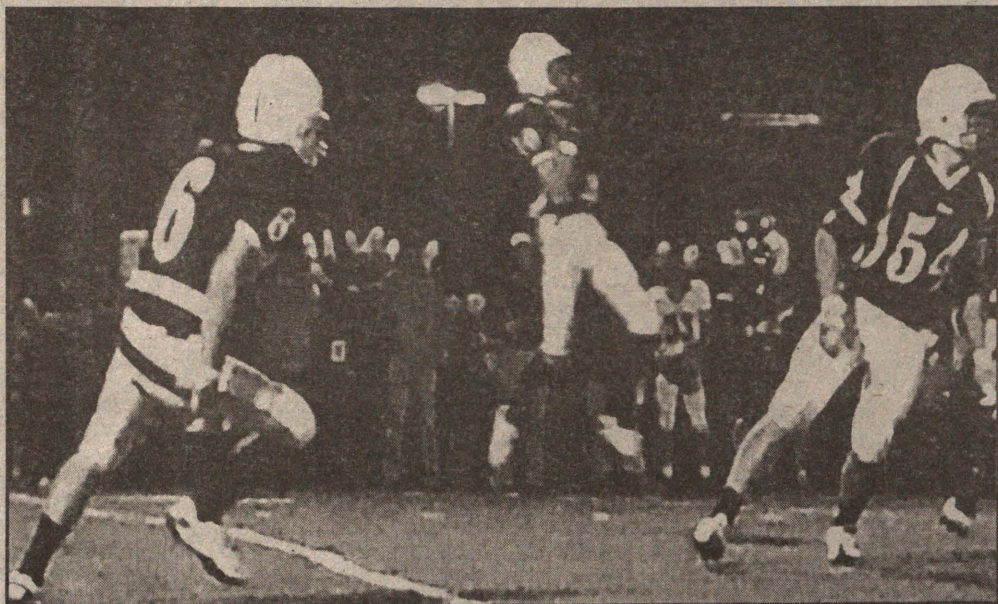


Photo by Amber Del Rio

Junior Matt Green (center) catches a punt mid-air while junior Alex Weier (left) and senior RJ Koberger (right) prepare to block for him.

Cats adjust game plan aiming for strong finish

By Amber Del Rio
Reporter

After many near-victories, the football team looks to make minor adjustments to end their season successfully.

The team will face Naperville North Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the stadium.

Naperville North is 5-3, 3-3 in conference.

According to senior Matt Rayos, the boys need to look

out for Naperville North senior Nick Lifka, the 6'4", 240 pound linebacker who has a scholarship to Boston College.

"The biggest factor for our offense is Lifka. He's a player to watch for," Rayos said.

The boys are 1-7 subsequent to their loss against Naperville Central 31-7 on Oct. 15.

The team's touchdown was scored by senior quarterback

Josh Stein.

The team lost to Wheaton Warrenville South 56-0 on Oct. 8.

The boys struggled entering the game against West Aurora on Oct. 1, but put up a fight during the second half. Despite their efforts, the team lost 29-28.

According to head varsity coach Paul Reinke, the boys need to continue working on the fundamentals of the game

to correct minor mistakes on the field.

"[We have to work on] keeping on our blocks on the offensive line," Rayos said. "We can't worry about other people doing their jobs [on the field]. We're so close yet so far of reaching our goal."

Besides keeping their blocks on offense, the boys are looking for ways to improve on defense as well.

"[We need to work on] our responsibilities, tackling, and hustling to the ball," senior Kevin Stolzman said.

The team strives to achieve their small goals each week.

"When the little things come together we can be successful," Rayos said.

Reinke believes that everyone on the team has something they should be playing for.

Senior Sean Paler's love for the game motivates him to work hard on the field.

"I've been playing [football] since third grade and I've loved it from the very beginning. I don't know what I would do without it," Paler said.

Regardless of the boys' reasons for playing, they come together as a unit on the field.

"We have to sacrifice the egos and do what's best for the team," Reinke said.

Baseball learns from the best

By Helene Sankovitch
Reporter

Baseball players are sharpening their skills with the help of Mark Sheehan, director of the White Sox Academy in Glen Ellyn.

Sheehan has been training players for about seven years, ranging from the ages 7 to 38.

"It helped with my accuracy and I really like it because it's all scientifically backed," freshman Grant Hosticka said.

Players have the opportunity to train with Sheehan for two hours a week for three weeks.

"The coaches are great guys, and the school is lucky to have them. The kids are taking it seriously. I see big things happening for them," Sheehan said.

Sheehan played baseball throughout high school and college, and played about 17 years of semi-pro in Minneapolis.

Tough season pays off

By Ahmad Zaidi
Entertainment Editor

The boys soccer team is showing improvement and maturity throughout the season despite their tough season.

"We are more mature working as a team," head coach Steve Brugmann said. "Our team is showing unity on and off the field."

With a record of 6-8-6, the boys are continuing to fight until the end.

"We need to improve on scoring goals compared to last season," Brugmann said. "We used to go up the field but could not finish, but we have done a good job with striking."

Brugmann said that the team is showing maturity and improvement throughout the season.

"We spent the entire year with team building and unifying the team and working together,"

Brugmann said. "We have definitely solved that problem."

The boys have set goals and are determined to reach them.

"Our goals are always to win conference and win the regional title," Brugmann said. "We also want to beat West Aurora after losing to them earlier this season with 16 seconds left in the game."

Brugmann said the team is working hard to give every game their best performance.

"During practices, we work on ball possession, shooting, organizing defense, corner kicks, and free kicks," Brugmann said.

According to Brugmann, the boys have all shown that they can play and work together as a team.

"The players that have stood out the most have to be goalkeeper [senior]

Adrian Porcayo," Brugmann said. "There is not a single game where he goes without making a huge save. He is a good leader and works hard. [Junior] Esteban Fernandez has also been very effective with scoring goals."

After winning a close playoff game against West Aurora on Tuesday, the boys push forward to finish strong at the next regional game.

"We played a really intense game against West Aurora. Both teams throughout the game were playing equally, but it all came down to who wanted it more. The second half of the game we just came back as a new team and ended up winning in overtime 1-0," said senior Tony Maldonado.

The boys will host the regional championship game on Saturday at 5 p.m. against Naperville North.



Photo by Ahmad Zaidi

Sophomore Jenaro Terrazas battles Naperville North opponent for possession of the ball on Oct. 12.

Girls swimming works toward state

By Alexis Hosticka
News Editor

As the girls swimming season proceeds, coach Nick Parry is continuing to work the girls harder than last year, pushing them up to their limits.

"We're not doing better in meets because we're tired and sore right now," Parry said. "However, the regular season doesn't mean that much in swimming, because we're working toward all the big meets at the end of the season."

Parry believes that he slacked off as far as practice intensity last year.

"I got complacent because [senior] Kelly [Dunn's] sophomore year we coasted our way to state, and then the next year I took it way too easy and we swam well, but not as good," Parry said.

By working extremely hard during the season, Parry hopes to "work the bugs out" in order to do well at state.

Despite this, swimmers are already coming close to and even making state cuts.

At the St. Charles North Invite on Oct. 9, Dunn finished

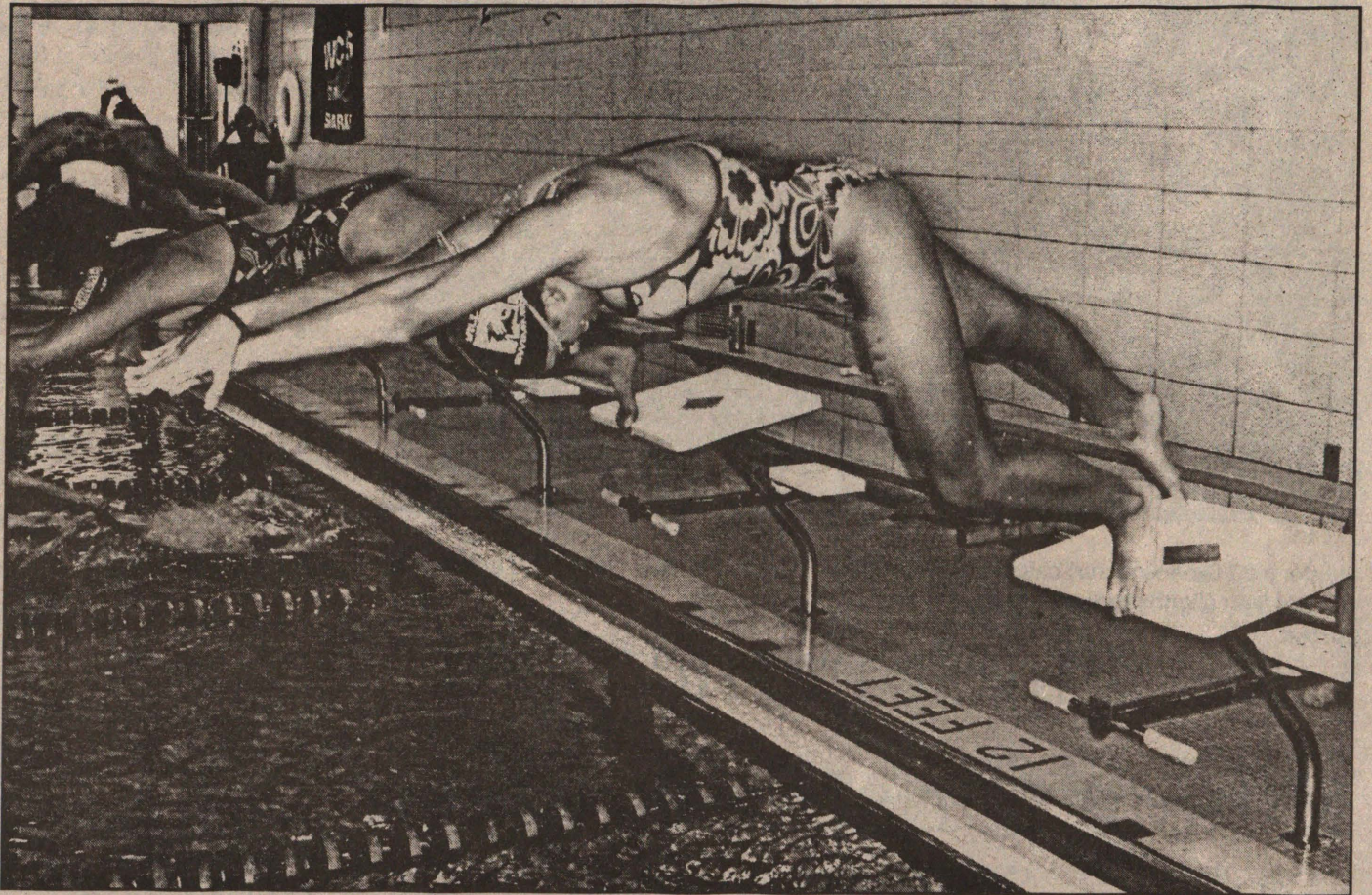


Photo by Alexis Hosticka

Last season, sophomore Yvette Kruk made state. This year, she continues to push herself at practice in order to state cut times.

third and made state cut in the 100 freestyle with a time of 53.92. Sophomore Maya Skorupski came 0.3 seconds away from the state cut and finished third in the 100 backstroke with 1:00.39.

Earlier in the season,

Skorupski timed in a personal best of 1:00.12 in the 100 backstroke at the Wildcat Championship, only 0.03 seconds away from state cut.

"My goal is to make it to state in an individual event, and I'm so close in the 100

back," Skorupski said. "Practice has been really hard this year, and [Parry's] been pushing technique, and it's definitely helping because every meet I've dropped time."

Dunn is continuing to do well and make good times in

all of her events.

"Kelly Dunn is doing what Kelly Dunn does," Parry said.

Since her freshman year, Dunn has continuously placed high, as evidenced by her times.



Photo By Katie Sladek

Senior Derrick Pietrobon and sophomore Jose Cortes lead runners at Race for a Cure on Oct. 8 at Reed Keppler Park.

Running to regionals

By Katie Sladek
Reporter

After hosting the DVC meet, girls and boys cross country teams are gearing up for the regional meet on Saturday.

Boys

The boys cross country team is on a roll and is looking forward to regionals, located at the DuPage River Park in Naperville.

"We're aiming for top

three. We will definitely qualify for sectionals," senior Derrick Pietrobon said.

The team placed fourth in the DVC on Friday, with three boys running all-conference. Senior Gunnar Sterne placed second overall, sophomore Jose Cortes placed ninth, and Pietrobon placed 12th.

"We held up against hard teams in DVC and a lot of runners ran their personal bests," Pietrobon said.

On Oct. 8, the team raised

about \$400 at WeGo Race for a Cure. All the proceeds went to the Ronald McDonald House organization. Five teams participated in the event, compared to last year's two.

The team placed first at the Lisle Invitational on October 2 with a score of 41. The last time the team won the Lisle Invitational was in 2003.

Coach Paul McLeland is encouraged by his team's accomplishments, and is very

hopeful about going to state.

"They've been working really hard in workouts. Sometimes kids let up a little in workouts and run really hard in meets. If anybody deserves to go to state, [this team] does," McLeland said.

McLeland is excited about his team's success.

"We've been on somewhat of a roll," McLeland said.

One exceptional runner keeping the team rolling is Sterne.

"[I'm doing] a lot better than last year. It's been the best year out of my four years," Sterne said.

Another exceptional runner is Pietrobon.

"He's about where Gunnar was last year," McLeland said.

The third is Cortes.

"He's getting a little closer to Derrick [Pietrobon] in races. He stood out [because he is] a sophomore in the top three," McLeland said.

Girls

The girls cross country team is running faster than ever and plan to succeed at regionals.

With tough competition and a season filled with injuries, the team finished seventh at the DVC meet on Friday, without any runners placing in the top 15.

However, this year's team has exceeded their own ex-

pectations during the season.

"Several girls are running better than they would have expected they would have run... [junior] Diana Serio didn't think she could run [as fast as she is]," coach Bob Maxson said.

Serio didn't know what to expect from this season.

"I was definitely training very hard over the summer... I didn't know what to expect which was good. I didn't set too low or too high goals," Serio said.

A stand out runner this year is freshman Lindsey Sayner.

"I'm really proud of her, she's doing really well," junior and older sister Kelsey Sayner said.

Lindsey is humble about her success.

"I think I am doing well, but I could be doing even better," Lindsey said.

The girls participated in WeGo Race for the Cure on Oct. 8, winning the meet and helping the boys team raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House.

"Both the varsity and the junior varsity won with incredibly low scores and they all had very good times," Maxson said.

The runners enjoyed hosting this event.

"I think it's really cool because it was [at] our home course," Sayner said.

Boys cope with disappointing loss, girls meet expectations

By Keyuri Parmar
Perspectives Editor

Boys and girls golf season ended with some disappointments for the boys and on a high note for the girls.

Girls

Girls golf finished off with the best season they have had in the past six years

As a team, the girls received fifth place at regionals at St. Charles East on Oct. 6 but didn't make it to sectionals.

"They didn't play well that day. I thought we would sneak up on Wheaton North and beat them but it didn't work well," coach Mike Cain said.

Even though the girls didn't make it to sectionals, they were happy to get their team best score of 412.

At DVC, the girls came in sixth place.

"We did better than I ex-

pected, I figured we'd beat Glenbard North and East but we beat West Aurora too," said Cain.

The girls had three conference wins against West Aurora, Glenbard North, and Glenbard East.

"We improved a lot by always going to practice and working on different skills every practice," junior Aubrie Sole said.

"Other team members that played well during the season were senior Karlie Becker and freshmen Hanna Netisingha and Tessa Dittmann," Cain said.

These girls scored the best in the invitationals.

Boys

Senior captain Robby Windisch missed making it to state by two strokes with the state qualifying score being 75.

"I was heartbroken that it's my senior year and I'll never have the opportunity again. I cried a little," Win-

disch said.

Windisch and junior captain Kyle Martens progressed on to sectionals but did not make it to state.

The record at the end of the season was 7-6.

At sectionals Windisch got a score of 77 and Martens finished with a score of 83.

"I don't have any regrets about sectionals. I didn't play horrible, just not well enough to make it to state," said Windisch.

At DVC, the boys finished in fourth place.

"Our two goals were to finish in the top half of conference and to have two golfers go to sectionals," Lasky said.

Windisch knew it would be a tough sectionals and it was.

"It was the toughest sectionals in the state because DuPage County has the best golfers in the state," Windisch said.

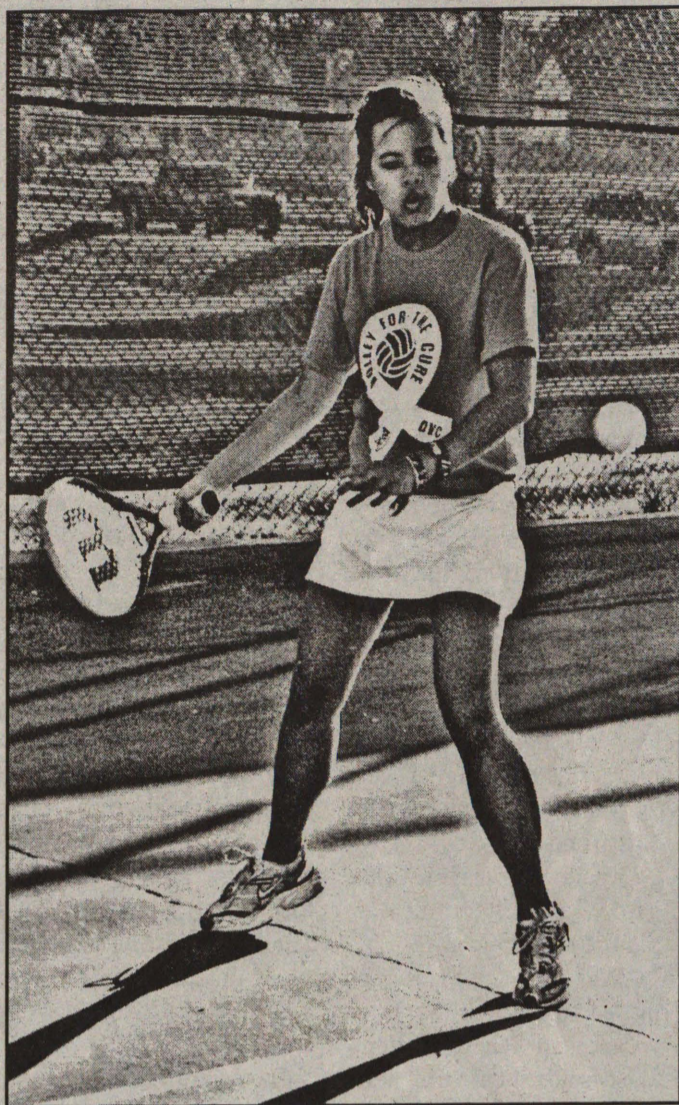


Photo by Kristina Manibo

Sophomore Elijah Dongon practices hard for DVC.

Lack of year round commitment hurts team

By Kristina Manibo
Reporter

Despite a first-round win at sectionals, girls tennis won't be back on the courts until next season.

The girls pushed themselves at sectionals on Oct. 15, but none of them qualified for state.

However, captain junior Frida Carmago won the first round of sectionals against DeKalb 6-1.

"I wish I had more year-round players and more experience, and more kids taking extra lessons," coach Sione Moeaki said.

Losing 7-0 in DVC Oct. 8-9 was a disappointment for Moeaki.

"We earned only three points for the whole DVC and I feel that if we had more points here and there in some matches then we would have more for our total points," Moeaki said.

Although the girls lost in DVC, the matches were not easy.

"It was difficult because we had to play against kids who have played tennis year-round, and those who have been playing since they were kids. They were about 10 years more advanced than us," Moeaki said.

The girls lost to Naperville North 6-0 on Oct. 4, making

the overall record 2-14.

"It's disappointing because I think our effort was not there and neither was the desire to compete at the best of their ability, and to push themselves," Moeaki said.

Moeaki said the girls needed to work more on footwork and being prepared for matches.

However, senior caption Kelsey Malan, looks at the season in a more positive light.

"[The season] turned out a lot better [than I expected.] We had a lot of new people but they worked hard and it ended up really good," Malan said.

Malan encourages the team to continue their vigorous effort.

"The girls should just keep doing what they're doing. They have fun but at the same time we keep working hard," Malan said.

Malan is proud of how the team bonded.

"There are usually cliques that form but this year we have a lot of team bonding. We sang karaoke and had a lot of bonfires," Malan said.

Moeaki believes senior Megan Gossen was the strongest team player.

"She worked hard and over the winter semester she took lessons to prepare for tennis," Moeaki said.

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A force to be reckoned with

Girls volleyball captures DVC title for the first time in 31 years

By **Yasmyn McGee**
Features Editor

The girls volleyball team dominated the courts by winning DVC with a record of 26-4 and proves to be a powerhouse to be reckoned with.

Hasty is thrilled that about their DVC championship against Wheaton Warrentville South.

"It's a great feeling. It's been a long, hard road. It's nice to see the girls' hard work and everything pay off," Hasty said.

Despite the outcome of the game, Hasty felt that the team did not play their best.

"We were nervous and played pretty tight but it wasn't our best match," Hasty said. "[The girls] never really got into their rhythm. But for us to beat Wheaton Warrentville South and not be in rhythm was a great accomplishment."

"We've been doing a lot of great things and have come a long way," junior Julia Conard said. "We're working hard, playing together, and

from the Napervilles," varsity coach Kris Hasty said.

Senior captain Kathy Fletcher is happy to see how far everyone's come since playing her freshman year.

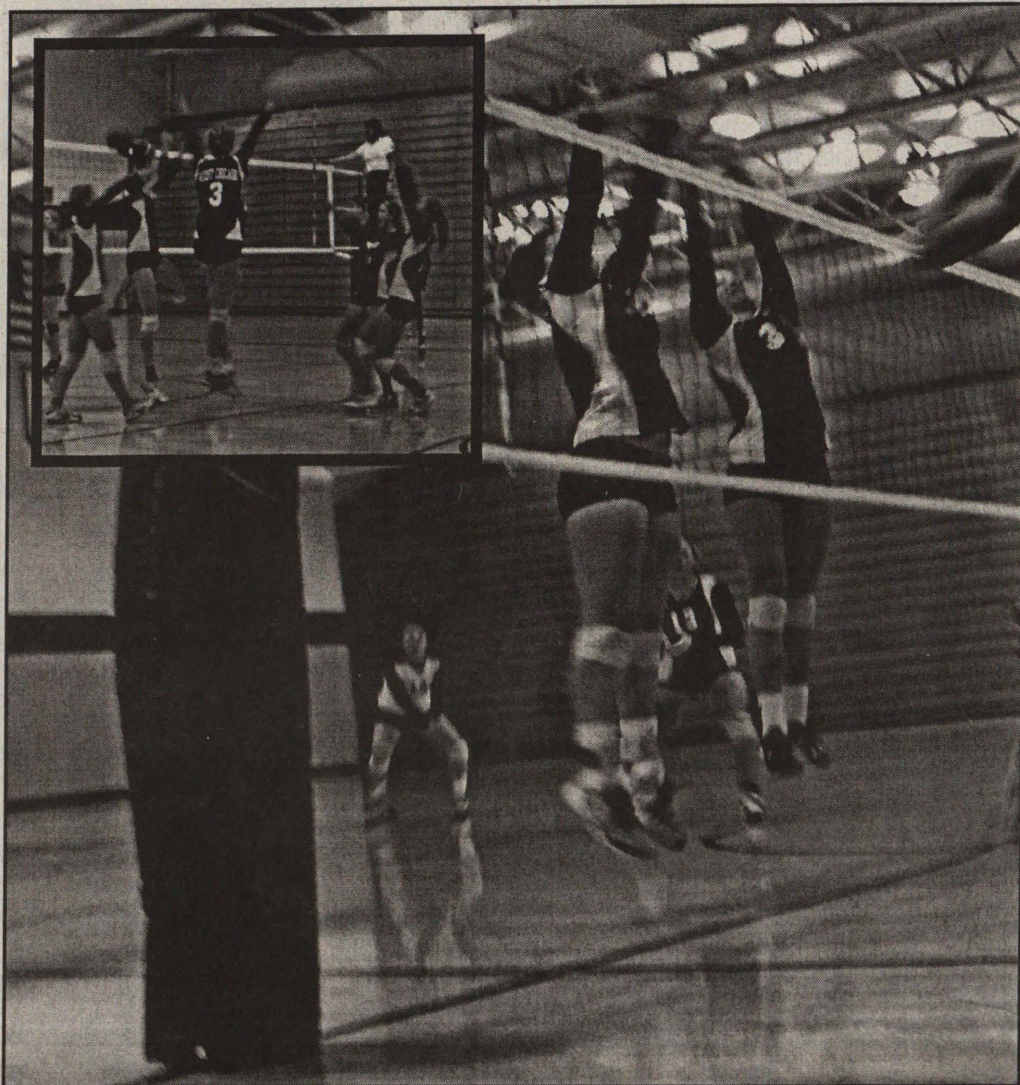
"Freshman year [varsity's record] was 0-25 and now we're 21-0. [It] feels good to represent our school," Fletcher said.

Besides working on core aspects of the game and conditioning in practice, the girls' close relationship with each other also helps them play well on the court.

"All the girls on the team love each other. We're like a family. We just have a lot of fun with each other and that's when we play our best," Conard said.

Hasty is proud of her entire team but certain players have really stood out on the courts lately.

"We've got some great players. I think we're solid as a unit but Julia Conard is our best all-around player. She does a lot of things well," Hasty said. "[Senior captain] Emily Paschke is starting to



Photos by Carly Tubridy

Sophomore Andrea Skipor (left) and senior captain Kathy Fletcher (right) go up for a block. Inset, Fletcher (center) celebrates with team after winning a point at Autumn Fest Oct. 15.

'It's a great feeling. It's been a long road and for us to be undefeated in conference is a feeling of accomplishment.'

— Senior captain Kathy Fletcher

As the girls continue to play, Hasty would like them to remember that, despite any pressure they may feel, it is their job to do their best.

"Well we haven't really been in this position much so I'd tell my players you shouldn't put pressure on yourself," Hasty said. "We're still under the radar so let's just play together, do our job, have fun and give 100 percent every match and see what happens from there. I say no [there's not pressure] but in the back of our minds there is a little bit of pressure."

Hasty wants the girls to play well but also looks forward to possibly going further as a team than before.

"Other teams are playing well, improving and out to get us. We also [want] to win sectionals, go to super sectionals and eventually state is within our reach this year," Hasty said.

As far as individual goals, Bayless, Paschke and Conard all said that any goals they have are only team goals. Instead, they cited their new team slogan for this year.

"It's we, not me," shouted

all three girls at the same time. Hasty explained their new slogan as a way to keep the team focused on each other and not about themselves.

"We struggle sometimes with people thinking about themselves and not what's best for the team, and I think you've got to go beyond yourself and know volleyball is an interdependent sport," Hasty said. "Yes, there are individual players that have individual goals but if you don't work together as a team you're not going to accomplish anything."

Going independent won't benefit the majority of athletes

By **Carly Tubridy**
Sports Editor

Once again the school is considering leaving the DVC. However this time instead of moving conferences, the plan is to go independent.

Being independent, each sport would have to call different schools ev-

finding our rhythm and it's really working for us."

The girls volleyball team played against Naperville Central Tuesday and lost in three games

"[From these upcoming games I want] to gain respect

come out of her shell a little bit and really make some great plays. She's a very powerful middle and blocks well. Kathy Fletcher is up and coming and [junior] Payton Bayless is doing a nice job setting as well."

ery time they want to have a game to see if they would play us.

This will not be beneficial to most of the sports. When making these kinds of decisions, as many sports as possible must benefit.

The sport it may benefit the most is football. One sport is not enough reason to leave the conference.

Look at all the sports that are succeeding in the DVC: girls volleyball won the conference this year, senior runner Gunnar Sterne took second in DVC this year, and senior swimmer Kelly Dunn is already looking forward to state again this year.

Even if we went independent, what schools will our teams com-

pete against?

The schools that are closest are in the DVC; teams will have to travel long distances to get to the games.

Finding schools to compete against could be difficult and it may force us to cut down on games.

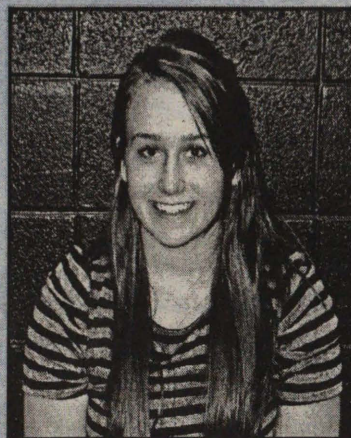
It's not fair to the other sports who are participating in

healthy competition to force them to play against schools that may not be at their level.

Instead of having all sports leave the DVC, the school should consider just moving the football team to independent, or give each sport the choice.

Our school may be smaller than schools like Wheaton Warrentville South, but athletes' willingness to compete is high and taking away tough competition isn't fair to their growth as athletes.

Pushing themselves to compete at a higher level will make them better.



Carly Tubridy
Sports Editor