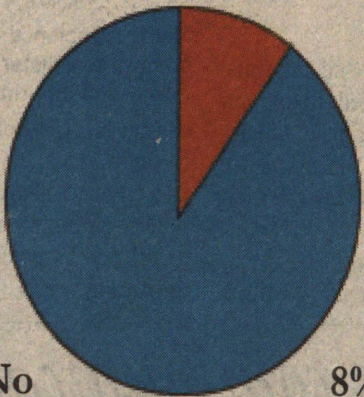
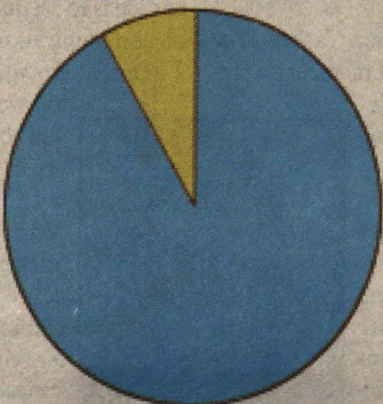


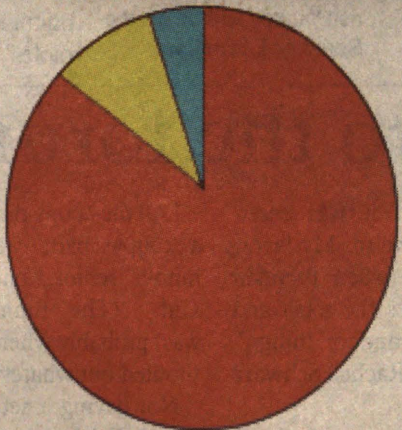
## Keep the 5 point scale?



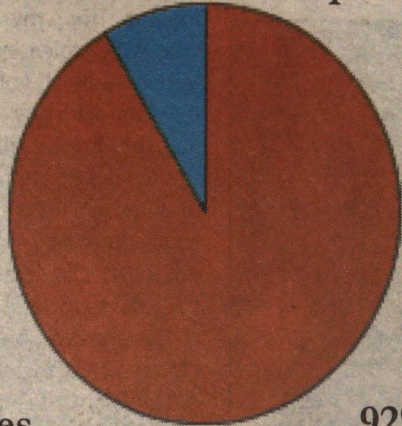
## Prefer the "old scale"



## Grades harmed by 5 point scale



## 5 point scale in other departments



201 students were surveyed.

# Five point grading scale: coming to a class near you

By Kyle Paup  
And Jacob Urban  
Reporters

Despite rumors that the standards-based grading scale is being removed from the math and science departments, the scale will still be in place for next year and is also moving to the world language department.

The standards-based grading scale is out of five points and these points are measured by basic, focus, and extension levels.

"The intent of the work behind the standards-based grading is that we would continue on with that for next year. Obviously we will be making tweaks to it so that it really reflects the level of learning and mastery that has occurred," Principal Moses Cheng said.

Reflecting how much students have learned is the idea behind the scale adopted by the math and science departments two years ago.

"This movement is happening because kids are thinking about getting better grades. They don't attach that as meaning the same thing as learning more. Hopefully with this, the grade that you get reflects more of actual learning," Cheng said.

While the scale is currently only in the math and science departments, Cheng supports it moving to other departments.

"I'd love to see (it move through the whole school). I know it's really complicated because there are other things involved with grades other than the class grade itself, (such as) calculating GPA's and it's used for college admissions and so forth, but overall, I would love to see us move to that," Cheng said.

Even though Cheng is supportive of the scale, he recognizes its weaknesses.

"Kids and teachers alike are

used to accumulating points and so you base your grade on points so you're seeing the grade and to a certain degree you are seeing how you are doing. But with (the standards-based grading scale) it is harder to gauge right now where you are, whereas with the point system you can (judge better). So to a certain degree it shifts how you are thinking and how you're seeing and measuring your progress," Cheng said.

Switching to a standards-based grading scale is not always simple.

"The trick is actually being able to get it going and getting the teachers involved and moving towards that direction. So, with Common Core standards coming along the line, it was a good time to start moving towards that direc-

tion," Cheng said. harmed my grade. I like the idea, but I feel like it's not always an accurate depiction of my abilities," sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre said.

Of the students surveyed, 67 percent feel that the scale is harming their grade.

"It hurts my grade because I don't get all the points I should," freshman Brad McDonald said. "I usually get a B or an A in math but I'm getting a D. (If) I get 100 percent of the test done, (it's possible that) only half of it gets graded."

Chemistry and biology teacher Suzanne Burchacki doesn't see so many negative effects.

"I don't actually think students' grades are being affected as much as they think they are. I think the people who (earned) A's in the past still

*"I wish there was more variation in the scale. It's very strict and sometimes people don't get an answer right or wrong, they kind of get it right but then you can't give credit for kind of right answers."*

-- science teacher Suzanne Burchacki

tion," Cheng said.

Even though Cheng seems to focus on the positives of the grading system, the students seem to focus on the negatives as 92 percent of the 201 students surveyed prefer a point based scale rather than the current standards-based grading scale.

"It's very frustrating because in physics, if you get one basic question wrong and everything else right, you still automatically get a 3.5 out of 5 instead of a higher score," junior Nick Pradel said.

Pradel claims that the scale is helping students that are unwilling to put work in, but not all students feel this way.

"It hasn't really helped or

get A's. The people who got B's still get B's and the people who got C's still get C's," Burchacki said.

Though Burchacki does not see many negative effects, she does note some weaknesses in the scale.

"I wish there was more variation in the scale. It's very strict and sometimes people don't get an answer right or wrong, they kind of get it right but then you can't give credit for kind of right answers," Burchacki said.

Math teacher Kirsten Vondrak's first year in the math department has exposed her to the grading scale.

See Keeping grading system page 5

## INSIDE

### Imagine greater

Students participating in Show Me Whatchu Got have been working hard and practicing various poems and raps for their show on Friday -- see News, page 2.

### Activities cause pressure

Being too involved in extracurricular activities can sometimes lead to a lot of pressure and stress being put on students -- see Center Spread, page 8.



### Rwanda mission

Carl Wilkens was a missionary in Rwanda while the genocide was happening. Now he travels around telling his story about what he went through while there -- see Lifestyles, page 11.



### Soccer

The girls soccer team prepared a lot of practice for regionals but their season ended on Saturday against St. Charles North High School -- see Sports, page 16.

## Students imagine greater

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

Audience members will 'Imagine Greater' at Creative Writing Club's annual Show Me Watchu Got show on Friday.

In the show, members of the club as well as people who have auditioned, share the spoken word by performing poems, songs, and even raps they have written.

Even though the show is performed every year, many changes have been made in preparing for the show.

"We're demanding every performer memorize their piece. We understand that it will be hard," senior Shannon Rogers said.

The variety of performances has also changed.

"I think the variety of what we have is mostly what has changed (this year)," sophomore Julia Dieter said. "(Our) talent has also been perfected and worked on, so we all have a more mature outlook on our writing."

Since auditions were held in March, members worked hard for a long time to produce the show.

For Rogers, being a senior also means that she is a leader and in charge of running certain parts of the show.

"It's a lot of fun (being a leader) and stressful at the same time," Rogers said. "You get to really interact with everybody and meet new people. I can't imagine what it's going to be like to see it go on (stage) and be like 'I helped create this.'"

Adviser Tara Deleon is expecting a good turnout this year, as well as the members of the club.

Being part of the show also brings many fond memories.

"My favorite thing is definitely the friendships that have formed throughout the year," Dieter said. "The relationships that have been created with others who share my passion is the best thing."

Although the performers have been working really hard, Deleon is still worried about the show.

"I'm definitely a little worried, but I get worried every year and somehow it turns out," Deleon said.

In addition to Dieter and Rogers, also performing are seniors Michael McCarthy, Alyssa Colon, Adam Rawski, Gus MacPherson, Alex Alvarez, Carolina Padilla; juniors

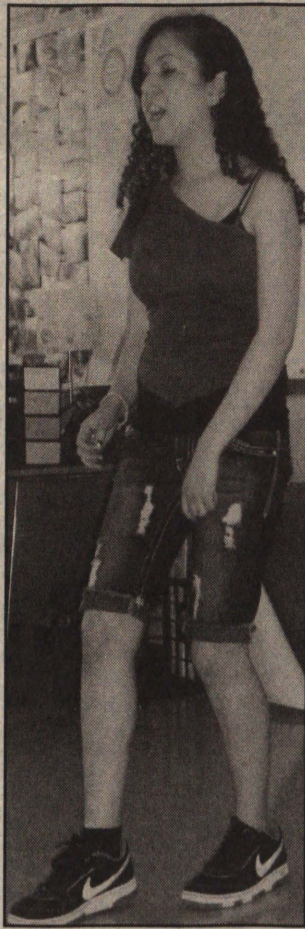


Photo by Sarah Szremski  
**To prepare for Show Me Watchu Got on Friday, senior Alyssa Colon practices her song.**

Ashley Anderson, Trevor Speer, Kelly Kozlowski, Paris Reed; sophomores Kiera MacPherson, Jacob Urban; and freshmen Sarah Denning and Jacob Vogt.

The show is at 7 p.m. in the auditorium.

Tickets are \$1 for students and \$3 for adults.

## Counting on a new position

By Akeem Asani  
Reporter

On Tuesday, the administration appointed math and science division head Allister Scott to assistant principal. Scott will start his position July 1.

"I believe I have the ability to think globally, and I think

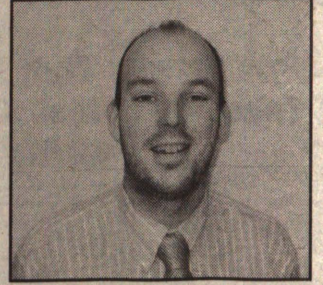


Photo by Akeem Asani

**Math and science department head Allister Scott is a new assistant principal.**

can push this school forward. I just think this is a good position for me," Scott said.

The administration hopes to fill Scott's position in the upcoming weeks.

## Open communication

By Alexandra Garibay  
Reporter

Parent Renee Yackey is a newly elected member on the Board of Education, joining on May 7.

"(I) act as a governance of the administration and ask appropriate questions of the administration such as why certain recommendations are being suggested," Yackey said.

Yackey already has plans in mind for her new role and has ideas to see improvement on communication.

"One of my main goals is

to work closely with our new superintendent and board to improve communication," Yackey said. "I desire to see communication improved within the school between the administration and staff, as well as from the school to the community as a whole."

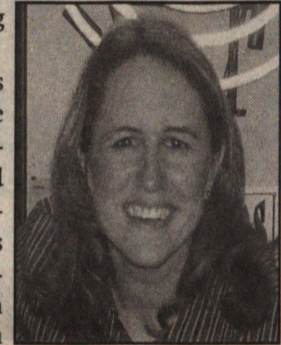


Photo courtesy of Mark Yackey  
**For next year, parent Renee Yackey will be on the Board of Education.**

## Laughs, comedy 'on the way to the forum'

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

"Tragedy tomorrow, comedy tonight" was the theme of drama's last production for the school year, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" which took place on May 9-11.

"(The musical) was a farce about a Roman slave (Pseudolus) trying to find a way to get to freedom," director Mark Begovich said.

The musical had many layers within it, which added on to the comedy.

"Because it was a comedy there were a lot of mishaps and people fall in love and a lot of things happened that weren't supposed to. But in the end, it's a big happy ending," sophomore Brendan Walsh said.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" is a well-known piece.

"(This musical) is considered one of the best pieces of musical theater and has won a lot of awards," Begovich said.

Drama Club was satisfied with the crowd who attended the show.

"I think the show went really well," senior Luke Jaconis said. "It was awesome for everyone to come out. In the two years I've done (drama), this was the biggest crowd I have ever performed in front of."

Many of the characters had unique roles in the musical which made them go past

their comfort zone.

"The comedy pushed me a lot because my character (Geminus) was not like me at all. It was a great experience," sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre said.

Since the musical was a comedy and included courtesans, the audience did find it to be a little strange.

"I thought it was entertaining but weird. My favorite part was when Brendan walked across the stage and would say random things," sophomore Rachel Schwarz said.

The audience enjoyed the humorous aspect and a popular character, which Walsh played.

"All the actors did well and a couple parts were really funny," senior Kendal Franc said. "(The funniest part was) probably when Brendan shouted out whatever."

Not having a set script allowed Walsh to be more creative with his role.

"I was the crazy old man (named Eronius) who was looking for my children who were stolen by pirates," Walsh said. "I got a lot of freedom with my character, and the director allowed me to use a lot of improv in a lot of lines. The director said I could do what I wanted so I made the character. He was personal to me and funny."

The musical brought the cast and crew together.

"My favorite part was probably the rehearsal because I met so many new people who I got close too," Walsh said.

Jaconis appreciated the opportunity to have a lead role.

"(Having the lead) is something I will never forget and am extremely grateful for. My friends and family, cast, and crew supported me. I will never forget their generosity," Jaconis said.



Photo by Liz Ramos

**During the musical, the cast makes the audience laugh while singing "Comedy Tonight."**

## Music battle to raise money

By **Ericka Hauptman**  
Reporter

Bands from the school participated in Battle of the Bands on May 16 to help raise money for students going on the summer Washington D.C. trip.

"We wanted to come up with a fundraiser that would be fun and more participatory rather than candy sales," social studies teacher Roberta Felfle said.

The band Summer Runner, with members seniors Akeem and Ahmad Asani, John Draughon, and Mitch Carnes won first place.

"I actually didn't think we were going to win because we had some fierce competition," Ahmad said. "We were legitimately surprised when they said we won because we didn't see it coming."

The prize money was 10 percent of the funds and

Summer Runner decided to donate that 10 percent to WeGo 2 Africa, according to Felfle.

"It always feels good to give back and we always do what we can," Ahmad said. "We were excited for performing for fans but kids in Africa need the money more than we do, so we wanted to help anyway we could."

Bands had their own equipment and actually sounded better than what people were expecting, according to Felfle.

"The sound in commons was way better than what all of us were expecting to hear," Felfle said.

Summer Runner always has fun performing in front of people but with new faces in the crowd, they especially love playing, according to Ahmad.

The show was able to bring out four bands and about 80

people who helped support the bands.

"We got people to come

out and turn up the volume with us," Felfle said. "We didn't get as much money as

we wanted to but we had a great time."

Battle of the Bands was sponsored by Felfle and division head of humanities Lisa Willuweit.



Photo courtesy of Roberta Felfle

While at Battle of the Bands, members of the band Summer Runner, from left, seniors Mitch Carnes, John Draughon, and Ahmad Asani play their song. Summer Runner won the battle.

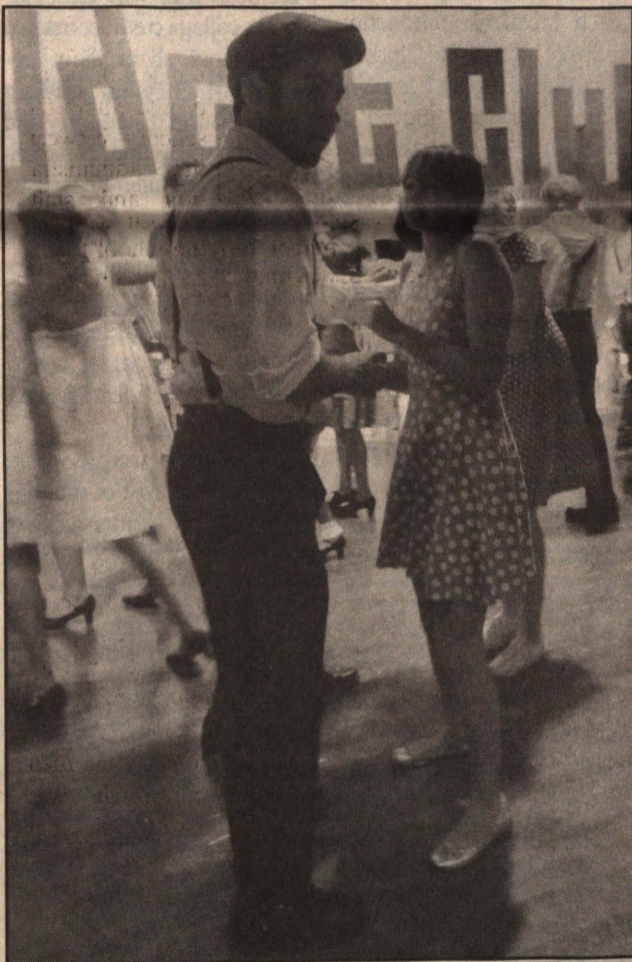


Photo by Liz Ramos

While at Spring Fling, seniors Brian Berger and Cara Whelan dance along to the music being played by the jazz band.

## All jazzed up for annual Spring Fling

By **Katie Yackey**  
Contributing Writer

Students got jazzy Friday night at the Spring Fling dance in the auditorium.

Jazz band and chamber choir performed throughout the night on the auditorium stage while students danced to swing music on the stage

as well.

Jazz band practiced many times for the concert.

"We've been practicing, practicing, practicing," jazz band adviser Steve Govertsen said.

Many students attend Spring Fling because of the differences it has compared to homecoming or prom.

"Students actually dance," Govertsen said. "I think what's neat about it is that it plays off the history of the school. Also, just the prospect of dancing to live music is something that most students have never done before just adds a different element to the whole scenario."

Jazz band enjoys playing while students dance, according to Govertsen.

Students like the differences of Spring Fling from other dances.

"I like it because it's very lively, and I really like jazz music so that's another reason why I like it. It's just fun because you can just dance with people and it's not awkward," sophomore Mae Elizabeth Gimre said.

Junior Natalie Farrell played a flute solo from the movie "Anchorman" in the middle of the dance.

"I've never actually seen the full movie, but as a flute player and a member of jazz band, some of my band buddies decided it was essential that I see the Ron Burgandy yazz flute scene," Farrell said. "It was kind of amazing. I then made a deal with Mr. Govertsen that if I transcribed the solo, I'd be able to play it with jazz band at some point."

Playing the flute solo was a different scene for Farrell.

"I run the competitive flute circuit a lot, which is super uptight, so seeing the audience have as much of a blast as me was exhilarating," Farrell said. "A lot more people got the reference to 'Anchorman' than I was expecting."

## Voting on new Wildcat logo, belief statement

By **Gus MacPherson**  
Reporter

Looking for a new Wildcat logo and belief statement, students were asked to vote on ideas early in May.

The current Wildcat belief statement is Learning, Leading, Living. However, social studies teacher Mary Ellen Daneels was not convinced that it is effective for the school.

"Learning, Leading, Living, what does that even mean? We need something new," Daneels said.

Daneels, along with English teacher Amanda Cordes and Assistant Principal Peter Martino created a School Climate Committee, which is made up of teachers.

The committee created the survey for the new logo and belief statement.

"The slogan is about a unified image that students had a part in selecting," Cordes said. "We wanted to make it happen before the next school year."

Students were encouraged to vote and get active about improving the school climate.

"What we really want is as many students as we can to

voice their opinion is better for kids to feel like they are a part of the school," Martino said.

Students in community leadership classes originally petitioned to improve the school climate. In response, the School Climate Committee decided to try creating a school belief statement that would act as a touchstone for what the school stands for.

"School climate is basically the environment that students and staff learn and teach in," Daneels said.

Along with creating the new slogan this year, the School Climate Committee has made plans for next year.

"Our school climate is evolving, just like everything else, and our goals and ideas will have to evolve with it," Cordes said. "It's going to be a slow process, but I really think it is going to help."

Students are also encouraged to give feedback about the school climate, including all issues, not just the belief statement or logo.

"We want to create a student School Climate Committee, to get the student voice heard even more," Cordes said.



Photo courtesy of Dan Stantz

While at the Chicagoland Television Educators Council Video Festival, members of broadcast received two platinums along with many other awards.

## Broadcasting platinums

By **Giuliana LaMantia**  
Center Spread Editor

Broadcast received two platinums at the Chicagoland Television Educators Council Video Festival (CTEC) at Neuqua Valley High School on April 26.

According to broadcast adviser Dave Jennings, the CTEC Video Festival is a competition for schools in the Chicagoland area with a broadcast production program.

"Students submit films into different categories leading up to the fest, and then people who are professionals within the television and film industry watch them, vote

on them, give them scores, and then we go to the video festival to find out how those films did," Jennings said. "It's kind of like the Oscars, we are really just there to have fun and collect awards if we win anything."

Some of the categories included: stop motion animation, computer animation, dramatic narrative, humorous narrative, music video, and movie trailer.

Platinum winners, the highest honor, went to seniors Adam Rawski and Josh Brown.

Rawski received platinum for "Guitar Hero," a stop motion piece of his guitar putting itself together.

"Winning platinum was one of the highlights of my high school career," Rawski said. "That video took me over six weeks to shoot and consisted of 3,100 pictures. The award is a symbol of my hard work and dedication that I put into the video."

Rawski also received a gold award in the commercial category for his piece "Car Farm."

Brown's humorous narrative "Where's Waldo?" landed him a platinum award.

"My piece was a silent film about what trying to find Waldo would be like in the days when silent films were a thing," Brown said. "I felt very good about it. It's always

nice to be recognized for hard work."

Silver awards went to seniors Valentin Barrera and Dylan Dewey for movie trailer, junior Josué Muñoz and sophomore Lindsey Krynski for dramatic narrative comedy, Muñoz and Barrera for dramatic narrative comedy, Krynski in stop-motion animation, and Cuomo in computer animation.

Receiving bronze awards were seniors Zack Burghardt in music video, Ericka Hauptman and Taylor Karg in documentary, Hauptman and Andie Lazzerini in commercial, Hauptman and Karg in stop-motion animation, and Barrera in stop-motion animation.

Broadcast was also proud of its success for their first year in the Single A division.

CTEC is broken up into two divisions, Single A and Double A.

"The Single A division is primarily comprised of schools that have really established programs, with departments full of people who teach broadcast production, so we're kind of the Cinderella in that category," Jennings said. "We were moved up into Single A this past summer based on our percentage of wins. We are impressed to be in this category because some of the schools are really talented and very competitive too."

Jennings was proud of the students.

"To walk out of there with two platinums in the Single A division was a really rewarding feeling," Jennings said.

## Hands-on experience at Capitol

By **Alexandra Garibay**  
Reporter

Students will be able to have a hands-on experience in Washington D.C. this summer.

This is the first time the school has offered a trip to Washington D.C. for students.

Going on the trip will be four sophomores and social studies teacher Roberta Felfle. They will travel from June 15-22.

"Hopefully the students come back with stories and feedback and share with others, so more people will want to go next year," Felfle said.

Last year the program "Close-up," an educational program that will earn students college credit contacted the school about their program which takes students from around the country and puts them together to participate in government-based activities.

"It's an enriching program that allows students to work with other students around the country," Felfle said. "It's a hands-on program, really promoting the idea of effective citizenship."

Fundraisers were done to help with the cost of the trip.

Their first fundraiser was done at Culver's which could've gone better according to Felfle. Another fundraiser was Battle of the Bands. With an audience of about 80 people, Battle of the Bands helped out a lot, according to Felfle.

"Next year I would like to have more fundraisers like Mr. Wildcat and Battle of the Bands; fundraisers with more student participation," Felfle said.

While in D.C. students will be participating in workshops, simulations, service projects, and elections.

Besides touring monuments, the students might also get a chance to visit an embassy.

"We are going to get a close up look at all that D.C. has to offer," sophomore Whitney Martin said.

Seeing the Capitol is one aspect of the trip the students look forward to.

"I am most excited to tour our nation's capitol and see what the environment is like over there," sophomore Serafina Guizetti said.

## From a freshman point of view

The Wildcat Chronicle interviewed eighth graders last May on their thoughts about going into high school.

Now that these students are almost sophomores, the staff asked them about their freshman year.

As the year finishes up, the freshmen have assimilated well from middle school to high school.

"(The transition into high school) wasn't that bad. Everyone said it would be hard but it's not," Serato Barajas said.

One difference between middle school and high school is freedom.

"(High school) has been going okay. I like the options of being able to pick my classes. It's a lot better than middle school where you're basically forced to take everything," Jacob Vogt said.

Another difference for freshmen was finals.

"Some finals were overwhelming, but now that I've learned from them, I know what's coming," Nicole Baranowski said.

Even so, freshmen immersed themselves in different activities.

"I was in poms and dance production," Baranowski said. "I met a lot of new people and it was a really great experience."

Students enjoyed how welcoming different activities were.

"I'm involved in track, Philosophy Club, and Creative Writing Club," Vogt said. "Creating Writing Club and Philosophy Club are very open and accepting clubs. In track, the coaches are very nice. They also push you hard to be good at track which at my middle school, I don't really think my coaches did enough of."

Overall, freshmen have en-

joyed the high school experience and look forward to the next three years.

"The people here were very welcoming. It was a little scary at first coming in because it is a giant building compared to my middle

school, which was a midget school but you get used to it relatively quickly," Vogt said.

**Editors Liz Ramos, Keyuri Parmar, and Giuliana LaMantia contributed to this story.**

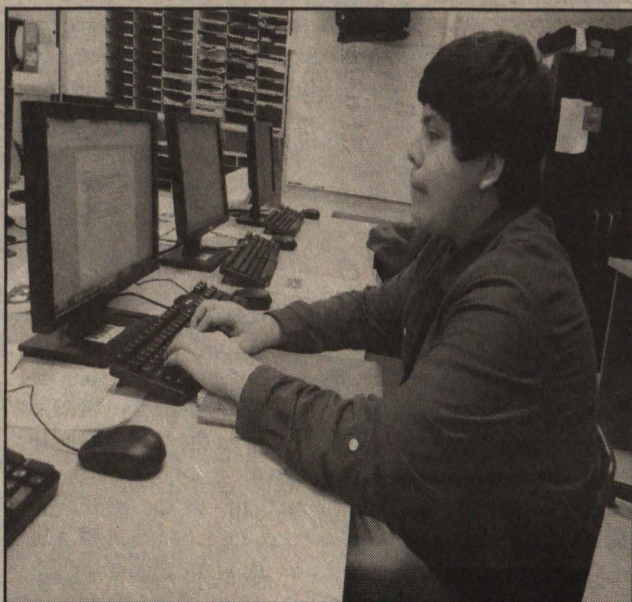


Photo by Gus MacPherson

While in journalism 1, Serato Barajas works on a story.

## Keeping grading system: five point scale

*Continuation from page 1*

"I think with multiple opportunities to retake the tests, (the grading scale) gives them a great chance to improve their grades," Vondrak said.

The world language department is switching to standards-based grading next year, but 92 percent of surveyed students said they would not want the scale to move to other departments.

"We are moving from earning a grade to showing student growth, so we feel it's important to go to stan-

dards-based grading because students will be concentrating on how much they're learning and not on the assignments they are turning in to earn a grade," world language division head Janelle Stefancic said.

The standards-based grading scale will be introduced at the entry level and will proceed onto another level each year.

"Our foreign language team decided that the best way to (bring) in standards-based grading would be for us to start with the beginning

levels of the foreign languages so that students would be accustomed to the change and the grading expectation," Stefancic said.

Spanish teacher Sarah Gill will use the scale in her classes.

"I think it's a great opportunity to focus on the skills and abilities of the students. We're hoping it will offer more specific and pinpointed information to the students and the parents in terms of what areas students need to work on to improve," Gill said.



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

**With knowledge in EMT training, senior Farrell Lewis managed to act and save the life of a man hit by a car while riding his bike.**

## Senior student saves life during accident

**By Darcy Akins**  
Perspectives Editor

Although most students won't get the chance to save someone's life by the time their high school years are over, senior Farrell Lewis has managed to put his knowledge to use.

"I was driving down Washington Street when I crossed the train tracks in downtown West Chicago and I saw a bicycle lying in the middle of the street and traffic backed up," Lewis said. "I saw people stop and put their hazard lights on. I went past them and saw someone lying in the road. He was bloody and had been on the bike and hit by a car."

Being an Eagle Scout, life-guard, and an EMT student, Lewis had the knowledge and reaction speed needed during the emergency.

"I immediately had a concern for a spinal injury, and I knew I needed to take manual inline stabilization of the spine by basically holding the patient's head," Lewis said. "Because of the blood there I used my shirt that I was wearing both as a bandage and a barrier between the patient and my hands since I didn't have any gloves on me."

Lewis chose to act because of what he described as "simple courtesy."

"I have training to help this person (who) needed care, so I wanted to give it to him. I know if I was the person in the road I would want someone to help me, especially if they had training," Lewis said.

Even though he was one of the first to begin to aid the man, Lewis was not the only bystander to help.

"When I first rolled up to the scene there were two people on the phone, one who was on the phone with a 911 dispatcher," Lewis said. "There was someone else talking to the patient and trying to do a basic assessment."

Although there was a lot of chaos going on, the only concern he had was for the health and well-being of the patient.

"During the time that I was helping him I was just thinking about what possible injuries he could have, what could be life threatening to him, what care did he need right away, what I could do to help him," Lewis said. "I was also thinking about his family."

While the condition of the man is still unknown, Lewis' training came into good use.

"It feels good that I could help him in his time of need. It makes me feel my training is worth something," Lewis said.

## Reconnecting with recently made friends

*Students travel to Germany for exchange trip*

**By Sarah Szremski**  
Reporter

German students will go overseas to have new experiences and meet with recently made friends on June 12.

The students will be in Gunzenhausen, Germany for nine days.

"The students will be staying with host families. Most of the students already know their host families because they (the exchange students from Germany) came here over spring break," German teacher Nora Wesseles said.

Wesseles has worked hard to plan this trip for everyone.

They will be visiting many towns.

"We will spend with the host families and then take day trips to cities there from Gunzenhausen, which is a little bit north of Munich. We'll definitely be going to Munich," Wesseles said. "We'll probably be going to a really pretty castle in Neuschwanstein. We'll try to get to other cities near us to see most of the southern part of Germany."

Other towns that the students will be visiting are Füssen (to see Schloss Neuschwanstein), Walchensee, and Bamberg.

Wesseles hopes that going to Germany will give the students a chance to try to speak German.

"When we speak (German) in class it's not quite as authentic as it is in Germany, so I hope that the students get a feel for the culture and get to practice and learn new words and how to actually apply what they already

know," Wesseles said.

Sophomore Joe Skipor has a similar idea and expectations of his time in Germany as Wesseles.

"I'm going to Germany to further my knowledge of the German language and to all around enjoy the country," Skipor said. "I look forward to going to different places with my host family."

One of the students that is going on the exchange trip is sophomore Kimberly Mauriello.

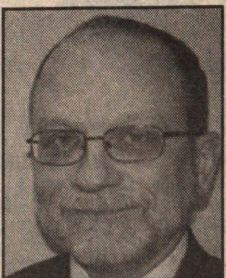
"I hosted a German student when they came this year. I want to see her again because it was probably one of the best times I have ever had," Mauriello said.

Both Mauriello and her host Onika Fisher grew very close over Fisher's stay in America.

"I'm really excited. Fisher's parents actually sent us a letter. Their broken English is so adorable, at least they tried. I became really good friends with her," Mauriello said. "She had a new perspective on everything. I can't wait to experience all of it myself. I've never been outside of the U.S." said.

## New chapter for retirees

Photos and story by Yessenia Gonzalez



Andy Glowaty has served as the director of technology at the school for 24 years.

**What will you miss about working at the school?**

I will miss working with the talented teachers and administrators and the top-notch technology staff. I look forward to hearing great things about CHS.

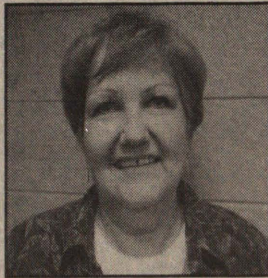
Dean's assistant Sione Moeaki is also retiring but declined an interview.



Barbara Laimins has taught geography, topics in modern history, government, and psychology during her 20 years at the school.

**What will you miss about teaching?**

I will miss the challenges of teaching and the creativity that teaching requires to keep students interested.



Monica Piszczek is an administrative assistant to Peter Martino and has been working at the school for 18 years.

**What will you miss about working at the school?**

I will miss the people contact, especially with the students. I will miss the creative stories that students tell about why they were late or absent.



Photo courtesy of Anna Stachulak

At the Sixth Congressional District Excellence award ceremony Congressman Peter Roskam congratulates the award recipients.

## One stands out from the rest

### Senior receives honor from Peter Roskam

By Katie Yackey  
Contributing Writer

Senior Keyuri Parmar received the Sixth Congressional District Excellence award from Congressman Peter Roskam on May 9.

"I was honored that I won this award because I was the only person chosen out of the school," Parmar said. "Sometimes when you aren't told you are a good student you tend to forget. I was just really grateful that I was chosen for it and it really helped me see that my hard work does pay off."

The award is given to one student at each high school in the sixth district during an annual awards ceremony.

"(Principal Moses Cheng) chose an individual who is very committed to school, has above a 3.5, and has shown to be involved in a lot of activities in school and

leadership roles, and has been involved in the community," Parmar said. "Apparently, I was chosen."

Roskam presented the award to Parmar.

"It was kind of strange. I didn't think he would be there. The whole thing was arranged through his secretary, but it was kind of cool because he just treated us like we were a lot older," Parmar said. "We got to talk to him and he was a nice guy."

Speaking with Roskam was not like talking to a politician.

"He talked about his kids and it was a very personable event," Parmar said. "It was like we were talking to a teacher or a counselor. It was formal and informal at the same time."

Receiving the award would motivate students to work harder after high school, according to Roskam.

"(Roskam) thinks we were chosen because he thinks that because we got this award it should push us to do even better in college and that we should look back on this as something as an accomplishment," Parmar said.

## Shoes for charity

By Akeem Asani  
Reporter

Student Council teamed up with First United Methodist Church of West Chicago for a shoe drive.

Over 300 shoes were collected and will be sold to foreign exporters to help purchase well-water drilling equipment for Haiti and Ke-

nya.

With great results from the jean drive earlier this year, Student Council adviser Chris Lukas hoped to achieve the same results.

"(The church) has a goal of 5,000 pairs of shoes, so I think West Chicago can pitch in with any kinds of shoes," Lukas said.

Since the goal was not reached this year, Lukas says the drive may return next fall.

"Students buy new shoes at the beginning of the year, so we can pick it back up in September," Lukas said.

## Hard work, well deserved recognition

By Jacob Urban  
Contributing Writer

*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.*

Hard work and dedication helped senior Jessica Newman earn April Student of the Month.

Contributing to Newman earning April Student of the Month are Newman's two years of being a student ambassador, three years of Interact Club, a year of Pep Club, and serving as editor in chief of the yearbook for the past two years.

"I'm really excited about (being named Student of the Month) because I feel like I do a lot for this school and sometimes not a lot of people notice," Newman said.

Newman feels honored about receiving the award and says her parents are very proud.

"It's really cool to have your picture up in the hallway. It's a little weird seeing

it but it's fun," Newman said.

Inspiration comes from everyone in Newman's life.

"I just think everyone in my life kind of helps me towards who I want to be and where I want to go. I have a huge family so they usually help me and help me figure out who I am," Newman said.

In the fall, Newman plans to attend Illinois State University.

"I have no idea what I want

to major in yet, but I'm hoping Illinois State will help me find what I want to do," Newman said.

Even though Newman is excited to attend Illinois State University because she fell in love with the school, she will miss high school.

"I honestly loved high school. I know people say it's drama and all that but if you really involve yourself and meet people this is a really good school," Newman said.

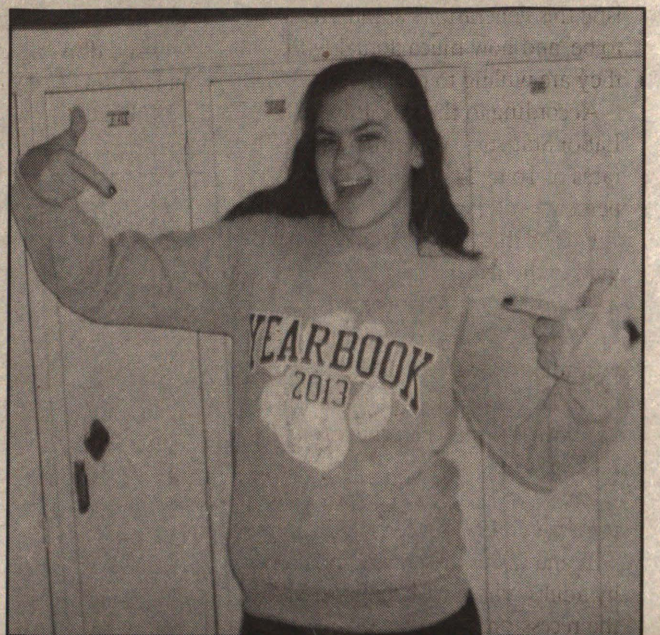


Photo by Jacob Urban

As editor in chief of the yearbook along with being a part of many other extra-curricular activities, senior Jessica Newman earns April Student of the Month.

## Sings, acts way to senior honor

By Giuliana LaMantia  
Center Spread Editor

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

*of additional staff members.*

Throughout high school, senior Dan Stompor has dedicated himself to multiple clubs and activities, earning Student of the Month for May.

"I'm thankful that the school would honor me like this," Stompor said.

Stompor is a part of Drama Club, Film Club, speech

team, choir, band, Creative Writing Club, Ambassador Club, and National Honor Society.

Hard work has opened opportunities for the future.

"I'm going to Northwestern University to study Radio/Television/Film, and then after that I plan to move out to either Los Angeles or New York and get an internship through Northwestern," Stompor said.

Stompor's friends have helped support him throughout high school.

"(My biggest influence has been) my friends that help and support me and keep me sane," Stompor said.

Ups and downs of high school have been the most memorable.

"(I've enjoyed) all the opportunities and all the memories that I've made, and all the mistakes because I'm never going to forget them. I wouldn't redo anything if given the opportunity," Stompor said.

High school has taught Stompor more about himself and prepared him for the future.

"(High school) broke me out of my shell, and I think I'm happier now because of high school," Stompor said. "I think I understand more about myself."



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

With his involvement in multiple extra-curricular activities, senior Dan Stompor earns May Student of the Month.

# Perspectives

Wildcat Chronicle

May 23, 2013

7

## Our View

# Lack of initiative fuels unemployment

With summer just around the corner, teens are ready to start their job search, but as with most summer activities, it's tinted with too much laziness.

Now, nothing is wrong with teens wanting to find jobs; we are in complete support of wanting to become self-sufficient.

What is bothersome is how unrealistic this generation's standards seem to be, and how much actual work they are willing to put in.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the employment rates of 16 to 24 year olds is 31.3 percent.

Part of this number can be attributed to the recent recession. At its highest, the unemployment rate was 9.1 percent in July 2011 in the U.S., according to [www.tradingeconomics.com](http://www.tradingeconomics.com). The unemployment rate this April was 7.7 percent, the lowest it had been in four years.

Those minimum wage jobs that used to be easy for teens to get in the '90s and 2000s are now being taken by adults who have been hard-hit by the recession.

Obviously, teenagers can't be held accountable for a bad economy.

So where does the typical student become accountable for lack of success?

When nothing is guaranteed, espe-

cially jobs, we feel that students aren't taking enough of an initiative to get those jobs that they want.

A study conducted by San Diego State University showed that the gap between a young adult's willingness to work and their materialism is getting bigger and bigger.

This means that we, the Millennials, those born between the mid-1980s and early 2000s, think we deserve, and don't need to earn.

In fact, in a study conducted by the Millennial Impact, 77 percent of Millennials are interested in leader-

ship, but one of the top reasons for not having done so is because they haven't been asked.

Where is the initiative that teens should be showing?

Applying for a job is terrifying. It's not just sending in an application, and going into an interview, saying that one is a "real people person," and "a quick learner with a willingness to learn."

An individual has to have experience, recommendations, good grades, be in sports—the expectations keep coming.

The reality is that if you are lucky enough to get a summer job, then you'll be working for minimum wage, long hours if you're lucky, and you probably won't love the job.

What about other options?

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics, only 27.4 percent of people ages 16 to 19 volunteer.

This number is extremely low, considering that volunteering gives a chance to gain knowledge of a variety of work fields, and makes one more marketable when they apply for a job.

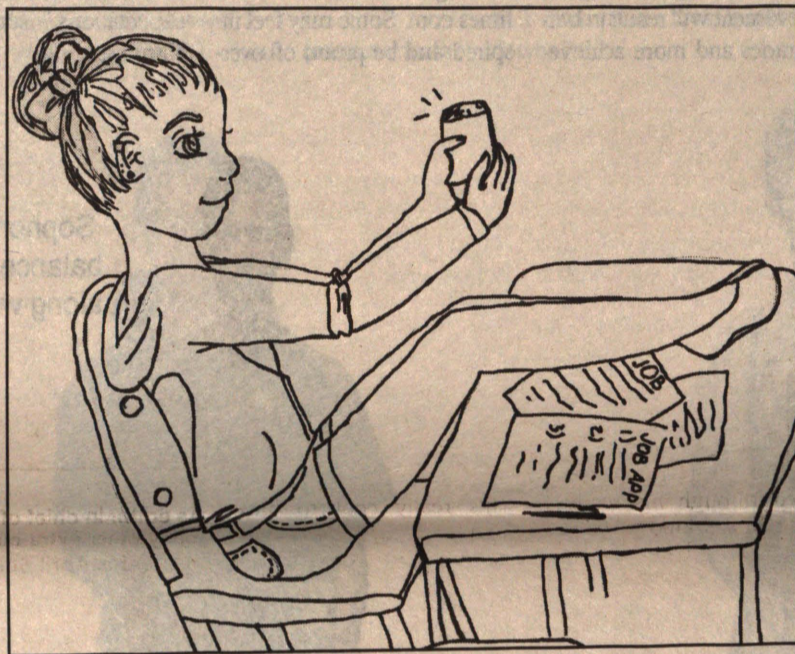
If you really have your heart set on getting a job or accomplishing something, you're going to do whatever it takes to get it.

Mommy and daddy won't always be there to provide them with everything they want at the snap of their fingers, and they certainly won't be there to protect you from the harsh, real "adult" world.

Instead of having one's head in the clouds, it's time for teens to open up their minds and realize that they don't have the luxury of being picky and entitled.

Like generations before them, they will have to work hard, work their way up, and humble themselves.

While summer is usually the time to soak up that golden glow and relax, there's no harm in putting in some effort and hard work.



## Starting later benefits teens

Students have a lot on their plates to worry about between classes and activities, so it would be beneficial to have classes start later.

Classes in the morning start as early as 7 a.m. and some sports start practicing at 5 a.m. After school students might have to stay for sports, rehearsals, and clubs. They might have to work, causing them to get home late at night.

With many responsibilities to take care of during the day such as at home, school, and work, some students don't have time to get all the sleep they need or to complete their

homework.

Many students fall asleep during class due to the lack of sleep because of everything they have to worry about and do the night before.

One solution to this problem would be to have school start later in the day.

A study done by Dr. Kayla Wahlstrom at the University of Minnesota who had Minneapolis Public School District change its start time from 7:15 a.m. to 8:40 a.m.

After times were changed some benefits were: improved attendance and enrollment rates, an increase

in daytime alertness, and decreased student-reported cases of depression.

If schools started later in the day there wouldn't be as many students dozing off during class.

Students miss notes when they are asleep, which is obviously a problem.

When students fail to pay attention in class their grades lower and they do poorly in school. If students had extra time to sleep they wouldn't need to catch up on sleep during class.

A study recently done by Mary Carskadon at Brown University showed that teenagers need about nine hours of sleep to maintain full alertness and academic performance.

If school starts later, students will receive more sleep, which will hope-

fully have students sleep for at least nine hours a night.

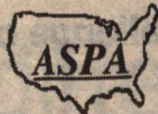
Unfortunately, having classes start later in the day will also cause school to end later in the day, pushing all after school activities to happen later in the day. This would cause students to return home late.

However, the lateness returning home is already a problem.

Many advantages exist to having classes start later in the morning, including students being able to get more sleep which will help them do better in school.

Also, students will actually have time to relax more and have more energy during the day after having to stay after school for sports, clubs, and activities.

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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](mailto:lkuehn@d94.org) or delivered to room 319 before or after school.

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## Is it ever too much?

**By Ericka Hauptman**  
Reporter

Every day teens are expected to take on more duties and get involved more.

"Teenagers are expected to go out and be doctors and lawyers, when before the question was 'can they even go to college?'" senior Bryer Serrato said.

Parents want their kids to be the very best, but is the best too much?

"I think the expectations for teenagers are way higher than before," senior Torie

Dash said. "Parents tell us to just do it when they don't know how hard it really is."

According to [www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com), some parents that have high expectations for their child believe higher standards will help their child in life.

Many students are achieving less than they should at both secondary and post-secondary levels and raising expectations and support for higher learning and higher achievement will result in better grades and more achieve-

ments, according to [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com).

"I think you can achieve the expectations if you work hard. Hard work pays off," senior Veronica Kohlman said.

The pressure to have a job, go to college, and become successful is becoming an overload to some teens today.

The pressure children feel manifests itself in different ways as they get older, according to [www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com). Some may feel inspired and be proud of over-

coming difficult challenges, but others may surrender to the pressure by having low self-esteem.

Teenagers who cannot measure up are constantly working to keep up or feel pressure to step up even though they may not have the abilities, according to [www.newyorktimes.com](http://www.newyorktimes.com).

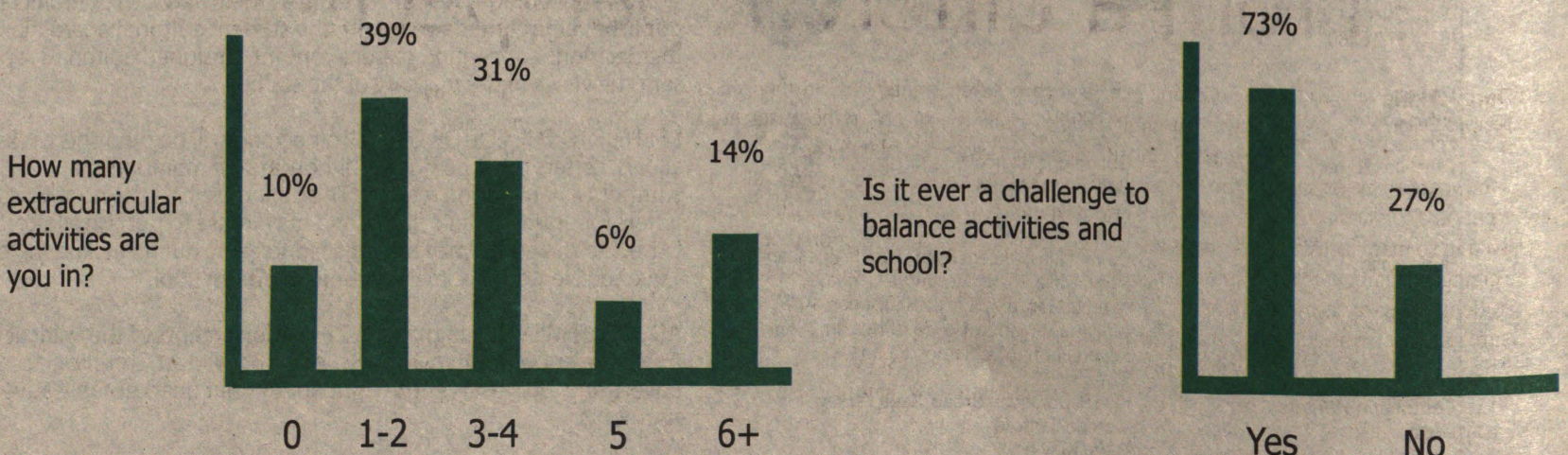
"Everything is a competition now and that makes people want to work harder to be able to achieve those expectations," senior Taylor Karg said.

These days, students juggle multiple activities, work, sports, and good grades. But the negatives and being too i



Sophomore Jacob Urban balances numerous activities along with school work.

Out of a survey of 210 students, many take on the challenge of school and activities.





**Students juggle activities, such as sports and getting good grades. Find out the positives of being involved.**

## Activities bring healthy stress

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

Extracurricular activities bring stress to some but the positives tend to outweigh the negative aspects.

"I think extracurricular activities are very beneficial. A lot of research has been done that proves very involved students get good grades," counselor Mary Roley said.

Being busy with activities at school will help students prepare for the future.

"When students are busy they have better time management skills which they

will need when going into college and the workforce," Roley said.

Although stress levels may go up, there are positives that come with stress.

"Generally when you add things to your schedule, stress levels go up. But stress can motivate us to do things and get things done. But if you don't react in a positive way then it will just cause more stress," Roley said.

Some students agree that activities lead to positive outcomes.

"I think (extracurricular

activities) relieve stress. They give you something to do other than school work," senior Jared Baranowski said.

Depending on the student, over-involvement may emotionally harm students.

"I don't feel that (extracurricular activities) have a negative impact. However if students get overly involved it has negative consequences like over stress," counselor Barbara Brennan said. "It depends on the student, some don't mind being up late until 1 a.m. others have breakdowns."

Keeping up with school becomes difficult when students are very involved.

"It becomes a lot to handle between school, work, and dedication to activities. They expect you to put forth a lot of time and maintain good grades," senior Lauren Russo said.

Being involved is a social aspect of a student's life as well

"For some students being involved is a stress reliever because they are doing what they enjoy while they are with their friends," Roley said.



\*Photo illustrations by Alexandra Garibay and Giuliana LaMantia

## From a different perspective

**By Darcy Akins**  
Perspectives Editor

As the years go by, expectations put on adolescents to be involved in so many activities have changed significantly.

"Students now have more pressure to be involved in activities," chemistry teacher Susan Hollinger said. "Expectations of grades have lowered."

Compared to when she was in high school French teacher Katie Schoen says the amount of work hasn't changed, but the type has.

"I would say (the work load) is pretty similar (to when I was in school)," Schoen said. "I would say the bigger pressure that I notice now is trying to get scholarships, because school is so expensive. Kids want to do

really well in their classes or in sports because they want scholarships."

Some parents also believe that teens in this generation have a lot on their plate.

"(I think that) students have a lot to worry about," mother of sophomore Anna Yatskevich, Natalya Yatskevich said.

Even though many parents and teenagers agree that

there are too many stresses put on them, mother of two high school students (freshman Lindsay Bruce and junior Logan Bruce), Karla Bruce thinks it depends on the household.

"I think it depends on the individual family, personal upbringing, and long term goals," Bruce said. "We encourage our kids to get involved and (we) expect them

to maintain good grades."

Although taking on many activities and classes can become too much at time, Bruce believes it helps to teach responsibility.

"(My husband and I) feel that (being involved) helps to teach responsibility, dependability, and independence. Is there more pressure on kids today? That simply depends on the family," Bruce said.

## Kings of comedy

Stories by Liz Ramos

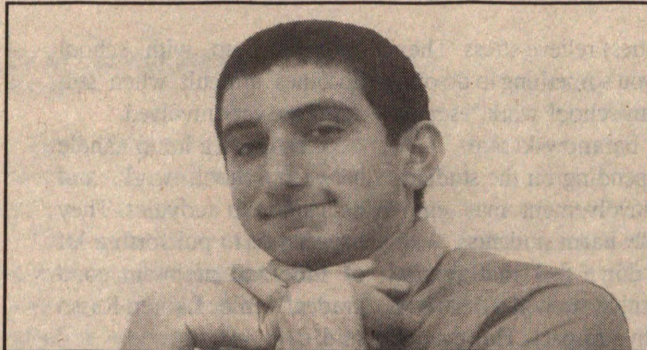


Photo by Liz Ramos

Senior Luke Jaconis strikes a funny pose.

### Senior class clown

Being the senior class clown means not being able to “spell Luke Jaconis without fun.”

Sitting back and hanging out is a great time for comedy for Jaconis.

“I know that we all enjoy having a good time maybe just kicking back, cracking open some Mountain Dew,

and having some pizza,” Jaconis said.

Students find Jaconis’ personality and jokes to be the funniest.

“(I like) his personality and his childish heart,” senior Jon Sanders said. “He’s very innocent, as in he means well by all his jokes and is never too inappropriate and never

mean. He is funny and always does it in good faith. He is friendly and kind and just wants to make people laugh.”

Jaconis wishes for a bigger honor, but being the class clown is that honor.

“The way I look at it is if you can’t be the valedictorian the next best thing is to be the class clown,” Jaconis said.

### Sophomore class clown

With his personality and ability to make people smile, sophomore Jesus Fernandez matches his definition of being a class clown.

Instead of telling jokes, Fernandez’s approach is more of a spur of the moment.

“I’m the type of person that what I do and how I am makes people laughs,” Fer-

nandez said. Whether in the classroom or with friends and families, Fernandez is always trying to make people laugh.

“I consider myself being a class clown all the time because I’m usually having fun at all times and trying to make people enjoy the time they spend with me whether

if it’s friends or family and teachers,” Fernandez said.

Unlike some funny guys who continue too far, Fernandez knows where the punch line ends.

“I know when to stop before they respond badly to me, but (teachers) can (respond poorly) sometimes,” Fernandez said.

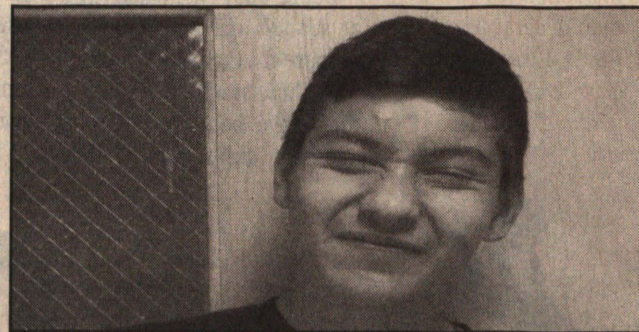


Photo by Liz Ramos

Sophomore Jesus Fernandez makes a funny face.

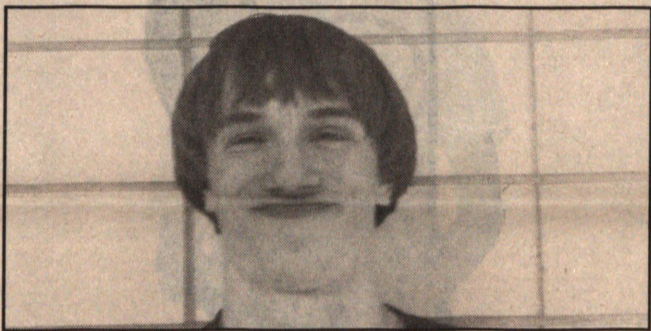


Photo by Liz Ramos

Freshman Bob Draughon knows how to entertain his peers.

### Freshman class clown

From random comedic actions to cracking jokes, freshman Bob Draughon has the title of the freshman class clown.

“He knows how to make people laugh and his personality is humorous and funny,” freshman Alex Brouwer said. “The way he says

things and the random things he comes up with are funny.”

Being the class clown makes it easier for Draughon to make friends in and outside of class.

“It is important to me to act like a class clown with people I don’t know all that well because they need to

know who I really am and how I act,” Draughon said.

Seeing others’ reactions makes him want to continue putting smiles on people’s faces.

“Seeing them smile is enough to make me want to be funny again and again,” Draughon said.

## Life made simpler, smaller

By Kyle Paup  
Reporter

Substitute teacher Faye Machala takes life from reality to miniatures in her outside of school hobby.

“Miniatures is making (models) and items that are in scale,” Machala said.

Items such as doll houses, furniture, and other models of household items are all crafted by Machala’s hands.

“I have a doll house. In fact, I have two doll houses and a whole house full of room boxes,” Machala laughed.

Miniatures have been a part of Machala’s life for the past 25 years, but she has been interested in this art from an early age.

“When I was a girl, I used to love when we got new shoes, because that meant that I got the shoe boxes. (Also) I would make boxes to play with,” Machala said.

Her husband’s uncle, Andy Adamczyk, decided to build doll houses for his granddaughters and asked if she wanted one. According to

Machala, she excitedly responded ‘yes’.

After drawing her own plans so Adamczyk could make her an exact model of her dream house, he made Machala a doll house 36 inches wide and 36 inches high.

She belongs to four clubs, one being Wee “c” Miniature Club which is one of the biggest miniature clubs in the country.

Machala is also the workshop chair for “Retreat Into Miniatures” in West Bend, Wis. which ends one of her yearly clubs.

As workshop chair, Machala finds miniature classes for people to take by making schedules, taking pictures, putting together registration packages, and mailing them out.

She also teaches classes at the retreat. She has also taken classes and subscribed to miniature magazines.

“I’ve learned many things from other members from my miniature clubs,” Machala said. “Uncle Andy (also)

taught me basic building techniques for me to know.”

When being asked what other people generally think of her hobby, Machala takes a long pause while staring up at the ceiling.

“Most people are awed. I’ve brought boxes on a couple occasions to school.

The (students) are quite surprised,” Machala said.

It is not an easy hobby but can be done by anyone nonetheless, according to Machala.

“Most people if they put their mind to it, I think, could do it and have fun doing it. It’s a fun fantasy world,” Machala said. “It’s a nice way to spend a pleasant afternoon on my own. It brings out the artist in me, some-

one who can’t even draw a straight line.”

Machala also takes time to consider what it takes to do her hobby.

“Time, patience, creativity, organization, (and) money. It’s not a cheap hobby, but it’s cheaper if, like me, you’re a crafter instead of a collector,” Machala said.

Even though they are miniatures, they have become a large part in Machala’s life.



Photo by Kyle Paup

Substitute teacher Faye Machala creates miniatures as a hobby.

## Living, surviving among war-torn nation

### American makes choice to send family to safety while staying to help during Rwandan genocide

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief

Through the Rwandan genocide, one American lived through the fighting, bombing, shooting, killing, and threats to save the lives of two Tutsis.

Carl Wilkens, who visited the school to speak to freshman geography classes about the Rwandan genocide, stayed in Kigali during the genocide and lived to tell the story.

To help tell the story, Wilkens wrote "I'm Not Leaving" which students were able to pick up a copy of after the Wilkens' presentation.

After Wilken's marriage to Teresa Lynne, the couple moved to Zimbabwe in 1981 and then to Rwanda in 1990 with their three children.

In Rwanda, the family stayed in Kigali where they went to build schools, operate clinics, and do humanitarian work.

"Before the genocide, in much of the country it was quite normal living," Wilkens said. "Although the war was happening, in other parts it was really beautiful and people got along well. You couldn't imagine that anything as horrible as a genocide could happen there."

The genocide resulted from years of abuse of the Tutsis by the Hutu who were in power.

A genocide of the Tutsi thus began in April of 1994, lasting about 100 days.

When the president of



During his time in Rwanda, Carl Wilkens stayed throughout the genocide and helped victims find shelter and food.

Photo courtesy of Carl Wilkens

Rwanda was killed when his plane was shot down, the Hutu used the plane crash as a way to begin the genocide against the Tutsi.

Soon after the beginning of the genocide, every government and embassy was telling its people to leave Rwanda and go to safety, leaving Wilkens with a difficult choice to make: to stay or leave.

What made the decision to stay more certain was the look in the eyes of the two Tutsis who worked for the Wilkens family.

"You think, if this is your brother, if this is your sister, are you going to leave them?" Wilkens said. "I think probably looking at them like family might help some people understand although it doesn't really make sense. I always say it makes more heart than sense."

While Wilkens stayed in

Kigali, his family moved to Burundi, then Burundi became too unstable. They then went to Nairobi, Kenya, where they ended up staying for the rest of the genocide.

His children and wife leaving was hard but instead of focusing on what could happen, they focused on why they were in Rwanda in the first place.

"I know that (my children) understood in many ways because they loved Anita, the young lady who worked in our home," Wilkens said. "Their mom just gave them sense that 'you know what? Everything is going to be alright.' I think the security and stability that my wife, Teresa, provided was huge for them."

While separated, Wilkens kept in contact with his family every day through radio.

During the genocide, Wilkens had to live in fear of what would happen next.

"It was moment by moment, trying to find food and water, trying to stop somebody from coming in to kill the people in our house, trying to find supplies for orphans," Wilkens said. "It was a time where relationships were hugely important."

Even with the numerous amounts of threats against him, Wilkens never thought about leaving.

"We wanted (the genocide) to end but we didn't want to abandon the people," Wilkens said. "I supposed if they had been killed one of the times they were threatened, maybe things would've changed. I think as long as you felt like you could do something positive, you were saying you have to keep doing it, you have to keep go-

ing." Wilkens believes the "connection with (his) Maker" helped him to sleep at night although he was constantly threatened and bombs were going off.

"You become conditioned to the shots," Wilkens said. "It would be mostly when they would rattle the chain

*"It was moment by moment, trying to find food and water, trying to stop somebody from coming in to kill the people..."*

--Carl Wilkens

on the gate. You wonder 'who's here? Is it somebody who's trying to get the people in our house?'"

Throughout the genocide, finding people to trust was a struggle, but sometimes Wilkens had to take the chance in trusting people.

"You didn't know who you could trust or not trust," Wilkens said. "I wouldn't say trust was the most important thing at that time because you had to work with people you couldn't trust. Just because you couldn't trust someone didn't mean you couldn't work with them."

About 500,000 Tutsis were murdered during the genocide along with almost 1 million people who sympathized with the Tutsi or were moderate Hutu.

"There was a time that we were surrounded at the orphanage and I thought the massacre was going to get everybody," Wilkens said. "There were a lot of times but during that time you just quit worrying about whether you're going to live or die."

Wilkens went to the or-

phanage with water at the end of June when some Hutu people threatened to kill everyone in the orphanage.

"For some reason, because I was there, they didn't. They stopped, and they waited. We had a two and a half hour stand-off," Wilkens said. "Fortunately, a friend managed to contact the police and they came. I didn't know if I could trust them or not."

When the police came, Wilkens took a chance in trusting the officers.

"I thought that maybe he wanted to get rid of me," Wilkens said. "It was a really hard decision whether I would stay or go. I decided to trust this police officer. Fortunately, he stood his ground. There wasn't a massacre."

After Wilkens left the orphanage, he went to seek help from the prime minister.

"I ended up asking the prime minister who was actually one of the three people in charge of the genocide to stop the genocide, and he did, which doesn't make any sense," Wilkens said. "There were a lot of things during this time that didn't make sense. It's not like logic was your best friend. Sometimes

simply just being there asking was all it took to stop a massacre."

Some of Wilkens' Rwandan friends said Wilkens asking the prime minister to stop the massacre was key but other Hutus went back to the orphanage for another massacre; however the government sent soldiers to help.

"One day I had a part in stopping the killing, but there were many other days they were there. I think it's easy to build the idea of a hero and do very few things by yourself," Wilkens said.

While in Rwanda during the genocide, Wilkens made tapes of what was happening.

"I'm really glad that got the idea of making tapes even though the idea came when I thought that I might not see my wife and children again," Wilkens said. "Of course, I'm grateful that I didn't die but the tapes have become an invaluable source for me to be able to help tell the story, write the book. I can't imagine writing the book and many of the stories without the tapes."



Photo courtesy of Carl Wilkens

After living in Zimbabwe, Carl Wilkens and his family moved to Rwanda.

## Close game

By **Ericka Hauptman**  
Reporter

Boys volleyball ended its season Tuesday with a loss against Elk Grove.

The boys ended their final match 27-25.

"We played great, our team really pulled it together but we lost in the third match by two points," captain senior

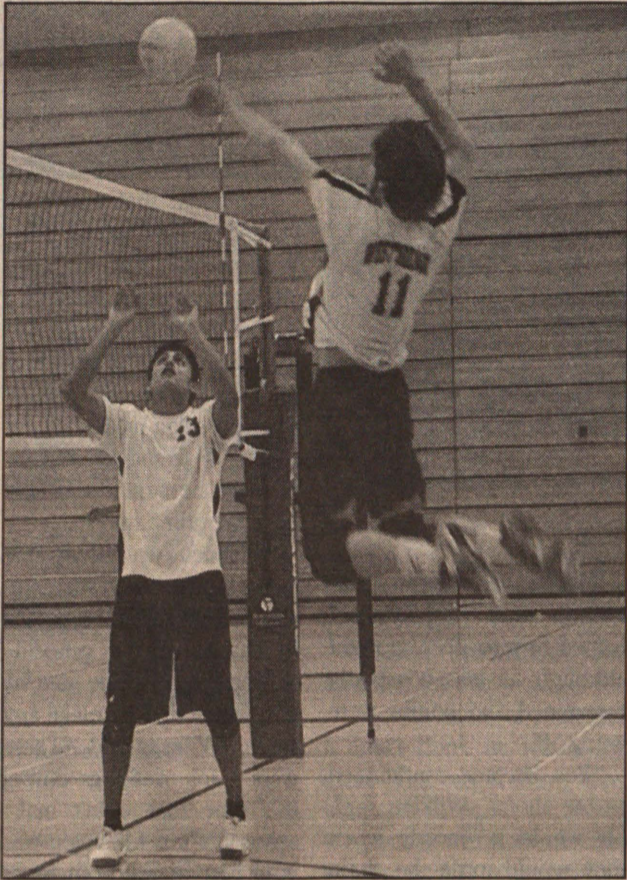


Photo by Liz Ramos

Before the game, senior Trevor Slonek prepares to spike the ball over the net while senior Danny Amaro sets the ball.

Tom Becker said.

Although the season is over, Becker will never forget the memories the team made.

"My years playing volleyball for the school are over and I want to thank everyone who was a part of it," Becker said.

Going into the first round of playoffs, the boys won their first regional game against Elgin West Minister to put them into the second round of regionals.

In the past month the boys have pushed themselves to come back from the struggle they had in the beginning with a 3-11 DVC record.

The boys beat Wheaton Warrenville South May 7, 25-23 in both matches that gave them a boost of confidence going into the first round of playoffs.

"Winning a tournament and beating teams like Wheaton Warrenville South have been enormous for us. It changed the mood of the team," Becker said.

The boys made a statement on May 4, at the Waukegan tournament winning 5-0.

"We've had some struggles this season but I think we took a turn when we went undefeated and we really came together as a team," coach Kris Hasty said.

## Teamwork helps

*Lacrosse has new method for championship*

By **Giuliana LaMantia**  
Center Spread Editor

Although a loss against Geneva High School Tuesday marked the end of the season for lacrosse, camaraderie and teamwork helped the team through a season of highs and lows.

"I felt like we talked and communicated really well," junior captain Colin Lelito said. "We played fairly well defense, and offense moved the ball around extremely well. The hustle was there, it just came down to (Geneva) having more fire power than us."

Despite the 13-2 loss, the team fought, but still sees room for improvement.

"If there was something we could improve on, it's playing the full 48 minute game," Lelito said. "Even though the score doesn't reflect it, we played a really strong two quarters."

Becoming closer is something the team worked on.

"We (focused) on playing as a team instead of being individuals on the field," senior Kevin Lauf said. "We also (focused) on being more serious and coming out hard on the enemy team."

Coach Brandon Kutilek agrees and stresses the importance of working as a team.

"The individual play of the players is something that I don't want the kids to do on the field, so I (have tried) to express the concerns about lacrosse being a team sport and without the support of the other teammates then we would not be successful," Ku-

tilek said.

Lacrosse has focused on numerous fundamentals this season. "Being a defenseman, I would agree that one of our focuses for the year would be strong defense, and to maintain the ball in the offensive zone," senior Jason Wiedmyer said. "Our goalie, (junior David Theiner), has been very strong for us in net this season which contributed to our success."

The boys feel their teamwork and overcoming their weaknesses gave them an advantage.

"This season one of our biggest focuses (was) playing complete games and really trying to battle to the end," Lelito said. "Our strength is probably the camaraderie that we all have, we all support each other on and off the field and we are a pretty close knit group."

Teammates have enjoyed the camaraderie this season.

"This season has been very different than others because we have a very good team of guys and we are pretty close together," Lauf said.

Although lacrosse found the season overall successful, the team looks to future potential.

"I'd say we met our goals, but we have a lot of potential that we can hope to use next year for a successful season," Lelito said.

For seniors, the camaraderie made the season all the better.

"This season had its up and downs. When we came to play we did very well and when we were unfocused we did not do well, but I love those guys and couldn't ask for a better senior year on lacrosse," senior captain Jared Baranowski said.

## Transition into Upstate 8

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

Since the school is transitioning from the DVC to the Upstate 8, athletic director Doug Mullaney is initiating an Upstate 8 Power Point Committee which will brainstorm on Thursday at 6 p.m.

The committee will also be in charge of creating a booklet about the school's history, organizing spirit events, creating a welcoming committee, and brainstorm ideas encouraging sportsmanship.

Juniors Hanna Netisingha and Cristin Zaputil put together invitations for students to attend the meeting.

Coaches chose to attend the meeting and focus on the school spirit.

Netisingha and Zaputil have begun contacting students.

"Cristin Zaputil and I have been finding students based on coaches' nominations, and we will run the first meeting," Netisingha

said.

The purpose of the committee is to make the transition simpler for all athletes.

"(The point of the committee is) to create a group of students who will help our school move smoothly into our new conference. It's based on student athletes' ideas," Netisingha said.

The meeting will be a brainstorming session for ideas.

"Cristin and Hanna will be standing with markers, easels, and notepads writing down ideas on what we should do to invite people into our school," Mullaney said.

Many parents are involved in the athletic department and will have insight at the meeting as well.

"Parents and visitors (who have) never been here will want to see how we do things. We will welcome them into the building and have ambassadors at each home game handing out pamphlets," Mullaney said.

Students have been chosen to attend the meeting and focus on school spirit and

welcome other schools.

"Coaches have sent me names of two athletes who are going to be next year's juniors and seniors to represent their sport," Mullaney said.

After the meeting, there will be opportunities for the parents to get more information from Mullaney.

"This will culminate in a series of meetings with the athletic director throughout the summer," Mullaney said.

Meet the athletic director sessions will also be informal.

"We are going to have coffee and donuts and give them information on the conference, how to get to the schools, behavior, and conference bylaws. It will give parents a chance to be internal and a part of the new conference," Mullaney said.

Netisingha believes the committee is a great idea.

"This is new territory for us and we need to go into it with confidence," Netisingha said.



Photo by Giuliana LaMantia

At Friday's game junior Collin Lelito tries to advance the ball up the field.

## Injuries affect team's playing

By Darcy Akins  
Perspectives Editor

Even though the softball team has been working hard all season long, injuries have begun to affect the team's play, but they haven't let them get the team down.

"Amanda Gosbeth just recently broke her finger, and she was our starting catcher," senior Morgan Daystych said. "We also had Cristin Zaputil sprain her ankle, and now she's on crutches. She was a key hitter."

Although they have battled with several injuries, other members of the team have been brought in to play those positions.

"I think one of our biggest strengths lately is how our team has stepped up because of our injuries," Dastych said. "Ellie Braun and Tatiana Rich have stepped up behind the plate catching wise. Also

Brianna Hofman made the transition from outfield to infield."

Injuries on the team could cause the players to lose focus and drive, but sophomore Jenna Foreman thinks it hasn't gotten them down.

"The majority of the team stepped up to keep a positive atmosphere and continued to play our hardest," Foreman said.

Along with positive attitudes, the coaching staff has brought about new techniques and teaching to the players.

"Our coaching staff has had so much experience and it's great to really listen to them and get the best out of what they are trying to teach," junior Jillian Staton said. "The best feeling is getting coached by your teammates. No matter what position you play, someone can always tell you (something)."

Being prepared for games, is one aspect of play that the players would still like to see improvements to.

"One thing that everyone needs to improve on is mentally preparing ourselves for the game," Staton said. "We as a team have learned from experience that if you step onto the field with nothing but softball on your mind then there will be little room for error."

For many members of the team, it's as much about the sport, as it is about the friendships that have been made on the team.

"(I like) being able to count on my teammates when I'm having a bad day or when I just need to talk to someone. I always have my teammates to talk to and get help from," Foreman said.

The team's record is 6-19 and the next game is Saturday at St. Charles East.

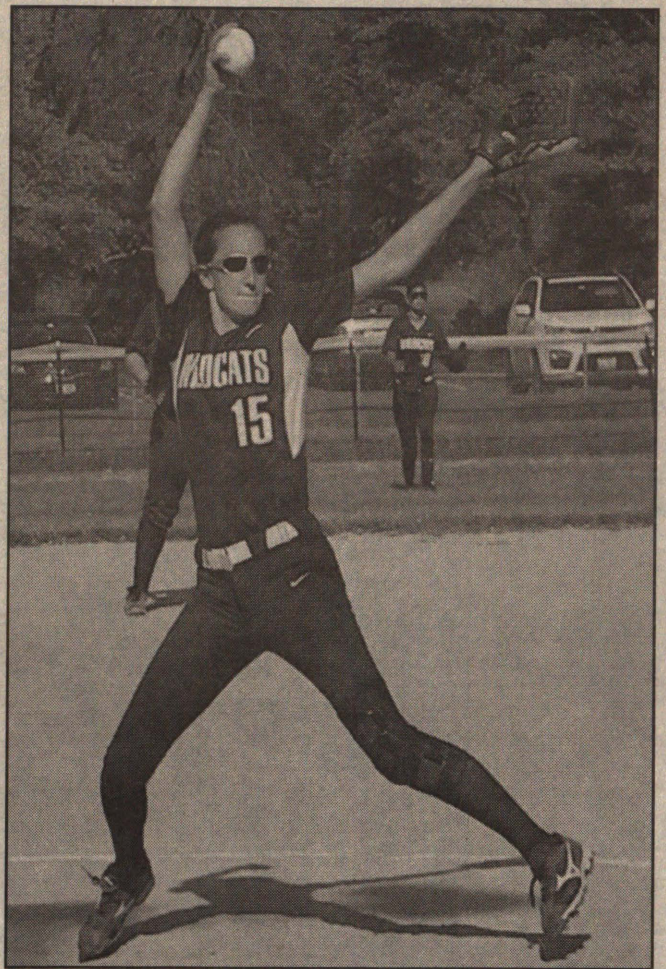


Photo by Darcy Akins

During the top of the third inning, sophomore Amy Goldsmith winds up to pitch to the Larkin batter on Monday's game.

## Season's end brings personal bests

### Sectionals, DVC brought many accomplishments for both teams

By Liz Ramos  
Co-Editor in Chief  
And Akeem Asani  
Reporter

#### Boys

After working harder than in past seasons, boys track ended with most team members getting personal bests at DVC.

Friday at sectionals was not as successful since no one qualified at state.

At DVC, the team placed eighth but did better than last season.

"Last year we got shut out with zero points while this year we got eight points," coach Paul McLeland said.

Senior Eddy Rubio placed third in high jump and the mile relay team consisting of seniors Christian Cruz, Tim Linhardt, Bruno Muñoz, and Hunter Cerny placed fifth.

"The mile relay team was seeded to be fifth going in on paper so they finished where they're supposed to and took off time," McLeland said. "Eddy finished higher so that was positive."

In the 3200 meter, junior captain Joe Sawicki ran a 11:14, his best time of the season.

"It was great. I stayed with (Glenbard North's) 2-miler for the first five or six laps, but fell back a bit near the end,"

Sawicki said. "I can't really complain though. I kept a pretty consistent pace."

Along with McLeland, some of the boys don't think the team could have done better than they did at DVC.

"We've all worked much harder than we ever have before and everyone has shown steady improvement through the season," senior Chance Coats said. "Everyone ran their fastest time this season at conference, and that's all we can ask for."

The team had been focus-

ing on getting personal bests.

"We've been trying to build through the season," McLeland said. "We focus on getting our best, training hard, and we had a really good year of working hard. They've really improved so that's the most important thing."

Weather and the size of the team brought challenges for the boys.

"The weather this spring was crazy weather. It was cold. When it wasn't cold, it was raining. We missed out two, maybe three meets so

that was some experience the guys missed out on," McLeland said. "Just being small in numbers, we're not able to fill in all of the events. Some of the guys have to do three to four events as opposed to focusing on one or two events."

With all of the hard work the team has put into the season, the team had a better season than last.

"How hard they worked and where they got to from where they were was a great thing," McLeland said. "I told the seniors especially that you want to leave your legacy or what you leave in peoples' mind and I think

theirs is their hard work."

#### Girls

After waiting through the rain, girls track ended their season at sectionals.

According to coach Robert Maxson, the sectional meet at West Aurora brought "many successes," like bringing the girls to tenth place out of 17 teams in their last meet.

Seniors Carla Dannug placed fourth in the long jump while Julia Caithamer finished fourth in the 800.

Two weather delays occurred at the DVC meet at Naperville North. According to Illinois High School Association rules, 30 minutes must be allowed after each sight of lightning.

"It was a difficult day with a lot of rain delays," Maxson said.

Despite the weather, some personal bests were still achieved. Freshman Kelly Conlon finished fourth in the conference in the 100 meters while members of the 4 x 800 relay scored points.

"Believe it or not, runners like to run more in the rain. I don't think the weather really affected them," laughed Maxson.

According to junior Catherine Serio, there were benefits from the season even though it ended sooner than they had planned for.

"I feel that our team had improved a lot over the year," Serio said. "We have done many different and more intense workouts, which seem to have benefited us. We all seem to have cut off a lot of time in our races this year."



Photo by Liz Ramos

The boys' 4x400 relay team, from left seniors Tim Linhardt, Christian Cruz, Hunter Cerny, and Bruno Muñoz warms up before practice in preparation for the sectional meet on Friday.

# Throughout the years in DVC

## Volleyball

For boys and girls volleyball the DVC was a way to prepare them for going up against the harder competition in the Upstate Eight.

"I'll miss the competitiveness of the DVC," volleyball coach Kris Hasty said. "I

think we are better prepared because of the DVC."

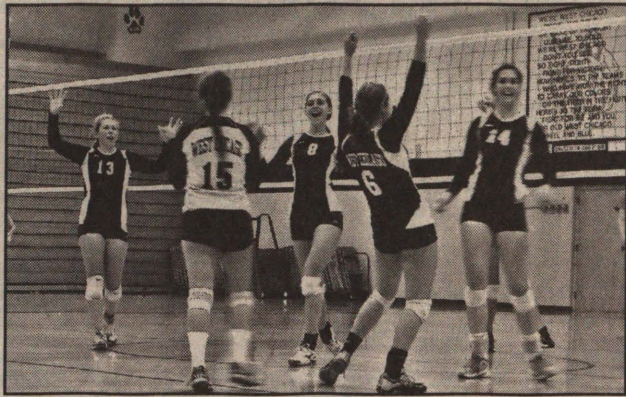
Hasty will never forget the friendships and coaches from the DVC.

Leaving the DVC is bittersweet for Hasty who has coached in the DVC for 19

years.

"It's kind of like my farewell tour. The Hasty farewell tour of the DVC," Hasty said.

Hasty is excited for the new journey, a clean slate, and show that the school can play sports.



Volleyball wins DVC 2010

Chronicle Archive photo

## Running

Throughout the years in the DVC, boys and girls track and cross country runners have broken records, taken titles, and gone to state.

After many years in the DVC girls track and cross country coach Bob Maxson and boys track and cross country coach Paul McLeland will miss the other coaches.

"I will miss my fellow coaches. I believe they are well qualified and I have learned from them," Maxson said. "I look forward to growing our entire schools sports programs by competing in the Upstate 8, which more closely resembles our school body."

Although they will miss the coaches, there are some aspects of the DVC they won't miss.

"I'll miss the coaches, they're great guys, but what I won't miss from the DVC is getting pounded for the most part," McLeland said.

### Boys track

State qualifiers in every year except 1994, 1996, 2008, 2012, and 2013.

Twenty-three conference championship titles in different events.

1962- Brad Radunzel all state for pole vault.

1988- Tom McDonald DVC champion and conference record holder in pole vault.

1998- Tim Keller state qualifier for 3200 meter run.

1999- Tim Keller state qualifier for 3200 meter run.

2000- Tim Keller conference record holder and champion for the 3200 meter run.

2009- Matt Kubik state qualifier for pole vault.

2009- Jeff Foreman state qualifier for high jump.

2010- Jeff Foreman state qualifier for high jump.

2010- Matt Kubik state qualifier for pole vault and the 200 meter and 100 meter run.

2011- Jeff Foreman state qualifier for 300 meter hurdles and high jump.

### Girls track

2005- Amber Triner state qualifier in 300 meter hurdles.

2008- Annette Eichenberger 800 meter run indoor champion and qualified for state.

2009- Annette Eichenberger 800 meter run champion and state qualifier.

2010- Annette Eichenberger state qualifier for 800 meter run.

2010- 4x800 meter relay team of Tanya Starkey, Lucy Fuentes, Meghan Nichol, and Kelsey Sayner qualified for state.

2011- Lali Valdivia 400 meter run conference champion and state qualifier.

2012- Lali Valdivia state qualifier for 400 meter run.

2012- Junior Lindsey Sayner broke the school record for the mile at sectionals.

2013- Lindsey Sayner broke the school record for the mile at the indoor state meet.

### Boys cross country

1988- Rick Montalvo qualified for state.

1989- Team qualified for state.

1989- Rick Montalvo qualified for state and became an all-state runner.

1990- Rick Montalvo qualified for state and became an all-state runner.

1990- Team qualified for state.

1992- Brett Siglin qualified for state and became an all-state runner.

1997- Dan Horyn qualified for state.

1998- Team qualified for state.

1999- Tim Keller qualified for state and became an all-state runner.

2005- George Visser qualified for state.

2009- Gunnar Sterne qualified for state.

2010- Gunnar Sterne qualified for state.

### Girls cross country

2012- Lindsey Sayner broke the school record at Aurora Catholic, then broke the record again at sectionals.



Chronicle Archive photo  
Gunnar Sterne '11

## Baseball

Baseball never won a championship but still had success in beating DVC schools.

"We never won championships.

We used to finish in the top half of the conference.

A lot of the other teams have personal trainers which are expensive,"

baseball coach Dan McCarthy said.

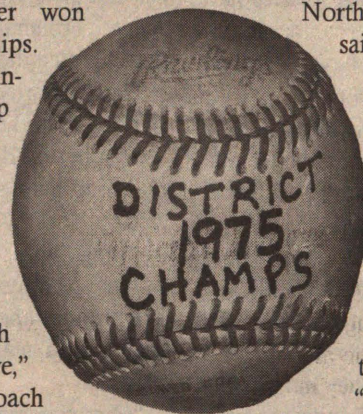
Highlights for some sports can just be achieving goals.

"There were not a lot of highlights. A highlight for

us is (beating) teams like Naperville Central, Glenbard North, or Wheaton North," McCarthy said.

Relationships which formed while in the DVC will be missed, according to McCarthy.

"I am going to miss the friendships with the coaches. In other conferences the coaches don't always get along," McCarthy said.



## Softball

For the school's duration in the DVC, softball has obtained much success in a competitive conference.

"We've had a lot of quality players and kids that have put in a lot of time," softball coach Kim Wallner said. "Good pitching is always a key for softball, and so we've been able to play at a high level and really compete extremely well in the DVC."

Softball has won 11 conference championships in the DVC, starting in 1975, '89, '90, '91, '95, '98, '99, '01, '08, '10, and '11.

According to Wallner, in the late '80s and '90s, and even early 2000s,

softball was not the strongest sport for the DVC, with mainly West Chicago and Glenbard North fighting for the conference title every year.

However, after Naperville and Wheaton schools began building up their programs, the DVC became strong and more competitive in overall softball.

"In the last 10 to 15 years it's gotten to be really competitive, and it's gotten to a point where you can't just show up and win," Wallner said. "Any team is capable of beating anybody, because almost ev-

ery team in the DVC has got a decent program."

Wallner believes the competition will be just as tough for softball in the Upstate 8.

"I don't know if it's going to be that different," Wallner said. "We're going to be playing different teams, but as I look, we play some of those teams in the Upstate 8 in our non-conference schedule and they're solid."

One thing Wallner will miss the most is the camaraderie with the other coaches within the DVC.

"I haven't been in softball as long as a varsity coach, but I know quite a few of the coaches, and so I'm going to miss the relationships I have," Wallner said. Although it is the end of competing in the DVC, it doesn't mean the end of the relationships.

"I think some of the schools are going to miss us, because we have been competitive, and I think they've enjoyed going against us," Wallner said. "I'm going to try to set up a few non-conference games with some of the schools in the DVC just so I could keep playing them because I've enjoyed the experience (of playing against DVC schools.)"

# Memories made in the DVC

By **Giuliana LaMantia**  
Center Spread Editor

After 38 years in the DVC, coaches will miss the familiarity and relationships made but look forward to the opportunities of the Upstate 8.

Although not so many championships were won, it doesn't mean the experience in the DVC wasn't positive.

"I think there's a lot of pride that goes along with being in the DVC," athletic director Doug Mullaney said. "With the amount of competition, we're urged in the athletic department to be the best we can be. That experience has taught us strategies on what you need to do to go from good to great."

According to girls basketball and softball coach Kim Wallner, the DVC is unique in that it is traditional, consisting mainly of the same schools since it began.

"I think the DVC has a lot of pride in the fact that they're a traditional type of conference, they enjoy staying the way they've been," Wallner said. "The only switch was when Glenbard South left, and I think that's partly why some of (the schools) have been a little bit miffed about us leaving, because I think they like that traditional thing that

they've had."

Wallner has worked here since 1985.

Despite the mixed feelings from other schools in the DVC about the move, coaches feel they are being respected on the decision.

"I've heard negativity and I've heard things about other schools being upset at us about leaving, but I've gotten nothing but respect, admiration, positivity, and saying that they were going to miss us," Wallner said.

With hard work and respect, the school made its mark in its own way.

"We were respected as individuals," Mullaney said. "The DVC knows we have pride in our school, and I think they understand why we're making the move."

Many can also agree on the support of the school and community upon success.

"We didn't have many (conference champions) but when we did, staff, kids and parents rallied around the program," Mullaney said.

Coaches believe the hard work of coaches and athletes have helped the school obtain success in the DVC.

"When we do succeed, our kids have really worked hard at it and that's a tribute to that group of athletes as well as a tribute to our coaching staff," boys and girls volleyball coach Kris Hasty said.

"I think we have a very good coaching staff here. I think we push the kids and any time we succeed I really feel DVC is happy (for us)."

Hasty has been a part of the school for 19 years.

Wallner feels WeGo represented true sportsmanship in the DVC.

"Whether or not we're winning championships, I think our teams always show up and battle. We play hard, we're sportsman like, and I think we represent what

far as coaches," Hasty said. "It's always sad to leave what you're used to. However, I think as a school it's the right move to make. We can compete at the varsity level on occasion, but year in and year out our other levels really take a beating in volleyball and so I think it's time to try something new."

Moving to the Upstate 8 has presented the school with opportunities, as the athletic department is now in charge of the calendars for meetings

they'll still have that top quality, but there will also be teams that we can actually compete with."

McLeland has been a part of the school for 25 years.

While moving to a different conference will be a new experience, the DVC will still be missed.

"It's been a great ride for me," Wallner said. "I am going to miss it, but I'm looking forward to the challenge to see what our school can do in the evolution of starting a new conference."

The school will take Lake Park High School's spot in the Valley Division, along with Bartlett, East Aurora, Metea Valley, Neuqua Valley, South Elgin, and Waubonsie Valley.

In the River Division are Batavia, Elgin, Larkin, Geneva, St. Charles East, St. Charles North, and Streamwood.

Glenbard East and West Aurora will also be leaving the DVC and joining the Upstate 8 during the 2014-2015 school year, and the divisions will be realigned.

The last home conference game was baseball on May 15, and the last DVC conference match was boys volleyball May 16 at Naperville Central.

*"Whether or not we're winning championships, I think our teams always show up and battle. We play hard, we're sportsman like, and I think we represent what high school sports is about"*

-- coach Kim Wallner

high school sports is about," Wallner said. "The championships are nice and we're constantly trying to obtain success, but as I've told my kids for many years, success is when you can walk away from it with your head held high. You've played with class and dignity. I think that our school overall has done a great job of that."

Coaches will miss camaraderie with other coaches.

"I made some really awesome friends in the DVC

and special events starting next year.

Teams hope to be competitive in the new conference but also have more opportunities for success.

"I will miss the people, mainly the coaches in the DVC a lot, but I won't miss the getting hammered and being in the basement by ourselves," boys cross country and track coach Paul McLeland said. "I think there are going to be some very good teams in the Upstate 8, so

## Football

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

While in the DVC, football has had a few memorable highlights.

"There have been three best days in my life. The day I married my wife, the day my kids were born, and the day we beat Naperville Central

(to go to the playoffs). It was that great of a day. People had tears in their eyes and everyone ran onto the field," coach Bill Bicker said.

This game was significant because it had been a long time since the school had made it to playoffs.

"That was the first playoff game we had been in 23

years," Bicker said.

The school beat Wheaton North in 2005 which was also an accomplishment since they are one of the best teams in the DVC.

"When I was in school in 1992, I played at Wheaton North. It was West Chicago's homecoming game on a Saturday morning and they beat us. It was a game we had gone into thinking we would win," Bicker said.

Bicker believes the school is taking a step in the right direction.

"I think it is the right (thing to do) switching to the Upstate 8 because the suburbs have changed a lot and have become more of a gated community in the past 10 to 15 years," Bicker said.

According to Bicker, the transition will be smooth from the DVC into the Upstate 8.

"I'm going to miss DVC but new rivalries and games will pop up fast," Bicker said.

## Golf

### Boys

Over the past few years, the boys golf team has finished in the top half of the DVC and made it to sectionals once.

"Our biggest accomplishment was making it out of the regional as a team in 2008," boys golf coach Eric Lasky said.

Through many tournaments and meets, the boys golf team has grown accustomed to the DVC.

"In golf, I enjoy being in the DVC because I like the competition," Lasky said.

Even though Lasky enjoyed the DVC, he understands the importance of switching conferences.

"I think for the overall school it is important for our kids to compete against other schools the same size," Lasky said.

### Girls

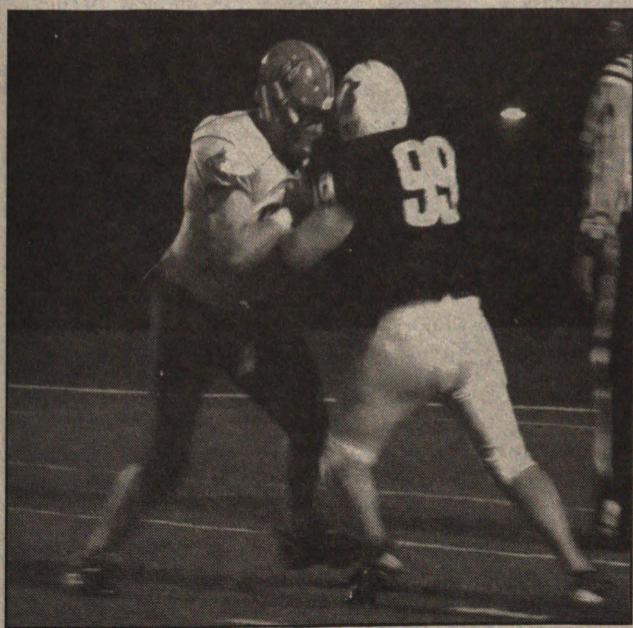
Girls golf was very successful this past season by reaching accomplishments that had never been met before.

"We were the first (team) to win conference for golf," junior Hanna Netisingha said.

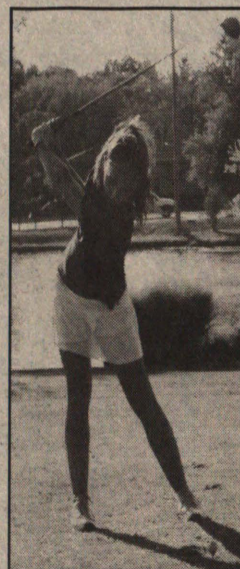
Individually Netisingha has held records within the DVC as well.

"I was the first person to make it to state for the golf team," Netisingha said.

In 2012 the girls golf team qualified for sectionals as a team for the first time.



Chronicle Archive photo



Chronicle Archive photo  
Sophomore Alex Dimas

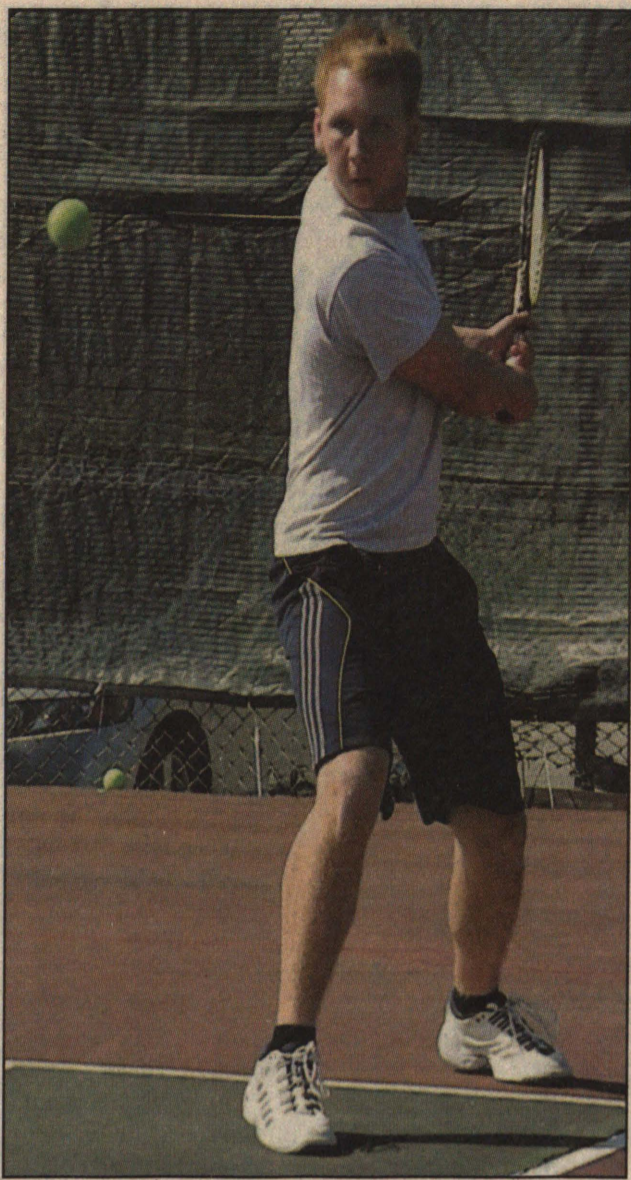


Photo by Liz Ramos

While at practice, senior Sam Ryłowicz takes his back-swing in preparation to hit the ball.

## Loss at DVC, sectionals

*No place but some successes in matches*

By Alexandra Garibay  
Reporter

Boys tennis played its conference tournament, the team's last DVC tournament, against Naperville Central on May 10.

Although the team lost, sophomore Jacob Urban won four games.

"It's disappointing that we all lost. We all had a chance to advance to the first round. We played well but it was disappointing," Urban said.

Coach Sione Moeaki was satisfied with the team.

"They played well, all the players did a good job," Moeaki said.

One player did have to sit out for their tournament.

Senior Lazaro Ramirez strained a muscle in his arm, causing him not to be able to play.

Moeaki believes the team would be better if the players

played outside of school.

"Most of them don't play off season and it would help," Moeaki said. "We could be able to compete against other schools if players played off-season and took private lessons."

On May 17, the team played at sectionals.

Even though the team did not advance to state during sectionals, senior Sam Ryłowicz won a first round match, while senior Scott West and Urban played doubles and went to tiebreaker.

"We did really well, all of the hard work we put in all year really showed," Urban said. "We played really tough, it's unfortunate that it ended the way it did, with no one advancing to state."

This was coach Moeaki's last season coaching boys tennis.

After this year he will be retiring.

Moeaki is satisfied with the team's final game.

"Between the doubles and singles games, we won one match. Overall I think we played well. Especially Sam Ryłowicz, I know he played very well," Moeaki said.

## Disappointing, yet memorable

By Guadalupe Blanco  
Lifestyles Editor

In its final games, the baseball team found that even with disappointing results, it was a memorable season.

According to coach Dan McCarthy, this year's record was not what the team wanted, with 4-26.

For senior members on the team, facing the personal challenges was nothing new to them.

"Every team has to deal with challenges, and we're no different," senior Kyle Nielson said.

Due in part to the big losses, the players felt that their strengths were not as obvious in the season.

"We've lost a lot of one-run ball games, close games, and we've got a team that's a lot better than that. Our record doesn't show how good we are," senior Jon Sanders said.

Although the team didn't get the record they wanted, it all came down to close games.

"We didn't achieve the victory tolls I thought we were capable of, and I think that's evident based on those close games," McCarthy said. "Overall I think we've been a much better team defensively than last year, but it seems like in a few of the games

we've lost, we've given up the big innings. If we could've eliminated a big inning, I think we could have had a lot more wins."

Being the last season for the seniors, they are confident that the team will be able to adjust.

"It's the closest team I've ever been on. I love every one of the guys on this team, and even after, we're still going to be in touch. And the juniors we've made friends with,

we're still going to come back to watch them," Sanders said.

As far as the underclassmen that will remain on the team, they have also demonstrated strengths and leadership.

"We've got plenty of guys that can fill the spots that we're leaving open for them, and they have a lot of talent," senior Mike Zajac said.

According to McCarthy, the team is one of the best teams he has coached.

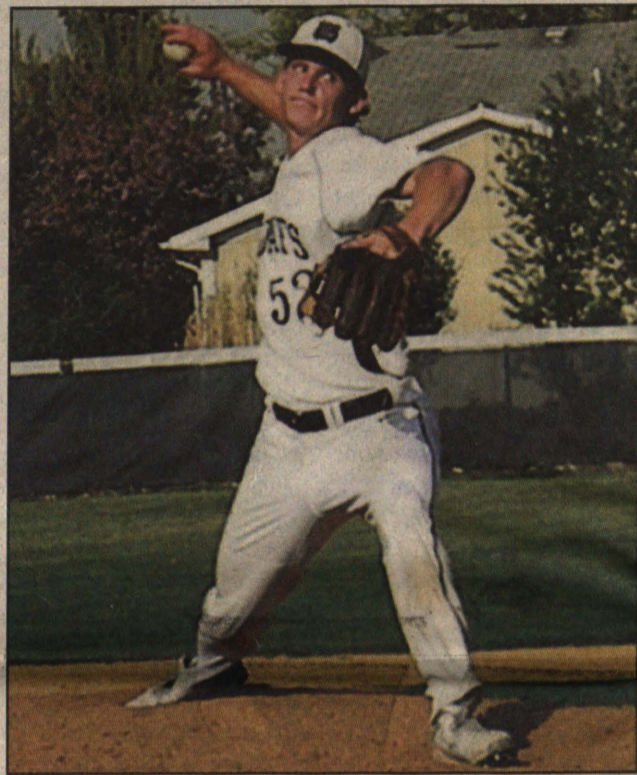


Photo by Guadalupe Blanco

At the game on May 15 against Naperville Central, senior Billy Pearson pitches the ball to their opponent.

## Effort until the end

By Keyuri Parmar  
Co-Editor in Chief

Girls soccer ended its season at the second regional game against St. Charles North High School on Saturday, with a final score of 5-1.

"For (the game against St. Charles North) we prepared just as hard (as the first). The first half did not go well, we were nervous. By the second

half we all stepped it up," senior Andrea Correa said.

Although the girls lost, they played well in the end.

"We possessed (the ball) well and we really communicated well and knew what everyone else was doing," senior Katie Becker said.

After the game, the girls realized what they could have done better.

"We could have worked

more on sending balls further and having better chances to score," Becker said.

According to Correa, the girls played their hardest in the second half.

"Although the outcome was not what we wanted, we were all happy with the way we played the second half," Correa said.

The girls won their first regional game on May 15 against Schaumburg, 3-2 which is a difficult team to beat, according to coach Cesar Gomez.



Photo by Keyuri Parmar

In preparation for regionals, freshman Itza Salazar practices goal keeping.