

We're Gone

After the decision to leave DVC, staff, students are divided on the move

By **Giuliana LaMantia**
Center Spread Editor

The school is split on two sides as the Board of Education decided to remove sports programs from the DuPage Valley Conference (DVC) and join the Metro Suburban Conference (MSC) after years of consideration.

Principal Moses Cheng is hoping to be in the MSC by the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

"Overall, our goal for all athletics and activities is that when you participate here, we want you to have a positive experience," Cheng said. "A positive experience is not defined by just winning all the time but realizing when you put in hard work, time, and effort, it will pay off."

From 1975 to 2010, the average of all girls sports made a high of 5th place twice in the DVC, and received 8th place 24 times, according to information gathered by Cheng and Athletic Director Doug Mullaney. Boys sports reached 5th place once, and 8th place 23 times.

"Not to say we should never lose, but when your program continues to lose, it doesn't build that positive experience," Cheng said.

Mullaney feels talented athletes are not recognized enough by the DVC.

"Every time we get one All Conference player, the rest of the schools get two or three," Mullaney said.

Since 1980, athletics have brought home 21 conference championships and 42 regional and sectional championship titles.

"The schools in (the regional and sectional) conferences represent more equitable competition for our kids," Mullaney said.

The topic of switching conferences had been discussed for years, was brought up again in July, and approved at

the Sept. 10 board meeting.

"Metro had an open spot and had been talking to us for a while, and it seemed like the right time to switch," Cheng said.

According to Cheng, a vast majority of staff and faculty members were in favor of leaving.

Surveys distributed to students showed out of the 703

athletes of 1,589 students surveyed, 271 were in favor of leaving, 243 not in favor, and 189 were unsure.

While the ultimate decision was in the hands of the Board of Education, all information from staff, coaches, and students was considered.

"When I think about the excitement in students in non-conference games, it will turn

out to be positive, but we will have to figure out times, traveling, and filling schedules," Cheng said.

The MSC consists of Glenbard South, Riverside Brookfield, Fenton, Ridgewood, Elmwood Park, Timothy Christian and Illiana Christian.

Sports teams will still be able to schedule competitions

with schools from the DVC.

"I think (the switch) is good for our players," tennis coach Sione Moeaki said.

Softball and basketball coach Kim Wallner thinks the switch will motivate more kids to participate and stay in athletics.

"I think it's a good decision for the school and the future of the athletics program," Wallner said.

Mullaney believes being able to compete will help the athletes improve.

"We want kids to go into every contest thinking they have the opportunity to win, so their work, sweat, and everything they've worked for will have the opportunity to be recognized," Mullaney said.

However, some students disagree.

"If we lose a hard game, but play well, we will get better," sophomore Joe Skipor, a participant in cross country and track and field, said. "Always winning against easy teams won't help us get better."

Students also feel the board did not fully take their opinions into consideration.

"We shouldn't have left," senior Ashley Nevitt, who plays volleyball and basketball, said. "I feel the board mainly made the decision around guys sports and didn't really consider girls sports or the students' opinions. I was at the board meeting and they shut the students down."

The board feels they took all aspects into consideration.

"Some of the girls sports have done exceptionally well in the past few years, but when considered going back 20 or more years, the placement in the DVC was still low," Board of Education president Katherine Doremus said. "We absolutely did not want this decision to be made for the benefit of one sport; our concern was that it be best for the majority of our students, now and in the future."



Photos by Chronicle staff

Moving from the DVC has students and staff wondering about the effect the move will have on teams.

INSIDE PowerSchool

With a new grading system for this year, students and staff are confused on how to use some of the features available and how to log on--see **NEWS**, page 2.



Strike for a right

Conflicts with negotiations lead to CTU going on strike and eventually reaching an agreement with the Chicago Mayor, Rahm Emanuel--see **PERSPECTIVES**, page 5.

Permanent beauty

Senior Ashley Gutowski thought the pain was worth the beauty and the memories that her tattoos bring her. She has two tattoos that have a deeper meaning than beauty to her--see **CENTER SPREAD**, page 7.



Staying focused

After staying undefeated for seven games, the boys soccer team is working hard with their new coach to continue their success and move further in regionals--see **SPORTS**, page 10.

Teacher heads to Capitol Hill

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

Government teacher Mary Ellen Daneels went from being a government teacher to a speaker at the Congressional 21st Century Skills Caucus on Sept. 20 in Washington D.C.

The caucus was held at the Rayburn office building on Capitol Hill.

"I spoke at the caucus about all the great things CHS students do with civic education in the government program and in our spiraling social studies curriculum as well," Daneels said.

Daneels was chosen to speak at the caucus because the school is known in the civic education community for innovative programs.

"It's a great honor to repre-

sent all the good stuff that's happening in classrooms all around the country when it comes to civic education,"

Daneels said. "It was very encouraging. I received a lot of positive feedback for what (students) are doing here at the high school from congressmen, educational advocates, and others who support civic education." With Daneels speaking about what students have done in government and WeGo 2 Africa,

many people at the caucus became interested in visiting the school.

"There are a lot of people who are interested in coming and seeing for themselves the government simulation and other programs that we have, so we might be having a lot of visitors this year," Daneels said.



Government teacher Mary Ellen Daneels speaks at the Congressional 21st Century Skills Caucus about what students at the school are doing.

Photo courtesy of Alan Knapp

New tardy policy in action

By Giuliana LaMantia
Center Spread Editor

With hopes of making punctuality more of a priority to more students, the school year started off with a new tardy policy.

"In terms of discipline problems, tardiness is up there," dean Antonio Del Real said. "Tardiness and attendance are not super bad but could be better."

The new policy starts out with four warnings, and moves to a Tuesday or Wednesday school on the fifth warning. Once the process is repeated three times, students will receive a suspension, the length to be determined at that time.

"The main addition is once you get to a certain level after the suspension, you lose the ability to attend school events," Assistant Principal Peter Martino said.

While this includes events such as homecoming and football games first semester, and prom second semester, students involved in sports or clubs will still be allowed to participate in their activities.

"We can't stop students from participating, nor do we want to," Martino said. "We want to encourage kids to participate."

If students continue to be tardy after the loss of events, there will be an intervention with a dean specialist to discuss why the student is tardy, and parents will be contacted.

Although it is too early to tell, the Board of Education is hoping the new policy will cut back on tardies.

"We're hoping kids will be in class more and learn something," Del Real said.

The policy was changed as a new way to help motivate students to be on time as there were more suspensions from tardiness than ever before last year.

The 2011-2012 school year had a total of 1,725 tardies, as opposed to 1,461 in 2010-2011 and 1,368 in 2009-2010.

"We are trying to find the fine line between kids trying to get to class on time and kids who aren't always motivated, and we're trying to find different ways to help motivate them," Martino said.

Grading system causes problems for staff, students

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

With the transition from Edline, last year's grading system, to PowerSchool came a lot of confusion for teachers and students.

A technology committee made the decision to switch from Edline to PowerSchool in May.

"Their purpose was to look at all the factors related to management systems," Principal Moses Cheng said. "In that process they were looking at which kind of data management system to use, but the cost was also an issue that they had to consider. There were several packages that the committee liked, one of which was PowerSchool."

PowerSchool has many

more features than Edline including communication features, alerts, and important information about students on teachers' rosters.

"PowerSchool is a much more powerful data management system. There are a lot more features to PowerSchool for everybody who uses it," Cheng said.

Changes are still being made to PowerSchool to customize it to the needs of the school.

"What you see about PowerSchool right now is just the tip of the iceberg. It takes a long time to actually customize PowerSchool to fit the needs and purposes of the school," Cheng said. "It takes several years to get to a high comfort level with it. What you see now is really kind of

the initial phase of it just to get it rolling."

According to Cheng, teachers went through training to learn how to use PowerSchool during the first few institute days and have received help from other staff members as well as emails explaining how to do certain features on PowerSchool.

"There are, for the most part, people within many of the departments that have used PowerSchool from other districts that can act as a resource as well because they're familiar with it," Cheng said. "We'll offer throughout the year some time as well for teachers to sit down and get trained. It'll definitely be not a one-time process but a series of processes."

With PowerSchool being a new program to teachers and staff members, there has been some confusion on how to use it.

"I think it's because there will always be the difficulty that comes with a transition of switching to a new system. It has to be relearned without a doubt," Cheng said. "There is that frustration that comes from doing things one way for a little bit and then having to change them again just because you're trying to get it right."

Glitches are also causing confusion.

"Unfortunately the only way you know that there are

problems and the only way you can customize a system to be what you want it to be is through rolling it out and actually using it," Cheng said.

Many teachers believe PowerSchool is a good program and as time goes by, it will be easier to adjust to the new program.

"I feel like it is very efficient. I feel like once I learn it really well, it's going to be a really good thing. I already like a lot of the features of it," music teacher Steve Govertsen said. "The only issue I've experienced so far is trying to figure out how to add in some extra credit."

Before PowerSchool, getting students' information was a lot more difficult than it is now.

"I like that the deans, attendance, and counselors' office now are all working on the same system so that if there's a problem, everybody knows it all at once," Spanish teacher Sue Junkroski said. "It used to be the offices didn't talk to one another so what the teachers, deans, counselors, and attendance clerk saw were all different things so nobody really had a handle on all of the things that involved the student."

Students are also confused with the transition from Edline to PowerSchool.

"I like how you can check individual assignments to see what you've missed. It was really confusing trying to get on at first because I lost the sheet first and I couldn't really follow the directions and I logged in wrong," junior Heather Belington said.

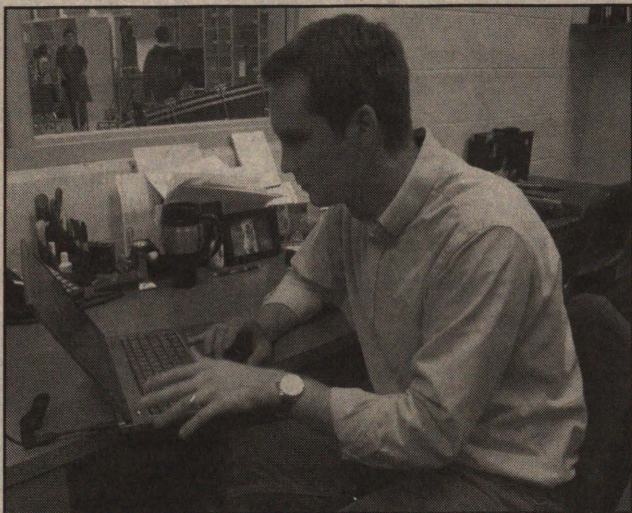


Photo by Liz Ramos

With all the confusion about PowerSchool, music teacher Steve Govertsen attempts to figure out how to add extra credit into grades.

Student directors showcase talents

By Guadalupe Blanco
Lifestyles Editor

Three students demonstrated not only their leadership skills but their creative abilities at the New Director's Showcase.

Seniors Cat Canestrelli and Dan Stompor, and junior Josué Muñoz each directed a one-act play, a first for WeGo Drama.

In Canestrelli's play, "Not My Cup of Tea," by A.F. Groff, two aging sisters try to take care of their mother and take back some control of their lives. However, things don't go for the best when the mother unintentionally sabotages their attempts.

"It's exciting, presenting your own art and seeing how people are going to take it," Canestrelli said about her show, which was presented Aug. 30.

Another performance was Stompor's "Talk To Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen."

"It's about a man and a woman, and their relationship as their lives slowly start to fall apart. We're doing two comedies and two dramas,

and mine is probably the darkest," Stompor said. "It's interesting to see everything from a different light."

Stompor has acted in other productions before directing, but said what he missed the most was the ability to be on stage and tell a story. However, he said that he wouldn't choose one over the other.

"I'm proud of all the work

my cast has put into the play," Stompor said.

Muñoz's experience with switching over from acting to directing was similar.

His comedy, "The Brothers Grimm Spectacular," closed out the evening.

A modern take on the stories collected by the Grimm brothers, the play takes many storybook classics and tries

to tell as many of them as possible, given obstacles that the characters face.

"The story is wild and zany," Muñoz said. "And there are a lot of references to pop culture, which the audience picked up on and enjoyed."

All three plays were presented in a three-quarter round stage successfully.

However, it was not done with ease.

Much work was done behind the scenes and onstage over a period of only three weeks to work, giving the directors a sense of what happens in the professional world.

"The students chosen as directors not only had leadership skills but also had an artistic vision that they were able to transfer to their performers and crew. They have exceeded my expectations, and it's wonderful," drama teacher Mark Begovich said, regarding not only the student directors, but also the actors and crew.

In the case of all three directors, the experience was made more enjoyable due to the fact they were working with their fellow cast and peers.

"The production manager and assistant production managers have been very helpful and things would not have been able to have been done without them. The same is said for the crew working behind the scenes," Muñoz said.



Photo by Guadalupe Blanco

Junior Josue Muñoz (back) yells at senior Dan Stompor because Stompor questions Muñoz about his theories and beliefs on art in the play "Red" by John Logan.



Photo by Sarah Szremski

Seniors Josh Brown (from left), Abram Fernandez, and Luke Jaconis appointing jobs in "Is He Dead?"

Comedy back from the dead

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

Faking your death was a lesson learned in, "Is He Dead?" presented by WeGo Drama.

"It's fresh, it's new, it's all of those things. It's just an awesome script," director Mark Begovich said.

"Is He Dead?" was performed on Sept. 13, 14 and

15.

WeGo Drama brought to life a recent adaptation of a lost Mark Twain script, where a French artist called Jean-Francois or Millet, who is struggling to stay afloat in the art business, hatches a plan to fake his death and pretend to be his sister so that his art will be worth more.

Millet is also a teacher to three artist friends who help

him keep the secret.

"The hilarity ensues with a lot of misunderstandings and secrets are revealed. It's just a fun time for everyone," Begovich said.

Begovich wasn't the only one who thought that the play was funny.

"Comedy, comedy is the best. Just the fact that we get to go and laugh during rehearsal (is fun)," senior Josh Brown said.

Even though it was fun for the cast and crew, they put a lot of work into the performance.

"The hardest part is just the style, because this type of comedy is not seen often," Begovich said.

All but three of the characters in the play were clueless as to what was going on.

"I play (Ed) Chicaco, an artist friend of Millet. (My character) basically came up with the idea for him to die and become a cross dresser," senior Abram Fernandez said.

Performances were filled with proposals, body limbs, and secrets.

"The acting was good and stage was made really well. (My favorite part) probably was when (senior) Dan Stompor dressed in women's clothing or when (sophomore) Zandra Starks was a cross dresser," sophomore Julia Dieter said after watching the show.

Time to say goodbye

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

After 40 years in education, Superintendent Lalo Ponce will retire on July 1.

"I think that when I reached that 40th year I came to the realization that it's probably time I look at retirement," Ponce said. "Reaching the decision to retire at 40 years was somewhat easy. Reaching the decision to leave D94 was difficult."

After a visit from his brother, Ponce took some time to think about what he wanted to do in the future.

"He and I talked a lot and I took a trip to Maine and there were a lot of opportunities to reflect and think about

my future and retirement," Ponce said. "When I came back from Maine, I processed the fact that I've worked 40 years. It was time for me to take the opportunity to retire."

Working with students, staff, and the community for the past four years has enriched Ponce's experience at the school.

"I'll miss the connection with students, the opportunity to interact with the community, and I'll miss the opportunity to connect and interact with staff, teachers, the support staff we have here," Ponce said. "I've certainly enjoyed working here at D94. In fact, it is one of the highlights of my career."

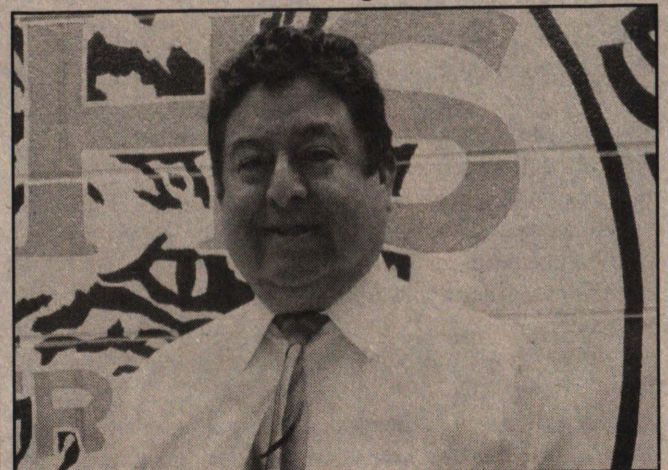


Photo by Liz Ramos

After 40 years of dedication to being a superintendent, assistant superintendent, area superintendent, teacher, and principal, Superintendent Lalo Ponce will retire July 1.

Homecoming comes to the rescue

During homecoming week students had fun during the dodgeball game, pep assembly, powderpuff, and dance.

Sophomore Natalie Wagner:

Q: What did you like best about this year's homecoming parade?

A: It was a lot of fun, and for me, the best part was marching and playing with the band.

Sophomore Sofia Carrillo

Q: What do you think of the homecoming parade?

A: I think it's great. I like the fun that it brings to the school, and it's very exciting to be part of it.



Photo courtesy of Sofia Carrillo

Superheroes take over the homecoming float during the parade on Friday.

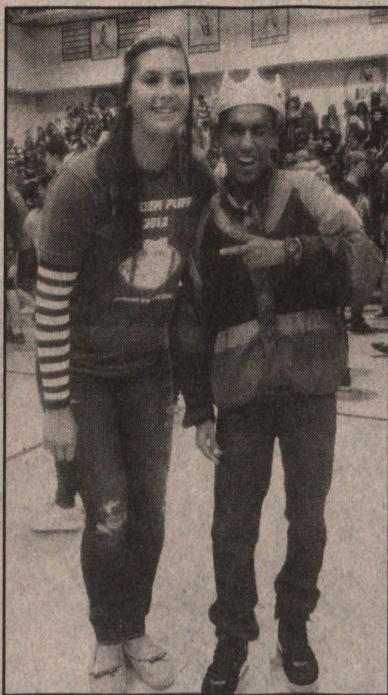


Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Seniors Andrea Skipor and Jenaro Terrazas celebrate over being crowned homecoming king and queen during the pep assembly on Friday.

Senior Jenaro Terrazas

Q: How did it feel to be homecoming king?

A: It felt great knowing that my friends support me and had faith in me by even nominating me in the first place. At the assembly it gave me a lot of confidence when people started chanting my nickname and cheering for me. Once I won I felt like a celebrity for a little bit, but I have to keep it exclusive. I want to give a special shout out to my parents, Guadalupe Esparza and Jenaro Terrazas for everything.

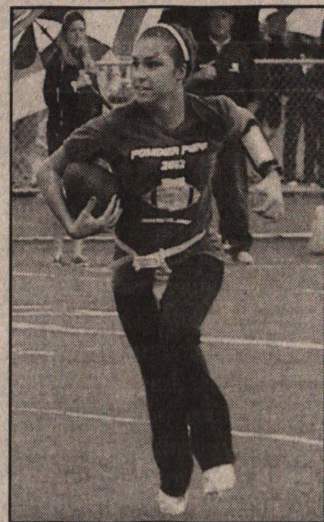


Photo by Darcy Akins

Junior Kalie Strachota tries to score a touchdown during the powderpuff game on Friday.

Senior Kendal Franz

Q: In your opinion is it more fun playing as juniors or seniors?

A: It's way more fun as seniors, even though we won last year we're excited to win this year, and it's so much more fun because we'll be the first to make sure seniors keep getting that winning streak.

Going from bottom to top

By Juleah Puccinelli
Reporter

With a solid work ethic and perseverance, foods and consumer education teacher Brittney Bauer received the Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher Award from the Illinois Family and Consumer Science Teachers' Association.

The award is meant to encourage teachers who have created unique programs and shown commitment to their profession early in their careers.

Bauer was on the planning committee for the conference where she received the award on July 24.

While she was sitting at her table during the ceremony checking her email about conference activities she was to present the next morning, she heard her name announced.

"I didn't know I was nominated," Bauer said. "All of a sudden I heard 'Brittney Bauer' and I was shocked. I didn't hear the award I had won. I said to the people at my table, 'Did they just call



Photo courtesy of Kevin Sevin

With dedication to her work, foods and consumer education teacher Brittney Bauer (right) won the Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher Award from Sally Lessen, past president of Illinois Family and Consumer Science Teachers' Association.

my name?"

She was the only teacher to receive the award and it is a personal milestone that means a lot to her.

"I have worked hard to get where I am today. I grew up being in the lowest reading group in grade school and worked hard to complete a master's degree in applied family and child studies," Bauer said.

She realizes that a hard work ethic has allowed her to be in the position she is in today.

"I never knew I could ac-

complish it, but with my will power I persevered," Bauer said.

Bauer has been on the faculty for three years and teaches food 1, child development 1 and 2, advanced child development, and dual credit child development through College of DuPage.

For Bauer, the students are the greatest part of teaching.

"I love training them in the field of child development and then seeing what they learned go into practice at Wildcat Preschool," Bauer said.

Opportunity to honor veterans

By Guadalupe Blanco
Lifestyles Editor

Every year students from all grade levels participate in the annual Voice of Democracy competition.

While the concept ranges, "Is our Constitution still relevant?" the topic for this year's competition is expected to be well received by the students.

"This year's topic is something lots of kids have exposure to, whether it be an eighth grade Constitution test, or their social studies classes today. They've had some exposure to our Constitution," humanities teacher Mary Ellen Daneels said.

Part of the reason for Voice of Democracy is for students to demonstrate pride in the country, and also to honor the veterans. And for students that participate, the competi-

tion has become more popular in recent years, with some sort of award or recognition for anyone that participates.

"It's a great opportunity to earn some scholarship money and some recognition for those college resumes," Daneels said.

While some students may think that it is a difficult competition, any student can interpret as they feel, and can put their own individual spin on this year's topic.

"It's open to interpretation, and in the past, Community High School has been well represented, which makes our veterans very proud as well," Daneels said.

Any student interested in participating should talk to their counselor or Daneels, and type and record a 3-5 minute speech, and turn it in before the Oct. 12 deadline.

Chance to express yo'self

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

Get ready to be slammed because Café Express Yo'self is back.

Café Express Yo'self follows its name, where anyone can express themselves.

Anyone who loves to write is welcome.

Competitors get scored on

how well they did in the poetry slam.

"The two people who have the highest score have to write poetry in three minutes," senior Gus MacPherson said.

Whichever writer gets the best score is the winner.

Café Express Yo'self is Thursday at 6 p.m. in the LRC.

Perspectives

Stressing out for success

When it comes to school, society usually decrees that first the basics, then it's high school, then comes college and a shiny diploma. It's what the U.S. educational system is all about.

According to Newsweek magazine, American universities are home to 22 of the 30 best universities in the world. Foreign students look to our higher education schools in envy of the amazing education system we have available.

Therefore, it comes as a surprise that less than half of 25 to 34 year olds in the U.S. finish college.

One of the big concerns is cost. A Time magazine study found that tuition fees have skyrocketed over the years, with a four year public education tuition at around \$7,500 a year, and four year private school tuition at over \$25,000 a year.

If one considers the state of the economy, it isn't likely that a recent high school graduate has \$25,000, let alone \$7,500 lying around to pay their way through school.

The price of college is literally something that will be paid for long after graduating. In no way is it okay for graduates to leave college with the worry of finding a job, and the burden of college debt.

Surprisingly, in the same study, 86 percent of college graduates said that they thought college was a wise investment, and that it not only prepares them

for a job but gives them intellectual growth as well as maturity.

Another thing to consider is the big picture. That is, looking down the road. Will a college degree really get a person a better job, let alone make them happy?

Let's face it: in such a competitive job market and fragile state of the economy, a college degree is probably something that can come in quite handy. Then again, the chances that college graduates have of getting a job are as good as someone without a degree.

The bottom line is that while the higher education system might not be all that it's cracked up to be, it doesn't mean that a hardworking 18 year old should forgo college. Going to a university, be it community college or Ivy League, can open up many opportunities.

In the current situation where the middle class is feeling the pressure to go to school, going to college does give them an edge over their competitors when job hunting. Not to mention that a degree is very worth it.

How much more? Try an average additional \$1.3 million lifetime earnings.

For now, if a student has the drive and ability, graduating from college with debt from student loans is still better than not graduating at all.

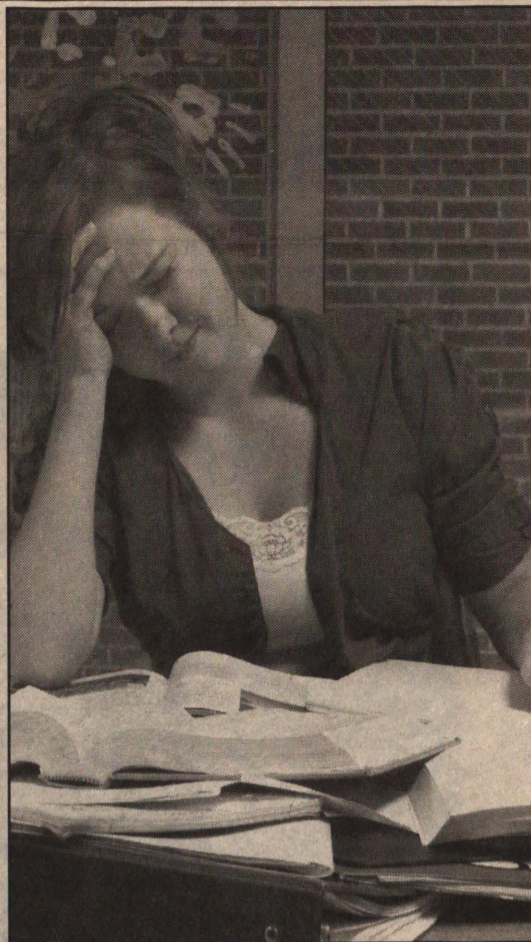


Photo Illustration by Darcy Akins



Photo courtesy of Katie Friedl

CPS teachers strike through the streets of Chicago.

Rebels with a worthy cause

Chicago Public School (CPS) teachers went on strike from Sept. 9-18 after the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) dealt with weeks of failed negotiations.

Multiple disagreements lead to CTU following through with the walk-out and picketing.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel repealed the 4 percent annual pay raise that teachers were expecting in their contract, wanted to elongate the school day, and also wanted the results of students' standardized test results to be reflected in teacher evaluations.

CPS teachers had every right to protest with Emanuel not negotiating with them. They should be getting the raise they deserve, which is at least 4 percent. The parents even understood this and supported the teachers' strike.

One of the reasons for the raise was the agreement to increase the length of the school day. According to the Sun-Times, CPS students attend school 22 percent less than the average public school student.

That is a huge percent when time is being considered which is why the negotiation for a longer school day was an easy dispute to settle. It only makes sense that the teachers' raise goes up as well.

Also at issue was turning student achievement into teacher evaluation. This is unfair, and fortunately this requirement went through with the contract.

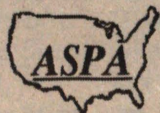
Every student tests differently, some take standardized testing seriously and others just show up and fill in bubbles because it is required. Few students truly try on these tests though. The majority of students do average or don't try at all.

For teachers to be evaluated on something that is out of their control is ridiculous. CPS is not known for having the best curriculum or test scores to begin with, so for Emanuel to want this is illogical.

Many good teachers could lose jobs because their students will not try on tests, even if they could do well.

Unfortunately that is part of the contract but it remains unfair.

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Painful Forms of Beauty

Needles,

Nose Piercing

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Tattoo

High Heels



Hair Rem

By Sam Schweihs
Reporter

People say it hurts to be beautiful, and many feel it's true.

Just try waxing.

If waxing is done wrong, more ingrown hairs grow back, and it can be painful.

Redness, hives or allergic reactions are other negatives, according to salon professional Dawn Pennala, owner of Salon Comfort LLC in Delafield, Wis.

However, people ignore the side effects and think about smoother skin.

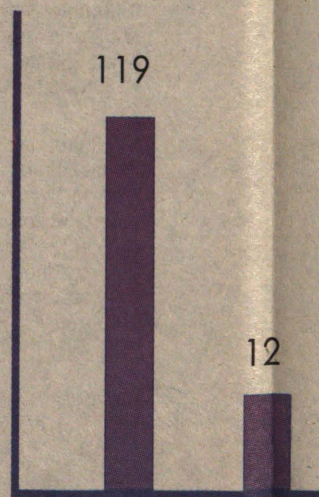
"Waxing is just the herbs from the garden sticking to the skin and hair, ripping off pieces of bulb off of hair follicles," Pennala said.

Waxing exfoliates the skin and lasts about three to six weeks.

"I usually tweeze my eyebrows myself but sometimes I get them waxed for big events, because they end up

From ancient times to today, society has found painful ways to make a statement, find meaning, or simply to be beautiful.

Out of a survey of 220 students, a significant amount have adopted today's methods of beauty.

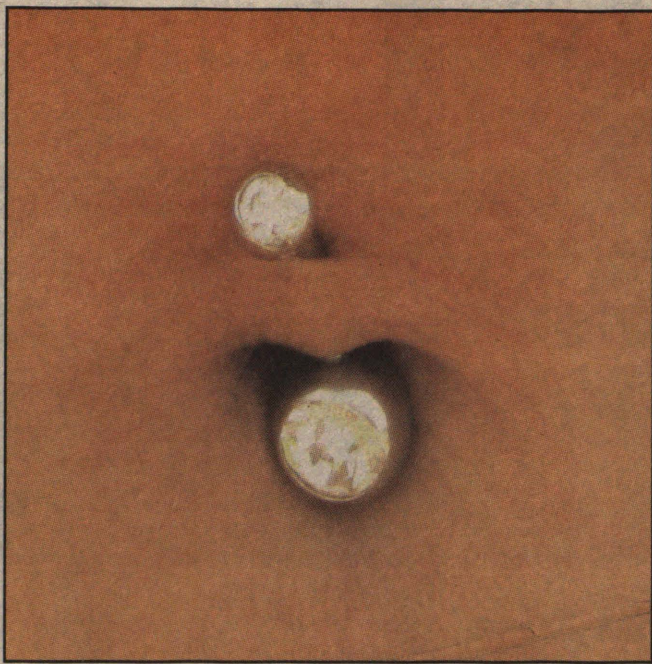
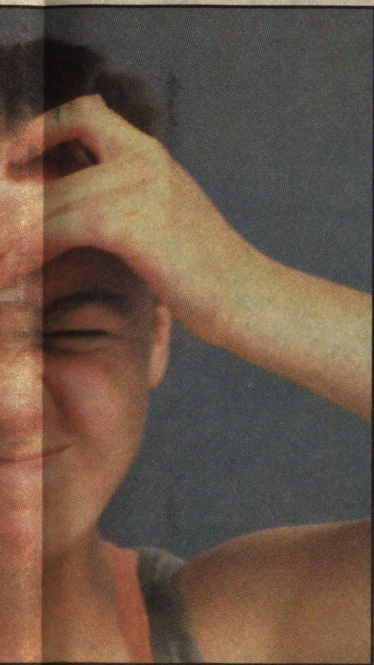


Piercings - Tattoos

*Photo Illustrations by
Giuliana LaMantia

is Pain?

s, ink, and hot wax: Beauty methods today



Removal

looking better than if I do them myself," senior Cara Whelan said.

Another form of hair removal is threading.

"Getting threading done hurts until you get used to it. When I get waxed my skin gets irritated and I break out, but with threading that doesn't happen," senior Alex Alvarez said.

Threading is a small doubled-up strand of cotton thread twisted around individual hairs and pulling them out from the roots.

"Threading hurts so much, I would rather get my eyebrows waxed," senior Clarissa Russell said.

Overall, most people would rather get waxed than threading or tweezing.

"It is worth waxing, and it is safe for teenagers. It decreases the hair growth, is less expensive than laser to remove hair and it exfoliates dead skin cells," Pen-nala said.

Studly Needles

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

Many teens today, as well as licensed piercers, believe that even though piercings are painful they are truly beautiful, a form of art and a way to express yourself.

For Egyptians, piercings were a sign of a love of personal beauty and caring about how you presented yourself. Through the years the same age old question remains, is the pain worth the beauty?

"After (the piercing) heals it doesn't hurt," junior Samantha Falletta said. "I think they're cool. It obviously hurt really badly when I stretched them for the first time because I skipped a size. My industrial piercing (a bar through your ear) hurt the first time but it hurt worse the second time because it was pierced through scar tissue."

Professional piercers tend to side with the teens, arguing that piercings are a form of individuality and that piercings are not a big deal.

"Piercings are a form of art and in past cultures in history they showed a social status," professional licensed piercer and tattoo artist D'amon

Knight said. "Here's the problem...they're not easy to hide or fix and some employers won't hire you because of them, and you can have serious complications."

Knight runs his own tattoo and piercing shop, Tattoos For You in Aurora.

Professional standards of appearance as far as jobs are another concern for teens with facial piercings in particular. Many business professionals argue that teens don't have realistic expectations about the way they should present themselves.

According to a survey done by Forbes, "Piercings (37 percent) are the top physical attribute that may limit an employee's career potential, followed by bad breath (34 percent) and visible tattoos (31 percent)."

"My gauges could be bothersome to people, but it's not like I have any facial piercings," Falletta said.

Forbes disagrees. Non-facial piercings can be a problem. The study shows most corporate dress codes are strict, including rules for wearing jewelry and the type of lipstick allowed.

Piercings might not get past the first interview.

Body Art

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Pain, to some, is worthwhile when it involves memories, symbols, and art.

The pain of getting a tattoo is not bad enough to prevent people from getting tattoos because "they want to be cool" according to Jerry Cross tattoo artist from Ink-town USA in Lombard.

"Some people get personal tattoos, some get random ones, and others get tattoos because they think it's cool," Cross said. "Some people just like tattoos because it's art and means something to them, it's mainly a reminder of something that makes you happy."

Senior Ashley Gutowski has two tattoos, one is a breast cancer butterfly and the second is a rose.

"Both of my tattoos have a meaning behind them. I got the breast cancer butterfly because my grandma was diagnosed with cancer and she was so strong throughout the whole thing, and I thought getting this tattoo would represent the strength the women in my family have," Gutowski said. "My rose represents the love I have for my family. My family means everything to me and getting this tattoo is just a daily reminder that I will always have them."

Currently Cross has two sleeves of tattoos.

"One is of an octopus doing a million things. It wasn't intended to have a deeper meaning; tattoos don't al-

ways have to be a tribute," Cross said.

Gutowski wanted to make the pain and decision worthwhile so she waited months before getting them.

"I knew I wanted my first tattoo about six months before I got it and my second one probably took me about three months to decide that is what I exactly wanted," Gutowski said. "A tattoo is on you forever and I wanted to make sure that I'm going to love that tattoo 60 years from now."

Cross decided to be a tattoo artist because he thought it was a way to do art and make a career out of it.

"It's hard to make a living out of art so I thought the answer was being a tattoo artist. It is fun and I get to see people happy after the art is done," Cross said.

According to Cross, the pain is comparable to scratching a sunburn or waxing.

"It might seem weird, but I like the pain of tattoos because at the end of the tattoo session you have a beautiful piece of art on you that explains a story that no one will understand," Gutowski said.

Gutowski did not have a big problem with the pain. "I'm pretty good with pain so I would give my first tattoo, which is pretty small and on my hip, about a four out of 10 (on a pain scale) and the big rose I have on my shoulder about a six, and in some spots an eight out of 10," Gutowski said.

The worst part for Gutowski isn't even the pain.

"The hardest part about getting a tattoo for me is sitting there for two and a half hours," Gutowski said.



12% of students have encountered problems with these beauty methods.

67% of students feel these methods are a part of beauty in today's society.

Tattoos - Hair Removal

Lifestyles

New teachers in the Wildcat family



Science
Anna Fulmer

Q: What is the best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?

A: The best advice I've gotten is to be yourself and to be happy with the effort you put in.



Special Education
Rona Sinnamond

Q: If you could be any food, what would you be and why?

A: I would want to be a papaya because it's exotic, and it's a fun word to say. It also has an island essence to it.



Support Services
Michelle Walters

Q: If you could be any Disney character which one would you be and why?

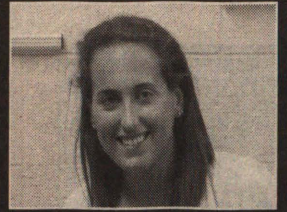
A: I'm a huge Disney fan. Probably be Tinkerbell, she's my favorite.



Family and Consumer Science
Meghan Kline

Q: What is your favorite childhood memory?

A: Dressing my younger brother up like a girl with my older sister.



Physical Development
Nicole Cleveland

Q: What was the most embarrassing thing that happened to you as a kid?

A: In a movie theater, I was crawling over seats and my foot got stuck, so I had to hide from the usher.



World Languages
Kathryn Schoen

Q: What's the craziest food you have ever eaten?

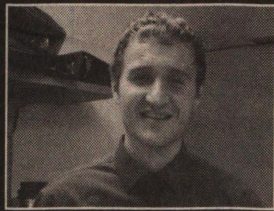
A: Alligator, escargot, or frog legs, whichever one you think is the craziest.



Special Education
Anne Dragosh

Q: If you were in a commercial for kids about vegetables which would you be and why?

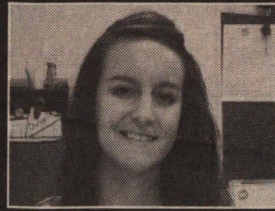
A: I'd be a jalapeno pepper because I'm spicy like that.



Special Education
Joshua Piha

Q: If you could be one type of food for a week, what would you be and why?

A: I would be pudding because I don't eat pudding so I wouldn't get eaten.



Special Education
Laura Heavey

Q: What is the strangest food you have ever eaten?

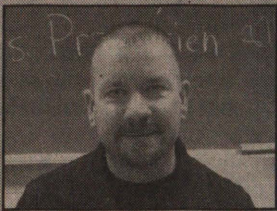
A: When I was a waitress at Pappadeaux, I tried frog legs, and they were really disgusting. I would not recommend them.



Science
Renata Marroum

Q: Who is the person you admire the most?

A: Madame Marie Curie because she was an excellent scientist and did a lot of service too.



English
Patrick Clifford

Q: If you were in a commercial for kids about vegetables which would you be and why?

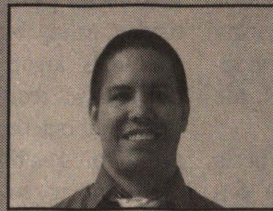
A: Broccoli because there are so many things you can do with it.



Counselor
Annie Gomez

Q: What is the most interesting place you've been to?

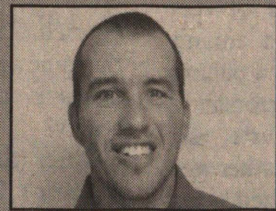
A: Northern Italy in the Alps, where my dad's family lives.



Special Education
Brian Trainor

Q: If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

A: I would probably have to say an owl because they're cool.



English
Bill Bicker

Q: What is the most interesting place you've been to?

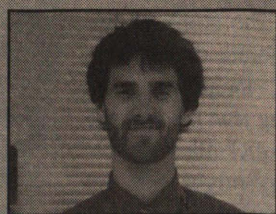
A: I'd have to say Key West in Florida. The atmosphere is much more laid back.



Math
Lori Moriarty

Q: What inspired you to be a teacher?

A: Ever since I taught in New Orleans as part of Teach For America. Also, I had some inspirational teachers along the way.



Science
Tyler Michie

Q: If you were a piece of Jello and were thrown against a wall, what shape would you be?

A: The Blackhawks logo. I'm a pretty complex piece of Jello.



Orchestra
Alexandra Wojciechowski

Q: If your hands were hands on a clock, what time would you be and why?

A: Probably 4:30 a.m. because that's the time I wake up every morning.

Sports

Wildcat Chronicle

September 27, 2012

9

Close teammates become family

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

When you become more than teammates, you become a family. As far as closeness, the girls swim team claims to be more than just your average team.

The team is looking even stronger and better than last year based on many factors.

Senior captains Maya Skorupski and Yvette Kruk agree that one of their biggest strengths of the team is the closeness they share.

Even outside of practice, the girls try to stay close with team bonding.

"Later this month we're going apple picking together," Skorupski said.

Last year the swim team had a total of nine girls on it. This year 18 girls are on the team.

Even with increased numbers the team has managed to stay really close, according to sophomore Miranda Otwirk.

"We have double the team," Otwirk said, "So I think we're going to get a lot

more points this year. We actually might win some meets. We're not small but we're not too big so there are no cliques."

Team bonding is something the girls do very often to stay close. The team also had pasta parties together before important meets.

One of the other main strengths of the team is having four state qualifiers.

"Because we are all swimming to get the same thing, it makes us bond and be really close, especially like in our medleys," Skorupski said.

Even though the team is looking closer and stronger

this year, there is still quite a bit for the team to work on.

"Right now we're still pretty early in our season," coach Nick Parry said, "so we need to work a lot on the small things. You know, nitpicky things like turns and starts and when to kick here and when not to do something."

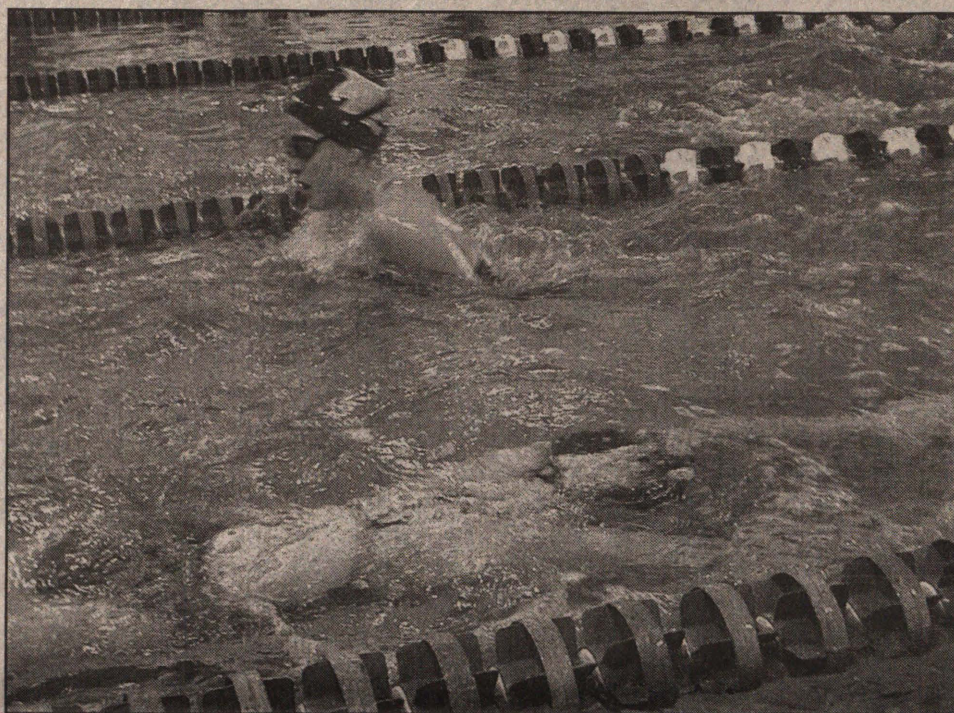


Photo by Darcy Akins

Before the meet on Friday freshman Kathryn Malinowski practices her butterfly stroke.

First place; record broken

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Not only did junior Hanna Netisingha get first place at DVC for golf, but she also broke the school record.

At the conference meet at Philips Park in Aurora Netisingha individually got a score of 74 on Tuesday.

"I was really excited because I knew there were good players there and I was not expecting to get first place," Netisingha said.

The old school record was 82.

"I wasn't thinking about the meet that much, I just was hoping to get some pars. I also didn't put a lot of pressure on myself like I usually do," Netisingha said.

Usually Netisingha thinks about her game plan too much.

"It's just a mental game," Netisingha said.

The regional meet will be on Oct. 3.

Benefits to team morale

Returning coach leads team to having a better mindset

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

A new mindset and changes on the football team have benefitted team morale.

Coach Bill Bicker is the one bringing the new mentality to the football program. His philosophy is wins and losses don't mean as much as progress.

"Getting better and better at playing and competing is my focus. Wins and losses don't matter so much but making tons of progress matters," Bicker said.

Tom Brady's concept of "it's not about the championship but the journey" is what Bicker uses when coaching his team.

"It's a good concept for anyone to follow. It's easier to quit than to keep going so a better mentality is needed," Bicker said.

Bicker coached for the school's junior varsity team from 2007-08.

Last year, practices went until 6:30 p.m. which is no

longer the case.

"Practices are shorter this year, but we practice harder and faster than last year," senior Josh Yang said.

Players are satisfied with the changes in the program after three years of the old program.

"The offense is harder to adjust to but (Bicker) has made it easy because he has us actually go out and play," junior Jordan Lelito said.

"Personally, I think this season is going better than last year," senior Chance Coats said. "Our record doesn't reflect this but we've been playing well against teams that we hadn't in the past."

Their improved attitude is reflected in their games.

"Everyone seems to have more energy and wants to play," Lelito said.

Overall, their mistakes are minor.

"When looking back at the film from games, a lot of our mistakes are small and personal issues," Coats said.

Coats said.

For many players, the hardest change is having different routines.

"(The most difficult part is not) adjusting to the new coach, it is more difficult to change what I've been running the past three years," Coats said.

Bicker does not just want to focus on the game and school but on the community as well.

"The football program has become more involved in the community, we marched in the Good Old Days parade on Sept. 9," Coats said.

The improved mindset is beneficial overall.

"With the new idea of the program I have learned lessons that will help me later on," Coats said.

Their next game is Friday at Wheaton Warrenville South High School.

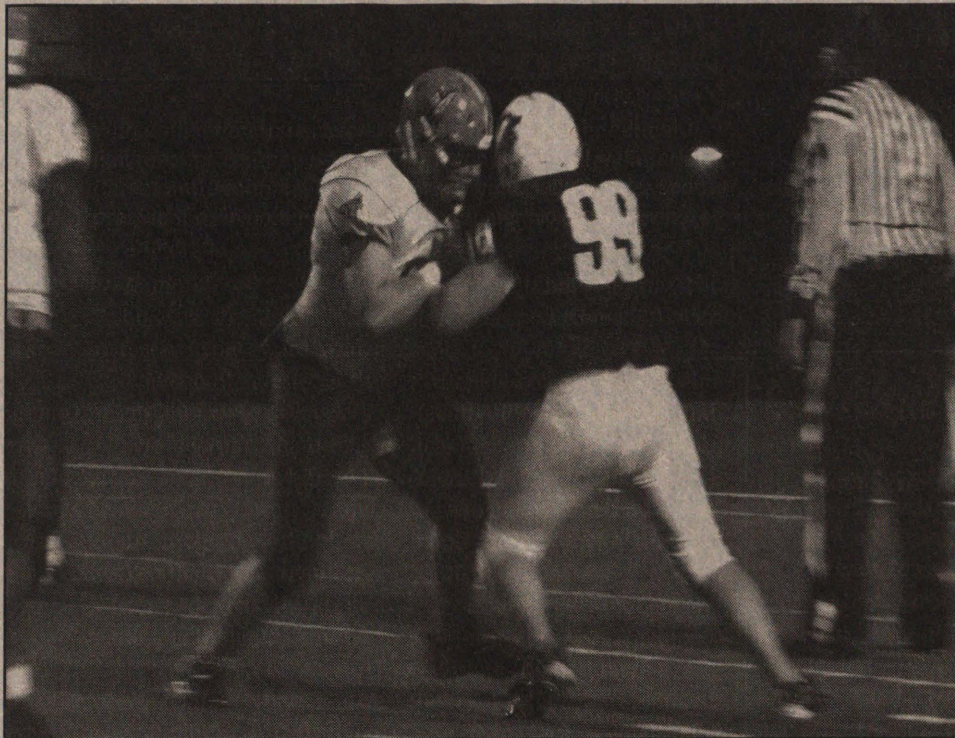


Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Senior Levi Watson blocks a player from Naperville North at Friday night's homecoming game.

Loss of key players leads to hard work

By **Giuliana LaMantia**
Center Spread Editor

Despite the loss of some of WeGo's key players, girls volleyball is working hard this season with a new team effort.

"We definitely all have to pull our own weight and work extra hard as we lost some of our best players, Julia Conard and Payton Bayless," coach Kristi Hasty said. "Right now there's more of a team effort. Everyone is understanding their roles and playing their part."

With a record of 12-5, the girls prove to be playing their roles despite having a young team that has not played together very long.

"(Conard) and (Bayless) were two great players and not having them is different, but having a young team is awesome because we all get to figure out how each of us plays," senior captain Kayla Katarzynski said. "It helps with our team bonding and getting to know each other better."

According to Hasty, the even contribution from all players sets this season apart from others.

"Looking at statistics after

our games, the ball is distributed evenly and every player has about four or five kills," Hasty said. "That's really a team effort and that's definitely something different than in past years."

Some of Hasty's and the team's main goals are to be mentally prepared for all games and practices, and to put forth the effort to grow stronger as a team.

"Our main goal is to work as a team and have everyone contributing every day in games and practices," senior captain Andrea Skipor said.

The girls also need to get used to learning how they play and playing as a team.

"Our goals are to come together as a team, since we are a young team and many of us have never played together," Katarzynski said. "We are just trying to find out how each other plays and just getting used to it."

With five returning stars this season, Hasty believes the girls are up to the challenge.

"I think as a player we put more pressure on ourselves," Hasty said. "Everyone has got to have great performance to pull this all together, and it puts more pressure, but hope-

fully it's a good thing and we'll rise to the challenge."

Hasty also looks to the seniors in the program to step up and create success.

"I'm looking to our seniors to play a leadership role and step it up," Hasty said.

The success of the team has yet to be determined, according to Hasty.

"I think our success is going to be based off of who's going to step up and lead the team. If everyone is equal and works together, and we feed off of each other in a positive way, I think that is where success is going to come into play," Hasty said.

Seniors are already adopting this philosophy.

"I love being captain for this group of girls and the entire program this year," Skipor said. "My responsibilities are to be a role model to all of the girls in the program, motivate everyone, and be positive."

Hasty believes hard work and a mental readiness to play every day will pay off.

"I'm going to put every player to the test to come to every practice and match to give it their all, if they can do that, the winning will be there," Hasty said.

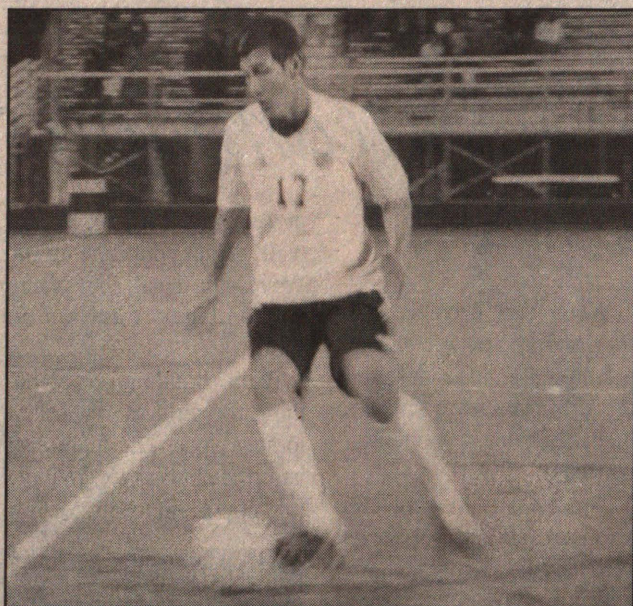


Photo by Liz Ramos

A winning streak came to an end for the soccer team Sept. 19. Junior Alfredo Villa dribbles the ball down the field.

Unity on the field

By **Liz Ramos**
Co-Editor in Chief

Senior captain Jenaro Terrazas said.

Although there is a new coach, the team has been keeping some of the same tactics on the field.

"Some things we've kept the same. Our playing style is the same. We ask of the kids to just come in and work hard every single time at every single practice to get better," Villa said.

Between this season and last season, there are some differences.

"I think we're moving the ball a lot more. We have some very strong players but I feel like a little bit before we'd get carried away with one or two players wanting to do too much. This year we're stressing the fact that we're a good possession team, quick, fast, and making sure that we move the ball and keep our opponent on their heels," Villa said.

Many of the boys have been playing for years together.

"We have a great team and we've been playing for a long time so the unity is really good," Terrazas said.

Taking games one by one is important to winning.

"I told the boys we have to take games one by one. With the fact that we're getting better with every game and every practice, I think wins will come if we put the work in," Villa said.

The team believes they have the strength to make it further in regionals.

"We feel really confident but at the same time we don't want to get too confident. We want to work hard and take it one game at a time," senior captain Danny Hernandez said.

The next game is Thursday at 7 p.m. at home against Larkin.

After seven wins in a row, the boys soccer team took a loss, maintaining a record is 8-3-3.

"The team is playing really well. They're playing hard and are doing a great job of playing both offense and defense and really working hard at every practice, every game, and making sure they're communicating and working well for each other, and not just working individually," coach Jose Villa said.

Communication is key to having success on the field, according to Villa.

Villa has been the head coach of a U-14 club team and the assistant and coach of the JV team, but this is his first season as the varsity head coach.

"It's been a transition, definitely it's been different. Obviously there's a lot more responsibilities with being the head coach than being an assistant but I'm enjoying it," Villa said. "I feel like this group of guys are very committed, very hard working, and I'm enjoying coming here after I'm working."

The team has been adjusting well to the new coach and the differences in coaching style.

"He's a great coach and he's been doing great. We've learned a lot from him," senior captain Diego Munoz said.

Having the same style of play as well as the time they've known each other has helped the team and Villa with the transition.

"(Last year's coach Steve Brugmann) was a good coach too, but the difference is that we've known Villa for a longer time and we've played with him a couple times," se-

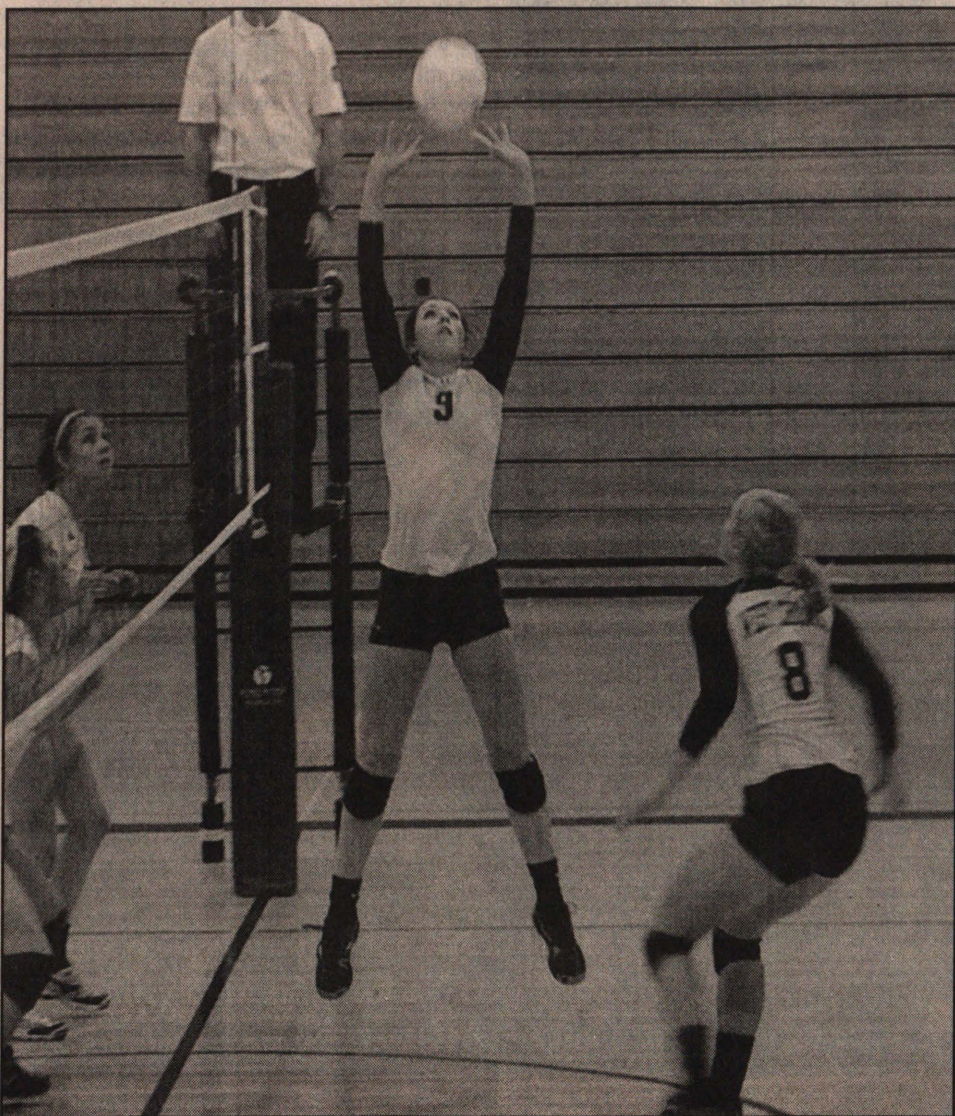


Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

Junior Mary Kate sets the ball during a game against Wheaton Warrenville South on Sept. 13.

Outlook changes for cross country

Many runners leaving and joining the team lead to change

By Juleah Puccinelli
Correspondent

Girls

With a team of 36 runners this season, the girls cross country team is bigger than ever.

"It may give us a little advantage in that we have more choices in terms of pushing our efforts to do better as a team," coach Bob Maxson said.

Their team phrase this year is "It's about we, not me," and according to Maxson, with so many runners, it's important to think of the team as a whole, rather than each individual.

Almost half the girls on the team have never run before.

According to senior captain Julia Caithamer, summer practice is a major part of making sure newcomers remain prepared for meets.

"We've been running all summer, but they have to start getting used to how to run meets. They'll probably hit their peak in the end of the season," Caithamer said. "So hopefully that'll help us rather than hurt us."

Another new aspect of the team is that there is a top 11 with a chance at varsity instead of a top 10.

Because of this, there is a lot of competition between runners who want to keep their spot in the top 7.

"There's lots of competition this year since everybody's so close with times.

It's pretty much going to be down to every race and how well you do and how good of a day you've had," Caithamer said.

The competition is good for the team, because it pushes the girls to do their best, and not only to keep their own spot, but to keep the team moving forward.

"It goes back to the whole 'we not me'," Caithamer said. "It kind of goes back and forth, you push each other whether you're in Top 7 or not."

So far, the top 7 runners have definitely gone back and forth. As of Sept. 22, the Top 7 runners were sophomores Mae Elizabeth Gimre and Ana Flores, juniors Diana Beltran, Gena Rodriguez, Catherine Serio, and Lindsey Sayner, as well as Caithamer.

These runners tend to switch places throughout each meet, but that is no surprise to Maxson.

"That's going to happen throughout the year. They're going to flip places every once in a while. It wouldn't surprise me if our number one and number two runners stayed the same, but the rest of them are going to be flipping around," Maxson said.

During the West Aurora Invite, two records were set.

Out of the 36 girls, 26 of them achieved their best times, making the team the fastest in the school's history. Sayner then set a new record in the three mile run with a

time of 17 minutes and 59 seconds

"It feels good," Sayner said. "I was very surprised when I heard the time because I felt like I was a lot slower."

In the midst of these successes and personal achievements, the girls' number one priority is still to encourage the whole team's success.

"It's not thinking about just a group of girls," Caithamer said. "It's thinking about everybody and how everybody does because everybody matters."

Boys

With the top five guys having graduated last year, the boys cross country team has a different outlook this season.

"To improve as a team is going to be difficult, but my goal is for each guy to improve individually," coach Paul McLeland said. "It'll make us a better team as far as the guys that are there, but as far as experience, we're just a little bit short."

The team has grown slightly since the season began on Aug. 8 with 12 guys and now has 15 guys.

Even with more runners, they are still unable to fill a team. There are only four runners on the freshman and sophomore level.

Fewer runners have allowed the team to get to know each other more than they would have with the typical team of over 20 guys.

"With the smaller team,

we've definitely become a lot closer," senior Jared Baranowski said. "We've definitely interacted a lot more. We talk with each other a lot more, and we're closer. It's not like a really big team that breaks off in cliques."

Throughout summer practice, the boys hit a few bumps in the road but are still putting in their best effort.

"While we only had three of our runners regularly attend the summer running, those who did are seeing significant improvements," junior captain Joe Sawicki said.

In their last meet on Sept. 22, the team placed last but

freshmen Rahul Prabhu and Jaimie Marwan had personal bests.

A season's best time of one minute and seven seconds was also run in the 1-5 split.

"I've never been (in that spot) before but that's where we're at," McLeland said.

Although the team is not at their best, coach McLeland has seen some improvement.

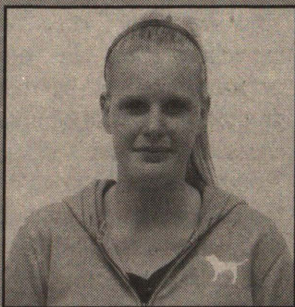
"As long as we performed at our best, there's nothing to be ashamed of," Sawicki said. "The best way for us to improve is to make practice, push ourselves in workouts, and avoid injury if at all possible."



Photo by Darcy Akins

At the West Aurora Invite, junior Lindsey Sayner runs a personal best and breaks the school record with a time of 17:59.

Change for the worse



By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

Changing out of the DVC is not a new idea or a good idea.

This motion was set into action with a Board of Education vote of 4-3 Sept. 10, determining that we are in fact leaving the DVC.

The members of the board, teachers, and most

coaches claim the leave is for the better of the athletics program.

After seeing both sides, it appears to me that leaving the DVC was undoubtedly brought on solely by the football program. Because the football games are the sport that brings in the most revenue, it's logical that the school wants them to win.

Sure the change is great for football and even track as far as number of games or competitions, but what about girls sports? What about the sports that I play? Did any of those board members who voted for leaving think about how that's going to affect girls athletics?

Girls sports in our school such as volleyball, basketball, and softball do really well.

By merely changing geography, we're expecting our teams to do so much better. The part that still doesn't make sense to me is why we don't work on the athletic program so we can improve internally before simply changing the place we're going to play.

Other schools in the DVC, such as West Aurora and Glenbard East, also have a hard time competing in the DVC but haven't backed down from the challenge, so why should our school?

Working really hard teaches you determination, and I'd rather have us lose in a close game or competition in a hard conference than domi-

nate in an easy conference. Switching to the Metro Suburban Conference (MSC), I fear our sports will lose their drive and heart.

Travel times and transportation costs will also be affected.

Only one of the MSC schools (Glenbard South) is closer than the farthest DVC school, not to mention the farthest school in the MSC being Lillian Christian in Lansing which is 57.8 miles away and takes over an hour to get there.

With such increased distances has to come an increased price; try to the tune of an approximated increase of \$35,909 in transportation costs.

Doing homework on a moving bus will never be an

easy task but add to that 12 or more other people singing to music, talking, laughing; how on earth could anyone get their homework done? In the DVC, the teams got back in time for you to complete your homework at a decent time.

In the MSC, homework is going to be a big concern for me. How am I supposed to focus on how I need to perform and get homework done?

The MSC is not where my teams belong, and it shouldn't have to belong there just because of everyone's obsession with football.

Why should the whole athletics program suffer for a few teams' inability to win; that I don't understand.

Anatomy of a football game



Photo by Sam Schweih

Practices before each game help the cheerleaders perform well. They are practicing the end of their performance.

Ready for more than halftime

By Sam Schweih
Reporter

Once half time rolls around, the butterflies settle and the cheerleaders are ready to go.

"Performing at a varsity halftime in the stadium is incredible. Being in front of hundreds of people is a real adrenaline rush. When there are 10 seconds left on the clock before half time I'm usually extremely nervous, but once I hear (P.E. division head Bill Lech) announce us and we step onto the field my nerves are all gone and," senior Lauren Stanton said.

Cheerleaders prep for halftime by learning their routine

on Monday practice, then perfecting it at their Wednesday practice and before the game on Friday.

"We prepare for competition season by practicing three times a week during the summer and twice a week in the fall. Football is a great way for us to practice being in front of the crowd," Stanton said.

ICE All-Stars of Naperville choreographs the cheerleaders' routines each season.

"We pick our songs by asking the girls what they would like in the routine or we pick whatever songs mix together well," Stanton said.

The choreographer then puts the music together.

Energy, passion, spirit; the squad

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

Black out, neon night, pirates, beach parties, and other themes are some of the fun aspects of the squad at every football game.

"The squad is fun, it's inspiring," senior Jake Seeman said. "One way to describe it is that we have a blast and a half, not two blasts but a blast and a half."

Seniors Luke Jaconis, Jimmy Rizzo, and Danny Giliberto have are squad leaders.

"I am very honored that I am the squad leader. We have a great squad this year for the most part. We've had some awesome nights and overall it's just been an awesome experience," Jaconis said.

Everyone in the squad works together to show support for the football team.

"Something about the squad that some people don't know is that in the squad, everyone becomes friends. There's no hatred in the squad. It's one united group," Seeman said.

Many squad members enjoy the themes the leaders decide for each game.

"It's a lot of fun. It's a lot of people. It's fun to dress up.

(The themes) are pretty fun. The neon one was the best. Everyone got really into it," junior Valerie DeNicolo said.

Squad leaders use themes from past years but also come up with their own.

"We've thrown in a few themes like a pirate party. A lot of them just come from our sense of humor and the top of our heads," Jaconis said.

Although the football team doesn't always win, the squad is always there to cheer for them.

"It's tough sometimes, but we know that they're trying their best so we're trying our best too to get them pumped

to win once, hopefully," senior Mei-Li Hey said.

To be heard across the field, the squad leaders get the squad cheering as loud as they can.

"We're a very creative young group of men. We yell, we scream, we dance, we cheer, we jump, we do whatever we have to do to get the crowd going," Jaconis said.

Seniors like to have power over the squad sometimes, but the underclassmen still enjoy being in the squad.

"The seniors can be controlling in the squad but it's their last year so they have to live it up," sophomore Ana Flores said.



Photo by Liz Ramos

The pirates theme energizes the squad at the football game on Sept. 7.

Responsible for energizing stadium

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Never the ones to be forgotten, band and color guard keep the crowds cheering at Friday night football games, which are no longer reserved for just for the football team.

"We want to keep the energy in the air because the more the squad is being the squad and yelling their chants, the more that the rest of the stands are cheering for the football team, the more the team feels like they should try more because they have the people behind them," sophomore Tara Lyne said.

Each Thursday the band prepares for the next night.

"We're all excited, but by the end of practice we're tired because we go through the half time and pre game at least three times. So we're on and off the field, it's crazy but then when Friday comes around it's like we did this for a good reason," Lyne said.

While music is most im-

portant when it comes to band, the uniforms also reach a deeper meaning to some band members.

"I feel that we have a good vibe during the games and when we're marching because everyone gets so excited. It's cool to see how people see you when you have your uniform on and when you have it off. That's pretty much all the football team

sees us as is the uniform."

Color guard puts in as much effort as the band.

"It's fun and you get to work outside and it's something new. We have new routines that we normally make as a group. We combine moves together or the instructor gives them to us," sophomore Brie Steward said.

The halftime show is a good experience for all.

"It's a really good experience and all of our hard work is shown through our performance. We like putting on a good show," senior Katie Sladek said.

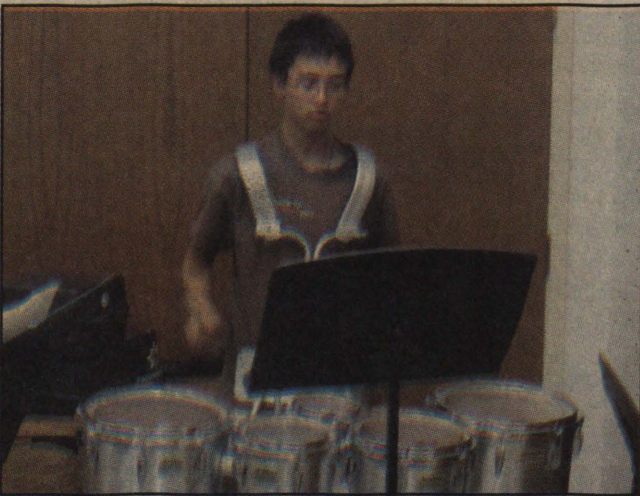


Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Band and color guard put hours of practice in to put together one half time show. Junior Sam Roskamp practices his music during drumline rehearsal.

Appreciation shown

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Spirit runs high in the atmosphere as the football team runs out onto the field with cheering and applause in the background.

"I get such an adrenaline rush from the squad. Anytime I hear them chanting it just makes me want to play even harder," senior Ryan Weier said.

Everyone likes attention at times, for senior Sam Rylowitz it is when he is on the field "It's nice to know the community is behind us. It's great playing on a Friday night with everyone watching and cheering," Rylowitz said.

Even with the same general routine, the intensity is apparent every week.

"The game plan varies from week to week so we might be playing different coverage but most of the things stay the same for me. I always have butterflies in my stomach but they just let me know I'm ready to play and going to give it my all," Weier said.

Football is not just a sport but a community bonding opportunity.

"It's great to know that your sport is so popular that it brings people together that may not even like football," Weier said.

All the organizations that participate at the game are a form of the squad, according to Weier.

"I think the support is all equal. If the people that are cheerleaders, in band, or poms were not in those groups, they would be in the squad," Weier said.

Although many just think football games are for the students, parents play a huge role in supporting the team.

"Parents are the best support because they are there for the stuff no one else cares about, such as practice games. They also do a lot of pasta parties," Rylowitz said.

The fans are the backbone of support for the football team.

"The support makes me feel really good. The atmosphere makes the game special," Rylowitz said.