

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

**Volume 45, Issue 5**  
**February 27, 2014**

## Students Speak

Compiled by Sarah Szremski

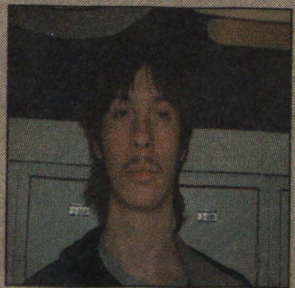
What are your thoughts on the changes to the standards based grading scale?



### Freshman

Vrica Ramos

"It's not a big major change, it's just a little change."



### Sophomore

Jacob Vogt

"It's not an accurate reflection of intelligence, it's more a reflection of how well a student can memorize things."



### Junior

Ruby Davis

"I think it's bad especially for those who need help in like math because they can't retake the test. They should put more things in place to help them."



### Senior

Andrew Zak

"I love it. I think they should keep it forever."

# Grading scale offers options

By Kyle Paup  
 Editor in Chief

As of Feb. 14 new changes to the standards-based grading scale have been applied to the math and science division.

"The standards-based grading practice isn't a West Chicago idea. It isn't a science or math idea. Standards-based grading is occurring at multiple schools within the suburban area. Elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, it's something that many schools are looking at as a better way to diagnose where kids are and then prescribe what the next step should be," math and science division head Scott Albright said.

Problem solving has been done over time leading up to these decisions.

"All of geometry was doing one thing and all of algebra was doing one thing, but the two didn't necessarily match and I was okay with that. I wanted everyone to do a little problem solving. We wanted to take the time to find out what would be best in math and science to do now that we've tried it a few different ways. That was the original plan," Albright said.

This unfortunately came with some complications.

"As we moved through the semester, there was some evidence that we needed to address (this topic) and it couldn't wait until summer. Lack of communication with families and lack of students being able to understand what this was all about," Albright said. "I think they understood that their grade was being calculated in a different way, but I don't know if they understood why."

On Feb. 3, a parent meeting was held to discuss the new changes to the scale and why they were being made.

Individual changes are being made to both the science and math division.

In science instead of using a 'five point scale,' assessment grades will be weighted in three different categories.

The basic portion of the test will count for 60 percent of the overall test grade, the focus portion will count for 30 percent, and the extension portion will count for 10 percent. Then an overall percentage is what will be put into PowerSchool.

Retake options will also be adjusted with the new changes in place.

Instead of just the basic and focus portions being available for retakes, all three portions of the test can be retaken after additional teaching or the student has done extra work on their own.

The first retake will always be done as a class and additional retakes will be available to students individually before the next unit exam. The highest score of among all of the taken tests will be the one that counts for the grade.

In math, there will be formative quizzes to provide feedback of student's progress and unit tests to show final overall understanding for each covered unit.

Unit tests will be weighted higher than the quizzes and will be the major portion of the overall semester grade.

"Right now not every math class uses standards-based grading. Some of the upper classes and honors classes weren't part of the implementation. So there are some courses still grading traditionally," Albright said.

All courses that have not been using the standard-based grading system will continue to use a percentage scale on quizzes, while courses who have been using it will still use a grading rubric on quizzes only.

These quizzes will not count for any more than 30 percent of a grade in the semester.

"Even the courses that aren't

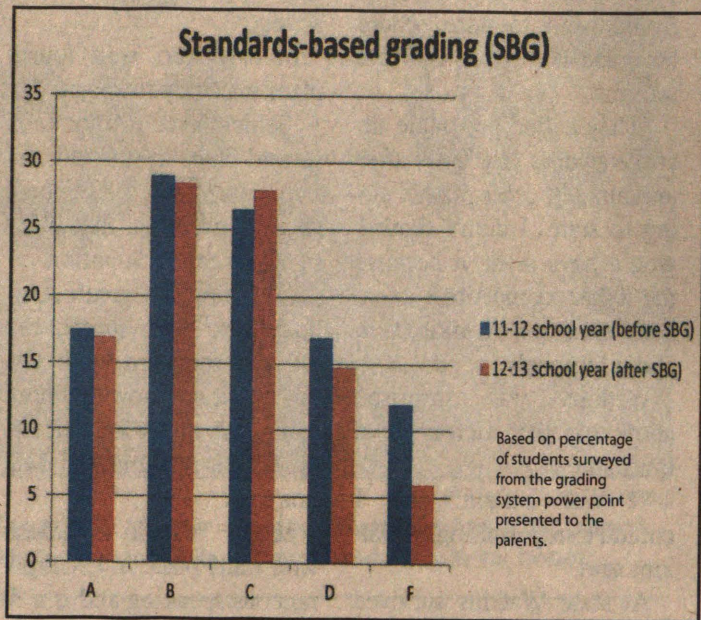


Photo illustration by Sarah Denning

The percentage of students getting grades over the years has changed due to the effects of the standards-based scale.

using standards-based grading will still have some quizzes along the way, even if they're graded traditionally with opportunities for kids to be able to retake them. That's their toe in the water of standard-based grading," Albright said.

The original idea of standards-based grading has been tarnished in a way by the misused term 'the five point scale.'

"Everyone gets caught up in the 'five point scale,' that's the hot topic term. To me, the term irrelevant. If we initially hadn't used the term five point scale and had just said we're going to grade things using a rubric, it would have made things a lot easier in terms of getting people to understand," Albright said.

Standards-based grading in a way is just a rubric for math and science.

"Rubrics are things that you are used to as a student, but that hasn't really been the practice in math to be graded by a rubric. You just would grade it by whether it's right or wrong; get some partial credit and maybe a little extra credit. This allows us to be able to say, now that we know what standards we are looking for kids to learn and where they are at understanding these things just like any rubric

does," Albright said.

Although, this initial scale came with problems as to figuring out the real grade a student has.

"The problem is that by assigning that (five) point value, it became difficult to try to delineate exactly how to calculate that number value," Albright said. "When you start to get to the lower end (of the scale), people can start to see that you really had to figure out a matrix just to figure out what kind of grade to assign to a kid."

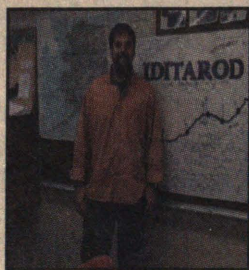
This also gave complications to the students and parents.

"On the (students) end it's confusing too. If you missed one of these basic questions but got everything else right on the entire thing, what does this mean? Well, if you didn't get all the basic right, even if you got the extension right and all the focus right, you can see that you're not going to get anything higher than a 3.75 on the scale because you didn't get 100 percent on the basic," Albright said. "So some of the calculations of this were limiting and our ability to communicate this and why this was going on didn't allow everybody to understand and didn't get out to enough people."

### Mush, Mush in News

ESL teacher goes to Alaska to participate in the Iditarod dog sled race.

---see News, page 3.



### We got beats

Wego's bursting with musical variety and talents as bands Indigofera and 4th Point talk about their music.

--see Lifestyles page 5.

### Violence within relationships

Students could be in abusive relationships and not realize it, February is the month to be aware.

--see Center Spread, page 7.



### Coach's victory

Teachers and former and current students come together to celebrate coach's 400th win in basketball

--see Sports, page 11.

# Small team still brings victories

By Hector Cervantes  
Perspectives Editor

Junior Noah Watkins won first place for impromptu speaking for the speech team at regionals at Wheaton Warrenville South on Feb. 8 and went to state, where he made it through the first round.

"They called my name up at the awards ceremony after announcing other people going to state. I didn't think I would have made it because the other competitors were good speakers," Watkins said about regionals.

Watkins was surprised about his first victory in a tournament.

"I was ecstatic and I couldn't stop smiling," Watkins said.

At state Watkins survived the first round, but did not advance to the second.

Even though the team size this year isn't that big in members according to speech team adviser Paul Lichy, the team competed well.

"The team performed like champions at regionals. The hard work and stress of pre-

paring for the regional tournament paid off. The kids each contributed to the results that earned the team its rank," Lichy said.

Sophomores Robert Bradley and Jeana Brown won fourth place in dramatic duet acting.

Bradley also won fourth place in poetry reading.

Senior Josue Munoz took second place in dramatic interpretation and is a regional champion with a first place in oratorical declamation.

"Winning felt great. Anybody who is in speech can tell you the hard work you put into it and how that hard work pays off. It feels nice to finally get recognized," Munoz said.

Senior Janaki Thakkar won third place in extemporaneous speaking and is a finalist in informational speaking.

Junior Kyle Foehner and senior Sarah Dalla Costa placed as finalists in humorous duet acting.

Junior Fernando Villa won second place in prose reading.

"It felt surprising, yet I be-

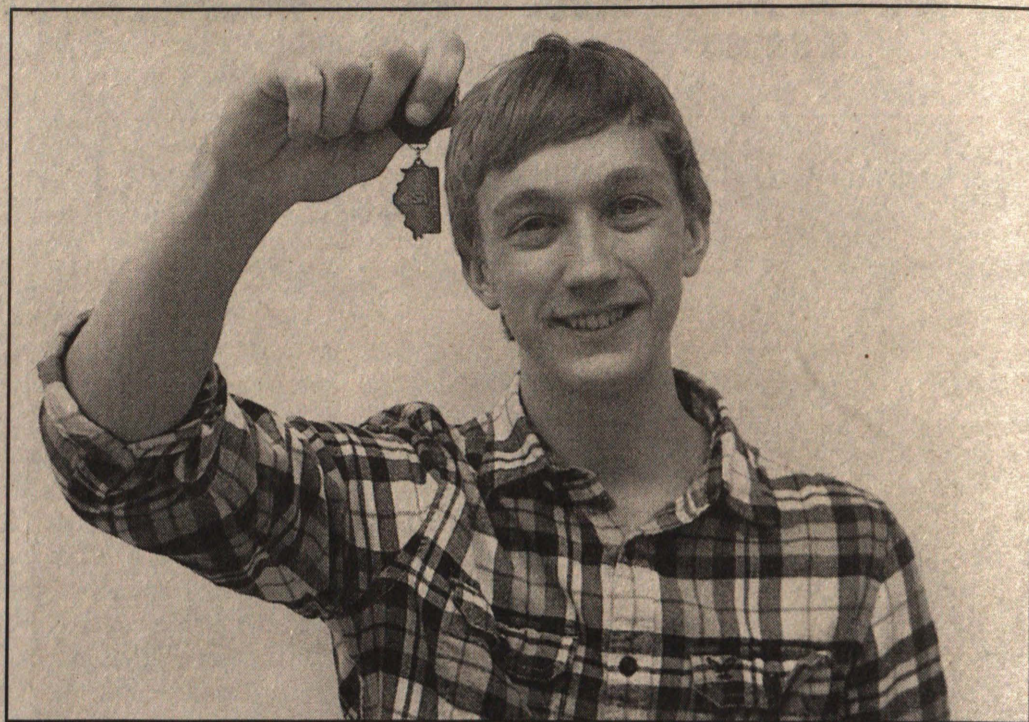


Photo by Kyle Paup

Junior Noah Watkins takes first place for impromptu speaking at regionals.

lieve I deserved it and I believed I worked hard for it," Villa said.

Junior Edith Munoz won second place in original comedy.

Freshman Maxx Smith was a finalist in original oratory.

"I really enjoyed being a part of the speech team, we worked really hard," Smith said.

Senior Marc Curiz was a finalist in radio broadcasting.

In order to get ready for regionals the speech team had to work hard throughout the season.

"We worked throughout the year since the start of the team in October. By each individual (team member) working hard we benefited," Lichy said.

Speech team had some difficulties in the regionals.

"The team had a relatively new regional with other new teams. We had to make a strong presence with our team size," Lichy said.

Speech team had many competitions, and regionals is a major competition in the Upstate Eight Conference, according to Lichy.

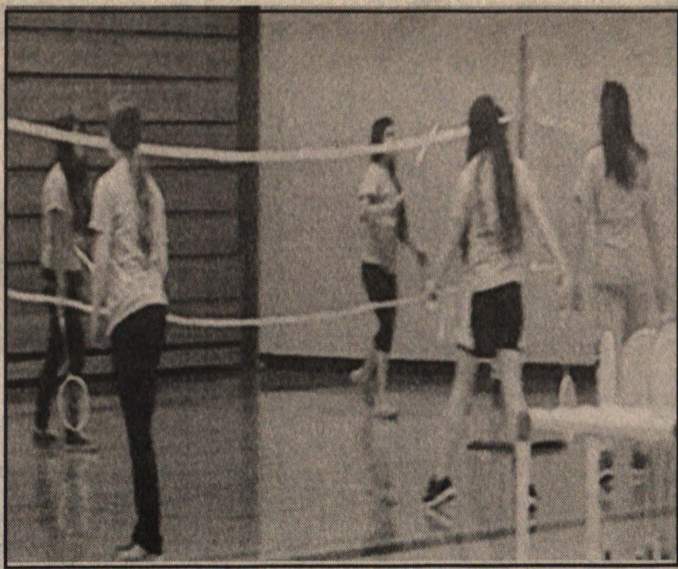


Photo by Sarah Szremski

Students in required gym wear provide a united look.

## New policies help improve school

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

Having policies in school help protect students and keep the school safe.

Policies that were new, such as no backpacks in the locker rooms and required gym uniforms, have helped the school progress in the stopping of thefts.

"There has been a major decrease in thefts. Since students don't bring in backpacks, there is nothing inviting for people to steal," Assistant Athletic Director Bill Lech said.

Having a requirement for all students to wear gym uniforms has also been an improvement.

"I think it's awesome, it is great to see all kids wearing West Chicago Wildcats t-shirts," Lech said.

Requiring gym uniforms in middle school was also a factor in requiring uniforms here.

"One thing I noticed was how all three middle schools that the students came from, was they all had gym uniforms," Lech said. "I was confident it would all work out."

## Preparing for state

*Only 18 FBLA students participate in competition but majority place in top 10*

By Hector Cervantes  
Perspectives Editor

FBLA competed at the Northern Area Conference at Warren Township High School on Jan. 25 where 13 competitors placed in the top 10th in business, math and presentation events.

Even though a couple of events in the competition were changed, throwing competitors off, FBLA adviser Maria Wirth was happy.

"I am very satisfied. We did an excellent job and got four first place winners, pretty good considering we took only 18 students," Wirth said.

First place winners include senior Grant Hostika and juniors Allyssa Lenning, Bridget Lopez and Jacob Urban.

Hostika competed in mobile application development. Lopez competed in business procedures while Lenning won in word processing.

"It's really exciting, I'm very surprised, and it's a cool experience," Lenning said.

Urban, who will compete in the state conference in March, won in impromptu speaking.

"It feels great winning first place and it's a lot of fun. It's hard work but that (hard work) paid off and I'm ready to work hard on the state conference," Urban said.

Second place winners included seniors Ivan Lomeli, Rick Torres and Scott Wiest. Lomeli competed in cyber security.

Torres and Wiest competed in desktop publishing.

Senior Zane Warren took home third place in accounting.

Urban won fifth place in battle of the chapter.

"I thought the (competition) went excellent. We had a lot of kids place really highly," Urban said. "I, myself, did pretty well. It was a lot of fun. The workshops were very informative. Overall, it was just a great experience."

Juniors Robert Bejarano, Mike Miller and sophomore

Tommy Gotsh won seventh place in marketing.

Seniors Emma Nolke and Jake Gillespe won eighth place in business ethics.

The Northern Area Conference was the first conference the FBLA students competed in this year.

"FBLA learned what it was like to attend a conference with more than 700 competitors and interacted with different schools in the Northern Area Conference," Wirth said.

The Northern Area Conference gives students a taste of competition to prepare for State Leadership Competition and the National Leadership Conference.

"The most important competition is the NLC at the end of June in Nashville in which you need to be a state qualifier and must have won first, second and third place," Wirth said.

According to Wirth, FBLA has about 80 members making a bigger club in members than last year.

"It feels awesome and it's a great feeling for the adviser and the chapter as a whole. (It's great to know) we represented West Chicago so well (through our hard work)," Wirth said.

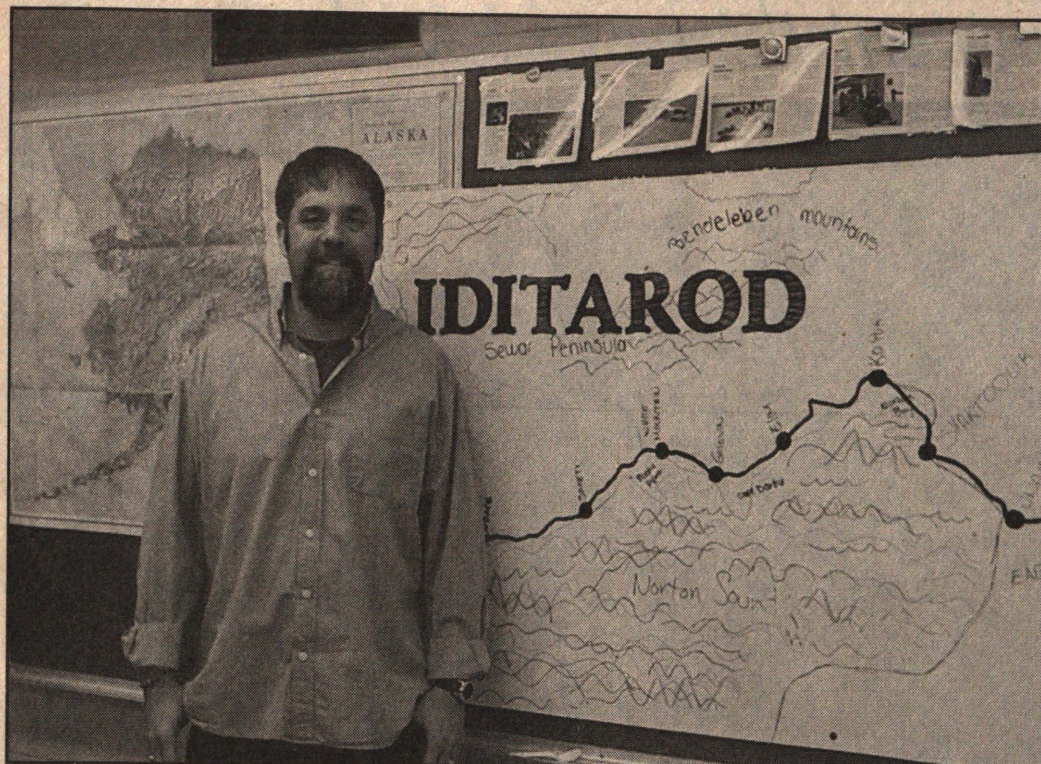


Photo by Katelyn Foechner

ESL teacher Mark Poulter is taking part in the Iditarod dog sled race in Alaska.

Jan. 15 that I was chosen as a finalist," Poulter said.

Poulter left on Feb. 21 and will be in Alaska for a week to begin the final selection process. He will partake in an interview, present at a conference, answer a challenge question, and have a final exit interview while there.

"I will be volunteering at the beginning of the race and go through a dog handling course," Poulter said.

He will also be blogging information about the race on the computer so students can see it.

Poulter will be a newcomer to the races this year. Most of the teachers who compete have taught the Iditarod for upwards of 15 plus years, while Poulter has only taught it for the past three years.

The other two finalists have already been through the Iditarod process, but Poulter has a high chance of being selected for the Iditarod for 2015.

There has not been a male teacher selected for Teacher on the Trail since 2010 and there has never been an ESL teacher selected before.

## Skills USA captures first place

By Hector Cervantes  
Perspectives Editor

Skills USA took home a first place at the Technology Center Of DuPage on Jan. 30 where members competed in storytelling, fashion and demonstrated frosting making.

Dimon Lattimore, a sophomore, won first place by submitting an essay on what Skills USA is all about.

"I am very proud of her, very excited for her. She is one of the officers for Skills USA she is working hard to be in the Courtesy CORP Competition," adviser Brittany Bauer said.

Also competing were freshman Vanessa Sanchez; sophomores Ashley Tijerena, Estefania Mejia, Alicia Cruz, Laura Mendoza, Jenny Gutierrez and Alondra Padilla, and junior April Carranza.

## Teacher on the trail

By Katelyn Foechner  
Sports Editor

ESL teacher Mark Poulter was one of three teachers in the country selected to take part in the Alaskan Iditarod Teacher on the Trail

2015.

The Iditarod is a dog sleding race that takes place in Alaska and runs from Anchorage to Nome, which is about 1,000 miles.

Poulter has followed the race and teaches about it in

his classroom.

After his wife's encouragement, Poulter decided to apply.

"It was a long application process, I turned in the application before the first of December and found out on

## Brighter futures forming with FCCLA students

By Megan Provenzale  
Reporter

Family and Consumer Sciences competed in Future Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) on Feb.17 for the first time.

The contest only focuses on interior design, foods, child development and fashion.

Junior Juan Garcia won the cookie decoration contest. In second place was sophomore Itza Slazar with casual apparel construction and sophomore Laura Mendoza for storytelling.

In third place for children's literature were sophomores Jenny Gutierrez, Estefania Meji, Alicia Cruz, Brittany Pauling, Ashley Tijerina and Alondra Padila. Also in third place were freshman Vanessa Sanchez and junior Gricelda Montenegro for cookie deco-

ration, as well as senior Andrea Correa and sophomore Briseyda Melchor for casual apparel construction.

"It gives them a brighter future into careers related to family and consumer sciences and puts knowledge they learned in class to test," adviser Brittney Bauer said.

Students competed against others from schools all over the state.

The foods students competed in a cookie and cake decorating and garnishing contest. Fashion students participated in a clothing construction contest and child development students competed in a story telling and lesson planning competition, and interior design created design boards from made up scenarios.

"I (would like) to encourage people to join," Sanchez said.

### CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

A story in December's issue of the Wildcat Chronicle featured a story about Tri-M that contained incorrect information about there being cut backs in the music programs. There have been no cut backs in the music programs.

The Wilcat Chronicle regrets the error.

## Pizza Now

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## Change for chicken brings out the best in students

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

Raising money to buy chickens for families in need was a huge success for WeGo Global.

"I mentioned it to WeGo Global and they liked the idea and ran with it and came up with everything else," social studies teacher Maggie Haas said.

WeGo Global raised a total of \$1,821.45.

"We didn't expect to raise as much money as we did, we expected maybe a couple hundred bucks but it kept getting bigger and bigger," Haas said.

The money added up to 90 flocks of chickens, each flock equals 10-50 chickens, according to www.heifer.org.

"We added everything

about three times just to make sure it was correct," Haas said.

WeGo Global plans to continue doing the chicken challenge annually.

"We want to figure out a way to get more people involved next year," Haas said.

Science teacher Susan Hollinger's third hour class won the challenge with a total of \$8.28 per student.

Hollinger's class also got the rubber chicken trophy.

"The chicken is now assigned to Hollinger's class and they can pick its gender and name it, Haas said.

Overall the challenge was an accomplishment.

"Thanks to everyone (who participated), this was really successful and it helps out a lot of people," Haas said. "WeGo did good."



Photo by Alexandra Garibay

WeGo Global raised over \$1,800 with its change for chicken fundraiser. Science teacher Susan Hollinger's third hour class won the challenge, giving them the rubber chicken trophy.

## Relationship drama in the dollhouse

By Sarah Szremski  
Reporter

Drama is bringing emotional plays about relationships to the IHSA competition in March.

"Dollhouse" by Rebecca Gillman and "Company" by Steven Sontaines are the selections for competition.

"Dollhouse" is about a girl named Nora trying to find her voice.

"She is basically the doll of dollhouse. At the beginning she is kind of nonconfrontational, she'll do whatever her husband tells her to, but at the same time she's trying to keep all of these secrets from him," junior Jackie Fabiszak said.

"Company" is about a man and all the different relationships he encounters.

"The other play that we're doing is also looking at relationships differently. It's about a man in his 30's who's at that age where he's trying to figure out what he wants in life and all about the different aspects of relationships,"

director Mark Begovich said.

"Company" will have live music.

"I'm playing guitar. What I do is listen to the score and come up with some different arrangements to the songs that fit the context of what we're performing and make it flow," Junior Matt Loftus said.

"Originally a musical 'Company' is a group interpretation. We can't exactly do a straight forward musical so this helps get some of the points that have a lot of subtext to them and brings it to the table," Loftus said.

The plays are not being performed in the hopes of a high score at IHSA.

"These shows are designed to really challenge everyone and push them and the great thing about it is that everyone's contributing, everyone's having a great time doing it," Begovich said.

Students will be able to see the plays before they head to competition on March 14 and 15 in the auditorium. A \$10 donation is suggested.

## Gun law brings sticker shock

By Kyle Paup  
Editor in Chief

Gun control signs have been placed on the entrance doors of the school as a reminder that despite new gun laws in the state, students may not carry guns in school.

"As of Jan 1, it was legislation that indicated that

schools needed to have signs up (banning guns). We had signs posted on the walls by the doors while we placed the order for those decals that you now see on the doors," Superintendent Doug Domeracki said. "The decals came in and Mr. Martino has placed them on the entrance doors around the school."

## Creative writers pen a first at Louder than a Bomb competition

By Megan Provenzale and Sarah Szremski  
Reporter

For the first time at Louder than a Bomb, Creative Writing Club took first, and is now hoping to repeat the honor at Friday's next round of the competition held at Columbia College in Chicago.

The club earned the right to compete at the next level by taking first place at the Feb. 21 competition.

This was the first time they scored so high in competition.

"Everyone did fantastic," junior Julia Dieter said.

In 2012 the club was in last place, but in 2013, they received third.

"How it works is they score you one to 10, and then all of our poets received at least one 10, which is rare," advis-

er Tara Deleon said. "Usually we have one poet who scored a 10."

Performers had to do in-depth emotional pieces.

"I did a piece which is written to a girl who struggles with depression, suicide and body image," senior Ashley Anderson said.

Deleon hopes the club can keep the momentum going.

"We've never had this much power on the stage before," Deleon said.

The club also competed in Slammin' the Sun Down, a suburban regional slam poetry competition on Jan. 25.

The competition consisted of three sections: competition, workshop, and performance, and was held in the auditorium.

Juniors Dieter, Maria Garcia, Zandra Starks, and senior Kelley Klozowski won

the first round of competition as a group for the club's first time in six years.

"It feels validating, like you actually made something good enough that people like. It's awesome because you sit in your room writing all these poems and you don't know what to do with them and, how they are going to be received; but then you go on stage and perform it and it's like you are connecting with all these different people and it's a really special experience," Starks said.

Anderson won second place overall.

"The writing is there this year and we are really proud. I think a lot of it has to do with their discipline, their dedication to the craft. The writing has been incredibly impressive this year," adviser Amanda Cordes said.

## Partying with the animals

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

Students can get ready to party with the animals for prom at Brookfield Zoo this year.

Prom will be held on April 25.

"It's fun being able to plan prom at the zoo, its bringing prom to a whole new level," junior Elyssa Diraddo said.

There will not be an after-prom this year, instead prom will be extended until mid-

night.

Events that will be happening will be a tram-ride through the park to see the animals and a "mocktail," which will be like a cocktail hour.

Tickets will be \$85.

"Compared to other schools that have their prom tickets around \$125, ours will be very affordable," Student Council adviser Candance Fikis said.

Tickets will be on sale for students to purchase the

week of March 24.

Students will also have the opportunity to choose their tables of 10 people.

Although prom will be held at the zoo, the same prom attire is still required.

There will be coach buses available that will be provided to take students to and from the zoo.

Students must take the coach buses to attend prom.

With prom ending at midnight, buses will arrive back at school around 1:30 a.m.

## Battle of the Bands

### Band presents an alternative

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

Four friends teamed up and made their own band, alternative rock band Indigofera.

Band members include senior Adam Wilk playing drums, and juniors Michael Carroso playing bass, Matt Skibinski as the guitarist and singer, and Kris Soliven playing the keyboard.

Four band members exist now, but the band has been forming for a while.

"My eighth grade year Skibinski and I just jammed out together," Wilk said. "Members came, members went, we weren't officially a band until about two years ago."

The band originally was called 'Clean Sleet' but had to be changed since it was close to another band's name, according to Soliven.

"Our band name really came out of randomness, we desperately needed a new band name," Skibinski said.

When Wilk and Skibinski were discussing possible names, they wanted it to include the name of a color.

"I had mentioned liking the color indigo, so Skibinski looked it up and found the plant that produces the color indigo, which is *indigofera tinctoria*, and we choose Indigofera as the name for our band," Wilk said.

Indigofera's biggest accomplishment so far was winning the variety show in December.

Although they won, performing was a debate for the band.

"It was surprising to win because we were really debating whether we should cancel it, go with our old singer or improvise instrumentally. We went with the last option," Wilk said.

Originally the band had a singer but two days before the variety show, the singer quit.

Not only was playing instrumentally a last minute decision, the song performed was

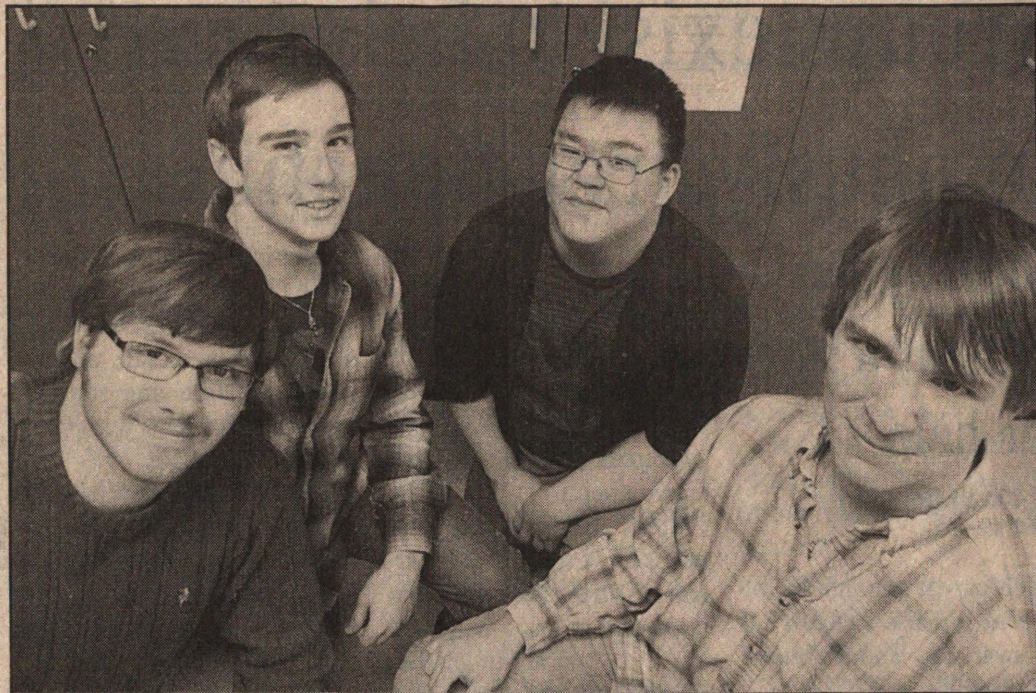


Photo by Alexandra Garibay

Indigofera chose their name from a band member who liked the color indigo. Band members include, from left, Michael Carroso, Matt Skibinski, Kris Soliven, and Adam Wilk.

also last minute choice.

"It was a new song we made up two days before our performance," Soliven said.

Even the song they performed was named at the last minute.

"The song never really had an official name but I guess it's called 'Yesterday's Thought'," Skibinski said.

After their performance the band even got an encore from the audience. "When we got an

encore we didn't know what to do," Wilk said.

Winning the variety show was a surprise to each member.

"I really was surprised we won, especially since we didn't have a singer," Skibinski said.

The band won a \$50 gift card, which they spent at Taco Bell the next day to celebrate their win.

A personal accomplishment also happened that night for a member.

"I personally felt happy I could make people happy, I felt accomplished that I made their day," Wilk said.

Despite their troubles before with previous band members, the boys are proud of themselves for their accomplishments.

"We've built a good band," Carroso said.

For more information go to [www.facebook.com/Indigofera](http://www.facebook.com/Indigofera).

## Christian rock band aims to inspire fans

By Kyle Paup  
Editor in Chief

Student Christian rock band 4th Point wants to bring their faith to others through their music.

The band consists of four junior members: rhythm guitar play and singer Matt Ellis, lead guitar player and back up vocal Andrew Denning, base guitar player Bryce Knight, and drummer Brad Kus.

4th Point came to be in 2011.

"The idea sparked after leading worship for a couple months," Denning said. "There was a block party going on at our church and the whole community came out. Matt and I were down in our youth room and we had just started leading in the worship band. I had just started joining him with that and music was something that connected us with our faith, so we decided we wanted to start a Christian band."

Forming a Christian band was also inspired by leading worship through their church.

"We had been at our youth group and then sometimes on



Photo by Sarah Denning

4th Point will perform at the Chicago Fire game May 17. Here they perform in Springfield at the State Fair.

Sundays at our church, Water's Edge Bible, we were leading worship there for the youth group," Ellis said. "So then it just kind of formed out of us trying to be in a band there and then we (decided) we wanted to make our own thing."

The name 4th point also has Christian symbolism.

"When most people ask (about the name) I wish I could give a big explanation, but it's really simple. It's four guys in the band and there are four

points on the cross," Ellis said.

Despite there being great success with the band, there are still some struggles.

"(Sometimes) there can be some disputes over what songs we play, and how we play them," Knight said.

Ellis also agrees that there is some stress involved in being in the band.

"People, I think, really underestimate (the challenges), especially when you kind of want to take a band at a more

serious level. It is a lot of work," Ellis said.

"I think we go through phases but we're maturing. It's not always easy but we're on a journey. That's the best way to put it," Ellis said.

The band's true goal itself has to do with spreading the Christian faith, rather than the amount of fans they can get.

"A lot of bands look at their accomplishments like getting to play for (a lot of) people or getting some gig, but we pretty

much just have one goal in mind and that's just to spread the gospel," Denning said.

"We think our biggest accomplishment is having people come up to us after gigs and say they were moved by the worship. They finally felt God's presence, or something inspired them to kind of live a little differently. I think with our goal in mind that's probably our biggest accomplishment, just being able to impact a couple of lives here and there."

Ellis also acknowledges the band's true purpose.

"It doesn't have to do with the number (of people attending). Our lives have been changed because of the gospel and all we genuinely want to do is spread that news, bringing hope to our generation," Ellis said.

4th Point will be playing at Toyota Park on May 18.

"We're going to be playing right after the Chicago Fire soccer game just outside the stadium," Ellis said.

You can find 4th point online at [www.4thpoint.net](http://www.4thpoint.net) and also on [www.facebook.com/4thpoint](http://www.facebook.com/4thpoint).

## Groups exist to help teens in abusive relationships

### Looking for signs is a start for help

By Sarah Denning  
Lifestyles editor

February is a month full of love but it is also a month full of awareness about abusive relationships.

The Corporate Alliance to End Partner Violence (CAEPV) has helped many people and is involved in other ways to prevent and inform others on dating violence.

CAEPV has teamed up with Break the Cycle and is known for their programs that they do to help people who are in abusive relationships.

They have meetings to inform others and just to talk about what is going wrong in the relationship.

"We have programs to help people know what to do," Kim Wells, director of CAEPV, said.

They have reached out to other organizations to spread awareness of abuse in work environments.

Break the Cycle is a campaign for teenagers and parents to understand why it is important to know what you can do if you are in an abusive relationship.

Break the Cycle mainly focuses on teenage abusive relationships.

According to [www.Break the Cycle.com](http://www.BreaktheCycle.com), two out of three teenagers who are in abusive relationships don't report it and this is why these organizations exist.

Their goal is to tell about the signs to look for and ways to help others, or even help themselves, if they are the ones in the harmful relationship.

Break the Cycle is an or-

ganization known for their Time To Talk Day, which encourages parents, teachers and students to talk about dating violence and spread the word on why it is important to know about.

According to [www.breakthecycle.org](http://www.breakthecycle.org), over 80 percent of school counselors are unprepared on what to do when told about abuse in the student's relationship.

An abusive relationship can happen to anyone no matter what gender, according to Break the Cycle.

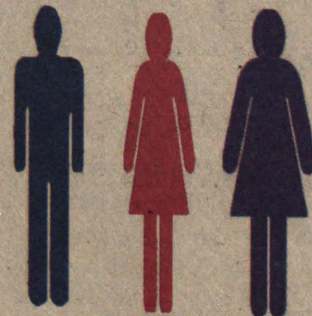
One in three teenagers experiences it. Abuse can happen in many ways and may be hard to figure out what is abusive and what is not. Physical abuse occurs but, so does verbal, sexual and digital abuse.

CAEPV and Break the Cycle are just some organizations that provide help and support to people who are in need for it.

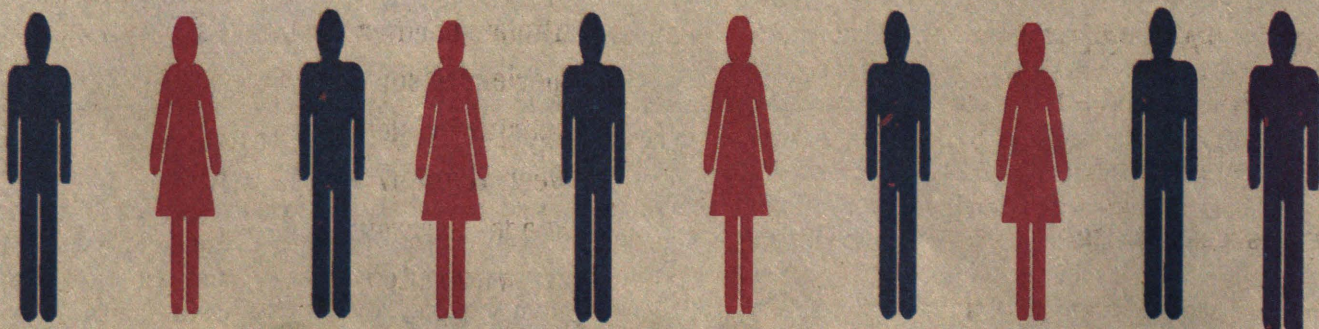
February might be a month of love that not all teens are in healthy relationships and there are organizations you



For help and more information you can contact: Break the Cycle: 310-286-3383 or CAEPV: 309-664-0667



ONE IN THREE ARE A VICTIM OF PHYSICAL OR VERBAL ABUSE



ONE IN 10 HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS PURPOSEFULLY HURT BY A BOYFRIEND

love, but it is also a time to be aware of unhealthy relationships. Warning signs exist and you can reach out to for help.



Photo Illustration by Katelyn Foehner

ONE IN SEVEN ADOLESCENTS IN THE U.S. IS  
VICTIM OF PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, EMOTIONAL  
ABUSE FROM A DATING PARTNER.

ONE IN SEVEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HAS BEEN  
VICTIM OF PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, EMOTIONAL  
ABUSE FROM A BOYFRIEND OR GIRLFRIEND.

Source: [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

## Abusive signs show in different ways for teens

By Sarah Szremksi  
Reporter

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month is as an opportunity for school, parents and community to check in and make sure that their teens are in happy healthy relationships.

According to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) teen dating violence is defined as the physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional violence within dating relationships, as well as stalking.

In a nationwide survey done in 2003 by The Center of Disease Control, 9.4 percent of high school students report being hit, slapped or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months prior to the survey.

There are ways of telling if someone is in an abusive relationship.

"When I'm talking to young people, what sets off an alarm for me in my head is when in some way people are feeling a little stiff and

a little unsure, and thinking that things might not be right but not sure if they should believe their thoughts or reactions," social worker Bob Maxson said.

Different signs can let you know whether it's a healthy relationship that you are in or not.

Emotional abuse may have intimidation, rumors, jealousy, withdrawal of attention, withholding of information and texting excessively, according to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

"I think that when people want to check their phones a lot. That's a very common example," Maxson said.

When someone realizes that they are in an unhealthy relationship it's best to address the problem as soon as possible, but in a safe manner.

"Try to have a serious conversation, like 'this is what I'm not comfortable with and what I'm not enjoying.

'I don't want to do this.' This kind of conversation is probably best not held in private but in public setting like

a restaurant," Maxson said.

Being open with your partner will help, but it will take work and time.

"It's really difficult to break patterns once you form them with a certain person," Maxson said.

It doesn't always work out and the only choice that is left is to break it off.

"Sometimes it just makes more sense to terminate that relationship with the new knowledge that you learned from the last," Maxson said. "You have to accept that feedback. And if you aren't ready to accept that feedback then you're not ready to change."

Friends are always helpful to have by your side in situations like these. Support is the best thing a friend can offer.

"So, if you're friends (with someone in an abusive relationship) I think you just need to share your observation with them and then tell them you will be there for them as a friend, but they may not see it right away or understand right away," Maxson said.

## New school policy outlines definition of dating violence

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

A pattern of behavior in which a person uses or threatens to use physical, mental or emotional abuse to control another person who is in a dating relationship with the person, where one or both persons are 13 to 19 years of age; is the definition of teen dating violence, according to the new school policy.

Policies that are set up in the school are defined by legislative action or local direction from inside the school.

"There are different policies and rules you need to have in school to comply with laws," superintendent Doug Domeracki said.

Policy was officially adopt-

ed on Dec. 17.

"We address new laws all the time," Domeracki said.

This is the first time the school adopted a teen dating violence policy.

It is a legislative policy requirement to have a teen dating violence policy in the school.

"We did not adopt this policy because we had a problem, we never had any problems," Domeracki said.

"1 in 7 men who ever experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of partner violence between 11 and 17 years of age," according to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

*Our View*

## Dreaming to honor Black History Month

We have a dream that Black History Month should be honored more in school.

If Martin Luther King had a dream of equality then we can too. February 1 marks the start of Black History Month where we recognize the achievement of African Americans society however, it's not celebrated enough in school.

It appears the media recognizes Black History Month more than our school in advertisements in sporting events and radio broadcastings.

Even athletes honor Black History Month. Miami Heat center

Chris Bosh narrates a commercial by the NBA honoring Black History Month saying, "Not everyone defends stands on a hardwood court. Not every captain makes the same kind of assist. Not every artist performs in the cameras. But all of us can dream big. The NBA celebrates Black History Month and honor those who have dared to dream big."

Bosh's commercial began running on Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 20.

Also, according to TimeForKids.com, Disney Channel plays a song during Black History Month called "Anything Is Possible" in which Disney star Roshon Fegan raps the achievement of what African Americans have contributed to our society.

Yet, our school doesn't mention or celebrate Black History Month.

The teachers should make it their number one priority to celebrate Black History Month and at least teach and designate one day for Black History Month so students can learn the importance of this month.

For example, in social studies class teachers should teach about famous

**BOB MARLEY**

**ALEX HAYLEY**

**CARTER GODWIN WOODSON**

**LANGSTON HUGHES**

**ANTHONY DAVIS**

**WHITNEY HOUSTON**

**STEVIE WONDER**

**JIMI HENDRIX**

**ROSA PARKS**

**HENRY ARMSTRONG**

## THEY CHANGED HISTORY

**CHUBBY CHECKER**

**VERNELLIA R. RANDALL**

**LOUIS ARMSTRONG**

**DEREK WALCOTT**

**LES MCCANN**

**BB KING**

**LITTLE RICHARD**

**BILLIE HOLIDAY**

**JAMES BOOKER**

**HARRIET TUBMAN**

**ALONDRA OUBRE**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

**WILLIE MAYS**

**MATTHEW GAINES**

African American's in history.

Most students will not know that Bruce Kelso was the first African American who served a full term in the U.S Senate.

Also, in English class students should read stories and biographies of famous African Americans.

Reading a James Baldwin novel, a famous African American author who wrote about the daily struggles of African Americans, will give students an opportunity to learn about African Americans.

On the other hand, the school does celebrate Martin Luther King Day with a day off of school which is appreciated. Yet, we're still not learning about him because we are out of school.

More should be done because we need students and staff to learn the importance of how much achievement the African Americans have given to our world as well. Achievement that should be honored in many different ways, especially in school.

## Covering up with respect

**By Kyle Paup**  
Editor in Chief

Over time the idea and concepts of teen dating have changed drastically, and not for the better. Dating as a teenager in the past meant much more than it means now.

Boys used to have to meet a girl's parents and ask them for permission before being able to date a girl. They also had to obey times of parental set curfew and be back by a certain time when out on a date. Real men would have to treat their girlfriends with respect, treat them as a lady should really be treated, and truly care about who they are as a person.

The previous style of dating is literally laughed at and found to be stupid by today's general standards. Girls are no longer treated with respect by some

boys who tend to dodge the parents at all costs trying to act like they don't know they exist, and all that seemingly matters to the boys is looks and sex.

What happened to the times where girls were important to and cared for by boys and not thought of as a sort of toy that they own? What happened to the days where a girl was beautiful, and not 'hot' or 'sexy'? What happened to the times where men who didn't treat their girlfriends with respect were considered immature and revolting?

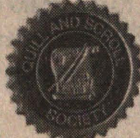
Where did any of this go? These ideas seem to have died for many. They died to them because they have lost all sense of respect for themselves.

Part of this issue has to deal with how girls are now treating themselves. Many girls, for some reason, feel the need to wear extremely revealing clothing to school and other public places. Do these girls want to be viewed as nothing but tools for men's amusement?

If not, which no one should, then dressing so provocatively is just degrading to who you are as a person.

Treat yourself with respect, and then others will too.

Wildcat Chronicle  
Community High School  
326 Joliet Street  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
(630) 876-6360



Editor in Chief:  
News Editor:  
Perspectives Editor:  
Lifestyles Editor:  
Center Spread Editor:  
Sports Editor:  
Business Manager:  
Reporters:

Kyle Paup  
Kyle Paup  
Hector Cervantes  
Sarah Denning  
Alexandra Garibay  
Katleyn Foehner  
Hector Cervantes  
Hector Cervantes, Sarah Denning, Katleyn Foehner, Alexandra Gariby, Kyle Paup, Megan Provenzale, Sarah Szremski  
Jacob Urban  
Laura Kuehn

Guest Writers:  
Adviser:

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

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

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## Small parking price tweak may boost student involvement

By Jacob Urban  
Guest Columnist

Concerns over the parking price of \$200 a year for students at CHS have been voiced throughout the school and many students can be heard voicing frustration with the price in the hallways, locker rooms, and cafeteria.

Contrary to the concerns of many students, the cost of \$200 a year for parking has been working efficiently. There is no need for a great decline in the cost of parking, but a small tweak to pricing could greatly increase student involvement.

Many students suggest that the school is charging an unfair amount of money for parking; however, the cost of operating the parking lot is not fully covered by the revenue generated from the cost of student parking permits, which means that the price offered to students is actually on the generous side.

According to Cole, the CHS Director of Business Services, the amount of money generated from parking permits is around \$33,000. While \$33,000 may seem like a lot it does little to combat the total cost of operating a parking lot. The renovation of one lot a few years ago cost \$173,000 and the school has already spent \$23,500 on snow plowing this year, according to Cole.

"Periodically you have to build [the parking lot] and rebuild it to maintain the infrastructure. The \$100 [semester] fee doesn't come close to covering the annual operation, let alone the capital expense," Cole said.

The revenue generated by parking permits over the past few years has remained stable and the school has generated about the amount of money from parking over the past few years that was budgeted for, according to Cole.

This suggests that the market for parking spots is near an equilibrium; the supplier (the school) has sold nearly the amount of parking spots that they budgeted to sell, and -- as somebody who has seen lots fill up each morning can attest to -- the demand seems to have been met as well. The price is not too high where spots become empty and the price is not too low where too many people are buying parking spots.

There is, however, a negative incentive of coming to school early due to the fact that many buses do not arrive to school in time for before school activities or in time for students to seek additional teacher assistance; that is,

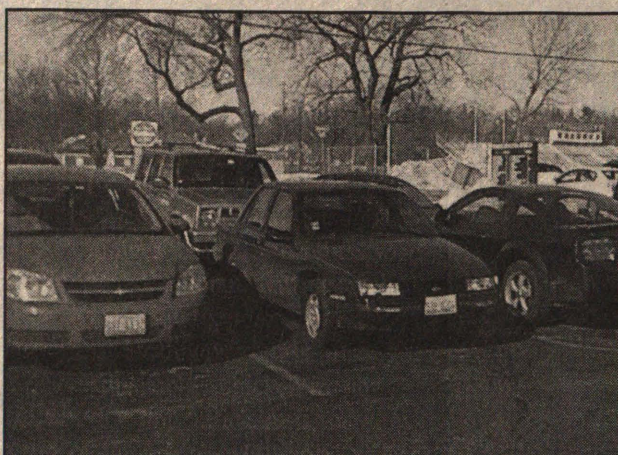
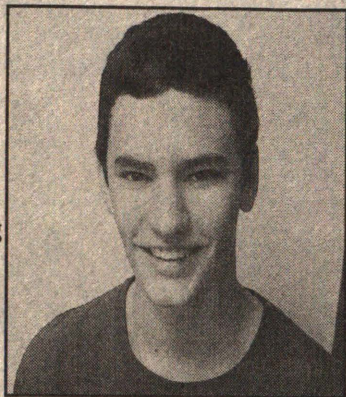


Photo By Kyle Paup

Students are concerned that the parking price is a little too pricey at CHS.

the only way for a student to get to these events is often driving to school, and in order to drive to school a student must pay for parking.

The \$200 yearly fee is a cost that is associated with coming to school early and could therefore discourage students from coming early which discourages students from coming early to partake in an activity.

Now, a complete overhaul of a parking price could lead to a Hunger Games-esque chaos in the parking lots as students compete for a parking spot. Plus the market for parking spots is running efficiently, a fact that suggests there is not a need for a big change. But an alternative to the \$200 yearly cost could be for CHS to offer an incentive of a \$25 semester (\$50 a year) parking discount and an opportunity to fundraise to students actively involved in an extracurricular activity. The fee would remain at \$100 per semester but would be reduced to \$75 per semester for students actively involved in an extracurricular activity.

Not only does this provide an incentive to students involved in activities, it should also keep revenue at an acceptable level while offering relief to students who have trouble affording parking.

After all, Stephen J. Dubner and Steven D. Levitt, co-authors of *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything*, concluded that incentives are the prime motivators behind all actions, which means that in order to boost student involvement an incentive must be offered to students who join an extracurricular activity.

With a minor change in pricing the cafeteria conversations could evolve from concerns over the parking price to discussions about what club or activity each student has found new interest in.

## Olympics worth the 4-year wait

By Katelyn Foehner  
Sports Editor

With the Olympics comes a wait of four years to watch athletes battle it out to win medals and pride for their home country during the bone-chilling winter.

Much anticipation and fear led up to the 2014 Olympics held in Sochi, Russia. After numerous terrorism threats and unfinished buildings only a mere few days before the games started, the Olympics took the world by surprise. Besides the threats, of course, there were triumphs and heartbreak as 88 countries competed for medals.

The women's hockey team demolished Switzerland 9-0 in their second game and beat Sweden 6-1 in the semi-finals. A heart-breaking loss to Canada stopped the chance at gold, but the silver is still impressive.

Men's hockey may have ended on a sour note, with Team USA dropping to Finland, leaving the U.S. with no medals, but before that, St. Louis Blues center T.J. Oshie became popular amongst Americans when he shot the winning goal to help the men's hockey team to a 3-2 thrill-

ing victory over Russia in their second game.

Toronto Maple Leafs forward Phil Kessel was the first American in more than a decade to score a hat trick in the Olympics when the U.S. played Slovenia.

History was made on Feb. 17 when ice skaters Meryl Davis and Charlie White became the first Americans to win an ice dance gold medal. Their routine was practically perfect.

United States alpine skier Bode Miller made history by becoming the oldest alpine skiing medalist in Olympic history with winning his sixth medal which was the bronze at age 36. Miller is also the most-decorated skier from the U.S.

Skier Ted Ligety became the first American man to win two Olympic gold medals in alpine skiing after winning one on Feb. 19.

The United States has bragging rights for winning the first gold medal of the Sochi Olympics thanks to Sage Kotsenburg's win at the inaugural men's snowboard event.

All Olympic athletes should be proud of themselves. Every athlete showed hard work and dedication to their respective sport. With a wait of four more years for athletes to compete in the Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea, America has time to prepare to make more history.

## Students Speak

Compiled by Sarah Szremski

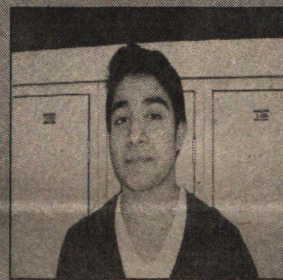
What are your thoughts on the parking permit price?



Freshman

Amber Brown

"No, its not worth it because it's really squished and hard to get in the parking lot."



Sophomore

Mike Barrios

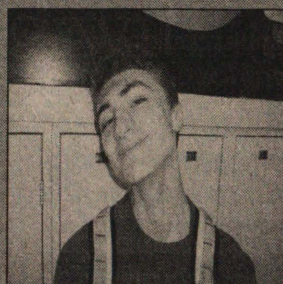
"You shouldn't have to pay."



Junior

Alejandra Arroyo

"I don't think it's worth \$200, I think it's over priced. It should be \$50."



Senior

Grant Sauer

"I think it would be worth it if we had a parking garage or reserved spots, but since we don't I would still pay because I don't like walking."

## Senior breaks record

**By Hector Cervantes**  
Perspectives Editor

Senior Alex Leleian beat the IHSA cut in the 500 freestyle at sectionals on Saturday and will compete in state for the 200 freestyle for the Wego-Batavia swim team on Friday.

Leleian broke the school record at sectionals in the 500 freestyle, with 4.44 seconds. The previous record was 5.0 seconds set on Jan. 16.

Leleian has been breaking the record multiple times throughout the season. Leleian broke the record on Dec. 10 at a home meet versus Leyden and at an away meet on Jan. 16 versus Nequa

Valley.

"It's pretty cool to break the school record, which hasn't been broken in about five years and it is definitely an honor," Leleian said.

Leleian wanted to make a state relay with the other swimmers and try to make the top 12 in state in the 500 freestyle.

Some difficulties the boys swim team had to face were going up against competitive schools like Nequa and Metea Valley and the team size this year.

"I improved a lot throughout the season and coach Nicole (Cleveland) definitely made me improve, I wouldn't

have done it without the coach and the team as a whole," Leleian said.

Cleveland is very excited how the team and Leleian are doing and is anxious to see what happens at the end of the swimming season.

"Alex is having a good season, overall I'm happy with his progress he is making in swimming," Cleveland said.

Leleian enjoys swimming for the competitiveness and for the fun of it.

"I have been training all out, I give it a 110 percent. I encourage everyone to go try out for our team even without experience, you won't regret it," Leleian said.

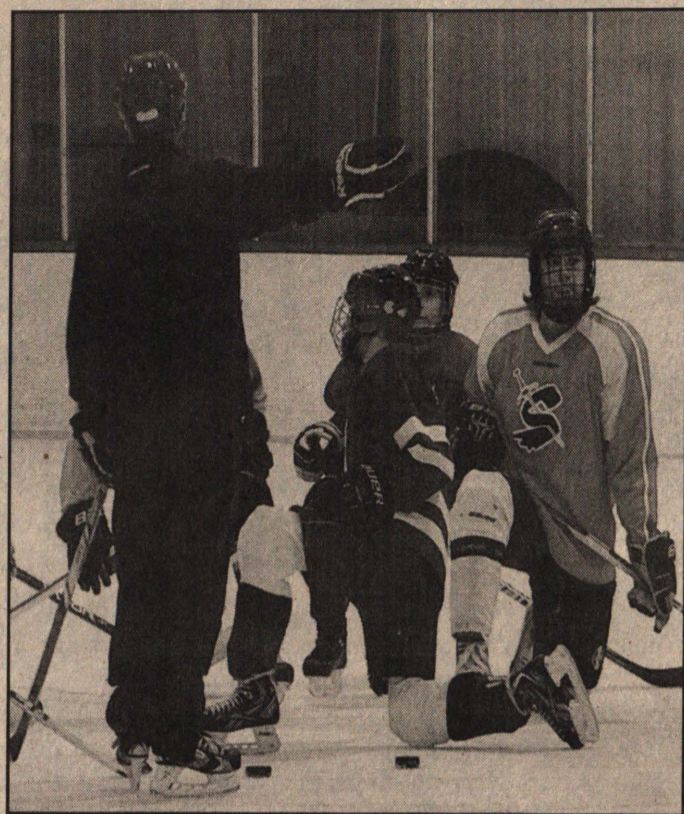


Photo by Sarah Denning

Coach Fahrfroth instructing players during practice.



Photo by Katelyn Foehner

Senior Diana Beltran, middle, attempts to outrun her competitor as parents, coaches, and teammates cheer her on to victory.

## Team looking to improve, wants to add more runners for this season

**By Katelyn Foehner**  
Sports Editor

After putting in months of training and preparation the girls' track and field team is ready to compete in the Upstate Eight Conference for the first time.

"I think the upcoming season is going to be pretty good because the freshmen this year are really strong and seriously showing some talent," senior captain Liz Carrillo said.

Since the summer, sprinters have trained with coaches Dave Sayner and Matt Nelson to prepare for the season.

"We are really lucky this year that sprinters wanted to work out over the summer, it is our hope that they will improve and our team

will improve because of the sprinters' efforts," coach Bob Maxson said.

Coach Nelson noted that the sprinters have been putting in a lot of hard work.

This season will be the first opportunity for the runners to display their improvements in the Upstate Eight Conference after switching from the DuPage Valley Conference this school year.

"The DVC, as we all know, is a very tough conference with a great deal of depth in their performance levels, whereas the Upstate Eight has some talented athletes and teams, they don't have the depth of performance across the board," Maxson said.

Carrillo believes that there will not be a difference in the

conference switch.

The team has exciting ideas for fundraising which include raffling off Chicago Bulls tickets, as well as unique ideas for team building to help develop a quality program.

"You're going to learn some values that apply to track and school work," Nelson said.

Maxson is excited at the level of commitment from the athletes.

"I'm excited that we have some captains who want to take the role of captain as well as taking the role of athlete," Maxson said.

The team is looking for more girls to join.

"We want everyone to come out. We need throwers especially," Nelson said.

## Seniors help coach young teammates for the next level

**By Sarah Denning**  
Lifestyles editor

The Wild Hawk's varsity hockey team lost their bid to go to state after they lost their playoff game against Guerin-Dash Nazareth on Feb. 19.

In the first three quarters of the game, the Wild Hawks had the upper hand but Guerin-dash Nazareth ended up winning 5-4.

"We were all pretty shocked, we thought we had the game," junior Austin Cooper said.

The team is made up of five different high schools, West Chicago, Wheaton North, Wheaton Academy, St. Francis, and Wheaton-Warrenville South, with their players ranging from sophomores to seniors.

Since the beginning of the season the team has worked hard.

"We were on a five game winning streak in the beginning of the season," senior Connor Bell said.

During the beginning of the season two of their players, juniors Lawrence Caputo and Cooper, had injuries that caused the team a minor setback but they still continued to strive and their coach Keith Fahrfroth is glad to see the players get better.

Cooper was out since a Thanksgiving tournament due to a broken hand, and is doing his best.

"I try to help my team as much as I can," Cooper said.

Even having their off days, the boys strive to be better in every way they can.

"In practice you have to try as hard as you can, because if you don't it will show in games," Bell said.

The team is equipped with seven seniors, six juniors and seven sophomores that work hard and are determined to win.

"In the beginning of the season we came together really well and started of really strong," Fahrfroth said.

With the help of the seniors taking on a leadership role to "coach" the younger kids, the team has done well with the transition of having older kids on the team to a lot younger kids playing for them.

"I can really tip my hat off to the seniors because they have done a good job of help coaching up the younger kids and getting them ready for the varsity level," Fahrfroth said.

From being the younger ones on the team, the seniors now have to be role models on the team.

The team has done well with what they had during the time a couple of their players got injured. The team ended the season with a 9-23 record.

# Coach gets 400 wins

By Megan Provenzale  
Reporter

Kim Wallner reached her 400+ win as a coach this year.

Students, alumni, current players and staff all got together to celebrate during Wallner Night on Feb. 6.

The band, a DJ and the Sole Steppers all helped make the night special.

Wallner said the most memorable thing about her 400+ wins is working with the kids and their families.

"It's just been a really enjoyable experience for me. I have a lot of fond memories, especially with the people I've been fortunate to be around," Wallner said.

Wallner also enjoyed being able to reconnect with players

she had in past seasons that came to visit her for Wallner night.

"I love hearing back from the kids and from my former players. There are so many success stories. So it's just a lot of fun. That's the best part of being at one school for so long," Wallner said.

Wallner's players are excited for their coach.

"It's really cool to be a part of her achievement. She's done a really good job this season. She's tough, but has always been a great coach," senior Kelsey Windisch said.

Their season, now ended, has been difficult but a great learning experience.

The team ended their year with 5 wins and 23 losses.

"We would like to get a few

more wins, and I think they would probably say the same thing, but I think we are having a good time, we're working hard and, we are giving our best effort every night when we step out on the court," Wallner said before the season's end.

The girls basketball team is dedicated to doing their best.

"Their attitudes have stayed amazingly positive. They're positive kids though so it doesn't surprise me. They get down on themselves too much sometimes because, like I said, they would like to do a little bit better but they have stuck with it and have continued to work hard. I'm enjoying being around them because they are really great kids," Wallner said.

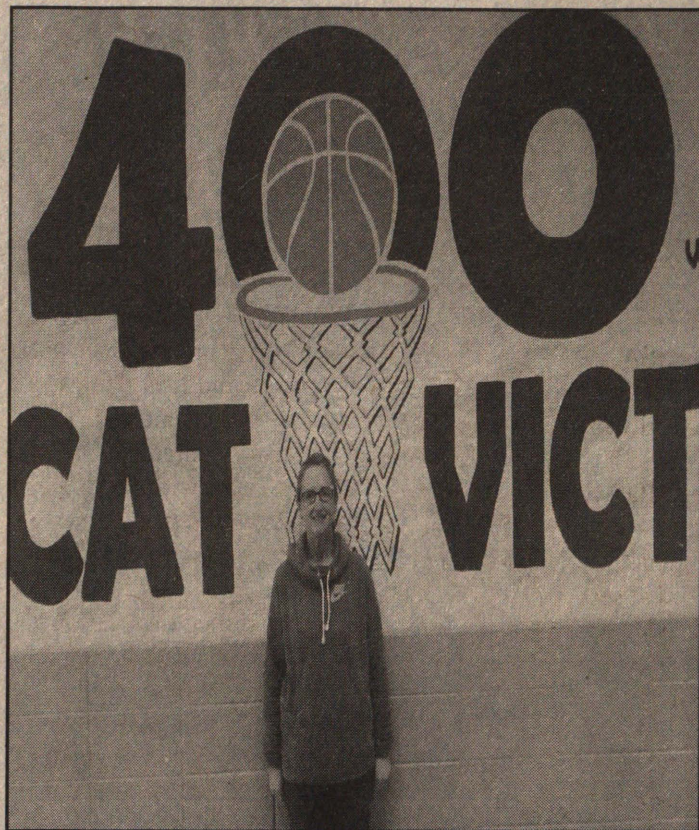


Photo by Sarah Denning

Coach Kim Wallner recently celebrated her 400th win. A banner was made in commons and hung in her honor.



Photo by Kyle Paup

Junior Alex Mitchell, under the basket, grabs the rebound as the boys basketball team prepares for the start of state tournament beginning on Monday.

## Konchar breaks record while team has double digit wins since 2004

By Katelyn Foehner  
Sports Editor

In their first season playing in the Upstate Eight Conference, the boys varsity basketball team has worked hard to win.

The switch from the DVC to the Upstate Eight has not made a difference in the eyes of the coaches and players.

"I would say every night when you're playing at the varsity level you're playing against a school's best. As far as that goes there is really not a difference other than what we're playing. It's just different team names on the jerseys that were playing," coach Bill Recchia said.

Senior John Konchar also believes that there is no significant difference.

"There aren't as many big men and its more of an up and down game now," Konchar said.

Recchia is pleased with how the season is going, as the team has won several big games.

"We've won games that in the past as a program we wouldn't have won and the team has made strides in the right direction," Recchia said.

The season has been marked with a few notable triumphs. This is the first year since the 2004-2005 season

that the team has had double digits in the win column.

"It feels phenomenal because it hasn't happened in ten years," Konchar said.

In December, Konchar broke coach Recchia's most points in a game record and is currently on the verge of breaking his all-time scoring record.

Recchia's record was 39 points against Marmion, and Konchar broke that with 42 points against Bartlett.

"I couldn't be happier for him," Recchia said.

The record that Konchar will no longer have the chance to break is Recchia's all-time scoring in the DVC.

## Season ends on high note at state

By Sarah Denning  
Lifestyles editor

Junior Manny Garcia headed to the state wrestling finals Feb. 20 as an alternate.

Garcia was the only one on the team who had earned the honor of being a state alternate, which took place at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Feb. 20-22.

"It's a huge accomplishment, I am thrilled for Garcia. He deserves this opportunity, and it is something that shows our program is moving in a positive direction," head coach Roberto Torres said.

Three wrestlers advanced to the sectional championships: juniors Garcia, John Garcia and senior Adrian Smiley.

"They were competitive for sectionals and unfortunately they did not get to be an alternate or qualify for state, but they did have some tough matches and wrestled to the best of their ability. As

a coach I am proud of their performances and how they 'peaked' at the end of the season," Torres said.

Being a wrestler is not as easy as it seems with practices after school ranging from an hour to two hours with sprinting and strength training.

"It gets tough at times," varsity junior John Garcia said.

From the beginning of the season to the end they have really picked up the intensity on their practices and the boys have been doing very well with the changes in practice.

"Everybody who is in this room right now, and everybody who committed to the team I'm very pleased with because they show the love of the sport and they show the commitment of the team,"

coach Bill Dragonetti said.

The team end its season with a 3-17 record.

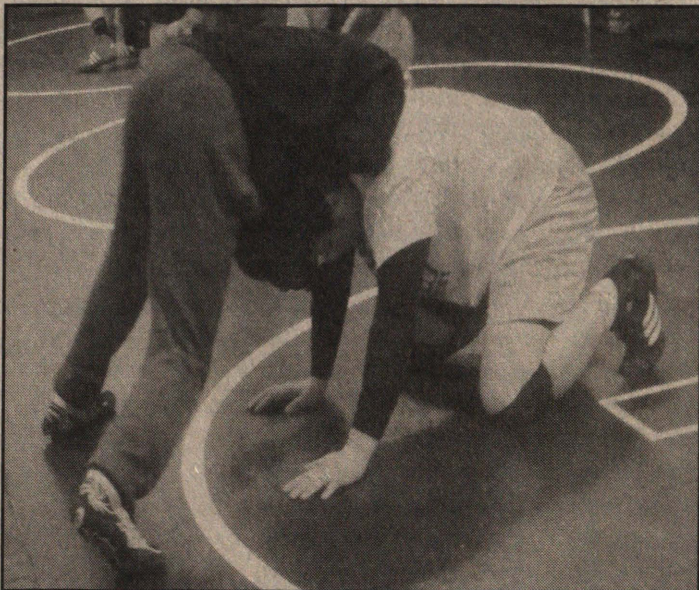


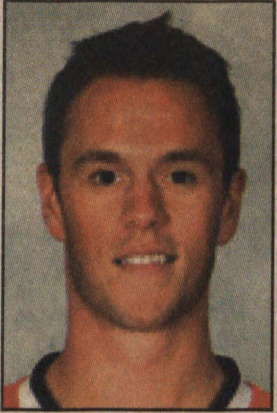
Photo by Sarah Denning

Wrestlers work together to practice for their chance at state.

## Our Olympians

*NHL players represent their countries at the Olympics*

The Chicago Blackhawks sent 10 players to Sochi for the Winter Olympics. Only six returned with medals. Team Canada returned with the gold and Sweden brought home the silver. Team U.S.A. came up short.

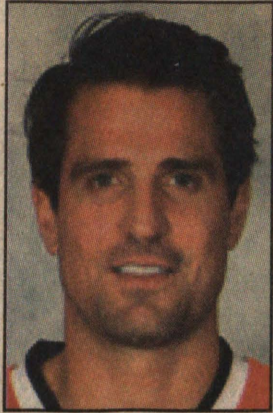


Jonathan Toews

Goals: 0

Assists: 2

Result: Won gold for Canada

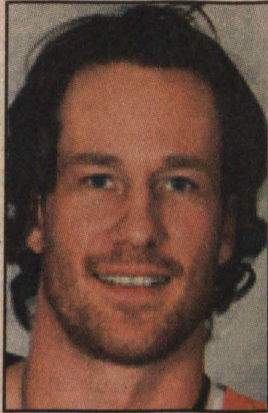


Patrick Sharp

Goals: 1

Assists: 0

Result: Won gold for Canada

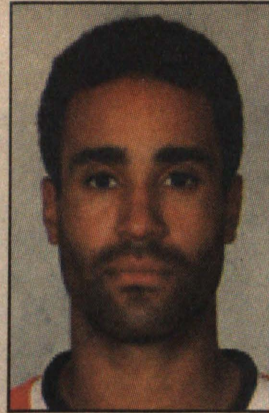


Duncan Keith

Goals: 0

Assists: 1

Result: Won gold for Canada

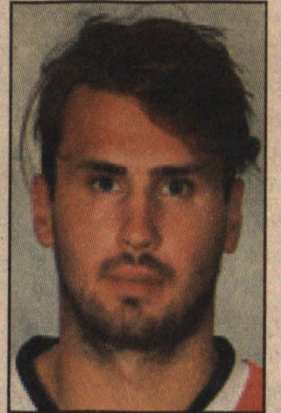


Johnny Oduya

Goals: 0

Assists: 1

Result: Won silver for Sweden

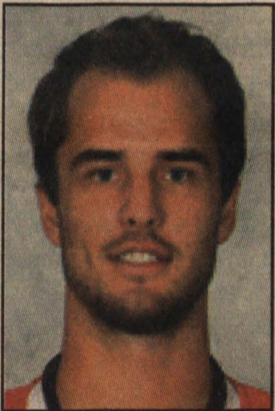


Marcus Kruger

Goals: 0

Assists: 0

Result: Won silver for Sweden

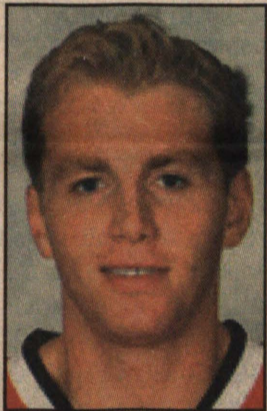


Niklas Hjalmarsson

Goals: 0

Assists: 0

Knocked Out: Won silver for Sweden



Patrick Kane

Goals: 0

Assists: 4

Knocked Out: Team U.S.A. lost to Finland, no medal, 5-0

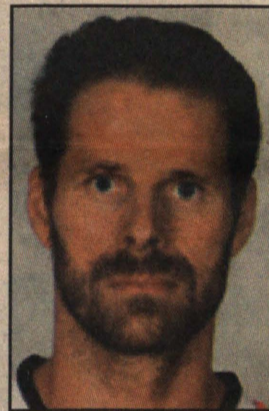


Marian Hossa

Goals: 2

Assists: 1

Result: Slovenia lost to Czech Republic Feb. 19 in quarter finals, 5-3

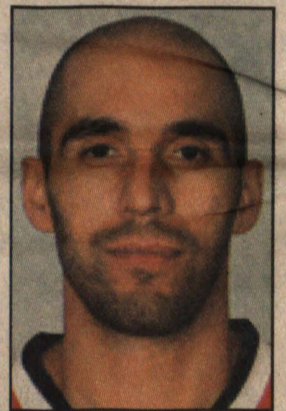


Michal Handzus

Goals: 0

Assists: 2

Result: Slovenia lost to Czech Republic Feb. 19 in quarter finals, 5-3



Michal Rozsival

Goals: 0

Assists: 0

Result: Czech Republic lost to U.S. Feb. 19 in quarter finals, 5-2

Photos courtesy of the Chicago Blackhawks

## Special Olympics Club wants to include everyone

*Raised funds from late mayor and the community along with positive spirits encourage the basketball players*

By Alexandra Garibay  
Center Spread Editor

Making sure students feel like they belong at the school is a goal for WEGO Wildcats Special Olympics Club.

"These classmates of yours are not students with disabilities but students with "different" abilities and want to participate and experience their time in high school as much as any student," Dave Hempe said. "Most importantly, they want to belong."

Wildcats Special Olympics sponsors Hempe and his wife Sue petitioned the Board of Education a few years ago to

bring it back as a club.

Although it is not being funded by the school, the school has supported the club by providing uniforms and gym space to play and practice.

"It was a start, but to keep it going we needed more help financially," Hempe said.

One of the first people to help out was the late Mayor Mike Kwasman.

"As a club we needed to do more both to raise funds but to bring the community in to see our athletes," Hempe said.

For three years now the club has conducted a fund-

raiser basketball game with the help from the West Chicago Police Department.

"We had a fantastic idea to have the West Chicago Fire Department versus the West Chicago Police Department play with our Special Olympics athletes on the same court at the same time," Hempe said.

Playing sports has helped the students.

"I cannot express enough of the self-esteem that has evolved from our athletes from playing these games," Hempe said.

Hempe is thankful for the help he has gotten.

"I also cannot express my gratitude enough for the coordinating effort by Detective Robert Pederson of the West Chicago Police Department and the Fraternal Order of Police," Hempe said.

A student who is part of the Special Olympics Club is Amanda, Hempe's daughter.

"Even though they are included in classes with an aide and walk throughout the school they still wanted some extracurricular activities like the "normal" students and experience high school like their classmates," Hempe said.

Having students feel like

their classmates is essential.

"Sporting events are part of high school and the Special Olympic athletes have sport heroes and dreams just like everyone else," Hempe said.

Students played as the West DuPage Special Recreation Association team and they would wear red and white uniforms, even though they were students from Community High School.

"To the players, they did not feel like they played for the school they attended nor did they feel as much a part of Community High School," Hempe said.