



Photo by Liz Ramos

After weeks of hard work in practice, dedication to their passion, and putting on the best performance they could, Steppers celebrate their first place victory at the state competition.

Stomping on the competition

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

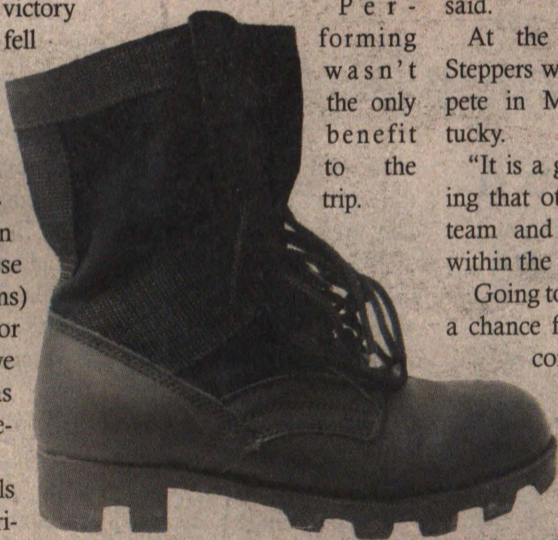
After a first place victory at state, the Steppers fell short of placing at nationals on Saturday in Nashville, Tenn.

"I think we did awesome. The competition was tough because these kids (on the other teams) have been doing it for years. The fact that we made it nationals was amazing," coach Melissa Gonzalez said.

Being in nationals was a thrilling experience for the team.

"Performing at nationals was very exciting because the step team was representing West Chicago, and we were excited to show other states what we got," senior Christina Phan said. "But on the other hand, everyone was nervous because we didn't

have time to practice at all, but overall, we put everything we got on the floor."



Per- forming wasn't the only benefit to the trip.

Gonzalez, went around the circle saying one thing or story about each person," Phan said.

At the competition, the Steppers were invited to compete in Missouri and Kentucky.

"It is a good feeling knowing that other states like our team and see the potential within the team," Phan said.

Going to nationals was also a chance for the team to become closer.

"It was a great experience. All the kids had fun. It was just an awesome experience to know the kids a little more personal. The Steppers had fun, the coaches had fun," Gonzalez said.

At state on March 2, Steppers placed first.

See Step page 3

Steppers stomp teams at state in co-ed division

Oswego High School
Lyons Township High School

"My favorite part of the trip was when the team had a family dinner and our coach, Ms.

First time win in school history

By Guadalupe Blanco
Lifestyles Editor

For the first time in school history, WeGo Drama is the IHSA sectional champions in both drama and group interpretation.

As a result of the win, WeGo Drama will compete Friday and Saturday at state competition in Springfield with their plays "Pedro & Me," and "Frankenstein."

"We took our shows and performed them. We took our sets, costumes, and when (the cast performed), they performed really well," adviser Mark Begovich said. "Both (of the plays) won the competition, and our shows were sectional champions."

Members who won All-Sectional Cast for their performances in "Pedro & Me" and "Frankenstein" included seniors Daniela Garcia, Gaby Hernandez, Dan Stompor; junior Josué Muñoz; sophomores Jackie Fabiszak, Lindsey Krysinski, Matt Loftus, Edith Muñoz, Ben Skipor, Brendan Walsh, Noah Watkins, Zandra Starks; and freshman Robert Bradley.

"When they were calling up the All-Sectional Cast, which is kind of the best of the best

of each play, the whole cast of 'Pedro & Me' got called and it was amazing," Edith Muñoz said. "After they finished calling everyone, (the judges) said, 'and by the way, it's the whole cast.' It was a really nice experience to go through."

Even under much stress and some obstacles, it paid off in the end, according to Muñoz.

"Everything worked out. For all the sweat we went through, it paid off, and to be sectional champions was like 'whoa,'" Muñoz said.

According to Begovich, the focus at sectionals was more on giving a good performance.

"I look at it as what are cool shows where we can stretch and grow," Begovich said. "These are performances from the entire company, both of the shows. They have true ownership in it more so than any of our other shows before. They're doing it, and designing, and working with design, and everyone has a stake, which is nice."

According to Muñoz, who was in "Pedro & Me" and helped with "Frankenstein," their win came as a bit of a shock.

"I was really speechless. Yeah, competition gets hard-

See Drama page 2



Photo by Sarah Szremski

During "Pedro and Me," sophomore Noah Watkins, from left, freshman Robert Bradley, sophomore Lindsey Krysinski, and senior Daniela Garcia talk about the struggles of HIV.

INSIDE

Off to Germany

For the first time, jazz band takes an exchange trip to Taufkirchen, Germany to play with the Taufkirchen swing orchestra -- see News, page 2.



Beneficial or not?

With Illinois being one of the 38 states to require P.E. class, students question whether it's beneficial or not. Two editors faceoff on the value of P.E. for students in high school -- see Perspectives, page 5.

Thipi Thai review

Experience Thai food by viewing the Thipi Thai menu dissection which gives visuals and descriptions of entrees at the restaurant -- see Lifestyles, page 11.



First win

The soccer girls won against Schaumburg for the first time on Monday, 2-0, which was a huge accomplishment for the team -- see Sports, page 15.

Jamming to Germany

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

Music became a universal language for 21 jazz band members as they traveled to Taufkirchen, Germany.

"We are going to perform with the Taufkirchen swing orchestra which is the West Chicago sister city. They have their own jazz band over there so we're going to play a concert with them and for their school," adviser Steve Govertsen said. "We're going to stay with host families, kind of like an exchange program."

The band left on Wednesday and will return March 27.

Govertsen has been waiting for the right group of students for the trip.

"We are going because of this group of students. This has been a bunch of years in the making trying to figure out. We've been waiting for when the personnel was right to do the trip," Govertsen said. "That is why we're doing this trip, I trust these people enough."

Jazz members are excited to be going with this specific group of students.

Being a close group of students has made this trip all the more exciting for them.

"I'm really excited to go on this long plane ride with

everybody because we're so tight and we have a lot of fun together. I'm also excited about being able to play with the jazz group that's over there in Germany," sophomore Jeremiah Lundquist said.

The band will perform the music they played at the winter jazz concert on Feb. 8 but also some new pieces.

"It's sounding really good right now. We've been practicing a lot and it's sounding really tight," senior Brian Berger said.

Even though there is a language and culture barrier, music is one aspect the German students and the band will have in common.

"I think we'll get along well because music is a universal language," junior Antonia Lobocki said.

Jazz band has never played with another group in the United States making the Germany trip even more special to them.

"I think it will be a unique experience because we've never done anything like that even with a group over here. It should be a really great experience and be able to see how they take jazz," senior Luke Smith said.

Along with performing with the Taufkirchen Swing Orchestra, jazz band will travel to Munich and to Dachau

for a bus guided tour; have Bavarian styled party at the Taufkirchen Water Castle, visit the Neuschwanstein and Linderhof Castles, and go to Salzburg, Austria and the Alps.

Staying with host families

will be a new experience for the students.

"I think it'll be fantastic. They seem really welcoming and friendly, and it's going to be really interesting seeing how they live their daily lives," senior Ben Stibal said.

To help pay for the trip, the band sold cookie dough, mums, and butter braid pastries.



To prepare for their trip to Germany, jazz band rehearses their music.

Photo by Liz Ramos

First time win: Drama goes to state

Continued from page 1
er, but we did all this work and we got something in return, performing for a really big crowd," Muñoz said. "It was tougher, but everything gets better. It's really stressing to do a play, but I'm glad (we) did."

The first competition piece performed was "Frankenstein," an adaptation of the original story.

"It's edgy and avant garde, but it still has all the elements of the powerful story of the creature and its creator," Begovich said.

After putting on the performance, the idea of getting a message to the audience was more solidified.

"When we performed 'Pedro & Me,' everyone cried, (and) I felt the message was really nice, and I hope it touched people. The fact that we really made some (people) really think a lot after the performances really means a lot," Muñoz said.

While both plays have very different plots, they both have the same underlying ideas.

"You think about things differently, and you see how the messages of the authors connect to your own life," Skipor said. "If you have something that's holding you back, you shouldn't make it hold you back. You should use it to your ability to change something in your life and make the situation better for yourself."

Going forward to the state level, Begovich feels that even though it will be competition, it's also in good company.

"It's always (tough), you have nothing but champions there," Begovich said.

Despite being tough competition, the cast will not be going in with thoughts of winning.

"We have a lot to work on, but there's always room for improvement. It's not about winning, but to see how good we did, and whether or not we did as good as we wanted to," Muñoz said. "And to have that feeling after (performing) that we did a really good job, and that we're glad that we did this."

Other members of the company include seniors Braeden Austgen, Josh Brown, Cat Canestrelli, Marco Garcia, Patty Garcia, Jackie Letzter, Rosemarie Luther, juniors Sarah Dalla Costa, Natalie Sehweil, sophomores Elyssa DiRaddo, Marianne Kiel, Tara Lyne, and freshman Stephen Lewis.

First time on U.S. soil for exchange students

Germans come to America to learn new culture, have new experiences

By Ericka Hauptman
Reporter

Half way across the world,

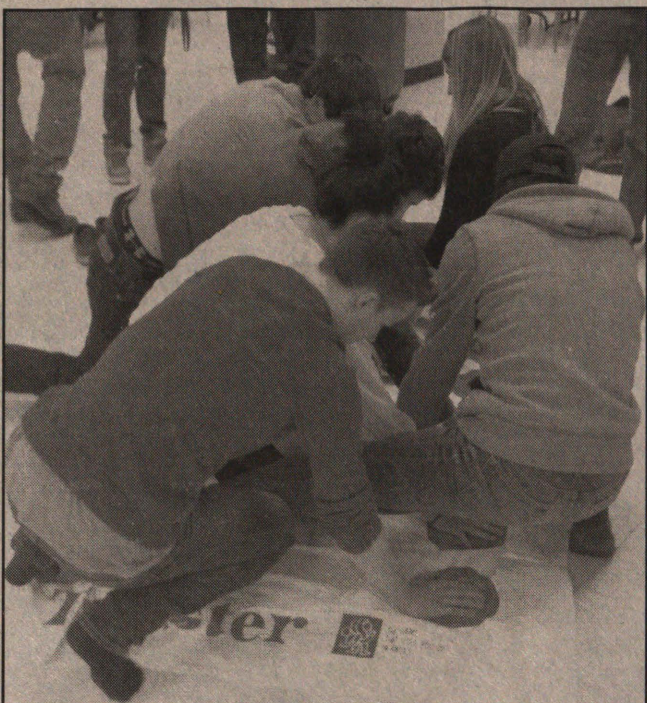


Photo by Ericka Hauptman

While visiting America, the German exchange students play Twister with their hosts.

students from Germany prepared themselves to travel across the ocean to stay with German students from the

school.

Students from Gunzenhausen, Germany arrived Sunday to meet their hosts for the first time.

German teacher Nora Wessels had many plans prepared for the exchange students to show them the American culture.

Hosts and German students will participate in dodge ball tournaments, tie-dying shirts, traveling to Chicago and going to the Hancock building and Millineim Park along with museums and bowling.

"I'm most looking forward to seeing all the relationships of the students so they have a connection to Germany and the friendships they will make," Wessels said.

Many of the students were in contact with their exchange students before they came.

Junior Marc Cuiriz is excit-

ed for all of the activities he and Andrez, his German student, are going to be doing.

"My mom surprised me and said that we'll be taking Andrez to Wisconsin Dells over spring break," Cuiriz said.

Cuiriz is excited to learn about the German culture and speaking.

When coming to the U.S., the Germans were excited to see what schools were like and seeing how different American culture would be like.

"It felt good looking out the window of the plane and knowing that we aren't in Germany anymore," foreign exchange student Johannes Schmidt said. "I was most excited for going to school here but also for meeting my host family."

The German students will be leaving April 3.

With the friendships they have made, they will be able to keep in touch when students from German class travel to Gunzenhausen on June 12.

Memories across the Atlantic

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Spring break won't be the usual trip to the beach in Florida or to Chicago but will be spent across the Atlantic for some.

Spanish students are going on the Spanish exchange to Spain from Wednesday to April 4. They will fly to Madrid and stay there for two days, then spend a night in Toledo for a three day cultural experience.

The rest of their time will be spent in Soria with their host families.

"It is an experience that brings students out of their shells and gives them an opportunity to embrace a new experience, food, meet new people, and do all this stuff in Spanish," Spanish teacher Sarah Gill said.

This experience is unique for many students.

"I'm excited because it's a once in a lifetime experience," senior Andrea Correa said. "I'm looking forward to sight-seeing and making

memories with everyone going on the trip and my brother."

The key behind the trip is not just to have a new experience but to develop stronger Spanish speaking skills, according to Gill.

"I expect to learn more Spanish and become more fluent after the trip. (I) have been practicing Spanish a lot more," junior Alex Celmer said.

Some hope to be surprised by how much they will learn.

"I've heard that I will be surprised with how much I am able to understand and have tried to talk to some of my Spanish-speaking friends in the language to prepare, but it is my biggest concern going over there," junior Olivia Wilson said.

Gill looks forward to seeing her student's growth.

"I always look forward to seeing how much they grow by learning more Spanish, what the home life is like there, and the overall experience of being there," Gill said.

This year the students will get to celebrate a holiday while in Spain.

"We will be there during Semana Santa (Holy Week) which will be a neat perspective for them and they will get to see how culturally different it is. We are there during the holiday once in every six to seven years," Gill said.

Celebrating Easter in Spain is an extra perk for the students.

"I'm looking forward to getting to see how everyday life works in Spain and living like how they do. It will be interesting to see the differences between cultures but still the similarities that we share," Wilson said. "Also we will be there over Easter so I'm excited for those celebrations."

According to Gill, students in the past have been friends with their host families for years and have even visited them again.

"We live in a big world but this allows us to make it smaller and make friendships that last," Gill said.

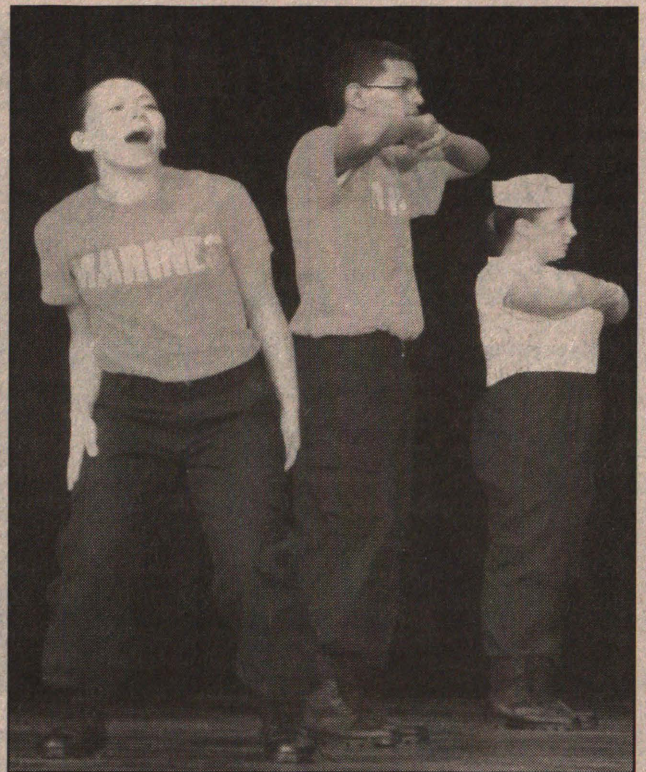


Photo by Liz Ramos

As part of the routine, senior Addy Flores steps out of formation to make the transition into the next part of their routine.

Stomping: Step at nationals

Continued from page 1

"I'm really proud of the team. They really stood up and did what they had to do and represent West Chicago which is our main goal. Our goal was to place first so I'm really proud and stoked for them," Gonzalez said.

Most teams at the competition performed with music but the Steppers did their performance without music.

"My main goal was for these kids to be able to perform and step without utilizing any type of music because in the definition of step it says you're supposed to produce music with various steps, stomps, and claps," Gonzalez said. "Us focusing on steps and not utilizing the music, I think that helped us."

For some Steppers, the adrenaline rush that comes before going on the floor is better than the performance.

"What I like the most is before we go on the floor. You get this huge adrenaline rush. I think it's the most awesome feeling," senior Addy Flores said. "It's almost better than actually being on the floor. For me, it's the pre-adrenaline you get before you go on stage."

For others, the relief after the performance is the best.

"I like the feeling when we're on the stage and then when we're out because you feel relieved and like you brought it all," junior Kathy Landazuri said.

During the performance, some members step out of formation and into the spotlight.

"There's a lot of pressure because you have to add personality to the routine. You

have to break your comfort level and really go out there and pull out what you're saying so that it's believable and entertaining to the audience," Flores said.

No matter what the end results are, the Steppers give everything they have to their performances.

"Something that our coach tells us is that when we're on the floor performing that we should always feel like we're the only person in the room. We're the only person on stage. Give it your all and try to always be the best that you can be," Flores said.

When it came time to announce the winners, many of the Steppers didn't feel they were going to get first place.

"I thought we were going to get second and it was announced, I was like 'second maybe' because there was a lot of good competition," senior Leslie Botello said.

Emotions were high when it came time to announcing the winners.

"My heart was beating so fast. That's the best part when you hear your name. You start jumping and hugging everyone, crying with tears of joy," junior Amanda Bartlett said.

After hearing the Steppers placed first, many of the Steppers were amazed.

"I woke up Sunday morning thinking it was all a dream," Landazuri said.

Members of the team were also in disbelief when they heard they qualified for nationals.

"I dropped to the floor. It was an amazing feeling for me because after three or four years of doing step, we finally get to go to nationals," Bartlett said.

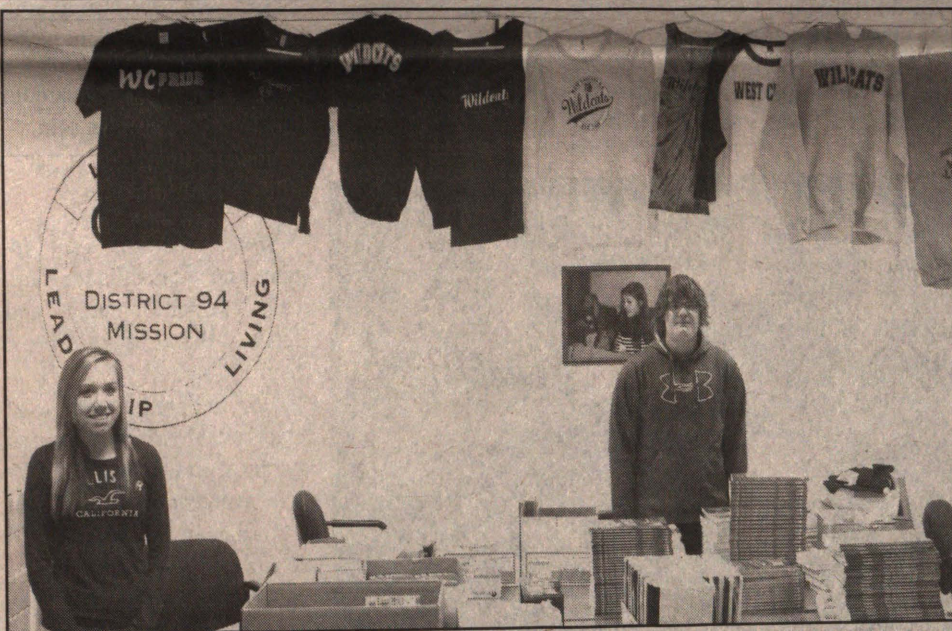


Photo by Gus MacPherson

Wildcat wear is available at the new school store located in the former credit union space in commons which is operated by junior Nikki Burnitz and senior Trevor Akins.

New location for school store

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

Where there are students, there is the need for supplies that can be bought from the new school store.

The store is located in the former credit union space in commons and is open before school and during lunch periods on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

"We were looking for a more centralized location and we also wanted to start

selling Wildcat wear," Marc Wolfe, division head of information and technology, said.

Two students, senior Trevor Akins and junior Nikki Burnitz, will run the store along with the help of Wolfe.

"(They are responsible for) selling the merchandise, keeping inventory, and updating me on what supplies need to be bought," Wolfe said.

Along with the faculty liking the idea of the store, students and the workers like it

too, but fear the change may confuse some students.

"It's nice to get some extra money during the school day, but I think since it's not open all day long like it used to be in the library might throw people off," Burnitz said.

Students and staff are pleased about the store's move.

"I think it's a good idea to move the store because it's more convenient in commons, and the library is too far away," junior Gena Rodriguez said.

In the end, the expectations for the store are high.

"I hope that students use it a lot for their daily needs, also to have more products available to students," Wolfe said.

Teacher wins two awards

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

Family and consumer science teacher Britney Bauer won a top educator award at the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education (IACTE) Annual Conference on Feb. 22.

Bauer won the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education's Outstanding New Career Technical Education (CTE) Educator Award over seven teachers who won a previous outstanding educator award in IACTE affiliate organizations.

"Patti Kozlowski, my cooperative teacher from when I student taught, nominated for the (Family and Consumer Science Teacher's Association's New Outstanding Career and Technical Educator Award) which brought me in a pool to win this award," Bauer said.

Winning the award at the IACTE Conference was not



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

After being nominated by Patti Kozlowski, family and consumer science teacher Britney Bauer displays her top educator award from the Illinois Association for Career and Technical Education.

as surprising for Bauer as winning the FACS Teacher's Association's New Outstanding CTE Educator Award.

"I was really shocked about the first award I won, but I had heard I had a good chance of receiving the second one," Bauer said.

Although Bauer was not as shocked, she was still honored to be given the award.

"I was very excited when I won, it was great hearing my name being announced at the conference," Bauer said.

Because Bauer won the IACTE Outstanding CTE Educator Award, she will be attending the Region III Association for Career and Technical Education Conference in June for a chance to compete against the Midwest winners to win an ACTE Region III Conference Outstanding Educator award.

"I do not know how great of a chance I have of winning the third award. There is an interview process and an essay involved," Bauer said.

Hard work pays off for editor

By Alexandra Garibay
Reporter

After four years of hard work for the Wildcat Chronicle, senior and center spread editor Giuliana LaMantia won a second place Gold Circle Award from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in photo illustrations for last year's paper.

Gold Circle awards recognize individual achievements made by student writers, editors, designers and photographers.

"I was really surprised and honored. It was unexpected too," LaMantia said.

Adviser Laura Kuehn is also pleased with the award which LaMantia shared with graduate Carly Tubridy (2012). Tubridy was editor in chief on the 2011-12 Chronicle.

"I think it's wonderful they were recognized for their work. They put in countless hours putting together the paper, so it's great that they won this award," Kuehn said. "Gold Circles are pres-

tigious, thousands of kids enter. You never know what the outcome will be."

Although Tubridy has graduated, Kuehn let her know of the award. Tubridy is majoring in journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

"I let her know through email (that she won the award). She emailed me back with an enthusiastic response," Kuehn said.

Although the Wildcat Chronicle has won numerous awards, this is the first time the staff has sent their work for the Gold Circle Awards.

"It makes me happy to know our hard work on the paper has paid off," LaMantia said.

After this win the staff plans to continue sending their work for the Gold Circle Awards.

"I would think (we would have a chance of winning again). We have strong writers and creative people. I think we can give everyone else in the country a run for their money," Kuehn said.

Same school, new superintendent

By Alexandra Garibay
Reporter

After four years as a superintendent for Cuba City High School in Wisconsin, Douglas Domeracki is moving to the school.

For 29 years, Domeracki has been in education as an administrator, science teacher and coach for tennis, wrestling, and track.

"Being a superintendent has a really big effect on education and the education system," Domeracki said.

As superintendent, Domeracki plans to improve students' academic performances.

"The Board of Education would like to see more extracurricular opportunities and generate improvement for students," Domeracki said.

Besides improving students' grades, Domeracki hopes to accomplish more than what's done in the classroom by the students.

"I also want to find a way to get students more involved in extracurricular activities," Domeracki said.

With improving students'

grades and providing more opportunities, Domeracki also anticipates making sure the students are a stable environment.

"I want to make sure we meet all needs in classrooms, activities and athletics," Domeracki said.

Although Domeracki currently works as a superintendent of schools for the Cuba City School District, he grew up in Mt. Prospect, a northwestern Chicago suburb.

"I'm familiar with the area, it's like coming back home," Domeracki said.

On July 1, Domeracki will start his new job.

"I trust the transition to West Chicago will go smoothly, I am looking forward to meeting staff and students as soon as possible," Domeracki said.

With everything he hopes to accomplish, Domeracki is excited to join the staff.

"I've had the opportunity to work with a new staff a few times and this is always a good opportunity to establish new relationships and learn about the school from the existing staff," Domeracki said.



Photo courtesy of Donna Durbin

After winning the state competition for the third year in a row, seniors Matt Wenz, Jackie Letzter, Laura Panicali, and Kristyn Bossle display their awards.

Victory streak for Lifesmarts

By Gus MacPherson
Reporter

For the third year in a row, Lifesmarts won the state competition on March 7 and will compete at nationals in Atlanta, Ga. on March 12 and 13.

"Going to nationals is going to be awesome. Nationals is fun, you get to meet a lot of new people," senior Matt Wenz said.

Lifesmarts was undefeated in the state competition, which was held in the auditorium. They beat the four other teams in the competition.

"Of the teams that competed (our team was) the only team that was undefeated, while Lamoille High School gave them a bit of a run for their money. Lamoille would have needed to win two rounds in a row to beat (our team)," adviser Nancy Blume

said.

Wenz who was also captain, and seniors Laura Panicali, Jackie Letzter, and Kristyn Bossle made up the team.

"We did well as a team at state, it was enough to win so we must have done well. We had a pretty good lead over Lamoille in the last round," Wenz said.

Wenz was the only person who was on the winning team last year.

"Matt always talks about how awesome going to nationals is, and it's great to get to go, I'm really looking forward to going," Bossle said.

Lifesmarts will attempt to do better than their previous years at nationals.

"Last year we were only six questions away from making the final eight (the last eight teams that move on to a final bracket in the tournament)," Blume said, "while winning the whole competition would be awesome, our first goal for this year is to make the final eight."

Another of the school's Lifesmarts teams competed in the regional competition and took third. That team was comprised of seniors Amanda Gosbeth, Elizabeth Youngwith, Katie Sladek and junior Logan Bruce.



Photo by Akeem Asani

After four years of dedication to numerous activities, senior Gaby Hernández earns February Student of the Month.

Future with right notes, steady tempo

By Akeem Asani
Reporter

Student of the Month is based on a solid academic history, commitment in extracurricular 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.

With involvement in many sports and clubs, senior Gaby Hernández has been named February Student of the Month.

"I was really excited (to hear I was Student of the Month). It's nice to see all of my years of hard work finally pay off," Hernández said.

Throughout her four years, Hernández was involved in soccer, theater, speech team, Key Club, Ambassadors

Club, Habitat for Humanity, Snowball, orchestra, and National Honors Society. She was in International Club for three years, and is the Student Council vice president.

After high school, Hernández will attend a Chicago college.

"Hopefully I can go to Loyola. I want to be a pediatric surgeon or something in the medical field so I can travel the world and help people with my (medical) skills," Hernández said.

With big plans in the future, Hernández won't forget about her times in high school.

"I really liked high school. I was involved a lot and I made a bunch of friends, and made great relationships with my teachers who I will continue to talk with after high school," Hernández said.

Creators of spellbinding tales

By Giuliana LaMantia
Center Spread Editor

Students learned just what it takes to be a published writer from authors Erica O'Rourke, Julie Cross, and Jennifer Rush at the school author visit.

The authors visited through a book tour with Anderson's in Naperville Feb. 13.

"I've always been interested in writing," O'Rourke, author of the "Torn" trilogy, said. "After staying at home with my kids I wanted to do something creative and had the idea of a novel."

O'Rourke's novel "Torn" tells the story of a girl who witnessed her best friend's murder and decided to go after the people who had killed her.

One of O'Rourke's biggest inspirations is Madeline Engel, author of "A Wrinkle in Time."

"She's somebody who wrote stories she loved and believed in and ideas she was passionate about," O'Rourke said. "I loved how that came through in her writing."

As of now, O'Rourke is finishing a new book and is unsure as to where the literary path will take her in the future.

Cross also became interested in writing from inspiration of her favorite books in May 2009, when she would write her own spins of books she read as a hobby.

"I didn't call myself an author until I had a book deal a year later," Cross said. "I didn't tell anyone I was writing; I was pretty protective of it."

Her story "Tempest" is a science fiction novel involv-

ing time travel and romance.

"I got inspired because the editor I was working with wanted a teen time travel story, and I thought, 'I can do that,'" Cross said.

Although Cross enjoys many different authors' works, her main inspiration comes from the books themselves.

"Books are my inspiration for the way they make you feel and escape," Cross said. "It's a lot like falling in love."

Cross plans to write in other genres besides science fiction in her future.

"I plan on writing more, and I would like to break into other genres such as realistic young adult," Cross said.

Unlike Cross, Rush began her writing career at a young age with the young author contest in elementary school and was always a fan of reading and writing.

"I went to college for a lit-

tle bit but didn't know what I wanted to major in," Rush said. "I loved reading and knew I wanted to do something with books. I started to get positive feedback from agents on my work and started to think this was something I can do."

Strong female characters inspire Rush, which is shown in her novel "Altered," about a girl who escapes with four genetically engineered boys from her father who works for the Branch.

"Altered" was an unfinished project Rush stumbled upon and decided to complete.

"The project came out of nowhere and absolutely consumed me for four to seven weeks," Rush said.

For the future, Rush has a new series "Bot Wars" being released Thursday, and the "Altered" sequel coming out January 2014.

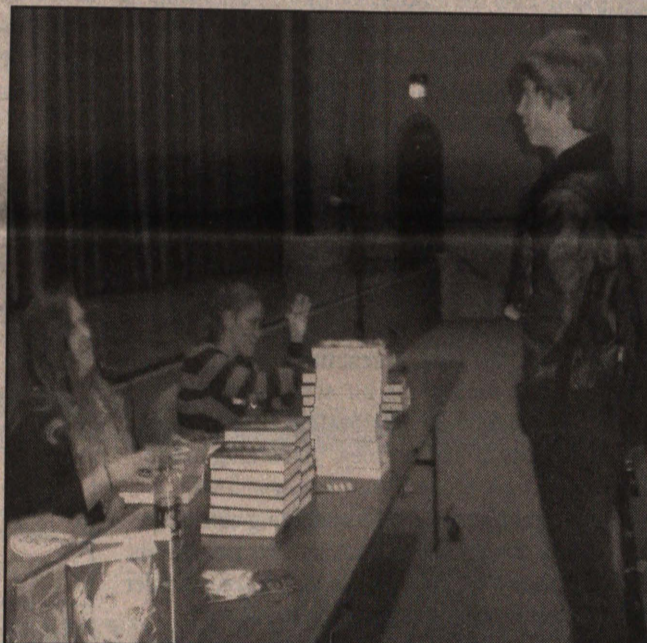


Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

During the triple author visit, authors Jennifer Rush, left, and Julie Cross answer questions about their books to junior Jimmy Nevitt.

Stalemate in negotiations

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

After 13 months of negotiating, the West Chicago Support Staff filed for an impasse on Feb. 28.

An impasse provides a timeline for when final proposals are made and when the support staff will have to take a vote on whether or not a strike is an option.

"We decided to file for an impasse when the board directed (director of business services Gordon Cole) to do an analysis for the cost of outsourcing the custodial staff," support staff spokesman Monica Piszczek said. "It was not the main reason (we filed for an impasse) but that and the board wanting

to put a cap on the salary of people with more years of service getting less increase."

The Board of Education was not expecting the support staff to file for an impasse.

"I thought we would keep talking and make movements on both sides," administration spokesman Tony Molinaro said.

Since an impasse has been filed the proposals have been posted publicly. If no decision is made by March 28, the support staff will have to take a vote to strike or not.

More than 50 people attended the March 4 board meeting and more were expected at Tuesday's meeting. Due to printing deadlines, the Chronicle could not cover the meeting.

Most of the concerns were about refunding the tax abatement which meant returning \$16 per household. Community members agreed that the money should be used for the school, according to Piszczek.

"Teachers spoke on custodial outsourcing and addressed issues of security of having strangers in the building and asked why the board is considering it," Piszczek said.

Fourteen out of the 17 people from the custodial staff live in the community or have graduated from the school.

"I think it'll be interesting to see the proposals become public. We are hoping to gain community support for our side," Piszczek said.

Both negotiating teams saw the opposite side's proposal before they went public.

"There has been no movement on their side. Our (proposal) compared to the previous has showed a move on cost of medical insurance. We are taking out \$100,000 on that," Molinaro said.

Along with insurance, the board has made other changes.

"We have made some changes on the percent of salary increase each year and the offer in bonus money for those on top. We are trying to make sure each member gets an increase," Molinaro said.

The board has not seen changes in the support staff's proposals.

"We want to keep talking but we do not see movement on their side," Molinaro said.

The board does not plan on

making further edits to their proposal.

"We do not foresee changes in our proposal but we will see what happens," Molinaro said.

A increase has been added to the support staff's contracts when all costs are added up.

"We are spending \$525,000 more in wages, benefits, and medical costs," Molinaro said.

Molinaro believes the board has made as many changes as possible with current economic conditions.

"The board has offered support staff employees an equitable agreement that still includes salary increases and generous retirement bonuses," said Molinaro.

Piszczek said the salary cap is the sticking point blocking negotiations.

Perspectives

Our View

Government slashes at education

With Illinois being in debt \$21,607 per person as of October, cutting from education doesn't make sense to help Illinois crawl out of the black hole swallowing the state.

According to the Chicago Tribune, Gov. Pat Quinn proposed a 3 percent funding cut on education, which "represents millions of dollars to districts that depend on state money to balance budgets."

Having a 3 percent funding cut on education will not help Illinois' budget be less in debt.

Schools depend on state money to provide for their students and ensure that each student can get an education that will help them be successful in the future.

If these cuts are approved, the amount of money per student could go down to \$5,452 next school year which is a major difference from the 2010 budget of \$6,119, according to the Chicago Tribune.

Some families are already finding it difficult to pay for school, books, materials, extracurriculars and any other necessities that come with schools. If the state cuts the amount of money each student receives, that's more money out of the pockets of the families.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the state still owes schools \$634 million in past state aid payments.

With Illinois still owing a large sum of money, how does taking more from the education funds help the growing debt?

If anything, it would make the situation worse because the state will owe schools even more money and the schools and students suffer.

Not only is the government not providing enough funds for schools, but schools might not be able to "collect enough local dollars to make up for the loss of state money," according to the Tribune.

Along with the uncertainty of being able to get enough money locally, school districts have limits on what they can raise from local taxpayers under a law aimed at capping property taxes.

If schools can't get money to help support them from members of the community nor the state, where are they supposed to get it from?

Cutting school funds not only affects the amount of money per student but also class sizes.

Wheaton-based Community Unit School District 200 in DuPage County has already "increased their class sizes by one and refigured teacher pay scales to save money, among other reductions," according to Bill Farley, assistant superintendent for business operations at the district in an interview for the Tribune.

Making bigger class sizes affects the students

and teachers in a bad way because teachers have more students to pay attention to.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's school administration also plans to close 129 schools for the next school year to save money.

Closing school is also not a good idea. Once again, class sizes will increase because the students that attended these closed schools need to get an education somewhere.

Not only this but is there enough space at those schools?

It's better to be under enrolled than have overcrowding in classrooms.

Others don't agree with the numbers being shown about education cuts.

Ted Dabrowski, vice president of policy at the Illinois Policy Institute, believes that if state money for suburban and downstate teacher pensions is added to the equation of education funding, the funding would actually rise for the upcoming school year, according to the Tribune.

According to the New York Times, Illinois' "total pension shortfall is conservatively estimated at \$85 billion," proving that even with taking into consideration the pensions, it won't help Illinois' debt in general or the money the state owes

schools.

Along with adding the pensions, Dabrowski believes school districts should focus on spending, including looking at teachers' contracts.

This is not a good idea. Remember the strike Chicago public schools went on resulting from contract debates? Or the District 33 strike that hit close to home also resulting from contract debates?

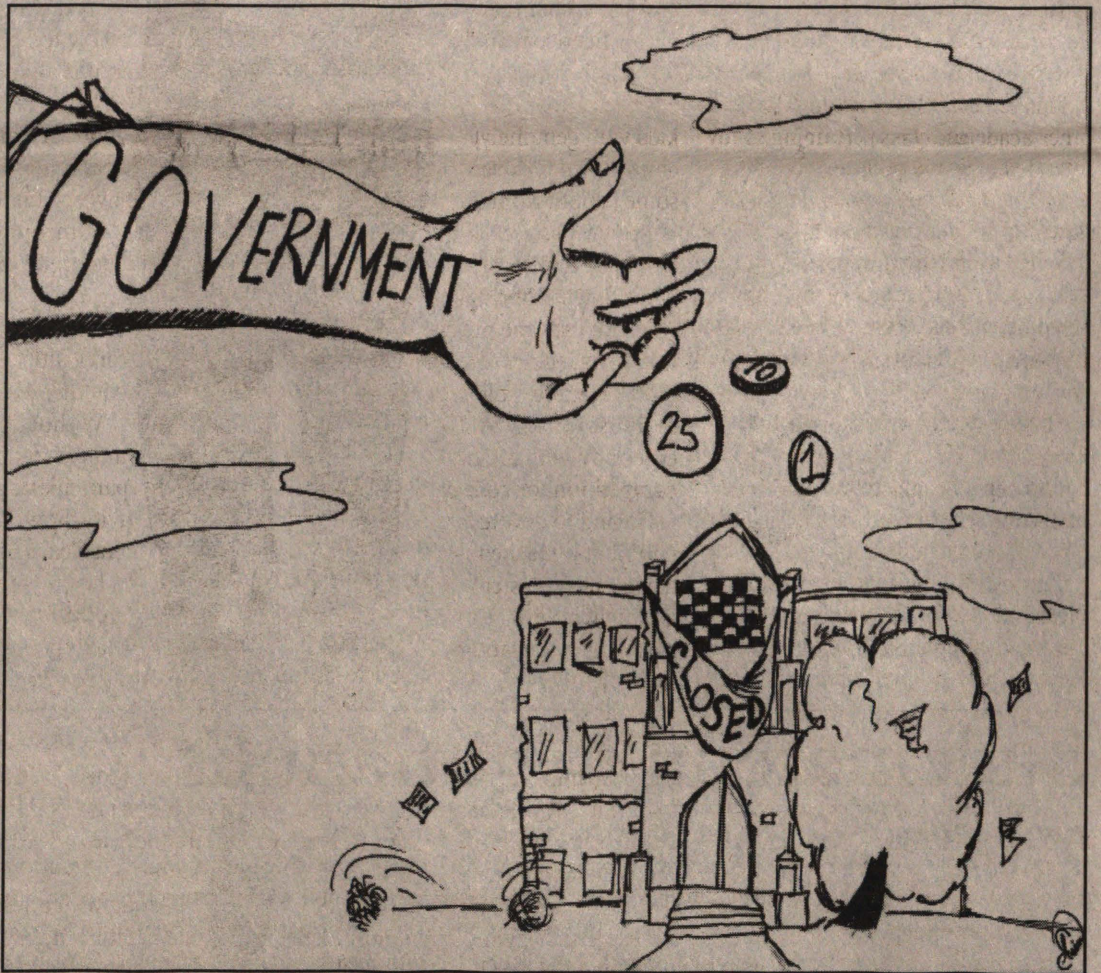
Looking at contracts could cause another strike to occur, again delaying the education of students and costing more money.

Some schools like Plainfield-based School District 202 have already looked at contracts but have not found any cuts and have also made staffing cuts and every employees' salary has been frozen at one point in time since 2009, according to the Chicago.

Contract negotiations aren't helping, staffing cuts have been made, salaries have been touched, when does it stop?

Everything the state does to look at education affects everyone in the educational system, not just one person.

Education is the backbone to our country and without it we're setting up our country for the failure.



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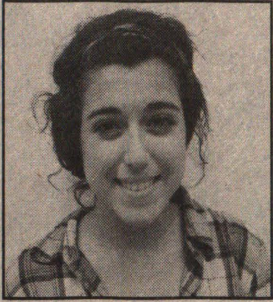
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THE WILDCAT CHRONICLE is the student newspaper at Community High School. It is a public forum for freedom of expression and encourages readers to express their views. The Chronicle publishes eight times a year, with the student editorial board making 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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Physical education, necessary or not? *Diminishes education vs. Provides health benefits*



By Giuliana LaMantia
Center Spread Editor

While exercise and daily physical activity is extremely important, I am not a firm believer in gym class.

Whether it's required or not and no matter how much the teachers crack down, P.E. will never truly be effective because the majority of students do not take it seriously.

Implementing stricter policies hasn't seemed to cut back on non-dressers or slackers, as there is still a handful every day.

If anything, required gym class puts us at an academic disadvantage as we do not have the room in our schedules for more college-bound classes.

This semester I wanted to take another academic class pertaining to my intended major in college.

I tried to get independent studies, however, because of the school's strict rules on P.E., I was ineligible. This option would have been more beneficial for me since I would have another academic class under my belt, and because I get a better workout on my own than I ever have in gym class.

This begs the question, is P.E. necessary for people who are physically fit?

Granted, I'm not a hardcore athlete, but I pass the fitness tests every semester, participate in cross country, and work out on my own.

Is gym, where about 50 percent effort is given, really doing anything beneficial?

According to a study in January by researchers of the "New England Journal of Medicine," P.E. is not long or intense enough to make an impact on kids' weight.

I'm not saying P.E. should amp

up the routines. Working out is a lifestyle choice, and forcing people to exercise is too controlling and an invasion of personal choices, like the attempted ban on sugary drinks over 16 ounces in New York City. A Manhattan judge ruled March 11 the ban could not take place.

It's the control aspect alone that makes gym class so ineffective. Healthy students do not need it, and it is not doing much for the students who do need the exercise.

However, there is no way to make students try their hardest, or even try at all.

What would really be more effective would be to have gym as an elective so that the kids who genuinely enjoy it can receive some benefit from it.

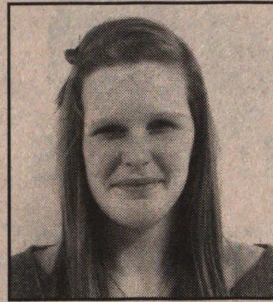
Another option would be to allow students to test out of gym who can pass the fitness tests given each semester.

P.E. is rarely going to be a first priority to kids, especially with all the competition for college.

Having to devote a period in our schedules a day every semester to P.E. is simply holding us back from more educational opportunities.

What is more important in the long run, our academics, or gym, something we give half effort but are forced to attend because America's children are overweight?

Let's be honest, if all you count on for exercise is gym, you're most likely not going to be as healthy.



By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

Not only does P.E. give students a chance to get out of the classroom but it provides 30 minutes for healthy exercise, a way to relieve stress, along with many other benefits.

P.E. is not just about learning how to throw a baseball the correct way or learning how to belay a climber; it is about learning all of those skills and more. It's an effort to teach students how to live a healthier life.

Some might try and argue that teaching a proper diet and exercise should be left for health class, but I couldn't disagree more.

Without proper examples and actually participating in the activity, how will the students learn about what is a healthy amount of exercise?

Many people believe that P.E. class is ineffective because some students don't put in the effort and try. In the long run, the students who don't dress or participate are the ones who are going to suffer.

Along with all the physical health benefits, P.E. class has been proven to help with

stress levels among children and teens.

According to www.mayoclinic.com, exercising releases endorphins that pep up your mood, which can be achieved by any type of physical activity.

High school students in particular have a lot to stress about. P.E. class is a safe alternative to relieving stress rather than some other harmful options teens can choose like drinking and drug use.

ABC News published a report in September stating that schools struggling with budgets have been making cuts from the P.E. funds to be able to spend more for focusing on test scores.

While I can't say anything about schools stressing test scores, because it is important, P.E. classes should never be compromised.

Students need P.E. class because it provides an easy 30 minutes of activity. While the intensity might not suit everyone's needs, it is better to participate in something, rather than nothing at all.

The question you might be thinking to yourself now however is, "But what if students don't like gym class?"

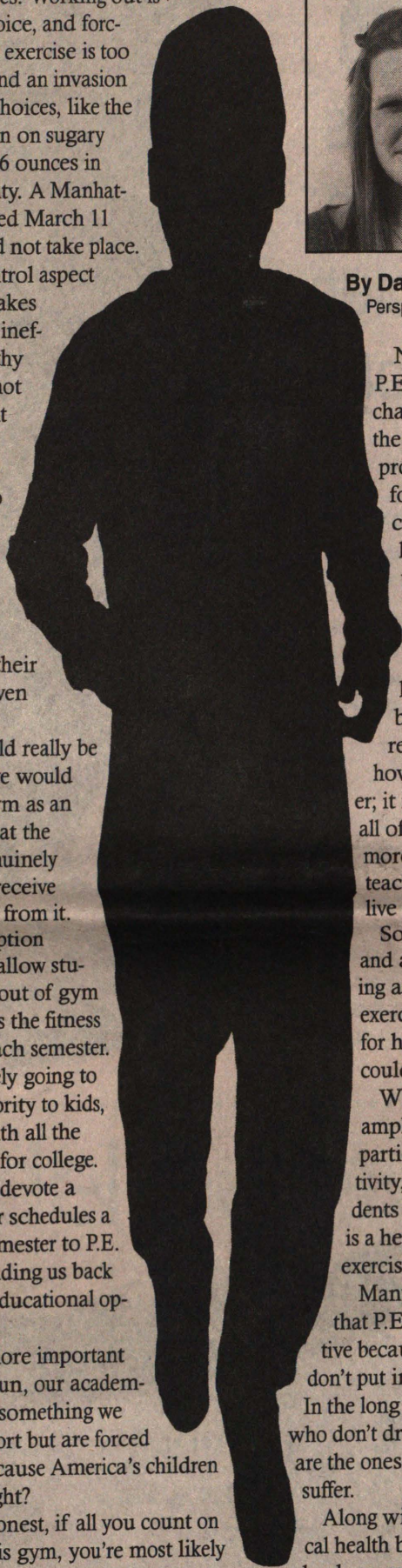
It took me many years to actually realize that I enjoy P.E. class. I was and probably will never be a great runner, but I could usually muster my way through playing most sports.

After a while I realized it's not about how bad you are or how good that other person can do something, it's about staying active and trying to have a little fun with it once in a while.

Students not liking P.E. class is not a new idea, and I'm sure it will be around for as long as the class continues.

However, our school has tried to help with that. Students have so many options about different classes they can take. This is how I discovered I actually like P.E. I'm not big on the whole, 'let's learn about baseball today,' but I love lifting weights in the weight room.

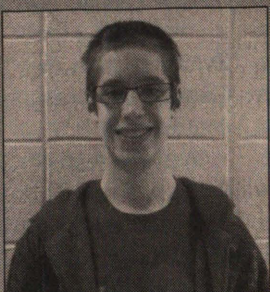
P.E. whether liked or not by students, is fundamental to students' lives and should remain that way.



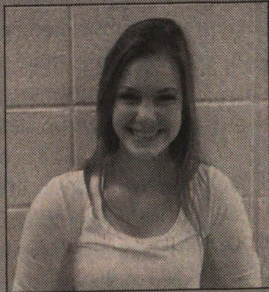
Students Speak

Compiled by Darcy Akins and Gus MacPherson

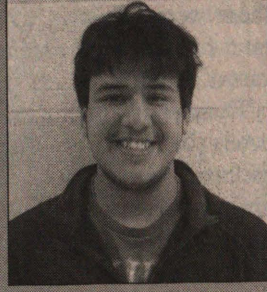
Do you think P.E. class is beneficial to students?



Freshman Sam Thorras
"I like it, it's my favorite class."



Sophomore Maddie Castelveccchi
"I think it got much harder this year which is probably good for students."



Junior Ben Geromini
"I think that gym is helpful because it helps overweight people not be overweight."



Senior Megan Fagalde
"I think through fitness testing, we should be able to test out of gym."

It is clear that certain standards are held for women in terms of looks and actions. However, does society take its expectations too far?

The pressure's on

By Alexandra Garibay
Reporter

With media everywhere, it's easy to be influenced by what people see.

Many people can agree that the media shows women what they should look like and what society expects out of them.

"The media brings girls' self-esteem down, girls try too hard to be what society wants them to be. Girls get mentally hypnotized by what society wants you to be and how you really look. This can cause them to get eating disorders," junior Nataly Cholula said.

Women can start unhealthy habits in order to achieve the image they see in the media.

"(Media portrays) girls to be perfect with perfect long hair, that's what society expects of us which brings us down, it shouldn't be like that," junior Gaby Lopez said.

Even boys agree that what they see in the media is unrealistic.

"In the media they show perfect females with long hair and skinny bodies just like models," junior Jose Rodriguez said.

In movies, women are sometimes depicted as sex symbols and housewives, and in some cases, not shown many times at all.

According to www.worldsavvy.org there are more male lead roles than lead female roles in movies.

For example, take summer box office hits "The Avengers," which was released in May and "Dark Knight Rises," released in July. In a star studded cast for both films there were only two important female roles among a cast of male characters.

These popular female characters (Black Widow and Cat Woman) were both skinny and in shape, making them attractive to males.

"I think those characters are attractive but only because of their bodies and what they do in the movies," Rodriguez said.

Girls think differently about women in movies.

"How women are shown in movies makes the rest of

us feel pressured about having to have a good body so we can be liked by society," Cholula said.

'Media portrays girls to be perfect....It shouldn't be like that.'

-Junior Gaby Lopez

Influence on females does not only happen in movies but also in music videos.

"Women are shown as sexual objects (in music videos) and also not very intelligent. Artists like Rihanna come to mind," sophomore Jackie Fabiszak said.

Websites like Pro-Ana,

Pro-Mia and Pro-ED encourage girls to engage in eating disorder behaviors. These Websites post pictures of extremely thin girls to "inspire" girls to look like that.

"It's sad (there are Websites like that) because that's how my grandma died, girls shouldn't think like that, girls should love themselves for who they are," junior Liliana Keith said.

Magazines and advertisements can also pressure women to look a certain way by showing impractical images of females promoting a certain item.

"(Females in ads) are seen as a minority, flashy and they look like Barbies," Keith said.

However, media has improved, according to social worker Vivian Walsh.

"Media has come a long way since the 1960s, women were shown as one-dimensional, sexual objects. Now they are much stronger, independent and resourceful," Walsh said.

An example Walsh uses is main character Katniss Everdeen from the "Hunger Games" as a strong, independent woman.

"Actress Jessica Chastain in 'Zero Dark Thirty' has a lead role that is strong and smart," Walsh said.

Walsh thinks differently for music videos.

"In music videos women are shown as one-dimensional objects or victims of violence, whereas the film industry's portrayal of women is more multidimensional and realistic," Walsh said.





Picture perfect

By Ericka Hauptman
Reporter

When it comes to looks, females are constantly expected to appear perfect and put together.

"I feel like women are held up to unrealistic high standards and that men can be cavemen but not be judged at all," English teacher Dave Jennings said.

All senior Tom Becker had to say when asked about how women are supposed to look to society was "skinny."

"Boys expect us to look our best with nice hair, tan skin, and makeup but not too much makeup," senior Veronica Kolman said.

Kids agree society has over the top expectations of girls' appearance in terms of skin, hair, and weight.

"Sun kissed skin and skinny," is what senior Andie Lazzerini expressed when asked what girls should look like according to society.

Students admit society says a lot about how women are expected to look, and everyday women are pressured to be that 'perfect girl.'



Expected roles

By Gus MacPherson
Reporter

How women should act has often been questioned by society, however certain stereotypes have been adopted as common place.

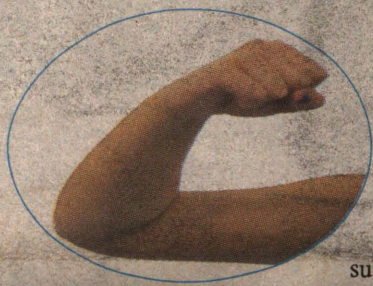
According to www.healthguidance.org, women are often forced into unfavorable stereotypes, such as working as nurses or secretaries.

Women have often felt pressured to act according to established norms.

"Women are expected to act the part of a demure housewife," sophomore Julia Dieter said. "If you want to be a housewife, go right ahead, but don't let people tell you that you have to just because you're a woman."

While some men choose to be the stay at home dad while the woman goes into the working field, it is considered an abnormal way of living.

"To change the stereotypes, we need to teach people to be open minded," senior Alex Alvarez said.



Overcoming societal norms

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

For centuries women have been fighting for equality with men and, the struggle continues today.

During the Enlightenment, Jean-Jacques Rousseau (a leader in the French Revolution) said women were subordinate to men.

The first wake-up call that rules needed to change was World War II because men went to war and women had the chance to work.

"You had women making the wages men were making and having a sense of independence," social studies teacher Roberta Felfle said.

However, the Equal Rights Amendment hasn't passed and to this day women are not treated as equals with men.

According to www.dol.gov today women earn about 80 cents on the dollar, resulting in the loss of about \$380,000 over a woman's career.

"I feel instead of moving forward in some areas we're moving back," Felfle said. "I think that moving this (Equal Rights) amendment is more important than it was before."

Model behavior

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

These days it's becoming more difficult for teens to keep up with society's standards of what they should look, dress, and even act like.

However, this pressure to be a certain way is not new for junior Citlalli Arriaga, who has been modeling since the end of her sophomore year.

"I think there is (pressure) because there are a lot of girls and you're supposed to be really tall. The main height is 5 feet 7 inches and I'm really short. The other pressure is being a certain weight," Arriaga said. "I think it's not very accurate that you have to maintain a certain weight because it adds on as another pressure."

While some of the pressures come with the territory of modeling, for example being tall for runway, the weight standards can be quite discriminating.

"(My weight) is good, but

other girls who are taller have to have the same weight.

For me since I'm shorter, this weight is good for me. I work out and eat healthy to stay this weight," Arriaga said.

Being a model is sure to bring some sort of judgment and criticism, even if it is to make one a better model, the comments still can be upsetting.

"I was hurt at first because you know, no one is really perfect. I can't control it. If I grow or something; I don't control that," Arriaga said.

Aside from just the mod-



Citlalli Arriaga

eling agencies putting pressure on their girls, Arriaga agrees that society as a whole puts too much pressure on girls.

"I honestly feel like (the pressure) makes other girls look bad. I don't like (the pressures) because certain girls look up to those (models) and say 'oh they're so pretty.' I think a lot of girls are pretty not just based on their body," Arriaga said.

An image that is usually thought of when it comes to beauty and modeling is the image of Barbie Dolls.

"Everybody plays with dolls when they're small and they look at them and think 'oh they're perfect'; when really they're not," Arriaga said.

Beauty has no set definition to Arriaga.

"Even Marilyn Monroe was 5 feet 2 inches, and she was short. She had curves and she was really pretty. She wasn't skinny," Arriaga said.

Modeling can have its downsides and disliked aspects, but it also has its fun moments and perks.

"I like (modeling). It's more of a profession, actually. It's really fun. A lot of other girls want to do it, but it's hard to get into. If you do get the opportunity though, it is really fun," Arriaga said.

Uniqueness and different personalities are often hidden because of society's pressure to fit everyone into a mold; being your own person changes that, Arriaga said.

"Every girl is their own person, and they should be themselves," Arriaga said.

Adopted student finds place among Italian family

By Liz Ramos
Co-Editor in Chief

Most students are told they look like their mom or dad, but sophomore Kimberly Mauriello didn't exactly fit in with her "pale skin and red hair" in a family of Italians.

"I was (adopted at) two days old. My birth mother went to the hospital and had me and said, 'I can't keep this baby.' My birth mother knew that my mom now wanted a baby," Mauriello said.

When Mauriello's parents found out they were going to be able to adopt, they were vacationing in Wisconsin.

"Nobody knew they were (in Wisconsin) but through a bunch of chained phone calls they found out. My aunt ended up answering the phone. They were waiting a long time for a baby sibling for my brother," Mauriello said. "They came all the way down from Wisconsin to Chicago and the whole time they're sitting in the car thinking of names for me."

Mauriello's parents originally decided to name her Catherine Hope but one family member didn't agree.

"When my brother was with them and they first got me, he was like, 'no, (Catherine Hope) is a stupid name,' Mauriello said. "She should be named Kimberly and wear pink clothes and save the world someday."

Mauriello has always known she was adopted.

"It's sort of obvious. I have a family of Italians and I'm pale and red-headed. (But)

there's no place I'd rather be," Mauriello said. "I'm happy and my parents are happy because they were never able to have kids. It worked out great."

Since the adoption, Mauriello's birth mom contacted her mom to see how her daughter has grown.

"My birth mother made contact with my mom over Facebook when she found the letter my mom wrote to her thanking her. She asked, 'Can I see pictures of my daughter?' My mom was like, 'Are you okay with this?' and I didn't really care," Mauriello said. "She's not my mom exactly. She may be genetically but she didn't raise me or teach me the things I know."

Similarities between Mauriello and her birth mom are evident to her.

"I've seen her profile picture (on Facebook). Apparently, I look exactly like her," Mauriello said. "The funniest thing she said to my mom was, 'Of course, I give up the one kid that looks like me.'"

Even though Mauriello has had contact with her birth mother, she has yet to meet her or her father, who has separated from her birth mother, in person.

"I do want to meet her. I think it'd be interesting. I'm not really interested at looking into my father though. The things I've heard are a little sketchy," Mauriello said.

With the adoption Mauriello has had a chance at a better life.

"I think (the adoption) made (life) better and I have

more options in life. My entire situation has changed because my mom decided to give me up for the betterment of my life," Mauriello said.

Not wanting her was not the reason for Mauriello's birth mother giving her up.

"She wanted me to have a solid family with good values," Mauriello said. "She wanted me to live a full and happy life so I'm forever thankful for that."

Due to the adoption being a closed adoption, Mauriello cannot legally be in direct contact with her birth parents until she is 18.

"I totally get that but at the same time it's kind of annoying because you're like, 'Really? I'm not going to leave my parents,'" Mauriello said.

Her birth mother also benefited from Mauriello's adoption.

"I think it would've been pretty bad to be honest. My (birth) mom was pretty young, she was 21. She already had two kids and she wasn't in a stable relationship," Mauriello said. "I think my birth mother would've tried her best. Now, she's living a better life. (The adoption) was obviously for the best."

Whether adopted at birth or years later, Mauriello would love her family no matter what.

"If I met my parents when I was 10 and they adopted me, I would always think of them as my parents. I don't think I would think of them in any other way," Mauriello said. "They've always been perfect in every way."

New life, brand new opportunities



By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

I went from being Sarah Jean Williams to Sarah Anna Szremski on Feb. 14, 2001, and made a part of a new family, which was the biggest event that has ever happened to me.

Most of the time adoptions are pre-planned, and there is no reason that the child should be any different from anyone else.

I lived with my grandmother the first two years of my life, because my mother was not in a position where she could keep us.

After that, I was a foster child for 2 1/2 years because my grandmother was incapable of taking care of my siblings and me.

I hated foster care. More than once the children of the foster parents would get jealous and bully my siblings and me.

Most of the time people just want cute babies. No one wanted two 4-year-olds and a 7-year-old.

My siblings and I were about to be split up into different families when the adoption agency found the Szremski family.

One year later, along with my twin sister Linda and older brother RJ, we finally had found a real home.

Then, in 2004, two years after being adopted, we found out that we had two more siblings, my brother Alexander and my sister Lilyanna who had been in the foster care system as well.

There are good situations because of being adopted by the Szremskis.

It has made me a lot more grateful for what I have because I most likely wouldn't have had it be-

fore.

However, it does get stressful at times with people having their stereotypes about adopted children.

Sometimes when someone learns that I am adopted they never treat me the same, but this it shouldn't change someone's opinion of me.

Some of the experiences I have been through are definitely not from a fairytale, but no one's life is perfect.

Remembering where I could be helps me because I have been given a chance at a better life. Who knows where I would be right now if I wasn't adopted? I've been given opportunities. I've been given a family.

However, there still are a lot of children in foster care.

According to www.fosteringconnections.org, in 2001, the year I was adopted, the chances of me being adopted were 32 percent because of my age. The amount of children who are in foster care until they are 18 has increased by 1,444 between 2001 and 2009 to 29,471, according to www.fosteringconnections.org and the numbers are still rising.

Adopting us together was a difficult task for the agency.

According to www.fosteringconnections.org, the year I was adopted I was a part of the 10 percent group that were not separated from their siblings into different families.

Parents who could have adopted us were scared that we would have mental, emotional or physical problems.

It agitates me how little people really know about adoption. The school does talk about it in health class, but I don't think it's enough.

I have learned lessons because of what I have been through that some people may never know.

One of the lessons that I learned because of being adopted is it's important to not dwell in what happened in the past, but what you can do in the future.



Photo courtesy of Kimberly Mauriello

Despite not looking like her adopted family, sophomore Kimberly Mauriello, bottom row, second from left, has found her place, and would not have it any other way.

Time for (Thipi) Thai

Thipi Thai Restaurant and Lounge: By combining traditional cuisine and twists to their dishes, Thipi Thai proves to be a unique experience. 530 Crescent Blvd., Glen Ellyn, 630-469-9001. Open 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday, noon to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Noodles

Pad Khea Mao
A delicious blend of egg noodles, peppers, a choice of meat, and more in a tasty sauce.

Pad Woonsen Chicken 11
Stir fried colophane noodles, chicken, egg, and vegetables in a brown sauce

Thipi Noodle 10
Crispy fresh noodles sautéed with beef, broccoli, pineapples, carrots and bean sprouts with mild sweet garlic sauce

Lard Nar

Banana Lover's Delight
Warm, flaky, fried banana, savory strawberry rum sauce, and cold, creamy vanilla ice cream are a match made in heaven.

Entrées

Spicy Basil Eggplant
An authentic meal consisting of delicious caramelized eggplant, mushrooms, bell peppers, and onions with garlic sauce, and jalapeños.

Orange Duck 16
Boneless duck marinated with garlic and ginger mango orange

Chilis signify the spiciness. The more chilis, the spicier the dish.

Medium Spicy Spicy Very Spicy

Desserts

Thipi Basket 6
Bananas and white chocolate wrapped inside a wonton wrapper, lightly fried and tossed in cinnamon and sugar. Served with a raspberry rum sauce and ice cream

Banana Lovers Delight 6
Battered bananas, fried to golden perfection, served with a raspberry rum sauce and ice cream

EXTRA SIDE OF PEANUT SAUCE, HOT SAUCE etc. 25¢ each.
18% Gratuity charge for parties of 5 or more

*By Giuliana LaMantia and Keyuri Parmar
Photos by Giuliana LaMantia*

Chicago natives bring beats, fresh sound back to town

By Ericka Hauptman
Reporter

DJs Flossdradamus and Dillion Francis performed a power booming show at the Congress Theatre March 8.

The show of electronic music was sold out and didn't disappoint with great music from all who performed.

Flossdradamus was a supporting act before Dillion Francis, a DJ duo, J2K (Josh Young) and Autobot (Curt Cameruci), from Chicago, with an upraising performance that kept the show going with nonstop fun.

When Floss performed their mix to "Original Don," the crowd cheered and went crazy, their hands flying in the air to the beat of the song.

The DJ-duo is known for their hard hitting trap sets and that's exactly what they

delivered.

It was both a classic and unique set as Flossdradamus dropped popular tracks as well as some remixes that were unexpected. They opened up with covers of Lana Del Rey's "Video games" and then mixed right into "Bugatti" by Ace Hood.

According to www.congress theatre.com, Flossdradamus has been able to reinvent party rocking for close to a decade because these Chicago boys bring an irresistible sense of fun to every single set, whether it's at a sweat-soaked concert or in front of thousands at Lollapalooza.

Flossdradamus more than exceeded the standards of what was expected.

When the lights hit the fog, it made Flossdradamus look even better, as if they were illuminated in a cloudy rain-

bow of paradise.

As the night went on, Francis kept the crowd on their feet.

Francis is an upcoming artist who, when he released his first song "Masta Blasta (The Rebirth)," got a lot attention from many other DJs.

Francis put on a great performance, incorporating his kitty effects and taco videos that were the talk of the show.

Dillion dropped down some serious songs with the hits, "Masta Blasta" and "Masta Blasta (The Rebirth)," and his recent "Bootleg Fireworks," along with some of remixes including Zedd's "Stars Come Out."

If you enjoy dancing and having an awesome time with friends but don't mind loud music, then a concert like Flossdradamus and Francis would blow you away.

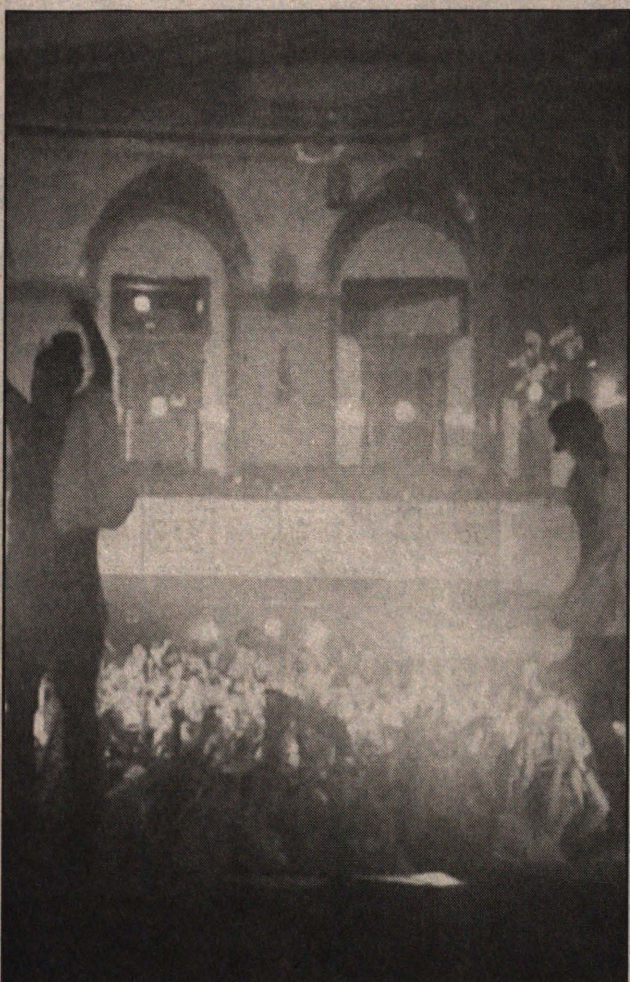


Photo by Ericka Hauptman

DJ duo Flossdradamus keeps the crowd going before Dillion Francis takes the stage at the Congress Theatre on March 8.

Students go above, beyond the norm

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

While the stresses in high school can be a burden for many, it doesn't faze senior Amanda Gosbeth and sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre who manage to juggle additional activities including sports, clubs, and advanced classes successfully.

"I am on the cross country team, I play basketball, and I'm involved in the musical," Gimre said smiling. "I also do Drama Club when I'm not doing sports, and I'm involved in orchestra. I'm also involved in my Bible study group."

Gimre is also in advanced classes.

"I'm in honors English, honors chemistry, and honors advanced algebra with trigonometry and western civilization," Gimre said.

With all the time and energy that goes into each activity and studying for her classes, it can become hard to find free time to do activities be-

sides her extracurriculars.

"Sometimes you get really busy, but I like that you always have a routine every day. I always like to feel like I'm doing something and not just sitting around doing nothing," Gimre said.

As for future plans, Gimre said she plans to keep being

as involved as she is now.

"I'm thinking about running cross country in college, I don't know, we'll see where that goes. I would like to be part of (some) clubs (in) college," Gimre said.

Some students, like Gimre, don't find balancing their activities difficult.

For senior Amanda Gosbeth, finding a way to manage all of her extracurriculars has been a way of life ever since middle school.

"Now I don't (find it hard to balance everything) because I'm so used to it. I have been this way ever since middle school basically," Gos-

beth said.

Gosbeth is involved in five clubs and is in two advanced placement (AP) classes.

"I am part of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Lifesmarts, student ambassadors, National Honor Society, and Spanish (NHS). I'm also in AP literature and AP calculus," Gosbeth said.

Along with the advanced classes and clubs she is part of, she also does sports.

"I'm part of the basketball team and the softball team," Gosbeth said.

Being part of activities in school by itself however wasn't enough for Gosbeth.

"(Outside of school) I volunteer at my church a lot and I'm part of a travel softball team," Gosbeth said.

Even though being involved takes up a lot of time, Gosbeth believes it will set her up for success.

"It probably helps a lot (with job interviews) because they can see that I have good time management and I have experience in a lot of different areas," Gosbeth said.



Photos by Darcy Akins

While sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre, left, participates in orchestra, basketball, and cross country in addition to other activities, senior Amanda Gosbeth, takes part in softball, basketball, and student ambassadors, while keeping up with other clubs and school.

'Burt Wonderstone' lacks magic, charm

By Akeem Asani
Reporter

Magic tricks are performed to wow audiences. With a title like "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone," it's meant to be enjoyed.

However, don't be fooled by this illusion.

"The Incredible Burt Wonderstone" tells the story of Burt Wonderstone (Steve Carell) and his partner, Anton Marvelton (Steve Buscemi), who have a falling out when one of the routines goes wrong.

Wonderstone is then overshadowed by a new street magician, known as Steve Gray (Jim Carrey), who is coincidentally a rip off of David Blaine and Criss Angel.

Soon, Wonderstone and Marvelton must work together to take down Gray and reclaim their throne as the elite magicians on the Las Vegas strip, while Wonderstone becomes a better person.

Unfortunately, that's about it.

To try and spice up the plot, Jane (Olivia Wilde), an assistant to Wonderstone and Marvelton, inspires to become a star magician.

After being at the butt end of many (really bad) women jokes throughout the film,

she eventually falls in love with Wonderstone. About 30 minutes in, though, that had already been predicted.

And to make the movie that much better, there's Rance Halloway, (Alan Arkin), an old magician and Wonderstone's inspiration. After Halloway's hiatus from magic, Wonderstone finds him in a retirement home where Halloway teaches him new magic tricks to help take down Gray.

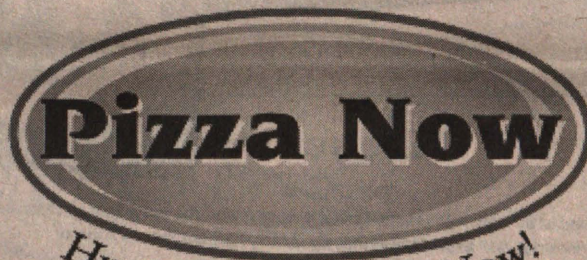
About 30 minutes in, that had also been predicted.

This movie is extremely cliché. A) It's an underdog story. B) It's a love story. And C) Everyone lives happily ever after.

Audiences have all seen this kind of movie and plot millions of times. With a very disappointing performance from Carrell, fellow movie-goers may feel that they walked into the wrong theater.

But let it be known that you are, unfortunately, in the right movie.

With about as much life as a whoopee cushion gag, this "comedy", which should be known as "The Incredible Burt Blunderstone," ceased to amaze. Do yourself a favor and save that \$5.50 and the 100 minutes.



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Friends don't let
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\$5 Large Pizza

Show your school ID for a free order of Breadsticks
with the purchase of a Pizza (One per person)



Photo by Darcy Akins

At Monday's game against Geneva, Senior Jared Baranowski attempts to catch the ball.

More wins overall

By Darcy Akins
Perspectives Editor

While the spring sport season has just begun, the lacrosse team is hoping to get more wins this year than in previous years.

The first three games of the season were on Saturday at Lyons Township. The team took home one win and two losses.

After their game on Monday, the team has acquired the record of 1-3.

Each of the players have their individual goals as well.

"We are practicing a lot harder this year, our goal is to do better than .500 and compete with the higher end teams. The team is more focused this year," junior Jordan Lelito said. "My goals for this year are to lead the state in assists and to be in the top 20 for goals scores in the state."

Junior David Theiner has some of the team's goals in mind.

"Our whole team is hoping to go to state and play. (We want to) go pretty far in the playoffs and just win a lot so we can prove to the school that we can be a team," Theiner said.

The team is hoping to do better and move forward this year.

"Our varsity is looking very good this year. We have a better team," Theiner said.

Even though the team is shaping up this season, there are still many aspects the team can improve on before they move forward.

"I'd just say fundamentally, passing and catching, (because) we can always improve on that and just scoring goals mostly, and playing good defense," Theiner said.

As for lacrosse just being another sport that they play, Lelito said that's not the case.

"We have dedicated ourselves to lacrosse and we all love it. It has quickly become everyone's favorite sport that they play," Lelito said.

Shooting hoops at state

By Akeem Asani
Reporter

Senior Jimmy Rizzo shot eight out of 15 hoops in the IHSA State Three-Point Showdown on March 14 at Bradley University's Carver Arena in Peoria.

Rizzo needed to shoot 10 out of 15 shots to advance.

The IHSA Three-Point Showdown consists of 15 shots, with five basketballs on three racks. Each contestant has 45 seconds to make as many baskets as possible. All competitions are set up with

the same rules.

To prepare for the regional, sectional, and state competition, Rizzo did not practice much.

"I just hoped I'd be on when I shot at state. You either feel it or you don't," Rizzo said.

Juniors Marco Lomibao, Mike Enger, and senior Dean Pauley also competed at York High School.

Rizzo made nine out of 15 baskets and moved on to the sectional at Schaumburg High school to get a score of 12 out of 15 shots.

Overall, Rizzo took away a genuine experience from the event.

"I think going down to state is an experience in itself. It's fun to go and see all the best shooters in the state compete against you and everyone else," Rizzo said.

Better equipped than last season

By Guadalupe Blanco
Lifestyles Editor

With a new season under way, the baseball team has found that with returning players and fresh faces, they are better equipped than before for their season.

"I think we're stronger in almost every area. We have a number of kids that had a ton of playing time as juniors, and now as seniors have one year of varsity experience under their belt," coach Dan McCarthy said.

With the addition of players that are on the varsity team, the boys are looking to older players that have more experience for leadership.

"(Even though) as we lost some good players (last year), I think the kids are coming up to replace them," McCarthy said.

One such player is senior Mike Zajac, who is a pitcher and first baseman.

"Mike's the one guy that probably has the most varsity experience coming back. He'll be our number one pitcher, and he'll play first base when he doesn't pitch, but Mike's going to be one of our leaders," McCarthy said.

According to Zajac, the new talent and old experience have worked together for an overall improvement.

"(Even though) it's a challenge every year, so far, we

haven't had any problems getting people to fit into their spots," Zajac said.

The team has started to find their strengths.

"Right now we're still just in the practice phase, (but) I feel like our infield is going to be strong," Zajac said. "Our defense is pretty good, but it's kind of hard to tell offensively because we haven't been able to get outside and hit."

Even though the team hasn't been able to get outside, they've been working with what they have.

"The team has definitely gotten better, even since the beginning of practice," sophomore Connor Dall said. "Our strength is definitely going to be our bats this year. We're going to like to hit for power this year, and then run the bases."

The boys are playing at home, Pioneer Park, against St. Francis at 4:30.

Come Out for a Night of FUN!

Friday, April 5th

DVC-ESCC

Challenge

Benedictine University
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Over \$ 1,000 of prizes!

2 Double header baseball games
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Games begin at 4:30 p.m.

All profits will go to the David DeJesus

Foundation to support the cure of ALS disease

Tickets: \$ 1 students and \$ 2 adults .T-shirts:\$ 10

Motivation not stunted, indoor DVC



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

At practice, freshman Cindy Mendez does sprints in preparation of outdoor season.

By Akeem Asani
Reporter

With the results of indoor DVC in, boys and girls track know what they need to keep doing at practice to improve.

Girls

Girls track made great strides at the end of the indoor season with their eighth place result at the indoor DVC held at North Central College.

Freshman Emma McCarthy ran a 2:28 800, while Cindy Mendez ran and won the JV 400 in 64 seconds

Junior Lindsey Sayner ran

a 2:23 in the 800 and also ran a 5:19 mile which is the second fastest indoor mile any girl has run in school history.

Senior sprinting captain Carla Dannug thinks the extra practices were the reason for good results.

"We started doing morning practices (everyday) for everybody, not just long distance runners," Dannug said.

According to coach Robert Maxson, the morning practices helped out the team, and some runners set their personal best records.

"The sprinters had good attendance, so they showed great results," Maxson said.

While the team is a little outnumbered, it is made up by team spirit.

"We're very encouraging towards each other and that's going to make a big difference," junior Catherine Serio said.

Boys

At the end of their indoor season, boys track placed last at the indoor DVC at North Central College with a total of 2 points.

Despite the tough loss, some of the boys stood out with great results. Seniors Eddy Rubio finished at fifth place in the high jump, while Tim Lindhardt placed seventh in the 800, which put him at 39th in state.

After seeing their results with indoor season, boys track has made progress and is prepping for the outdoors.

"The kids have been working really hard at practice. It's definitely showing in the meets," coach Paul McCle-

land said.

Young credits the hard work to a "stricter" training regimen than last year.

"(McCleland) really stepped it up this year by increasing the intensity of work," Young said.

Team bonding has reminded the team to keep the fundamental of training in mind.

"It's not just about running this year. We're actually hitting the weight room after practice to get stronger," said senior Vishal Disiwar.

According to Disiwar, he wants the team to be the best it can be and hopes the team can stay focused.



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

Senior Bruno Munoz, jogs as a warm-up before the workout begins.

Basics, bonding

Giuliana LaMantia
Center Spread Editor

With new players and a younger team, softball is going back to the basics and working on team bonding to improve and grow closer.

"We had six or seven seniors last year who were on varsity as juniors, so we had a lot of experience coming back," coach Kim Wallner said. "This year's group has quite a few new starters, and only three or four students played a lot last year."

One tactic Wallner is implementing is putting the players in situations under pressure.

"We're working a lot of fundamentals and breaking more things down than we did last year," Wallner said.

Most players participate on separate summer teams and do not play much outside of West Chicago softball, so the team has been learning to work together.

"Last year, the group played together quite a bit, so they knew each other well," Wallner said.

To know each other on and off the field, the girls have team bonding practice.

"We do a lot of whiffle ball games against JV or the frosh/soph team," senior captain Morgan Dastych said. "We are also doing a team sleepover and scavenger hunt so we get to know each other a little better."

Communication while playing is also important. "We're trying to talk a lot during practices, and we're going

to have team get-togethers," senior captain Amanda Gosbeth said.

Despite the differences, the girls are confident for this season.

"The season is going really well," Dastych said. "We have six seniors which is really exciting, but we also have four sophomores, so we have a pretty young team but we all work really well together so I think that we will have a good season."

With such a young team, the seniors enjoy helping out the underclassmen at practices.

"(The younger players) have less experience, so the seniors have to step up and be leaders," Gosbeth said.

Being the last year in the DVC, the girls hope to leave their mark.

"It's our last year in the DVC so I think everyone is looking to make one last statement," Dastych said.

Wallner feels the DVC aspect will make the season more interesting.

"I think it adds a little dimension," Wallner said. "Our conference is solid in softball. It will be a competitive game every game."

One of team's toughest games will be against rival Glenbard North.

"A lot of (Glenbard North) players are returning, and a lot of them are going to be playing in college," Gosbeth said.

Softball's first game is Thursday against Burlington Central at home at 4:30 p.m.

Preparation for season

Volleyball boys prepare to take on DVC for last time

By Ericka Hauptman
Reporter

With tryouts done and the season underway the boys volleyball team is taking on the DVC one last time.

For their first game the boys are preparing harder than they have before.

"We're doing a lot to prepare," senior Tom Becker said. "We're stepping up our offensive speed."

Their first game is Friday, at 5:30 p.m. at the Hawks Invite to start off the season. Hard work and dedication at

every practice will be the goal for the team to win many games.

Captains Becker and Travis Kuhlman are excited for this season to start.

The team has been together before, but with all being seniors this year, they hope to make a statement as their final season together as a team in the DVC.

"I'm excited to help lead this team to a great season," Becker said.

Coach Kris Hasty plans on having a respectable, accountable, and dedicated

team for this season.

"We definitely plan on having a good season, we have a very strong front line and great team chemistry," Becker said.

This year's team has a great vibe to it and the team was all on the same club team together which puts them over the top with unity, according to Becker.

"We have all seniors this year and this season looks promising," Hasty said.

The boys plan on placing in the top of the DVC.

"I'm excited, this year is going to be fun," senior Joey Laiter said.

As the season goes on the goals for the team are to go as far as possible in the post season and just keep on improving, according to Becker.

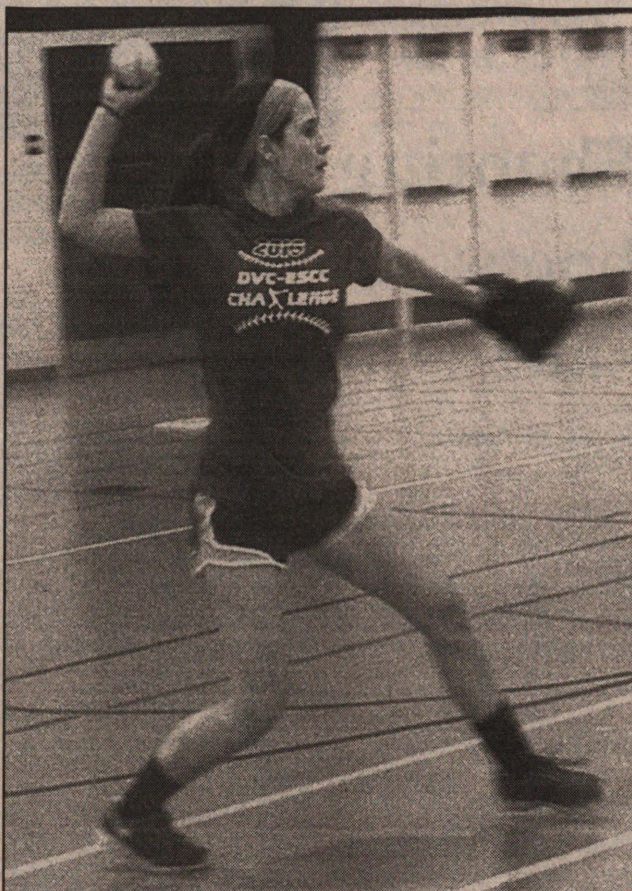


Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

At practice, junior Natalie Warkins prepares to throw the ball to her teammate.

Optimistic start to season

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

On Monday, the girls soccer team won against Schaumburg High School for the first time, 2-0.

"We played our game from start to finish. We have never beaten Schaumburg before so it was pretty cool to finally beat them," senior Andie Lazzarini said.

The goalie was a key player.

"Our goalie (freshman Gaby Navejas) was a key player last night. She had some amazing saves," Lazzarini said.

The girls lost 0-2 to Saint Francis on Saturday.

"We watched the film

(Sunday) and tried to adjust for the (game against) Schaumburg High School, they are a good team," coach Cesar Gomez said.

The new team consists of many freshmen.

"This year there are a lot of new girls. We have six new people to the team. Five being freshman, with such great talent and potential, and a senior, who didn't play last year and is determined to make a difference," senior Andrea Correa said.

Practice along with motivation is key to doing well.

"We not only have been touching the ball around, but try to motivate one another to keep our heads up and be ready to conquer the game," Correa said.

Every game allows the girls to learn in a different way. "Each and every game that's played is a lesson learned, win or lose. With that being said, we can see what it is that helps us play soccer and cooperate as a team," Correa said.

Overtime loss brings end

By Keyuri Parmar
Co-Editor in Chief

The Wildhawks season ended in overtime in the final state playoff game against Buffalo Grove, Hersey, Wheeling High Schools team (BGHW), 2-3.

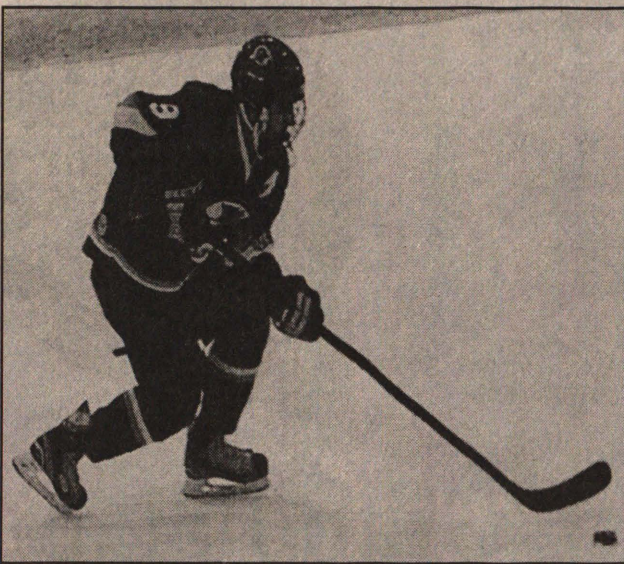


Photo by Keyuri Parmar
Before playoffs Senior Danny Klien treats each game as preparation for state playoffs.

They ended the season 30-17-1.

"We played a great game. An unlucky bounce in overtime just didn't go our way," senior Ryan Cooper said.

Before the game, they knew it would be a difficult game.

"Going into the game I

knew BGHW was going to be a decent team, I knew we could beat them, we wanted the win very bad to make it back to the United Center so we could redeem ourselves after last year," senior Jason Wiedmyer said.

According to Wiedmyer, the team is satisfied with how they played even though they lost.

"The game went well, I thought everyone gave it everything they could," Wiedmyer said.

Scoring went back and forth throughout the game.

"We played a good game overall, we scored and they tied us in the first period and second period," Cooper said.

The boys still finished the season within the final four teams in the state.

"It's still amazing that we made it to the final four but just stinks that we didn't make it to state," Cooper said.

Team doubles, still struggling

By Alexandra Garibay
Reporter

Although the boys tennis team has doubled since last year, they are still struggling with a complete lineup.

This year they have a total of 11 boys on JV and varsity.

Coach Sione Moeaki believes the players will have a different experience playing on the team this season.

"It looks good for returners, they will be more experienced, some play a lot off season and take lessons," Moeaki said.

For those who just started playing this season some struggles might surface, according to Moeaki.

"It will be a challenge for those who show up for the first time, no experience or background," Moeaki said.

Junior Xavier Williams is a returning player and recognizes the challenges the team faces.

"Last year's team was pretty good, we didn't win many matches last year that we would like (to have) but overall we had a decent team," Williams said.

Last season the team had to give up three or four points every game for an incomplete lineup, which may be the case this year as well.

A complete lineup is 20 players.

"It's hard to compete with a small number of players," Moeaki said.

Players also understand how difficult it is competing at matches.

"Right now we are a (small) team, we don't have many players," Williams said.

Despite having a small number of players the team

practices hard to prepare themselves for the season.

"Hopefully we don't have struggles, and we avoid any obstacles or struggles so we can get better this year," junior Gustavo Esquivel said.

For junior Eric Gonzalez, being a new player makes him unsure of season's outcome.

"I think we should be able to win most of our matches," Gonzalez said.

The first game will be a home game against Larkin Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

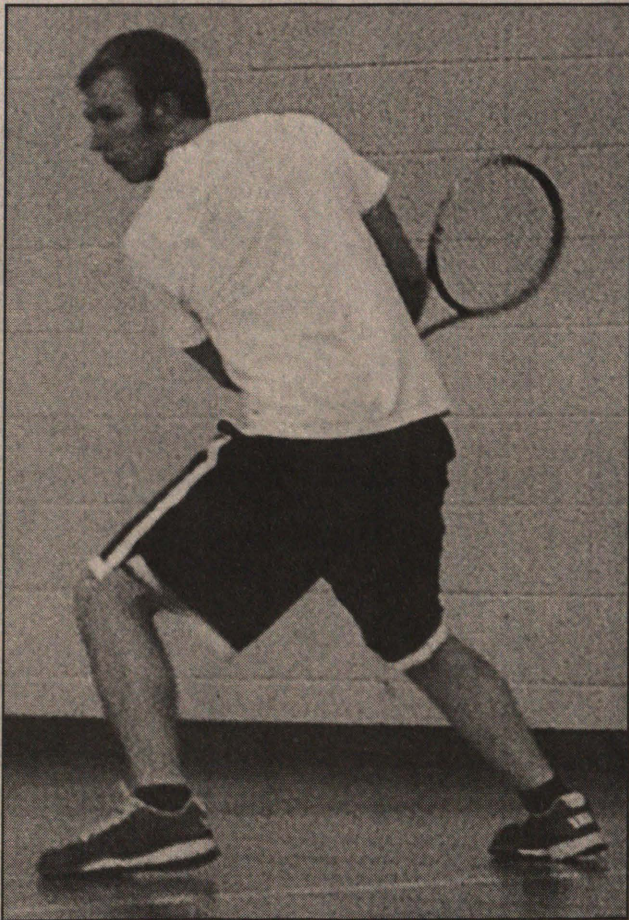


Photo by Darcy Akins
Senior Captain Sam Rylowicz takes his backswing while preparing to hit the ball.

DVC-ESCC Challenge

Sports marketing class organizes baseball event

By Guadalupe Blanco
Lifestyles Editor

With baseball season off to a start, this year brings the return of the DVC ESCC (East Suburban Catholic Conference) Challenge on April 5.

"Ourselves, and Naperville Central will be playing a double header against two teams from the East Suburban Catholic," Dan McCarthy, sports entertainment and marketing teacher said. "The team (will face off against) Joliet Catholic and Benet Academy at Benedictine University in Lisle."

Unlike most sporting events, the Challenge will be run completely by students in sports and entertainment marketing.

"These games are going to be run by the (students), and they're the ones coordinating it," McCarthy said.

For the students in sports marketing, it's an opportunity to gain experience.

"It shows you what you have to put into these kinds of events to get them going," senior Joey Laiter said. "We're promoting the event, which is marketing aspect, and then for the entertainment, you've got the fan fun

events as well."

Not only are the students learning in a classroom, but also getting a hands-on experience.

"Basically, we've turn it into a minor league game and coordinated fan fun events in between innings," junior Doug Murphy said.

"We raised all the money to get it started, (but) coming up with all the ideas has probably been the hardest."

The event is not just for marketing but has a good cause.

"The money we raise by running this event is going to go to the David DeJesus Family Foundation," McCarthy said. "David DeJesus is an outfielder for the Chicago Cubs, and he runs a foundation to try to find the cure for ALS, which is Lou Gehrig's disease."

In donating to this specific foundation, the event will be more memorable for everyone.

"We're selling t-shirts, having the fan fun events, and everything goes to the foundation, so we're not taking any profit," junior Natalie Warkins said.

As an added bonus, there will also be a special guest at the Challenge.

"David's wife, Kim DeJesus, is going to come out for the first pitch," McCarthy said.

Tickets are available for \$1 per student, \$2 for adults, and t-shirts selling for \$10.

Cubs

Crosstown Classic Facts behind the plate

Sox

-October 14, 1908: Cubs become first team to win back-to-back World Series, beating Detroit.

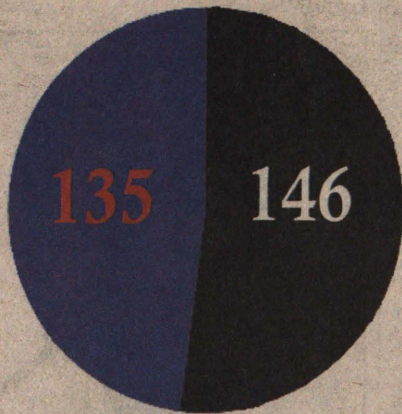
-The White Stockings go on to win the inaugural National League championship. Using nicknames such as the "White Stockings," "Colts," and "Orphans," the team plays in five different locations in the 1800s. The fledgling league thrived, as did the Chicago organization, becoming one of the sport's first dynasties, winning six of the first 11 titles.

-In 1981 the Wrigley family ends their 65-year ownership of the team when William Wrigley sells the team to the Tribune Company for \$20.5 million.

Source: www.chicago.cubs.mlb.com



Cubs vs. Sox



A survey of 281 shows the school is almost split in half between Cubs and Sox fans

-The Chicago National League franchise did not allow Charles Comiskey, owner of the Sox, to use "Chicago" so the "White Stockings," previously known as the Cubs became the White Stockings. After years the name condensed to "White Sox."

-In 1906, the White Sox were deemed the "Hitless Wonders" for their batting average of .230.

-After the scandal of the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds in which eight players on the White Sox were bribed to lose the White Sox became the Black Sox. The Black Sox were acquitted of all charges in 1921 after being tried in 1920.

Sources: www.britannica.com, www.baseball-almanac.com

Grand Slam Fans

Once a Cub, always a Cub

By **Giuliana LaMantia**
Center Spread Editor

Even though they may be 'lovable losers,' a sense of pride comes with being a true Cubs fan.

Being a Cubs fan tends to be determined by family.

"My mom was always very passionate about (the Cubs), and I felt like I would be a traitor if I liked the Sox," senior Colette Salinas said.

According to Salinas, she and her mom watch every game together.

Many Cubs fans feel they are true fans for sticking with a team that hasn't won in a long time.

"Cubs fans are the best fans in the world because they are the only group of people willing to follow a team who hasn't won a championship in over 100 years," senior Davis Steinbrecher said.

Sophomore Lucy Diaz also loves the Cubs because of her family.

"Over the weekends when (my brothers and I) not busy, watch the games together," Diaz said.

Diaz enjoys attending games and the atmosphere.

"I like how you have a whole little village," Diaz said. "It's always happy at Wrigleyville."

With being a Cubs fan

comes a dislike of the White Sox.

Many Cubs fans enjoy the rivalry, and Salinas likes how connecting with a Cubs fan also means a mutual dislike of the Sox.

"It's not so much the Sox, it's the fans," Salinas said. "Their team is too cocky,"

The most important aspect to a Cubs fan, however, is the comradery and pride that they have.

"You belong to a community when

you're a Cubs fan," business education student teacher Levy Treadway said. "There's a certain badge of honor being known as a 'lovable loser.'"

Cubs fans are full of positivity and have hope for their favorite team.

"Maybe next year," Treadway said.

Sensational southside love

By **Darcy Akins**
Perspectives Editor

Many perceive Chicago White Sox fans for band-wagon fans; in reality, the fans are committed and lifelong.

Even though the White Sox are typically viewed as the South Side team, fans can be found all around Chicago.

Business teacher Dan McCarthy is a White Sox fan even though where he grew would typically make you think he'd be a Cubs fan.

"I was raised like a South Side fan, even though I grew up in the North Side. I've been a Sox fan all my life," McCarthy said.

Along with the region a person grows up, family matters as well. Most White Sox fans have grown up as fans because their family were fans also.

"I was born and raised a White Sox fan. My parents are both die-hard Sox fans so you could say it's a

family trait passed down the tree," senior Kylee Gunderson said. "I grew up watching the White Sox and have always found them to be more respectable as a fan base."

As many people are fans of the team, finding the average fan is not hard, but finding the committed fan can be more difficult.

Physical education teacher Kim Wallner says she's not the average fan, but not obsessed either.

"I'm loyal, that's a better way to describe it. Everyday (I check the scores). I try to watch when I'm able to," Wallner said.

Although the rivalry can be fierce between a Cubs fan and a Sox fan, that doesn't prevent them for marrying each other.

"I'm in a mixed marriage; I married a Cubs fan. Sometimes there are some interesting conversations at my house," social studies teacher Candace Fikis said.

The team may have a bad year,

but to these die-hard fans, it's not about the wins and losses.

"I'm not a White Sox fan because they won the '05 World Series. I'm a Sox fan. because I have a deep passion for the sport of baseball," Gunderson said.

