



Community High School 326  
Joliet St. West Chicago, IL  
60185

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## We Gone Where?

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief  
And Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

Concern is spreading around the school as to whether the school will be accepted into the Upstate 8 conference or be forced to become independent.

Meetings were scheduled for Wednesday between the principals of the Upstate 8 schools. A decision may come soon.

After being accepted into the Metro Suburban Conference (MSC), the MSC rescinded their decision to allow West Chicago in after the school said it was exploring other options.

"The bigger goal is to make a decision that would be in the best interest of the students, and the programs and the community. That's both short term and long term," Principal Moses Cheng said.

Entering into the MSC was the original plan, according to Cheng.

"The original goal when we first started talking about leaving the DVC (DuPage Valley Conference), and we proposed the MSC as the conference to go to, the goal was definitely to go to the MSC," Cheng said. "Everything we said about how and why it would be beneficial was absolutely something that we believed."

After being accepted, the Board of Education instructed Cheng to keep the board aware of better options for students and their families, according to Board of Education president Katherine Doremus.

"The motivation of the board or Cheng was to follow instructions to look for the best fit for our school as far as conference. We felt at the time we voted to move away was a better option than to remain in the DVC," Doremus said. "We are hoping Upstate 8 is viable and votes to accept us. We look forward to continuing to provide a robust activity program for students. They deserve it."

According to Cheng, even though the school accepted the offer from the MSC, if better opportunities came along the school would pursue them.

"Many of us thought those possibilities would occur within maybe a few years or more. So it was actually a little surprising when we were approached by the Upstate 8 within a few weeks of leaving the DVC," Cheng said.



Photo by Liz Ramos

Meetings between the principals of Upstate 8 to discuss the schools fate for conference placement were on Wednesday.

The Upstate 8 showed interest in the school first.

"(Upstate 8) expressed their interest to us first. So the process involved were several, when we left the DVC there was a clear understanding from the board and myself, if opportunities arose down the road that would be more beneficial for us then we needed to explore those possibilities," Cheng said.

After the MSC discovered the school's returned interest in the Upstate 8 from an email Cheng sent on Oct. 23, a unanimous decision to rescind their acceptance of the school into the MSC was made on Oct. 26.

"We allowed West Chicago in as a

full member, not a temporary member. We didn't know they were going to continue to look to gain membership in another conference," athletic director of Glenbard South John Treiber said. "Our thing is if we don't rescind our offer we have to wait until Upstate 8 makes their move and then we won't have a school to play. We had no choice."

According to Treiber, the MSC feels the school used them to get out of the DVC.

"I think it's unethical to do that. I've never heard of anyone doing that before. West Chicago had said all the right things coming in and that's why we accepted them," Treiber said. "If

we had known all of this information beforehand instead of a month later we wouldn't have offered West Chicago the position. We helped West Chicago get out of the DVC and we thought they were coming in as good members."

Cheng understands how the MSC feels about the decision to pursue the Upstate 8 but believes doing what is best for the students is priority.

"I can understand the sentiments that people are feeling. Again, like I mentioned, it was always our intent to go to the Metro, but there's also this bigger overarching goal of doing what's best for the kids' programs and the community both short term and long term," Cheng said. "That's why the interest was expressed in the Upstate 8 when that opportunity arose."

The MSC had already started including the school in their sports schedules.

"We had already started scheduling West Chicago in every sport that we offer which would have been 17 sports," Treiber said. "We did all that leg work and put it all together and then found out that a month later West Chicago was still going to look for another conference after accepting our offer."

Before the decision to rescind the school from the MSC was made, the school applied to the Upstate 8.

Some coaches don't mind possibly being in the Upstate 8.

"I don't have anything against playing against the Upstate 8. In terms of our overall athletic program I'm sure it can't be any tougher than what we're in now," girls golf coach Mike Kaine said. "I think we might have more success in the Upstate 8, but it's also mostly a question of how many kids they have and what kind of talent they have."

Upstate 8 could bring advantages to the school and athletes.

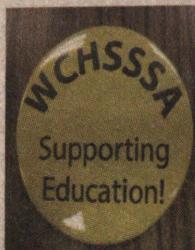
"I feel like there are definite good points to the Upstate 8. I think it's a lot closer for our students and our fans. With that being said, I think there were a lot of advantages to the Metro. What I'm just trying to do is prepare my kids for playing football next year regardless who we're playing against," head football coach Bill Bicker said.

Bicker was enthusiastic for the opportunities the MSC could have brought to the football team.

-- see Conference concern, page 4

### Contracts

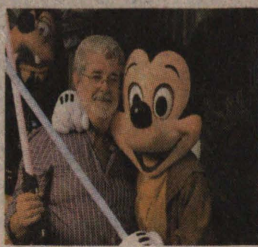
West Chicago Community High School Support Staff Association and the Board of Education continues to debate what the new contract will hold --see NEWS, page 2.



### Prevent Bullying

Bullying is not just seen in the hallway but online as well. Students should be aware of bullying and know what to do to stop it or report it to prevent it from going further --see Center Spread, page 8.

### Disney buying Lucas films



Disney bought Lucas films for \$4 billion. The company has decided to continue the "Star Wars" franchise. See what students say about the change --see Lifestyles, page 10.

### Heading to state

Hard work and dedication at sectionals resulted in four state qualifiers who will compete in the 200 medley, and one will compete in the 50 free-style and 100 backstroke --see SPORTS, page 13.

## Contracts still unsettled for support staff

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

After almost five months of working without a contract, the West Chicago Community High School Support Staff Association negotiations team is continuing to hammer out an agreement with the Board of Education.

The association includes: secretaries, clerks, custodians, maintenance, program assistants, personal care assistants, data managing staff, and deans' assistants.

Dean specialist Myrna Woodson, administrative assistant Monica Piszczek and technology assistant Mike Stoner, make up the association's negotiating team.

Superintendent Lalo Ponce, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services Kim Chambers, and Director of Business Services Gordon Cole are negotiating for the board.

Currently the administration and the support staff are negotiating salary and the increasing cost of their insurance premium.

So far both sides have met 14 times and six proposals have been made.

At the last meeting on Sept. 27, the support staff negotiation team and three members of the administration met and the last proposal was made by the board on Sept. 10.

Recently a Joint Crisis Committee was formed between the Teachers' Association and the support staff's association as a result of the current circumstances.

"The teachers and support staff are teaming up and reaching out to the commu-

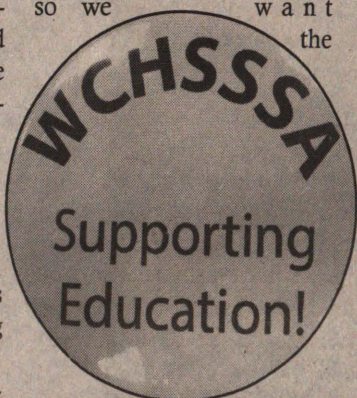
nity in order to make sure the school provides the best opportunities for our students," Teachers' Association president Kristina Mallon said.

Gaining the support of the community is what the committee is looking to achieve.

"We are going to start from the ground up by putting flyers and yard signs around the community. The committee is working on other ways to reach out," Mallon said.

Working with the administration has become difficult.

"Negotiations have become increasingly difficult, so we want the



public to know how the district is spending the money," Mallon said.

In a press release, District 94 indicated the average annual salary increase for the last four years was 6.35 percent and an aggregated increase of 25.4 percent. This number does not reflect the salary put towards insurance premiums; exact numbers were not available.

"This increase occurred because of how low salaries were previous to that point," Mallon said.

According to Piszczek, the average increase is needed to keep up with the rates for insurance premiums.

Forty-six out of the 86 support staff members at the

school make under the average salary of \$32,780 at the school and 24 are making under the poverty level. The poverty level for a family of four in Illinois is \$23,050.

Agreeing on a contract has been an ongoing process.

The lowest paid employee earns \$16,823 and the highest paid employee earns \$77,090, according to Piszczek.

"The Board of Education seems indifferent to the revolving door atmosphere that develops when employees come and go," Piszczek said. "To this point, the Board of Education has only made proposals that would leave our members losing income. Many of our members barely make enough in wages to cover the cost of their health insurance premiums."

The district countered Piszczek's statement by pointing out the employee turnover was reasonable.

According to Board of Education member and spokesperson Tony Molinaro, both sides began negotiating the contract in February after the first proposal was made.

Although the previous contract ended, the support staff is getting paid.

"We are still covered under our previous contract for the time being," Piszczek said.

The support staff is looking for outside help now.

"The (support staff) asked for a federal mediator for the next session (on Nov. 26.) The mediator will help us find common ground and settle an agreement quicker," Molinaro said.

Molinaro does not think this agreement will necessarily be reached soon.

"Having the mediator will

help the school distribute and spend wisely with the taxpayer's money and with some kind of salary increase with the current economic issues," Molinaro said.

After mediation the support staff will have two options, to go on strike or accept the last offer that was put on the table.

"We are not looking to the resolution of striking at all, we value our work and the students which is why we're here," Piszczek said.

Both sides have been able to meet shortly after a proposal is made.

"When a proposal is given we discuss the common ground within a few days. We have been available when they have wanted to discuss a new proposal," Molinaro said.

Part of the reason the process is taking so long is because of revenues being cut.

"The toughest topic to discuss is the salary because of the tough economy. The revenue for the school has been reduced so we have limited resources," Molinaro said.

Revenue dropped 14.4 percent from the 2010-11 school year.

One of the administration's goals is to have less money going to insurance companies.

"Healthcare rises every year so we are trying to put a stop to it to reduce payments to insurance companies. We'd rather keep that money in the school or in our employee's pockets," Molinaro said.

Decisions made for the contact need to fit the school's budget.

"The school district has

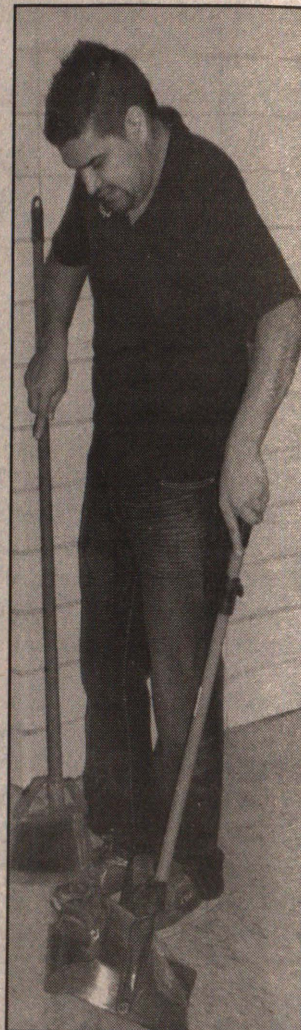


Photo by Sarah Szremski

The support staff is currently negotiating their contract but are still getting paid. Maintenance worker, Muigual Juarez, sweeps the third floor.

priorities to commit to and be supported by revenue to stay in the budget," Molinaro said. "We want to provide health benefits that help both sides so all the money doesn't go to the insurance companies."

Negotiations were not expected to take so long.

"It's taking longer than we'd like, but if the contract helps both sides the time will be well spent," Molinaro said.

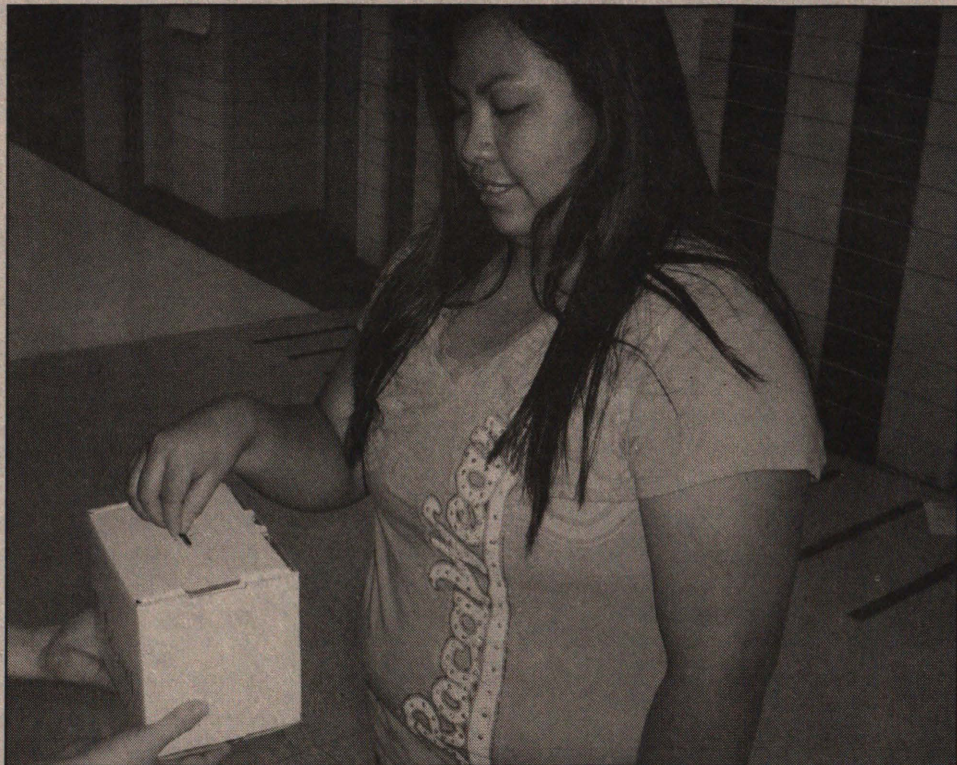


Photo by Darcy Akins

To get business teacher Dan McCarthy into a turkey suit, junior Areceli Garcia donates money for the Student Council fundraiser.

## Teachers talking turkey just for funds

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

Someone will be wearing a turkey costume Friday as a part of Student Council's November fundraiser.

Teachers were selected to participate after a list was made of the teachers willing to wear the costume.

"There was a general email sent to the entire staff letting them know about the competition. Any staff member who did not want to participate in the fundraiser was asked to send an email opting out. We then compiled a list of willing teachers and Student Council members narrowed

them down to 20," adviser Nick Kempfski said.

All proceeds will go to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

"I think it is a fun way to raise money. By donating money students get to see their teacher in an embarrassing turkey suit before Thanksgiving," Kempfski said.

Many students are enjoying voting for their favorite teacher.

"I voted for Mr. McCarthy because he is an awesome coach and I like him. I hope that he wins because it would be funny to see him in the suit," sophomore Coral Scudder said.

## Speech grabs attention

By Sam Schweis  
Reporter

After a successful tournament, speech team competed at Wheaton North on Saturday in which senior Abe Fernandez won second place in oratorical declamation and sophomore Noah Watkins won second place in prompt speaking.

During a successful first tournament on Nov. 3 at Downers Grove North, speech team is working to improve for upcoming tournaments.

"I (qualified) for finals so I think I did pretty well," Fernandez said.

Senior Dan Stompor won first place in Prose, a story read to the audience, at the Downers Grove North tournament.

"I think I did well, our

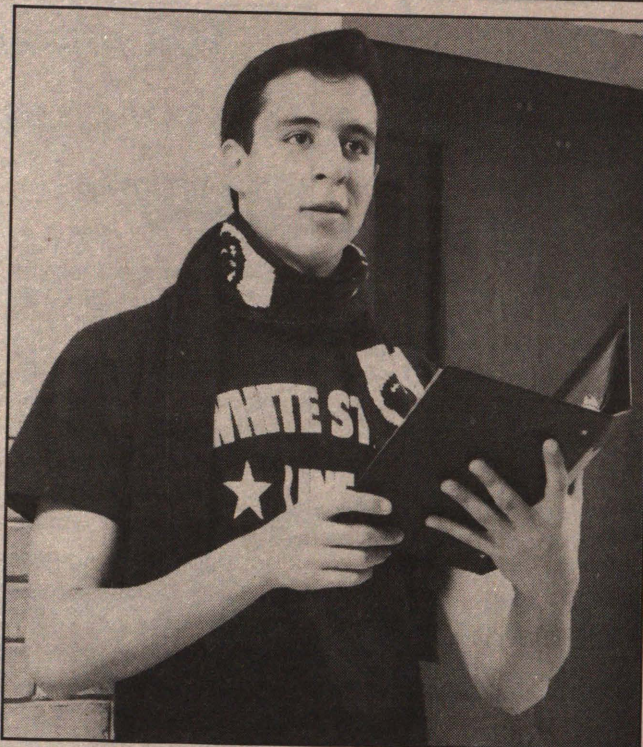


Photo by Sam Schweis

**In order to improve for Speech Team, junior Josué Muñoz practices his performance piece.**

team did the best at opening tournament and now all eyes are on us," Stompor said.

During the first tournament senior Farrell Lewis believes his presentation had a lot of energy and he started on the right foot.

"I learned to think on my feet, speak while in front of others and improved with feedback," Lewis said.

Dedication from the com-

petitors is what adviser Paul Lichy expects.

"I think the commitment needs to improve. There has to be an idea this is a priority and is important to practice and be at the tournaments. Every year I raise the expectations," Lichy said. "I think this is the strongest and most balanced team that the school has had since I've coached here."

## Back to school with conference

By Giuliana LaMantia  
Center Spread Editor

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) got pumped for this year at the National Fall Leadership Conference in Indianapolis Nov. 2-3.

"It's a great conference to get back into school and get back into FBLA," adviser Maria Wirth said.

While at the conference, FBLA officers learned about different aspects of the business world.

"We went to a bunch of business workshops to learn how to dress, act, and lead," senior president Matt Wenz said.

According to Wirth, there were numerous workshops, some for students only, others for advisers only, and some for students and advisers together.

"I thought it was a great conference," Wirth said. "The opening and closing speakers were phenomenal."

Wirth also felt the confer-

ence helped members begin the year positively.

"It was nice to get them back into conference mode and get them excited about the rest of the school year," Wirth said.

Attendees agree they learned a lot and are excited for FBLA.

"We have a newfound fire within us for FBLA," Wenz said. "We're getting pumped up for the year and trying to get bigger, so everyone should join."

Students enjoyed the relationships and bonds they made on the trip.

"The trips are the best part of FBLA," Wenz said. "You meet so many new people and grow bonds with the people here."

Some upcoming events for FBLA are Adopt a Family community service, helping SkillsUSA with the food drive, and getting ready for their regional competition Jan. 26 at Grays Lake High School.

## Not just 'A Few Good Men'

By Guadalupe Blanco  
Lifestyles Editor

Despite the difficulties that come with putting on a drama, this year's cast of "A Few Good Men," has proven that they can handle the pressure of performing not only a well-known play, but one that revolves around the military.

"It's about these two Marines who murder one of their fellow marines, and then a hotshot young lawyer is put on the case to defend them and save their lives. Throughout the way there are some interesting characters, and it's a very well-written show," senior Luke Jaconis, who plays Lt. Sam Weinberg, said.

According to director Mark Begovich, the work put into the show has been physically demanding for the entire cast.

"It's rapid fire, with a lot of the dialogue, and the physicality of becoming soldiers," Begovich said.

From the start of production, all the performers felt that the script was going to be a challenge, especially with a well-known movie that was based off of that script.

"The movie is really popular, and (the movie and the script) are very similar. 'You can't handle the truth,' is in the play too, and it's all of

the same elements, but on stage you get to see the reactions and intensity," junior Lindsey Fiegle, who plays Lt. Commander Joanne Gallo-way, said.

Along with the intensity and drama the play brings, the cast was up to the challenge of transforming themselves into military men and women.

According to junior Josué Muñoz, who plays Lt. j.g. Daniel Kaffee, the entire

cast spent a weekend watching movies and clips to learn what it meant to be a Marine.

"To do this play justice, we have to understand the Marine lifestyle," Muñoz said. "It is a tough one, physically and mentally. It's very evident in the characters. They are not individuals; they're part of the bigger picture, (with) the bigger picture being the United States Marine Corps."

In order to get a sense of

what Marine life was, the entire cast practiced military style training.

"For this play, we've all been instructed to keep in order. For our warm-ups, we do more running, laps around the school, and actual workouts. With other shows, we'll just do a light jog and vocal exercises. We're doing a lot more to look more toned and muscular for the performance," Jaconis said.

Putting on "A Few Good Men," has been one of the tougher performances that

they have put on, according to Begovich, but one the cast has felt is one of the more rewarding plays.

"It's cool to try and transform the average high school students into Marines for the show," Fiegle said.

Because most of the cast is either Marines or lawyers, the mood has been a more serious one, but enjoyable nonetheless.

"It's fun, but it's difficult. I think the challenge is what makes it so enjoyable in the end, and the cast itself. This was the year to do it, and it's a great experience," Muñoz said.

More than anything, however, the entire cast hopes to do the play justice.

"It's the Marines, so everyone in the show is working like a Marine, talking like a Marine, and acting like a Marine. Any time you deal with any of the armed forces, you want to do it right to do it justice," Jaconis said. "In past shows we've done, there's not always a movie that people have ever heard of, so because there's a movie that has been based off of the play, we'll (hopefully) get a really big turnout."

Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Tickets are available for \$5 for students and \$8 for adults at the door.

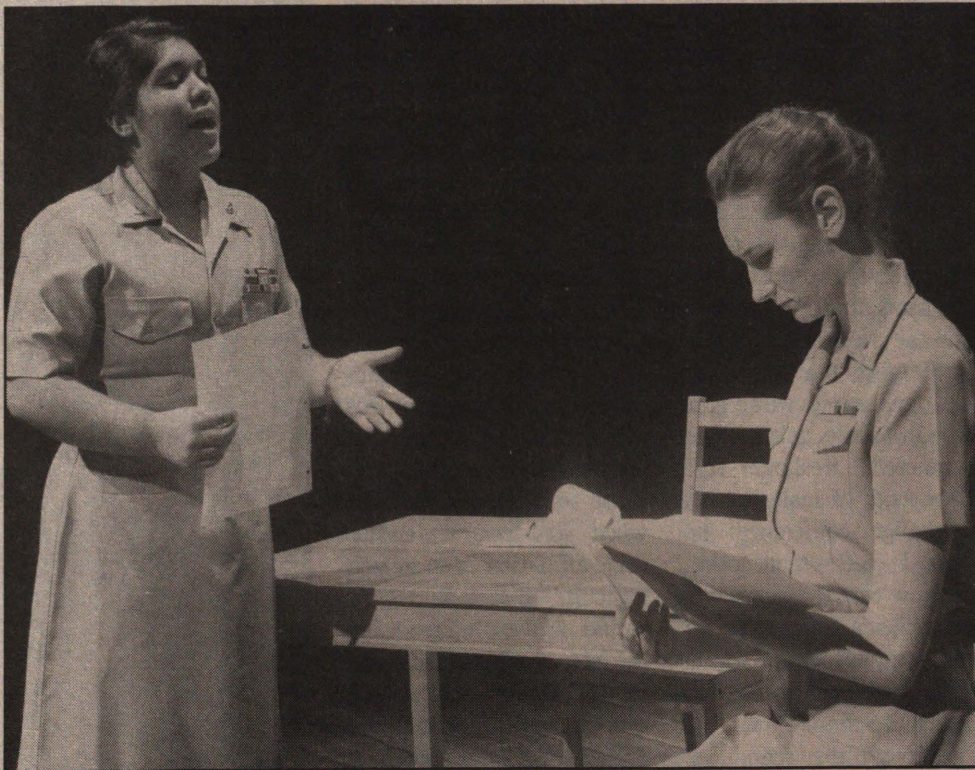


Photo by Guadalupe Blanco

**During rehearsal of the winter play "A Few Good Men" senior Gabby Hernandez, left, and junior Lindsey Fiegle argue over whether Fiegle's character can receive a court case.**

## Editors head to competition

By Sam Schweih  
Reporter

Three members of the Wildcat Chronicle set out on Thursday to attend and compete at a national convention in San Antonio.

At the Journalism Education Association-National Scholastic Press Association (JEA-NSPA) fall conference the newspaper has a chance to receive more awards.

Seniors co-editor in chief Keyuri Parmar, Liz Ramos and center spread editor Giuliana LaMantia are going to San Antonio Thursday through Sunday.

"I'm excited to travel, experience a trip and compete," LaMantia said.

San Antonio gives the girls the opportunity to learn more

journalism skills, improve the newspaper, and have the opportunity to compete.

"It's a new experience, and it's the first opportunity to directly compete against journalists and students," Parmar said.

However, she is a little nervous because she has never been in this situation before.

"Competing live is scary and nerve-wracking, but I think it would be cool. I can see how my skills compare to other peoples' skills around the country," LaMantia said.

Adviser Laura Kuehn expects the girls to make the school proud.

"This will bring the girls networking opportunity, a chance to talk to other advisers, students and to bring what they learned back to the

newspaper," Kuehn said.

Ramos is excited to compete but is also nervous because she has never competed in a conference like this.

"At the competition, there's no one else to edit the story. You have to hope it's good enough for an award," Ramos said.

Besides the opportunity to win awards in San Antonio, the Chronicle has won awards recently.

The Chronicle won an International First Place Award with a superior rating from Quill and Scroll as well as superior marks for coverage, writing and editing, and visuals.

"I am proud of all the hard work the students put in the newspaper. It's an honor for them and it reflects all their hard work," Kuehn said.

Another award the Chronicle received was the ranking of First Class with one Mark of Distinction for editing and writing from the National Scholastic Press Association.



Photo by Sam Schweih

After receiving multiple awards for the Wildcat Chronicle, seniors, from left, Giuliana LaMantia, Keyuri Parmar, and Liz Ramos take pride in their awards and get ready to set off to a conference in San Antonio on Thursday.

## Conference concern: We Gone Where?

Continued from page 1

"I was excited for a lot of the possibilities of having the Metro but now I don't really have much of a feeling because it's all up in the air right now about if we're going to be in the Upstate 8," Bicker said.

Girls swimming coach Nick Parry believes having the decision rescinded for the MSC and possibly switching to the Upstate 8 is not a big deal.

"It means we have a bigger conference. If we were to go to the Upstate 8, there are more teams there than in DVC, so it just means more chances for us to beat people. It gives us the chance to compete against other people," Parry said.

Even though some coaches

don't mind being a part of the Upstate 8, students aren't showing positivity.

"I wished that we didn't leave the DVC, but there is no way we could change that. I don't know what kind of competition would be in the MSC, but I mean at least we were in a conference. Now that we might not even be in one, I'm a little mad," junior Devan Orr said.

Some students believe there won't be a difference between the DVC and the Upstate 8.

"I think that this decision isn't the right one because of the fact that now, just like every season we've gone through, we're going to get hammered," freshman Kyle Olson said. "I really wanted to change conferences because I can't stand losing, and now that the decision is reversed, it's going to be another crappy season for all the athletes here at Community High School."

Although the school applied by the deadline for Upstate 8, there is no guarantee the school will be accepted

into the conference.

"My goal is for us to be affiliated with a conference one way or another," Cheng said. "I am hopeful that will pan out down the road with the Upstate 8."

If the Upstate 8 doesn't accept the school, the school will be forced to be independent for sports.

"I don't think (being independent) affects (the teams). From my experience of being head coach and coaches, I don't think it'll be a big deal," Cheng said.

Some coaches have to disagree and believe becoming an independent school will affect the teams in a big way.

"It's a huge challenge because completing a schedule when you have no conference affiliation is extremely difficult," Bicker said. "We would need a conference like the Metro who doesn't have many teams to help us with that and I don't think the Metro is going to be helping us. We're looking at potentially scheduling games without a state opponent."

## What's happening?

### Adopt a Sailor

By Alexandra Garibay  
Contributing Writer

The drama department is accepting donations to fill care packages that will be sent to a 15-member helicopter squadron on the USS John C. Stennis.

Crew coordinator Maggie Haas and crew students for the winter play "A Few Good Men" came up with the idea of sending care packages after receiving a generous donation of costumes from the thrift store at Great Lakes Naval Base.

The soldiers are on a

seven-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean and the Persian Gulf which started in September.

"I hope they see how much we appreciate what they do," Haas said.

Recommended items to send are DVDs, CDs, books, magazines, microwave food, and anything from home.

Students don't have to be in drama or involved with the play to give donations.

Donations can be dropped off in room 183 Thursday, Friday, or Saturday during the play or in the attendance office until Dec. 3.

## Devastation led to donations

By Emma Noelke  
Contributing Writer

Devastating apartment fires in the Timber Lake Apartments on Nov. 4 became a chance for the community to come together.

No one was hurt, but 24 families were displaced because of the fire. Owners of the apartments put families in vacant apartments.

Puente del Pueblo, a group from Wheaton Bible Church, "has a support program at the apartment site, so they are already well connected over there," accord-

ing to director of Support Services, Maura Bridges.

Students from the school have been impacted and three had to move to vacant apartments.

"As a school we are trying to be aware of any emotional needs that may come from the crisis," Bridges said.

Donations can be brought to St. Vincent DePaul in West Chicago or Repeat Boutique in Wheaton.

Cash donations to Wheaton Bible Church are accepted online or gift cards can be brought to the church.

## Change challenge

By Guadalupe Blanco  
Lifestyles Editor

With the giving season upon us, the Drama Club is helping out in the form of the Change Challenge.

With their performance of "A Few Good Men" coming up, they were inspired to give back to the armed forces after receiving an abundance of donations for the play, according to adviser Mark Begovich.

English teachers were giv-

en the option of accepting a large can from the Drama Club, and having it in their classrooms until Nov. 29, when the change will be collected on the same night as the Drama Club's Barnes and Nobles fundraiser.

Funds from Barnes and Nobles fundraiser go to the Drama Club, and the money raised from all the collection cans will be donated and used to buy books, magazines, and other items that the troops have requested.

## Help hurricane victims

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

Hurricane Sandy left thousands of people in need in her wake, but students can help.

Students 17 and older can help by donating blood to the American Red Cross. In addition, cash donations can be made at www.redcross.org, with the minimum amount being \$10.

Feeding America has been working on the frontlines since day one and has already collected \$648,000

and delivered 2.2 million pounds in food. To donate, students can go to www.feedingamerica.org.

Hurricane Sandy not only affected families but animals too.

An estimated 200 animals were separated from their families.

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is helping owners by taking care of their animals until they can get back on their feet. Donations can be made at www.humanesociety.org.

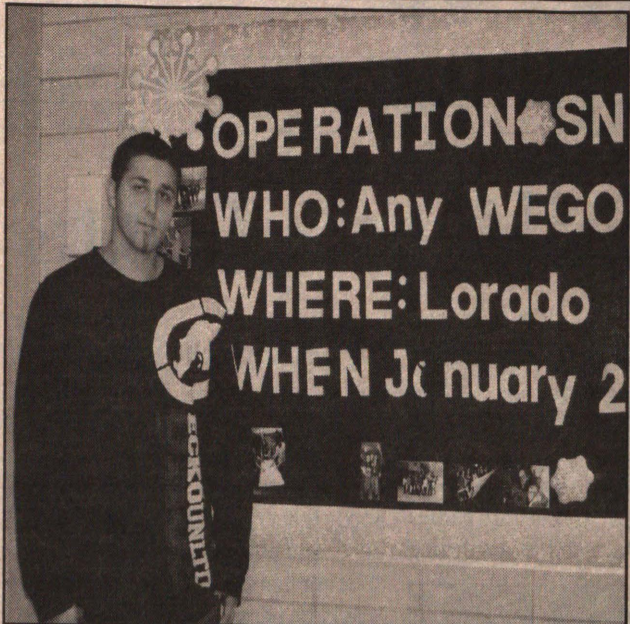


Photo by Sarah Szremski

Helping make Snowball an enjoyable experience earns senior Isreal Malave November Student of the Month.

## Snowballing to success

By Sarah Szremski  
Reporter

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

Senior Isreal Malave is recognized as November's Student of the Month for his participation in Snowball.

"It was a big surprise. I thought that maybe I was in trouble, but then I read it and realized that I was Student of the Month," Malave said.

Inspiration to do well in

school came from his mother.

"She really wanted for me to do well (in school). She wanted me to become very educated so I could do things she couldn't do," Malave said. "She always supported me."

Lewis University is the college Malave hopes to go to study criminal justice.

"I'm looking into being a police officer or working for the FBI or working as a firefighter," Malave said.

Advice Malave has for students is to keep working hard.

"Always try hard no matter what and if something seems hard don't give up on it, just keep trying. If you need help, ask for it," Malave said.

## Not shaving to help others

By Guadalupe Blanco  
Lifestyles Editor

In a bid to help out the community, guys and girls alike can pledge to go the month without shaving their beards and legs.

By having students participate in No Shave November, they can help donate money to the St. Mary's food pantry.

"Basically, it's a fun event for everyone to be weird and either grow facial hair or try to or not shave in general," Pep Club adviser Mitch McKenna said.

In addition to the fundraiser being a fun opportunity for students to grow out their hair, there are also many ways that they can donate.

For those who wish to participate and help out, they can donate change to jars in McKenna's classroom, or Pep Club adviser David Jennings class.

Also available for purchase are No Shave t-shirts in commons, which will be for sale during lunch hours for \$15.

"Any money that Pep Club makes off of it goes right to the pantry, so we don't make any sort of profit by doing this," McKenna said.

For those students that want to go outside the box, they can rent a beard or Hobbit feet for \$5.

"Basically (the Hobbit feet) are just some rubber feet with nasty hair all over them. You

can rent them for the day and then turn them in at the end of the day," McKenna said.

While in previous years the tradition of not shaving at the school has not been advertised much, the Pep Club would like to see it become a bigger annual event and have many people take part.

"We've now put a purpose behind it and made it more advertised. By people participating, they can do it just for kicks or participate in the community," McKenna said.

The contest will have three levels, with those growing out their hair until Friday reaching the "Evil Beardo" level, those that go until the Nov. 30 reaching "No Shame" level, and participants going until the premiere of the movie, "The Hobbit" on Dec. 14, accomplishing "Dwarf Master" level.

Those who go until the end of the month without shaving will be entered for raffles and other prizes in commons on Nov. 30.

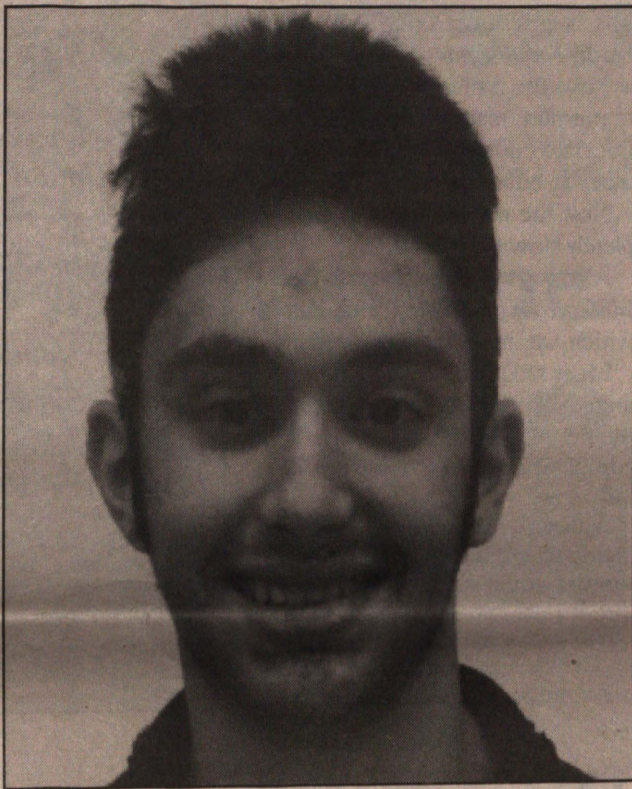


Photo by Guadalupe Blanco

After taking a pledge to not shave for No Shave November, junior Nick Doukas shows off his unshaven beard.

## Chance to get campaign experience

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives editor

Students from community leadership class got to try campaigning for the candidate of their choice in Wisconsin before the national elections.

Sophomore Alex Kubinski, juniors Janaki Thakker, Molly Ricci, Amanda Bartlett, Olivia Wilson, Carah Loiacano, and senior Vanessa Valenzuela traveled to Wisconsin Oct. 28 and 29.

"(The students) went to workshops in which they learned a lot about campaigning and about their power as students. They also did door-to-door campaigning for the candidate of their choice," community leadership teacher Mary Ellen Daneels said.

Many of the students agreed that they enjoyed meeting and spending time with the kids from other schools.

"We met a bunch of kids from other high schools

around Chicago, and that was fun," Ricci said.

People in politics talked to the students about what being in politics is like.

"They got to see the senate candidates who were running, and they got to meet the mayor of Milwaukee, and learn about his political

journey. He talked about how he got involved in elected office," Daneels said.

Mikva Challenge, which helps to increase student

awareness in democracy, sponsored the trip.

Even with all the activities they were able to do, Ricci said her favorite part was interacting with the people.

"My favorite part of it was just seeing how cooperative people are in general when you're talking to them about the election," Ricci said.

Not only did the students have new experiences and meet new people, but they also kept updates going on Twitter the entire weekend about their experiences.

"It helped us all keep in touch. Even if we were all doing different things, we could see how it was going for the other groups. It was also interesting to get feedback on everyone else's opinions on how they felt from the trip," junior Janaki Thakkar said.

Overall, the trip was a good experience, and students would gladly take part in it again.

"They seemed to enjoy the opportunity to go and make some friends, and they have a Facebook page, all the kids who went," Daneels said.



Photo courtesy of Mary Ellen Daneels

Among other students from different schools, junior Olivia Wilson listens to Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin instruct them on how to campaign for the candidate of their choice on Oct. 28 and 29 during the Mikva Challenge in Wisconsin.

# Perspectives

## Our View

# Doing 'what's best' fails students

"Doing what's best" is a saying that has been taken too far at school.

Many people at the school claim that applying for the Upstate 8 after being accepted to Metro Suburban Conference (MSC) was a selfish move on the school's part.

The Wildcat Chronicle couldn't agree more.

Leaving the DVC in the first place was an unwise decision. The students hardly had a say in what they wanted as far as the conference change. Not to mention, many students weren't informed enough on the situation to make an educated decision.

Now, the whole thing has completely blown up.

After we were accepted into the MSC a spot opened in the Upstate 8, which, we immediately jumped on.

Many students were extremely angry about moving to the MSC in the first place. Why add even more complication to it? It doesn't make any sense.

Although the Board of Education claims they didn't think these opportunities would come up as fast as they did, it's just making the process more complicated and harder on students and athletes looking for scholarships.

According to Principal Moses

Cheng, if further opportunities came up involving other conferences, they would take them.

The Upstate 8 expressed interest in the school, however that was after we were already accepted into the MSC.

Why would the board not stick to

their original goal and what was talked about at the meetings, and 'express interest' as said by Cheng, to a whole different conference?

Also after the MSC accepted us, they already began to schedule games with the school factored in, according

to Glenbard South's athletic director John Treiber.

All of this is extremely complicated and confusing. However, what the board seemed to have is a bad idea about what really the best for our students and athletes.

Being independent means that it would be harder to schedule games and fewer athletes would be scouted for scholarships.

Some athletes have even transferred to the school from private schools to get scholarships, and now their chances are getting washed down the drain.

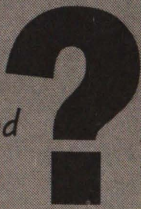
How are our athletes going to get scouted if we have no conference affiliation after all of this is done?

If the Upstate 8 decides they don't want us in their conference, our sports will be without a conference; which means no all-conference players and no one will make it to state.

If all of this isn't bad enough, it will be a lot harder to schedule games if we are not affiliated with a conference.

The big question is, what would our athletes even be fighting for anymore?

"Doing what's best" has turned out to be the worst idea for the school.

<p><b>Upstate 8</b></p> <p>Bartlett, Neuqua Valley, South Elgin, Elgin, East Aurora, St. Charles East, Lake Park, St. Charles North, Larkin, Streamwood, Metea Valley, Waubonsie Valley, West Chicago?</p>	<p><b>Metro Suburban</b></p> <p>Elmwood, Fenton, Illiana Christian, Ridgewood, Riverside Brookfield, Timothy Christian, West Chicago</p>
 <p>Where do we go now?</p>	

# Protestors sour university's reputation across the country

What began as a protest against President Barack Obama's re-election escalated into a riot within 20 minutes at University of Mississippi's campus in Oxford.

This protest occurred on Nov. 6, election night, and started with 20 students. It became a riot once it grew to about 300 students due to posts on Twitter.

Students shouted political slogans and profanity and made racist com-

ments towards Obama, as well as African Americans in general.

Pictures on Twitter showed students burning Obama's campaign signs, although it's still not certain if this was done on campus.

According to ABC News, the students were told to leave, but 100 of them returned later that night to continue their protesting.

Only two students were arrested with minor charges. One was arrested

for public intoxication and the other for not obeying police orders.

With the black population of the school being 16.6 percent, one would think students would know better than to shout such vulgar statements.

To compensate for the protest the school planned a "We Are One Mississippi Candle Walk," according to ABC News.

On Nov. 7 about 600 students attended the candle walk and recited

their creed which stated "The respect and dignity of each person," according to New York Daily News.

People should keep their views and opinions to themselves regarding Obama if they cause such a large-scale public disturbance.

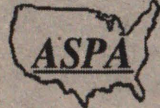
Obama has been elected before, and was elected again. Some respect should be shown towards the man.

After 149 years since the Emancipation Proclamation was signed and 32 years since the end of the Civil Rights Movement, to see acts like this is disappointing.

It's a shame to see 20 students can ruin a school's reputation.

For a country that has gone through so much with civil rights, it is sad to see such hatred towards a man because of his race.

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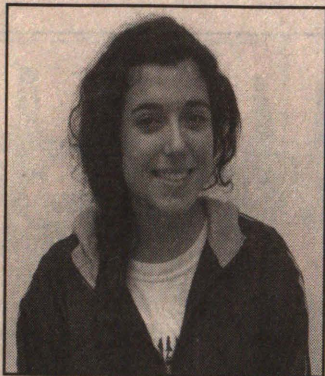


THE WILDCAT CHRONICLE is the student newspaper at Community High School. It is a public forum for freedom of expression and encourages readers to express their views. The Chronicle publishes eight times a year, with the student editorial board making the decisions concerning paper's content. Unsigned editorials represent the views of the majority of the staff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters must be signed, although staff members may withhold a name upon request. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and may refuse to publish a letter. Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Laura Kuehn at lkuehn@d94.org or delivered to room 319 before or after school.

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## Giving, not taking is important



**By Giuliana LaMantia**  
Center Spread Editor

With strict rules on cell phone usage and the new locker room regulations for P.E., it is clear there is a stealing problem at the school.

On average, there are about 200 thefts in the building per school year.

While this is relatively low, I still wonder what compels people to take things that do not belong to them? It is simply common sense and ethics that is learned from a young age that stealing is wrong.

Just because you do not have the

newest gadget or iPhone, it does not make it justifiable to take somebody else's.

By stealing, whether it is something small like a hoodie or \$5, or something more expensive like an iPhone, you are taking somebody's hard earned money.

Nobody has the right to do that, and they should keep in mind working hard and saving their money for something they really want brings a much greater sense of accomplishment and respect than just taking from somebody else.

Furthermore, especially around this time of year, people should be thankful for the things they do have, instead of obsessed with the things that don't matter.

It's truly sad how material-obsessed the world has become.

People want what they don't have, instead of being grateful for the things which give real happiness.

A friend of mine recently had his locker broken into with his coat and phone stolen.

That is a frightening thing. This is an educational facility, and students should feel they and their belongings are safe, particularly when they are

responsible and lock them away.

This is apparently not the case, and it is a problem that needs to be solved.

To stoop to the level of stealing from somebody else to get what you don't have is completely unacceptable. If you desperately want something, then work for it. If you don't want to work for it, accept the fact that you can't have it all and appreciate the things you do have.

For example, my cell phone is not exactly the nicest or fanciest.

Sure, a better quality phone would be nice, and one day I plan to save up for one.

However, it texts, it calls, and that is all I really need right now.

In all honesty, I am completely thankful for that phone as my parents could have been the crazy strict kind that wouldn't allow me to get a cell phone until I'm 30.

So as the holidays come along, take the time to reflect and be thankful for what you have.

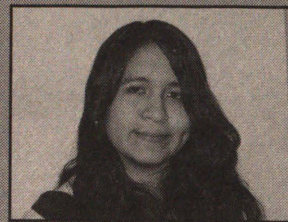
Remember, this is a time of giving, so be a giver, not a taker.

And really, stop stealing. You're just creating stricter rules and regulations and ruining it for everyone.

## Students Speak

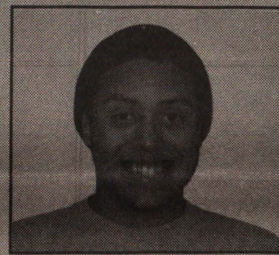
Compiled by Sarah Szremski

Do you think we have a problem with stealing in this school?



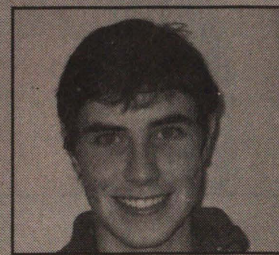
Freshman  
**Isabel Garcia**

"I have to say it's kind of out of hand now. They're just stealing basic stuff and getting into lockers."



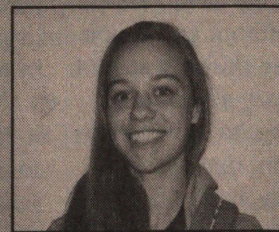
Sophomore  
**Brendan Walsh**

"If something of yours is stolen I think that that's mostly your own fault."



Junior  
**Pierce McGlynn**

"Yes, I have friends from other schools who never have problems with their important items being stolen from secured lockers."



Senior  
**Heather Mullins**

"No, I believe there has only been one account that we had this year."

## When bullies kill

The time is now to fight back against thugs



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

Physical, mental, emotional, verbal and cyber bullying; where does it stop?

With all of the new technology, it seems like as more technology comes, the more ways people find to bully one another.

Go on YouTube and see the videos with kids telling their stories of how they were bullied so much that they hurt themselves or committed suicide.

Consider the story of Amanda Todd, a young Canadian who decided she could no longer hide.

Todd, who was 15 when she died, had been in a chat room when she was in seventh grade, and a year later

appeared topless on camera after a guy she met online asked her to take off her shirt.

The man then sent the photo to everyone Todd knew, starting harassment and bullying that followed her to each school she attended while trying to escape bullying, according to [www.huffingtonpost.com](http://www.huffingtonpost.com).

Todd posted a haunting video clip where she flipped cards that explained how agonizing the bullying had become in September.

In addition, a girl at one of her schools beat her up and left her in a ditch after Todd "hooked up" with the girl's boyfriend, according to [www.abc-news.go.com](http://www.abc-news.go.com). Todd acknowledged she was wrong, but the bullying continued.

After the girl continued to harass Todd, and the bullying continued from the photo, Todd attempted suicide by drinking bleach.

While that attempt failed, Todd was successful on Oct. 10 when she hung herself.

As you watch Todd's video and those of others, you just want to cry.

Read the news and you'll find even more stories.

Felicia Garcia, a 15 year old who attended Tottenville High School on Staten Island, jumped in front of a train, killing herself Oct. 24. Garcia's friends said she had experienced bullying by the school's football players, according to [www.nypost.com](http://www.nypost.com).

No one thought there was anything wrong with her except for one message on Twitter saying, "I can't, I'm done. I give up."

Many people that are being bullied can hide behind fake smiles like Felicia did.

But why do they need to hide? They shouldn't be bullied at all and if they are, they shouldn't need to hide.

Fortunately, anti-bullying campaigns have arisen, including "Bully," a movie created to show how bullying has impacted five kids and their families.

The movie includes two families who've lost children to suicide and a 14-year-old girl who was jailed after bringing a gun on the bus because she had been bullied.

I'm glad there was a movie that finally showed the impact of bullying.

Bullying has become a serious problem in all schools and needs to stop.

Think about this: Bully victims are between two to nine times more likely to consider suicide than non-victims, according to studies by Yale University.

According to ABC News statistics, nearly 30 percent of students are either bullies or victims of bullying, and 160,000 kids (in the country) stay home from school every day due to a fear of bullying.

This is a cry for help.

Our school has attempted to implement ways to promote anti-bullying, like hanging bright orange signs and having teachers talk to students about bullying.

But will this really do anything?

Just because you tell students that they should feel safe and they can go to any staff member for help doesn't mean they will or feel safe.

In our school, students can go to teachers, counselors, a psychologist, or any staff member in the building that they feel comfortable talking to.

Most importantly, no matter what, report bullying. It's a step towards helping yourself or someone else.

Only then can the Felicias, Amanda Todds, and YouTube kids of the world survive and be happy.

## Bullying: It happens



\*Photo Illustration by Giuliana LaMantia

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

Bullying has become a growing issue in school, especially between students.

"I think verbal bullying might be an issue," junior Sam Roskamp said. "People say stuff without knowing it. You can say things that hurt people or may affect them."

According to [www.statisticbrain.com](http://www.statisticbrain.com), one in five students in the nation are victims who are bullied once or twice a month.

Many bullies don't take into consideration how they would feel if they were the ones being bullied.

"How would they feel if someone was bullying them based on their ethnicity, sexual orientation, clothing,

and whatever else people get bullied for. Just because they don't agree with how someone looks or acts doesn't mean they have the right to bully a person," senior Alex Alvarez said.

A British study reported 44 percent of suicides occurring in kids 10 to 14 was caused by bullying.

"When it leads to suicide it just blows my mind that someone could be so cruel to making someone go down to a level of taking their own life," Alvarez said.

Some students don't let bullying get to them.

"I don't really let it affect me because their opinion of me doesn't mean anything. I'm not going to be something that I'm not for people that don't matter in my life,"

Alvarez said.

Standing up to the bully is difficult but sometimes needs to be done.

"Sometimes going to adults for help doesn't work. You need to stand up for yourself against them. Show them they can't hurt you anymore," senior Amy Tedeschi said.

Cyber bullying has become a bigger problem as it is harder to stop.

According to [www.statisticbrain.com](http://www.statisticbrain.com), 52 percent of students reported being cyber bullied, 33 percent of teens experienced cyber threats, and 25 percent of teens were bullied repeatedly through cell phones or the Internet.

"It is a problem a lot of the time because the people bullying don't often get seen

bullying," sophomore Jeremiah Lundquist. "I think it's difficult (to control cyber bullying) because people aren't seen by adults or other people who would be concerned for the person being bullied."

Students should feel comfortable going to anyone in the building to talk about an issue with bullying, according to dean Antonio Del Real.

"I know there are people I can always go to if something is going on," Alvarez said.

Punishments for bullying vary depending on the severity of the bullying.

"We have to look at the whole picture and then decide what fits the punishment. It can go from detentions to in school suspensions to out of school suspensions," Del Real said.

The school has implemented different ways of promoting anti-bullying including having signs, talking to students in the health curriculum, and making the bullying policy stronger.

"There's going to be training for the staff on issues related to bullying, how to recognize it, and how to deal with it," Gay-Straight Alliance adviser Brad Larson said.

Although there are already ways the school is promoting anti-bullying, some believe there is still more to be done.

"I think (one) thing that we can do as a school is teach and train students how to recognize and appropriately stand up to bullying and confront bullying in positive ways," Larson said.



## Real life issues



**By Darcy Akins**  
Perspectives Editor

Bullying is all the talk these days, and I can understand why.

I have personally experienced many accounts of bullying and seen other students get bullied in the hallways.

The most common type of bullying seen around the high school is probably rumor

spreading.

While the most common advice is "just ignore it," it's still nonetheless extremely hurtful.

While I was a seventh grader, I was still trying to find my place and was amazed when the "popular" girls in the school invited me to their pool party.

A couple days later I found out there was a rumor circling around the school that I was "a dirty lesbian, who just showed up to see girls in bikinis and wasn't even invited."

I will always have the rumor that was started about me in the back of my head; and three years later it still hurts.

For once, I thought I fit in and these girls liked me for

me, but I was wrong.

People might think that was the worst of it, but that wasn't. The worst part is seeing the girls who made up the rumors every day in my classes in high school. They sit next to me happy as ever and I can only wonder, do they feel any remorse for what they said?

Even though our school is trying to make a difference by having punishments for bullying, it's probably not going to help.

If a student is getting bullied they're not going to want to talk about it to a teacher who will be forced to report it. They also fear telling someone would cause the bullying to get worse instead of better.

I never told anyone about what happened to me, because the rumors were already out there- everybody had already heard.

If I told someone, wouldn't they just continue to spread rumors about how weak I was for telling?

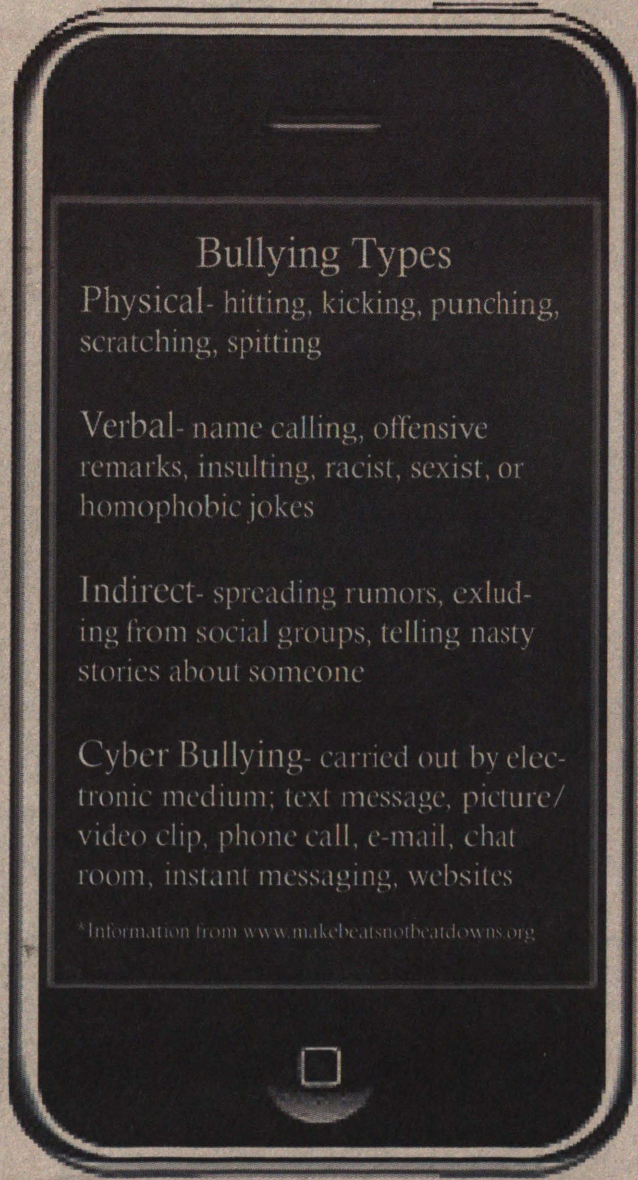
I considered telling people but never decided to out of fear that more rumors would be started about me.

The only reason I chose to talk about it now is because other students need to know it's okay to talk about it and they are not alone if they've been bullied.

When someone bullies another person it's because that's all they know and it's what has been done to them.

Because of that reason, it makes it almost impossible to stop bullying.

Nonetheless, it would be nice to try.



### Bullying Types

**Physical-** hitting, kicking, punching, scratching, spitting

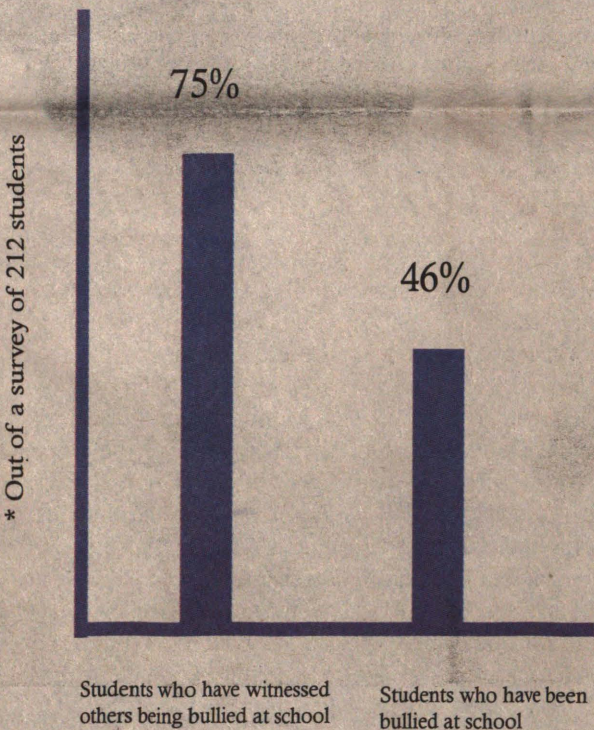
**Verbal-** name calling, offensive remarks, insulting, racist, sexist, or homophobic jokes

**Indirect-** spreading rumors, excluding from social groups, telling nasty stories about someone

**Cyber Bullying-** carried out by electronic medium; text message, picture/video clip, phone call, e-mail, chat room, instant messaging, websites

\*Information from [www.makebeatsnotbeatdowns.org](http://www.makebeatsnotbeatdowns.org)

## In our school...



### In General...

- 1 in 7 students in grades K-12 is either a bully or a victim of bullying.
- 56% of students have personally witnessed some type of bullying at school.
- 15% of all student absenteeism is directly related to fears of being bullied at school.
- 71% of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school.
- A repeat bully by age 8 has a 1-in-4 chance of having a criminal record by age 26

\*Information from [www.makebeatsnotbeatdowns.org](http://www.makebeatsnotbeatdowns.org) and [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

## Then and now

**By Keyuri Parmar**  
Co-Editor in Chief

Bullying has moved beyond a push in the hallway to viral videos launched around the world.

"Bullying is more public now. Before it happened through the hallways or happened after school," dean David Pater said.

According to Spanish teacher Susan Junkroski, bullying has gotten trickier.

"It used to be them tripping you or stealing your lunch money. Now, because it's easier, it's sneakier," Junkroski

said.

Before, bullying happened in person, not through technology.

"From what I remember it was just playground bullying, na-na-na-boo-boo, I don't like your hair," science teacher Cory Stiegletz said. "I feel like for the most part everyone was pretty nice to each other. There was always a bad apple here and there, but it wasn't as much of a subject matter to come up."

Now bullies are accessing technology to hurt people.

"Social media makes it hard to get away from. Before

if someone always called you names at the end of the hall or met you at the bottom of the stairs, you could avoid it," Junkroski said. "People can't avoid social media."

Bullying has changed in nature because of gender as well.

"Before a lot of bullying was boys but now there are a lot more mean girls. I don't know when this change happened but it is apparent now," Junkroski said.

Stiegletz believes family dynamics have changed, and that plays a role in the intensity of bullying.

"Now it feels like everyone is at work and now no one's [at home]. And if bullying was happening they go home and no one's there to tell them it's going to be okay," Stiegletz said. "Back in the day they could go home and talk about the incident that occurred. Now they're stifled and it's buried inside which causes that kid to pass on the bullying."

Now bullies have new topics to attack, such as sexual preferences.

"No one talked about sexual preference before so now bullying is centered around

that as well," Junkroski said.

Junkroski attempts to help students who are being bullied.

"If I notice a kid's (behavior) change, I'll stop and ask if something is wrong. If someone is being bullied I tell the dean's office and they take care of it," Junkroski said.

Students need to know they can go to someone if they are being bullied.

"Bullying is painful and those students need to know there is always somewhere to go to get help," Junkroski said.

# Lifestyles

## Something good to cheer about

By Sam Schweih and Sarah Szremksi  
Reporters

With their poms held high and their school spirit soaring, the Cheer Club members danced and cheered their way to the end of their season.

"It was fun dancing, and I wish we could do more of it, but sometimes things come to end," senior Taylor Meyers said.

Most of the girls' favorite performances were when they performed at the pep assemblies.

"My favorite performance was at the pep assembly when the whole school got to watch me," transition student Jenny Youngwith said.

Despite the fact that all of the girls enjoyed performing for the school and parents, they all had different reasons for joining.

"I wanted to be strong and tough and be heard, so (that's why) I joined," senior Paloma Bonilla said.

Myers joined because she had cheered when she was younger.

While dancing was the most appreciated, junior Lyric Emerson and Meyers also enjoyed the music, with the song "Fighter" being their favorite to dance to at all of their performances.

"I liked "Fighter" (that was my favorite song)," Myers said.

While learning tricks and dance moves was the general focus, many of the girls finished their season having learned many life lessons.

"You can always help people and be friends with people and help them with different things," Emerson said.

Cheer Club also gave the girls a chance to make new friends and strengthen old friendships.

"I am a happy person, but I will miss getting together with friends," peer coach Jessica Mitsch said.

While many of them are looking back on the season

and are sad that it has come to an end, many of the girls, have new ideas that they would like to try next year, including creating their own

dance routines, according to Myers.

Cheer Club was started by junior Olivia Vanderli.

One of the special ed. girls

went up to Vanderli and said she wanted to cheer.

"This changed me by being more responsible and a happier person. Even on my worst days it gets better by seeing the girls," Vanderli said.



Photo by Sarah Szremksi

Senior Paloma Bonilla (left), transition student Jenny Youngwith, sophomore Lyric Emerson, peer coach Jessica Mitsch, transition student Savanna Fulmer, and senior Taylor Meyers practice the end of their dance routine for their showcase at the end of their season.

## Fairy tales and sci-fi: Two classics come together

After success as an independent film company, Lucasfilm is now a part of the Disney family

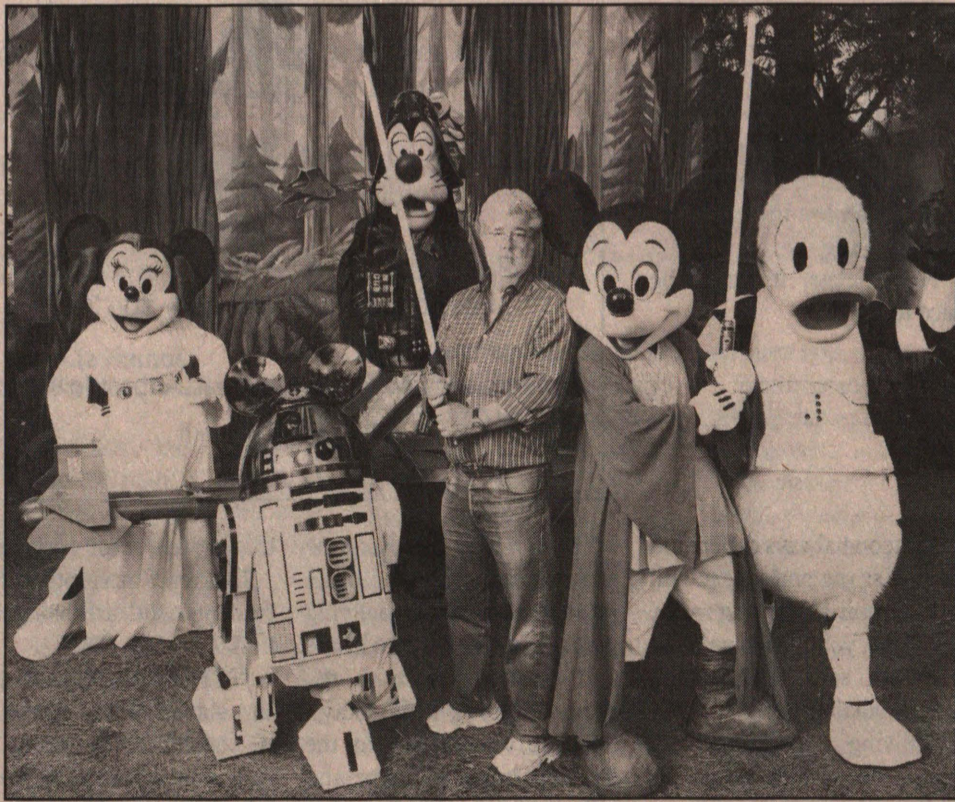


Photo courtesy of Getty Images Entertainment/Getty Images

After buying out Lucasfilm, Disney has acquired the rights to the "Star Wars" and "Indiana Jones" movies, and plan to release a new "Star Wars" movie every two to three years.

By Giuliana LaMantia  
Center Spread Editor

The Force is joining Disney magic for \$4.1 billion.

According to USA Today, Lucasfilm is 100 percent owned by founder George Lucas, and Disney had been pursuing them for a year and

a half before buying them. Although Lucas plans to retire, he will still be creative consultant during the filming of the new "Star Wars" mov-

ies, as well as receive 40 million Disney shares.

This will make Lucas the second-largest, non-institutional shareholder of Disney behind Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, according to Bloomberg News.

The buyout is Disney's fourth largest deal ever, after Capital Cities/ABC in 1995, Fox Family in 2001, and Pixar in 2006.

Disney is wasting no time getting started on "Star Wars" projects.

With the first film, "Star Wars Episode VII," in early stage development right now, according to Disney CEO Robert Iger, Disney hopes to expand the "Star Wars" realm. The plan is to release a new feature film every two to three years, as well as a potential show on Disney XD.

Included in the \$4.1 billion deal were the special-effects house Industrial Light and Magic, Skywalker Sound, and video game company LucasArts.

Disney also hopes to expand their amusement parks to include "Star Wars" and create new parks based on the "Star Wars" legacy.

Although Disney has numerous new ideas, fans of

the Lucas franchise are worried Disney won't stay true to the legendary stories.

"I hope that as long as Disney bought out Lucasfilm, they stay true to the story lines and don't ruin classics like 'Star Wars' and 'Indiana Jones'," senior Davis Steinbrecher said.

Students also believe Disney may put a cap on Lucas' imagination and give it that certain 'Disney aura.'

"I'm disappointed and I hope Disney doesn't ruin the creativity and make it all 'Disney-ish,'" senior Katie Yackey said.

Despite the disapproval, some students believe there is still hope for Lucasfilm classics.

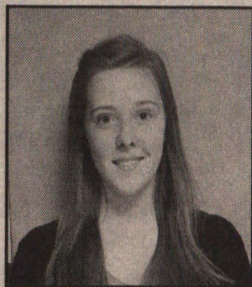
"I think it might be best to leave the series alone, because look what Lucas did to the fourth 'Indiana Jones', it didn't turn out that well," senior Ahmad Asani said. "I still have a little hope for the 'Star Wars' saga because (when) they rebooted 'Batman,' it was a blockbuster, and they had the right directors. We'll just have to see what happens."

With two powerhouse companies, there's bound to be magic.

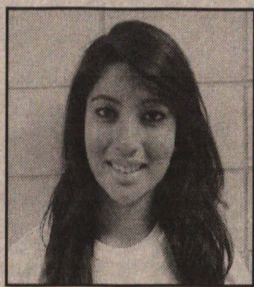
## Serving up a new holiday turkey dish

*Thanksgiving is, for vegetarians, the time to pull out the Tofurky. We were able to taste the turkey substitute, and here's what we found.*

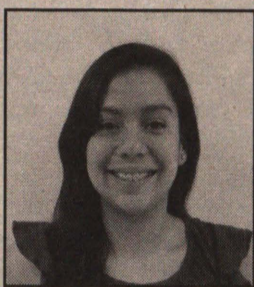
### The good...



**Sarah Szremski**  
Reporter



**Keyuri Parmar**  
Co-Editor in Chief



**Guadalupe Blanco**  
Lifestyles Editor

People will think I'm biased since I'm vegetarian, but I hadn't eaten Tofurky in a long time so I didn't remember how this meat substitute tasted.

It had a smoked tofu flavor with a faint hint of real turkey.

It was good, and come Thanksgiving, I might eat Tofurky.

As a relatively recent vegetarian, I still recall the faint taste of turkey, and upon eating Tofurky, the first bite tasted like actual turkey. More chewing resulted in the "real meat" taste disappearing, but I thought it was decent.

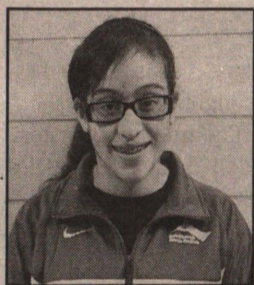
This substitute is promising and filling, and I wouldn't mind Tofurky for Thanksgiving dinner.

At first, I was very hesitant about trying the Tofurky, because it seemed strange.

It looked, smelled, and at first, tasted like normal turkey, but left an unexpected taste.

Needless to say, it was something new, and if I were to eat it more often, I would grow used to it, and would be willing to try it again.

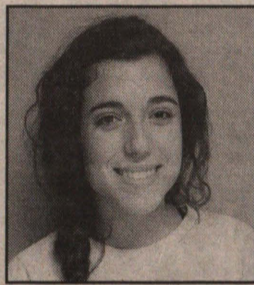
### ...and the bad



**Liz Ramos**  
Co-Editor in Chief



**Sam Schweih**  
Reporter



**Giuliana LaMantia**  
Center Spread Editor

I think the Tofurky had an okay taste at first but is dry and left an interesting after taste. After eating it once, I don't want to eat more.

Having a full Thanksgiving meal based off Tofurky would not be pleasurable for me.

I would never eat this on my own. It's not the best thing I have tasted, but the flavor is okay. Overall, it tasted like beef stew, and I would have needed mayonnaise and other foods mixed in to make it more appealing. It also had a weird texture

When I laid eyes on the Tofurky, I knew I didn't like it.

Upon tasting the slice, it smelled like bread and had a rubbery texture that was difficult to swallow and left an unpleasant after taste.

This turkey imposter will certainly not have a place at my Thanksgiving table.

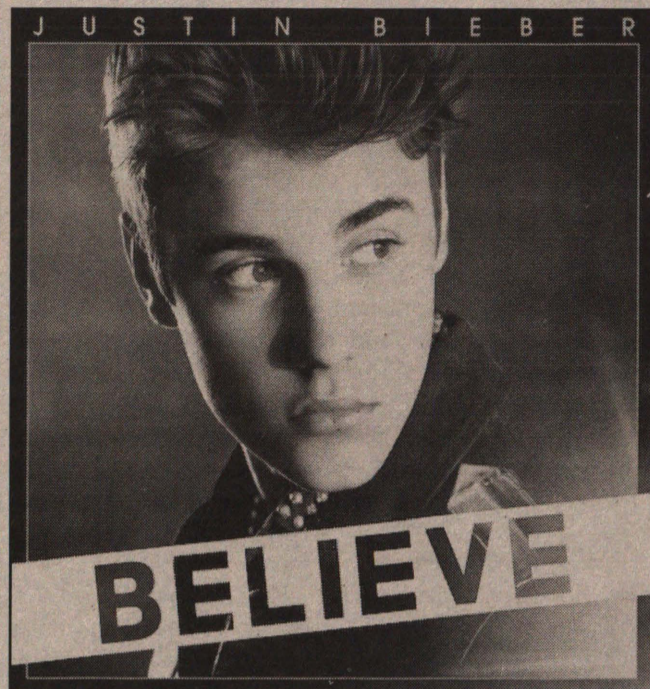


Photo courtesy www.justinbiebermusic.com

Pop star Justin Bieber, along with other performers including Carly Rae Jepsen, PSY, Calvin Harris, and Austin Mahone will be performing at this year's Jingle Bash concert on Dec. 15.

## Music to the people's ears

*Before the holiday tunes start to roll in, there are various concerts that will be going on in and around the city*

There's no way to be bored this holiday season with the assortment of concerts and shows coming up. Tickets are going fast, so get them while you can.

ing a stop in the chilly winter weather of Chicago on Dec. 12, and will be performing at the United Center at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale for \$69.99 and up.

#### B96 Jingle Bash

Every year Jingle Bash has the most popular artists and bands playing live, and celebrating the holiday season.

B96 listeners can get their Gangnam on with PSY at the 2012 Jingle Bash.

This year's performers include Justin Bieber, Pitbull, Carly Rae Jepsen, Calvin Harris, Austin Mahone, Afrojack and more.

It all goes down at 6 p.m. on Dec. 15 at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont.

Tickets are on sale now, and are typically pricey, but start at \$52.95.

#### The Killers

This American rock band will be in town next month, and is bringing their "brightside" to the University of Illinois at the Chicago (UIC) Pavilion on Dec. 21 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are on sale for \$95 and up.

Sources: [www.altpress.com](http://www.altpress.com), [www.theaptouring.com](http://www.theaptouring.com), [www.b96.sblocal.com](http://www.b96.sblocal.com), [www.stubhub.com](http://www.stubhub.com), [www.bing.com/events](http://www.bing.com/events), [www.ticketmaster.com/events](http://www.ticketmaster.com/events)

#### AP Tour Fall 2012

The cold season relative of the AP Spring Tour, this concert features the bands Miss May I, Heavy Hitters, The Ghost Inside, melodic metal Like Moths to Flames, Australia's modern metal The Amity Affliction and technical metal Glass Cloud on its line-up.

The concert is held at the House of Blues in Chicago, on Saturday at 4:45 p.m.

Tickets range from \$38-55.

**Trey Songz with Miguel**  
R&B artist Trey Songz, who premiered on the Top 20 Billboard chart, is touring and stopping in Chicago for one night, with special guest Miguel.

The concert will be at the Arie Crown Theater in Chicago on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$89-280.

**Dave Matthews Band**  
The soft rock stylings of Dave Matthews Band is coming to the United Center in Chicago on Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available for \$66 and up.

**Carrie Underwood**  
The American Idol winner and country gal is mak-

\*Compiled by Giuliana LaMantia and Sam Schweih



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Thoughts on Tofurky ranged from tolerable, to immediate dislike upon sight.

## 50 years of the most iconic spy

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief

From Sean Connery's "Dr. No" in 1962 to Daniel Craig in 2012's "Skyfall," James Bond has been entertaining audiences for 50 years, with movies based off Ian Fleming's spy novels.

After "Dr. No," Connery went on to star as Bond in "From Russia with Love" in 1963.

During 1964, there were two Bonds: Connery and Roger Moore.

Connery was Bond in "Goldfinger" while Moore was Bond in the comedy sketch show "Mainly Millificent."

In the late 1950's Fleming, screenwriter and film producer Kevin McClory, and writer Jack Whittingham came together to create a screenplay for a possible Bond film or TV series.

After a failed attempt at the box office for one of McClo-

ry's films, the idea was forgotten, but Fleming kept the drafts and used some of them for his next novel "Thunderball."

With help from producers Albert Broccoli and Harry Saltzman, Fleming created the film "Thunderball" in 1965.

Again in 1967, there were two Bonds: Connery in "You Only Live Twice" and David Niven in a "Casino Royale" spoof.

Next to take the role as 007 in 1969 was Australian George Lazenby, who at the time was the highest paid model in the world.

Lazenby's first and only appearance as 007 was in "On Her Majesty's Secret Service" because his manager advised him against accepting a multi-movie contract.

In 1971, Connery once again took on the role as 007, being paid a \$1.25 million base salary and an estimated 12.5 percent of the profits of

"Diamonds Are Forever." He donated his salary to an educational foundation.

Moore came back to play Bond in "Live and Let Die" (1973), "The Man With the Golden Gun" (1974), "The Spy Who Loved Me" (1977), "Moonraker" (1979), "For Your Eyes Only" (1981), "Octopussy" (1983), and "A View to a Kill" (1985).

Currently, Moore holds the record for playing Bond the most in the official EON Production series.

Also in 1973, Christopher Cazenove played 007 in "Omnibus: The British Hero," a documentary and literary review style show.

Connery came back in 1983 for "Never Say Never Again," but it was considered his worst portrayal of Bond.

From 1987-1989, Timothy Dalton played Bond in "The Living Daylights" (1987) and "License to Kill" (1989).

Dalton planned on continuing his role as Bond but

due to legal issues and a five-year gap, officially left the role of Bond in April 1994.

Pierce Brosnan played Bond from 1995-2002 in "GoldenEye" (1995), "Tomorrow Never Dies" (1997), "The World is Not Enough" (1999), and "Die Another Day" (2002).

Currently playing 007 is Daniel Craig.

Craig played Bond in 2006's "Casino Royale," which was the first use of an original Fleming title since "The Living Daylights."

Some people didn't approve of having a "blond Bond," but Connery, Moore, Dalton, and Brosnan showed support for Craig, according to [www.007james.com](http://www.007james.com).

After his performance in "Casino Royale," all doubts that Craig wouldn't be a good Bond were forgotten.

In 2008, Craig starred as Bond in "Quantum of Solace" and finally in "Skyfall," which was released Nov. 9.



Photo courtesy of [www.skyfall-movie.com](http://www.skyfall-movie.com)

**Daniel Craig is the most recent actor to take on the role of James Bond in "Skyfall," the latest film in the series.**

Although many different actors have played Bond, they continue to bring action, enemies, and the ultimate victory over evil at the box office.

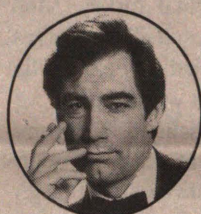
### Becoming Bond... James Bond

Connery was the first actor to portray Bond in "Dr. No" (1962). He later starred in "Diamonds Are Forever" (1971), and "Never Say Never Again" (1983).



Sean Connery

To date, Moore holds the record for starring in the most Bond films (seven), including "Live and Let Die" (1972), and "The Spy Who Loved Me" (1977).



Roger Moore

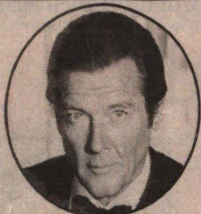
Brosnan starred in "Tomorrow Never Dies" (1997), and "Die Another Day" (2002), but would have been Bond earlier if it had not been for a TV contract.



Pierce Brosnan



George Lazenby Although Lazenby only portrayed Bond once in 1969's "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," many thought it was one of the best films in the series.



Timothy Dalton

In "The Living Daylights" (1987) and "License To Kill" (1989), Dalton portrayed a Bond that was living more on the edge than in previous movies.



Daniel Craig

Casting Craig was disputed, but the other Bonds supported him and starred in "Casino Royale" (2006), "Quantum of Solace" (2008), and this year's "Skyfall."

\*Photos courtesy of [www.007.info](http://www.007.info), [www.skyfall-movie.com](http://www.skyfall-movie.com)

## Bond: a bit off target

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief

With Bond... James Bond being around for 50 years, the newest film "Skyfall" contrasts between old and new, but comes up a little short.

"Skyfall" starts off with Bond (Daniel Craig) creeping quietly through a room to find three men shot, including another agent and the secret list of agents from MI6 missing.

Action immediately begins with an exciting car chase through the busy streets of Istanbul and a car crash, forcing the pursuit to continue on top of a train as Bond tries to retrieve the list.

With Bond coming close to death and a tunnel coming up ahead, Eve, an MI6 agent, attempts to get a clear shot of the enemy but is unable to, leading to some of the most excitement that will occur.

M (Judi Dench), who is the head of MI6, gives the com-

mand to take the shot, questioning Bond's capabilities to retrieve the information. Eve ends up shooting Bond, sending him plummeting to his presumed death.

After the adrenaline rush, the movie slows its pace and goes to Bond drinking his time away on an island.

Bond comes back into action when an explosion occurs at MI6 headquarters, but he must pass tests in order to be cleared for duty.

M puts her trust in him to save MI6 and kill Silva (Javier Bardem), the villain who causes the explosion and who holds the list.

In a nod to past Bond films, Q (Ben Whishaw) returns with his gadgets.

Unfortunately, these gadgets consist of a gun that is coded to Bond's palm print and small radio. Not much gadgetry there.

Even though there aren't many gadgets, the scene leads to a bit of comedy as Bond opens the leather case to look like a little boy that

received socks on Christmas.

Q jokingly says, "What were you expecting, an exploding pen? We don't go in much for that these days," a sly reference to past movies where gadgets were in abundance.

Craig's portrayal of Bond captivates the audience with his crisp style, and his experience from "Casino Royale" and "Quantum of Solace" shows that he knows what he's doing.

Bardem truly plays the part of the villain, as he captures not just the personality of a seducing, manipulating villain, but also the look. With piercing eyes and maniacal laugh, Bardem was the perfect fit for the role of Silva.

Whishaw as Q perfectly portrayed a genius yet in-style young adult adding a refreshing outlook on the movie and contrasts Craig's old ways as Bond to his modern ways.

While the plot moves slowly at first and the ending is predictable, "Skyfall" is still worth the money, and deserves three out of four stars.



Photo courtesy of [www.skyfall-movie.com](http://www.skyfall-movie.com)

**Agent 007 returns in "Skyfall" on an MI6 mission in Istanbul to recover a stolen flash drive that contains information on many of the undercover agents.**

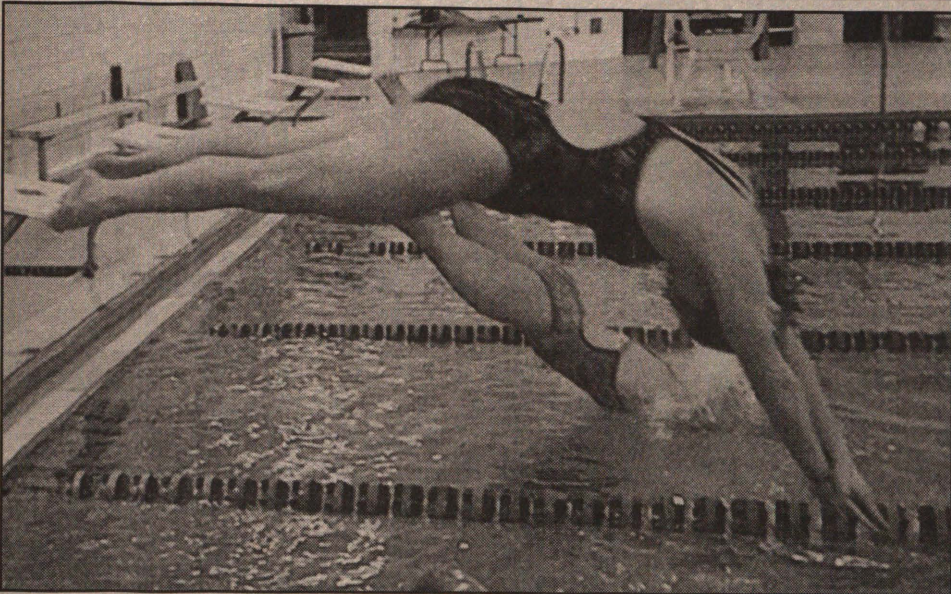


Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

Leaving the starting blocks in practice is junior Nicole Reitz preparing for the state meet.

## Four swim their way to state

By Giuliana LaMantia  
Center Spread Editor

Girls swimming left sectionals at Metea Valley High School Saturday with season bests and four state qualifiers.

"I think (sectionals) was successful from a standpoint that everyone dropped time. However, we did not accomplish all the goals we wanted to accomplish," coach Nick Parry said.

Qualifying for state were seniors Maya Skorupski and Yvette Kruk, and juniors Nicole Reitz and Paulina Konopko in the 200 medley relay for the second year in a row with 1:49:69.

Skorupski also qualified in

the 50 freestyle with 24:27 sec. and the 100 back stroke with 57.02 sec., setting a pool record at Metea Valley.

State is Friday and Saturday at Evanston High School. "Our goal is to get all three events to score at state," Parry said.

The girls are looking forward to working hard at the state meet.

"I think that it's definitely exciting that we made it to state, especially now since I've made it all four years," Kruk said. "It was really exciting seeing the competition going into state."

The girls are in a taper phase of the season.

"We're just resting up, eat-

ing healthy, and staying positive for this weekend," Reitz said.

Despite the success the team had, Parry felt they could have done better.

"The fact that we didn't get the whole team (to state) means people didn't accomplish their goals," Parry said.

The girls feel this was a result of having a difficult season.

"I think overall this season was the toughest one we've ever had. Everyone worked really hard, and I know there were a few people that were disappointed with their times, but overall it wasn't too bad," Kruk said.

Parry believes as of right now, it's hard to say whether the season has been a success or not.

"We've done okay, not as great as I hoped we would, but not poorly," Parry said.

## Loss at regionals ends the season

By Giuliana LaMantia  
Center Spread Editor

After losing to Glenbard West for the regional championship, girls volleyball reflected on their accomplishments for the season.

"Our goal to finish in the top half at conference was not met; we were seventh out of eight," coach Kristi Hasty said. "We were one game below 500, which is a respectable record, but it would have been nicer to finish higher being our last year in the DVC."

Hasty felt the girls struggled with continuity, passing, and receiving, as well as losing their setter.

"We lost (junior Mary-Kate Katarzynski) for three weeks, that was huge," Hasty said. "Losing a setter is like losing a quarter back."

Despite the struggles, the season had its high points.

"I think the highlight of the season was our first regional match against Addison Trail," Hasty said. "We all came in together and gave 100 percent and never let down."

Senior Nora Palermo made All Conference.

"I was really excited, especially knowing that I was the only person from West

Chicago making All Conference. It was a big honor," Palermo said.

Even in their low points, the girls were optimistic.

"I think we were all kind of sad the way the season ended," senior Taylor Karg said. "We probably could have met a few more of our goals, but for the most part we all accomplished a lot individually."

Overall, this season was a learning experience for the girls.

"I think we learned a lot about each other," Hasty said. "We had some great matches and some matches where we struggled."

Although they did not have as much success as they had hoped for, the girls enjoyed the season.

"This season was a blast," Karg said. "Even though we didn't win as much as we wanted to, we had an awesome time doing it. We worked hard and gave it our all, which is all you can ask for."

Getting along well made for a good season.

"It was really exciting," Palermo said. "Senior year is emotional because it's your last big year. We had really good chemistry."

The season ended with a record of 18-19.

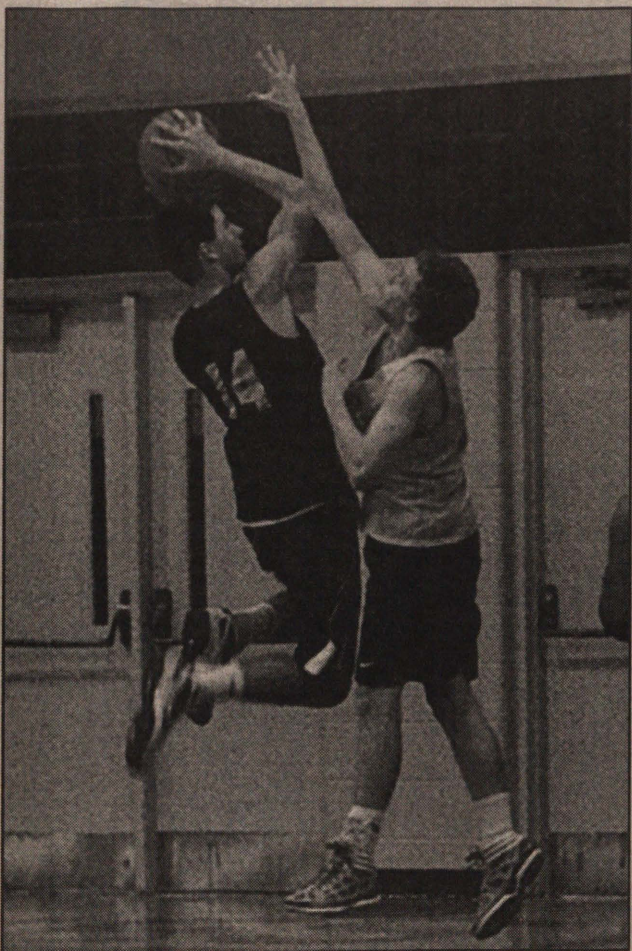


Photo by Liz Ramos

Practicing for the Turkey Classic, junior John Konchar attempts to retrieve the ball from junior Josh Noesges.

## Boys take on Turkey Classic

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief

With a new coach and only four returning players on varsity, the boys basketball team is working hard to develop as a team and prepare for the season.

"I'm extremely excited and honored to be here. It's a pleasure to be back at the school I actually graduated from and play basketball," coach Bill Recchia said. "We're going to work hard and the boys will be prepared to face the challenges that come up during the season."

Although the team consists mainly of juniors, the team is working to play at varsity level.

"I think you can only say you're young for so long. After you play a few games, you get a few games under your belt and are no longer

young when it comes to basketball," Recchia said. "We'll be expected to pick up things quickly and grow up quickly."

With other teams having returning players with more experience, the boys are doing their best to adjust.

"It's going to be pretty tough. A lot of teams still have most of their varsity players and more experience. It's going to be difficult to adjust but we're going to do our best," senior Jimmy Rizzo said.

Some returning players believe having Recchia as the coach will help the team improve from last year.

"I think it'll probably be better because I feel like (Recchia) knows more about what he's talking about," Rizzo said.

Juniors feel that their dedication to basketball has helped them make the varsity

team.

"It feels like I've worked hard enough to be on this team. I'm going to work hard to be the best player I can be," junior Marco Lomibao said.

Recchia has coached basketball before and will bring his experiences to the court.

"All I can do is share with the boys the passion for this game that I have and I expect the passion that I have for this game to carry over to them, the same competitiveness I have would carry over to them," Recchia said.

After each game, Recchia wants their opponents to know who they are.

"Anyone that plays us will know they just finished playing the West Chicago Wildcats by the end of the game," Recchia said.

The first game is on Monday for the Wildcat Turkey Classic in the Bishop gym.

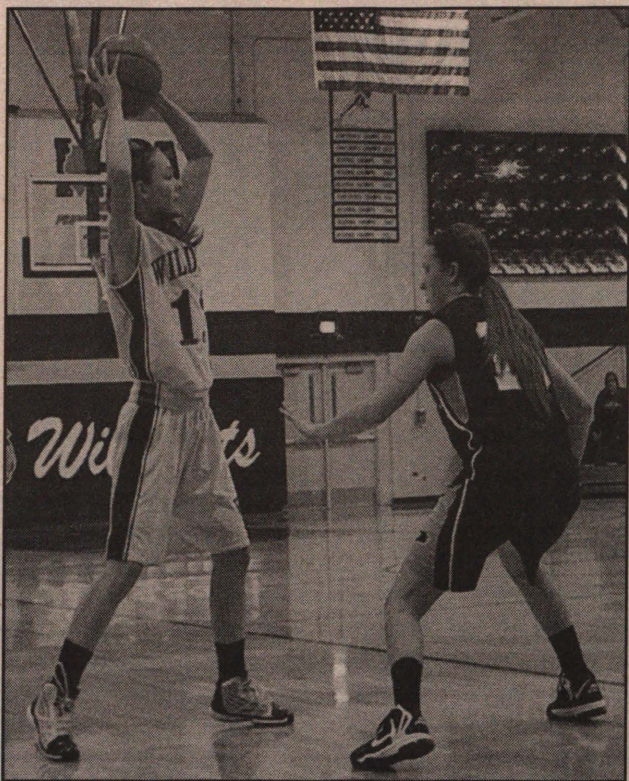


Photo by Liz Ramos

At the first game against Nazereth Academy, sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre attempts to throw the ball to a player.

## Young team brings challenges

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

A rough start for the girls basketball team is just a part of the 'growing pains' the team is going through.

The girls lost to Nazereth Academy, 50-43, on Tuesday, making them currently 0-1.

There are only two returning varsity players, seniors Laura Panicali and Amanda Gosbeth.

"The girls are working hard to replace the seven seniors who left last year," Wallner said.

Having a young team is tough at first.

"We are going to go through some growing pains because nothing can compare to playing on varsity and we

have a young team," Wallner said.

A change for the seniors is having so many new players.

"I think it's going to go pretty well. We have some young girls, but I think it'll work out well," Panicali said.

New players on the team are expected to benefit the team.

"I think it's going to be positive because we need new girls who are quick and are good defensively. They will bring a lot to the team," Panicali said.

As far as coaching goes, they are being patient and trying to learn the characteristics of the new team.

"We're trying to play things out for who will get playing time. At the time I know

sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre will get quite a bit of playing time," Wallner said.

According to Wallner, the core of the team will be the four seniors.

"Panicali averaged 15 points a game last year so a lot of teams will be keying her," Wallner said.

When a player is being keyed, all the members of the opposing team know to guard that player.

This year the team may not focus on key individuals to score constantly, but may split up the task.

"The majority of our scoring may be by committee so everyone has to score. This could benefit us because other teams couldn't key anyone then," Wallner said.

## Under pressure

With more intense practices, wrestlers focus on techniques, mental toughness for wins

By Guadalupe Blanco  
Lifestyles Editor

Already feeling the pressure to do well, the boys wrestling-team is ready to compete, with strong individual wrestlers and a positive mind set.

According to varsity coach Humberto Ayala, the team has much they want to accomplish and improve.

"As a team, we are hoping to finish the season with another winning varsity record, a top four finish in the DVC, and bring home team trophies, as well as individual medals at the tournaments," Ayala said.

Even though the season has just started, there is much excitement and anticipation.

The wrestlers, according to Ayala, are eager to compete. "If they work hard in practice, then it will make them that much better during competition," he said.

The same thoughts are echoed among the wrestlers.

"From all returning wrestlers we have a lot of talented kids on the team, and the new freshmen too. We're a good team, and we're probably going to go far this year. Hopefully we can win the DVC championship as a team, and I know that a lot of people can win individually," sophomore Edgar Correa said.

Some of the skills that Ayala wants the team to focus on are conditioning, so that the guys can get a full body workout.

"We have increased the intensity of practice while focusing on technique and mental toughness. After finishing one of our workouts, most wrestlers leave dropping anywhere from two to five pounds," Ayala said.

Another part of the process the coaches have put more emphasis on is making sure the lineup stays consistent and the wrestlers avoid injury and have a positive mind set.

Ayala wants the team to go into every match knowing that their opponents are beatable.

"We will not back down from anyone on the mat, and we'll push the pace of the match from the start. Although wrestling is typically seen as an individual sport, we push and hold each

other accountable so that we can have success as a team," Ayala said.

Being exceptionally ranked in the state is also a possibility, as well as improving the team's previous winning streak.

In past years, the team has been stuck at around 12 wins each season. Ayala is hoping that they can beat that record with 15 wins this season.

"A lot of (the wrestlers) need a good sense of what's going on. They need to be motivated, and when we come to practice, we can't just slack off if we want to do well," Correa said.

With their first dual meet on Tuesday at Glenbard South, it will be an opportunity to see if the team can wrestle up to their full potential.

"The kids will really need to be committed in order to compete this year at a high level like last year, and I'm hoping that we can get three or four All-Conference wrestlers, and three to four state qualifiers," Ayala said.

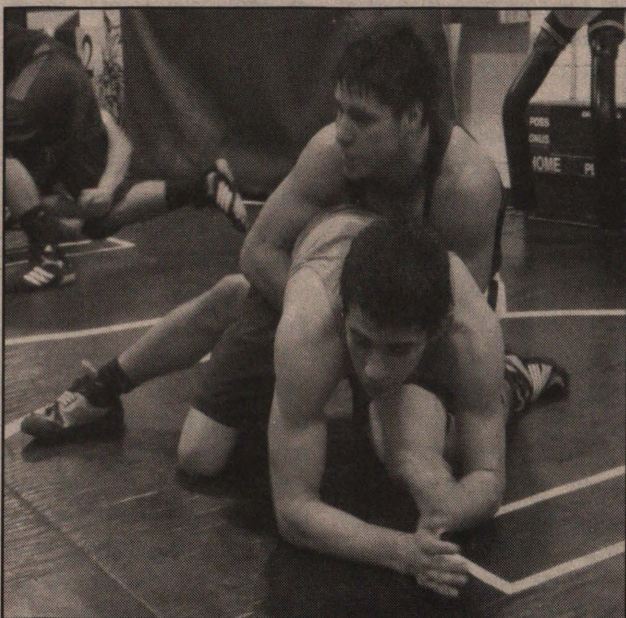


Photo by Guadalupe Blanco

At practice, sophomore Abraham Mendez tackles junior Genesis Quintana to prepare for their next meet Saturday.

## Making great strides

### Season ends at sectionals

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

The girls cross country team has ended its season after putting in a lot of time and effort at sectionals.

Even though the team raced hard at the meet, they didn't make it to state.

The top seven: senior Julia Caithamer, juniors Lindsey Sayner, Diana Beltran, Gena Rodriguez and sophomores Michelle Franch, Ana Flores, and Mae Elizabeth Gimre ran at sectionals.

Going into sectionals, the team set a goal of beating a team who they had lost to at regionals.

"At regionals, we had lost to Metea Valley and our coach thought we could beat them at sectionals. So that was our team goal," Gimre said.

Not only did they beat Metea Valley, but they also beat Wheaton North, who they lost to at the DVC meet.

"Our goal was to run times we could be proud of. We had run well enough to get out of regionals to sectionals, but it was the one bad set of times we had put up all year. At sectionals we all ran times we were proud of," coach Bob Maxson said.

They also think good guidance helped them to do so well in sectionals.

"I think we did well because of the practices we had. (Maxson) did a good job (planning) our workouts because we always got faster as a team," Flores said.

Many of the girls also agree

their dedication and wanting to get better and improve are what helped them.

"We always come to practice on time. We were dedicated," Flores said.

Although the girls didn't make it to state this year, they have hope for next year to make it to sectionals again and even qualify for state.

Sayner was only five runners away from qualifying to make it to state.

"This year the girls did more than take a step forward. They jumped over a few steps and became a much better team," Maxson said.



Photo by Liz Ramos

Sophomore Michelle Franch runs her best pace per mile time at sectionals.

## Clicking on and off the ice

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

With a tight-knit bond, the Wildhawks hockey team is benefitting on the ice from their closeness.

They are currently 6-1-1.

"The season so far has been going great as far as our record goes, but we still have many things to work on," senior Ryan Cooper said.

A lot of the players on the team are currently seniors.

"The positive about our team is that it is mostly the

same team from last year, which is a good thing since we could continue to keep the bond going, and we all get along so great with each other," Cooper said.

For some, the Wildhawks are not just teammates.

"This team is full of my best friends who I look forward to seeing every practice and game," Somen said.

Most of the team has played together since they were 4 or 5.

Having a longer season encourages friendships.

"Every sports team always bonds with each other, but when it comes to a hockey team the bond that you create with your teammates is more like a family," Cooper said.

The long season also helps.

"Between the numerous hours we will spend at rinks with each other and the road trips we take, it would be hard to not have a close bond with one another," Cooper said.

The majority of this year's team is the same as last year's.

"There is a good chunk of us on the team who have been playing with each other ever since we started playing hockey at the age of 4 or 5 years old," Cooper said. "To say the least, I am pretty sure anyone on the team would do just about anything for one another."

Team traditions have been formed.

"Every Thursday night after practice we go to Qudoba and get burritos to celebrate a hard working week," Somen said. "We hang out often and everyone gets along. I have never been on a team before in my life that I respect and love as much as these guys."



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

Senior Jacob Somen defends the Wildhawks against York at their game on Nov. 4.

## Headed to UIS

*Volleyball, softball opportunities draw Katarzynski, Gosbeth*

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

Katarzynski visited the school and volleyball team.

"I went for an overnight stay at UIS and hung out with the team. They were really nice to me," Katarzynski said.

Currently, she has mixed feelings about next year.

"I'm nervous about next year. It's a whole different atmosphere, but it'll be fun," Katarzynski said.

For Gosbeth, many aspects of the school appealed to her.

"It has a small class size so I know that my teachers will know me and I will learn a lot," Gosbeth said. "It's also a division 2 school so I can balance out softball and school and still have fun."

Gosbeth will be playing as catcher and on third base next year.

"I'm looking forward to meeting new people and winning a lot of games," Gosbeth said.

Hard work and determination in high school sports has allowed seniors Kayla Katarzynski and Amanda Gosbeth to sign to play with University of Illinois in Springfield (UIS).

Gosbeth will be playing softball and Katarzynski will be playing volleyball.

Both girls were deciding between three schools before they chose UIS.

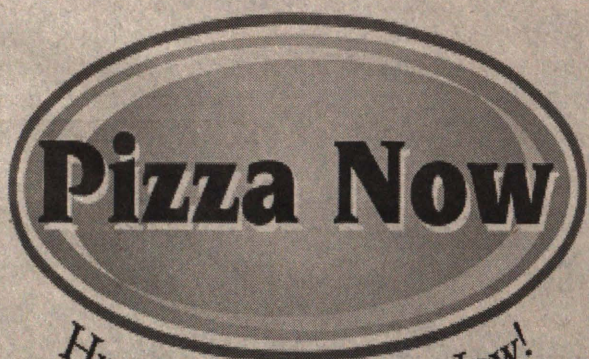
Katarzynski made a verbal decision on Oct. 19 and Gosbeth made hers on Nov. 5. Both athletes officially signed on Wednesday.

Katarzynski felt satisfied with her acceptance to the school.

"I was really happy when I found out because I knew it was right for me," Katarzynski said. "I picked UIS because I didn't want to go far from home."

Prior to her decision,

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## The cost of being an athlete

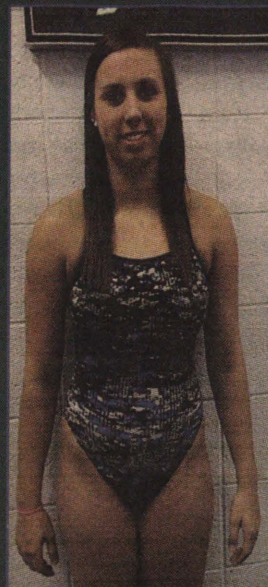
All the equipment an athlete needs is not always supplied by the school. Athletes spend a lot to go out on the field/court to play their best.

### Lacrosse Senior Jared Baranowski



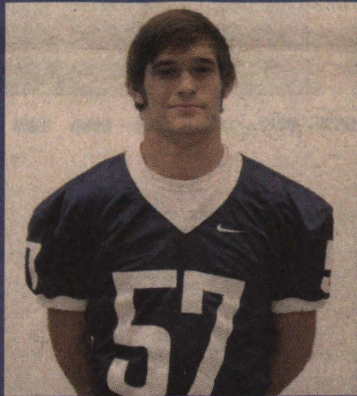
Cleats: \$50  
 Helmet: \$50-  
 \$250  
 Mouth  
 Guard: \$5  
 Elbow Pads:  
 \$30- 80  
 Shoulder  
 pads: \$30-  
 \$100  
 Gloves: \$20-  
 \$100  
 Shooting  
 Sleeves: \$30  
 Stick: \$30-150

### Swimming Senior Yvette Kruk



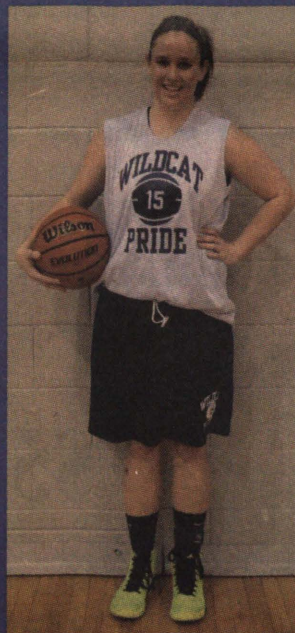
Goggles: \$20  
 Cap: \$3  
 Practice suit:  
 \$50  
 Technical  
 (meet) suit:  
 \$375  
 Kick board:  
 \$10

### Football Senior Hunter Cerney



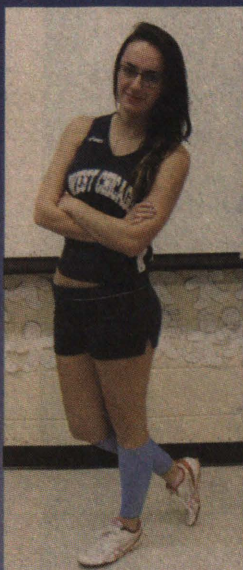
Cleats: \$60-150  
 Gloves: \$45-75  
 Visors: \$40-90  
 Ankle braces: \$20  
 Elbow pads: \$20-40  
 Under Armor: \$60

### Basketball Senior Kylee Gunderson



Shoes: \$100-  
 150  
 Socks: \$10  
 Mouth  
 Guard: \$50  
 Elbow Pad:  
 \$20  
 Ankle Brace:  
 \$20  
 Knee Brace:  
 \$60  
 Shooting  
 Sleeves: \$30

### Cross Country Senior Mandi Sivak



Knee braces:  
 \$15 each  
 Ankle brace:  
 \$15  
 Compression  
 sleeves: \$40  
 Spikes: \$30  
 Trainers: \$100  
 Spandex: \$20-30

### Baseball Sophomore Conner Dall



Bats: \$200- 400  
 Cleats: \$60  
 Gloves: \$100-\$300  
 Equipment bag: \$50  
 Braces, athletic tape, etc.: \$10-50

### Soccer Senior Jenaro Terrazas



Socks: \$10  
 Shin  
 guards: \$10-  
 40  
 Cleats: \$200  
 Knee  
 braces: \$20