



# Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School

326 Joliet Street West Chicago, IL

Monday April 28, 1997

Volume 28, Issue 9

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Who is this man? Try to identify We-go teachers at their proms. Go to the Prom section. Free tickets...

## West Chicago finds new superintendent

By Dan Horyn

After a long and delicate search process, District 94 hired a new superintendent earlier this month in the likes of Dr. Griff Powell.

Though Powell is coming from New York, he is no stranger to Illinois. He has been a superintendent in Grayslake and Highland Park, and he served as principal at Stevenson High School.

Aside from his administrative ties to Illinois, Powell also educated himself in many Illinois schools. He attended Notre Dame High School in Niles and graduated on to Northern Illinois University, Northeastern University, and Roosevelt University in Chicago.

Currently, Powell holds a superintendent position in a New York school system. One of the greatest reasons he is leaving New York is because his son will be attending the University of Illinois-Champaign on a wrestling scholarship. Powell wants to be close to his son.

Another reason is because he considers

Community High School the "best kept secret in DuPage County."

He said that West Chicago has an "outstanding academic reputation."

His wife has lived in West Chicago. Powell noted West Chicago is a "great place to live." After meeting the staff, students, and community last Monday, he spent the week home shopping, specifically looking for house in West Chicago, saying he wants his sophomore daughter at the high school.

Powell will have an extra incentive to pass the referendum since his daughter will attend We-go.

Powell said, "I'm going to roll up my sleeves" and work at passing the referendum. He added that the Board of Education considers the referendum one of the primary objectives for the upcoming school year.

Powell succeeds Dr. Robert Rubenow, who currently serves as the interim superintendent. Preceding Rubenow was Dr.

Joel Morris, who took a superintendent office in Dubuque, Iowa.

Rubenow worked with the Board in the superintendent selection process. He said the Board was looking for a candidate who could "work effectively with the community" as well as the staff. Rubenow said that the Board was also searching for leadership qualities.

Board of Education president Gerald Landis said, "After the interview [with Powell], the Board came very quickly to the conclusion that he was the right person for the job. We are very impressed with his background. He can be a good fit."

He added that Powell's experience with referendums was another reason he was hired.

Rubenow's interim position ends June 21. He is undecided as to what job he will next pursue, saying he won't start to consider anything until he leaves West Chicago. Powell will start work on the first of July. Included in his six-digit salary is a car which District 94 will lease for him.

## Para-proprogram eliminated

By Tracy Busse, Kelley Betts, and Amanda Pope

At the end of this year, the para-pros will be replaced by a professional security company.

This company will send well-trained security people to our school to monitor the hallways, parking lots, and commons.

According to Dr. Alan Jones, principal, the people will not be uniformed; however, they will be dressed in a way that

they can be identified, but they will not carry any weapons.

The responsibilities of this company will be the same as those of the current para-pros. They will provide better supervision in large areas and in the hallways, says Jones.

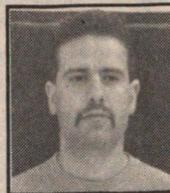


Photo by Am. Pope

Para-pros like Paul Godina won't be seen at We-go next year.

The school will be deciding which company to hire in June with the help of a student committee.

One concern is that the new company won't be as active as the current para-pros are such as coaching after school sports and other extra curricular activities.

Community High School has had the para-pro program for fifteen years, says Jones.

## Chess team competes at nationals

By Dan Horyn



The chess team entered last weekend's national tournament with aspirations of toppling the kings and placing top five in the nation.

The team's quest for national prominence can be compared to the movie "Hoosiers." The Cats were clearly underdogs as they entered the national tournament held in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Having finished "just" third in the State, most team members agreed that West Chicago wasn't on the lips of every competitor's mouth.

Results were unavailable at press time, but it can be assumed the Cats came close to eclipsing top five.

Last year the team won State and finished eleventh in the nation. They were extremely disappointed with this year's third place showing at State, but all agreed it would be more fuel for the fire. Senior Tim Martin said that the team has

been "gunning for Nationals ever since State. [It's] been our primary focus." Junior Alfredo Muhlberger added that "State was a fluke. Top five in the nation is a respectable goal."

In state competition, seven board members from one team face seven board members from another. The team which wins the most boards head to head emerges as champion.

In national competition, seven board members play seven games. However, only the top four records on the team count for the overall score.

The Cats feel they benefit from this setup. Junior Justin Sadauskas, the team's number one player, said "we can match our top four boards with anyone in the state and we'd blow 'em away."

He feels the Cats are strong through five boards, so their depth should be enough to carry them at Nationals. Martin, normally the fifth or sixth board on the team, said "the [Nationals] system favors us. We've

played with this all our lives."

The Cats had confidence for many reasons. One is that Nationals was held in Tennessee, and not in New York. Sadauskas said many of 1996's top teams would not make it to Tennessee.

Also, the team flew to the competition. Last year, half the players drove sixteen hours in a car. Sadauskas said the Cats would be much more relaxed because they were planning on getting to Nationals in plenty of time.

Individually, Sadauskas was hoping to win five and a half games out of seven at Knoxville. This would equal last season's performance in New York, where he placed 21st in the United States.

If Sadauskas pulled his end of the bargain, and team members Muhlberger, Martin, and juniors Eddie Patel and Kevin Brewer won at least four games, then the Cats likely reached the top five pinnacle. For Muhlberger, Martin, Machaj, Patel,

and Brewer, nailing four victories against the best in the U.S. would not be easy.

Muhlberger entered the tournament with no national experience. "I'll have the jitters," he admitted.

On the other hand, Machaj, Martin, and Patel have flourished in high pressure environments. Machaj posted a strong record last year in New York. Martin sealed the state title last year with a clutch win while Patel has yet to lose on the State level.

Brewer endured a subpar State showing this season, but Sadauskas said Brewer should be ready because last year Sadauskas played poorly at State but wound up 21st in the nation.

The Cats should not have forgotten the scene in "Hoosiers" where Gene Hackman measured the stadium for his players. Though everything seemed colossal, he showed that the rim was still ten feet off the ground and the free throw line was still fifteen feet away.

Because after all, at nationals there still are two kings, two queens, and four knights.

## All goes well on Wellness Day

By Beth Siwy

The first Wellness Day took place on March 10 in the gym and other class rooms throughout the school. Instead of attending gym class students attended short seminars hosted by speakers educated in their topics.

Class hours 1-3 went to a humorous, informative speech given by motivational speaker, Kevin Wanzer about a drug free lifestyle and how it is possible to have fun drug free. Freshman Judy Guillen reiterated the fact that, "you don't have to get high to have fun."

Hours 4-10, excluding 9th hour, attended

various presentations given by selected presenters such as Sarah Stanton ("Dating without Disease"). During 9th hour gym students went to the Bishop Gym to see the musical, acting, dance troop MWAH, (Messages Which Are Hopeful).

At the end of each individual presentation students received surveys on the Wellness Days activities and the response was positive. Coordinator of Wellness Day and social worker, Diana Vasquez felt the day "went terrific... went smoothly" despite room assignment difficulties the day before. The entire day took four months of planning. Presenters and students were assigned to a nonexistent room but this was all taken care of with quick planning.

Sponsored by S.A.D.D. (Students Against Drunk Driving) and assisted by the Peer Helpers, Wellness Day was due to the upcoming Alcohol Awareness Month. School nurse, Carolyn Pinney, and Vasquez presented the idea of the events to Dr. Jones and he supported it completely.

Vasquez had hoped that if nothing else the students would learn "to be conscious of making good decisions for themselves."

A majority of students liked Kevin Wanzer's speech. His speech was funny, and it wasn't attacking anyone type of individual drug free or non drug free. Out of the many presentations given 4th hour through 10th hour, the two most popular were "The Dating Game", given by moti-

vational teen speaker Stacie Clyeden, and "Sex, Truth, and Consequence", given by sex educator Collette Petite. Next year Vasquez hopes to add to the amount of time that is put into the preparation, and would also like to have a larger variety of speakers and topics such as self esteem, teen depression, eating disorders and diversity with expecting others and yourself.

Many of the presentations had nothing to do with drugs but were still informative and well developed on the topics which they presented. Freshman Kristine Cleveland enjoyed Wanzer's speech, but agreed that he needed to speak more about drugs, and the students that are effected by drugs.

## Great turnout at Turnabout

By Jeff Goluszka

"It was better than all the other ones. It was a pretty cool dance." That quote from sophomore Nick Sloma was a common tale for opinions about this year's turnabout dance.

The dance was sponsored by the seniors and surprisingly, much more people attended than were expected. You could've bought tickets in your lunch hour for five dollars, and only about 30 tickets were sold. Only 30 people at a dance would have been somewhat of a letdown.

The main reason that's a big surprise is because if a student prepaid in lunch for ticket, it was five dollars while at the door, it was six dollars.

About 270 people bought tickets at the door. The total was over 300 with the french exchange students.

Club We-go's theme, "Come As You Like," was one of the favorites of the year's dances. One of the big attractions to students was that you could come in a t-shirt and jeans instead of dressing up in a suit or dress. The theme received nothing but positive comments after the

dance.

The dance did help out the school, as \$1,200 was raised by the senior class. The seniors are planning to use the money for senior gift, which will be announced before graduation.

There was equal representation of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors that attended the dance. The deejay played the traditional dance music plus some 70's and some rap with limited alternative.

The dance ended around 10 p.m. and close to half were gone early.

## Home is where the heart is

By Amanda Pope

The Clothing, Foods, Child Development, and Contemporary Life classes gathered in Weyrauch Auditorium on April 10th for the annual Home Ec Night.

The night started out with a "Fashion Zoo" put on by the Clothing One and Two classes. The show contained various pajamas made by the students. Some students made sweats, and others made shorts and t-shirts.

Next on the agenda was a performance by the Child Development Two classes. Sophomores Rachel Baker and Megan Horgan lead a group of preschoolers (and their Child Development Two buddies) in such songs as the "Hokey Pokey," "Rinky Do," and "Brown Bear."

Then there was a formalwear display put on by the Clothing classes. These were more complicated pieces such as suits, skirts, and cloaks. The Clothing One students that participated were: Mandy Antinori, Maria Gabriel, Marcela Gallegos, Maria Galvan, Claudia Munoz, senior Beth Navarre, Maria Paniagua, Leena Patel, Mike Plefka, Marisela Rojas, Fran Smith, and Sabrina Sota. The Clothing Two students were Sandy Altamirano and Brenda Robles.

"Sesame Street Remembered" was the next event put on by the Child Development Two classes. Baker and Horgan were the creators of the piece. There was a variety of activities going on in the scene. A couple of girls were playing hopscotch, some jump-roping, and one young man was skateboarding. The two girls decided they liked the boy and went up and kissed him. Then all of the girls gathered around and the young man said that he didn't like girls, and skateboarded away. Allison Taylor says that the piece was "cute, funny, and brought back memories."

Senior Matt Bowne presented his humorous interpretation, "Remote Control, a family in review." This piece kept the audience's attention, as they laughed and studied his very real expressions.

Remote Control was followed by a short skit called Wedding Jitters put on by Katie Oswald, Liz Henderson, and Alejandra Sotelo (all Contemporary Life students). This was a prelude to the wedding. The skit was about a bride-to-be having second thoughts about her wedding. Her friends talk to her, and bring back some memories, and the bride is put at ease with the wedding.

The last item, the moment many were waiting for, was the mock wedding of bride, senior Sara Bauler, and groom, James Winquist. Their maid of honor was junior Lexie Nussbaum, and best man, senior Mike Mashal.

The bridesmaids were Juanita Romero, Liz Henderson, junior Katie Holmes, Sonia Gomez, and senior Katie Oswald. The groomsmen were Erick Chavez, juniors Ed Bruening, Ken Robertson, Gerardo Resendiz, and Giovanni Mendez.

The mother of the bride was senior Barbara Mowaczewski, and the father was senior Ruben Campos. The mother of the groom was Marcia Chacon, and the father was senior Andy Alaniz (who was the groom in last year's mock wedding).

These students were picked by the luck of the draw.

The flower girl was Hillary Hoffman. The officiate was Alejandra Sotelo, and the director was Mrs. Patti Kozlowski.

Some of the original participants for the wedding were unable to perform due to other activities, but were quickly filled in.

Senior Josh Brown played the piano for the wedding, and seniors Rosi Robles and Ed Abante shared their singing talents.

The flowers were provided by the Horticulture Department, which is instructed by Carol Walksler. The reception treats were made by the Foods and Nutrition classes, directed by Becky Rahn and Patti Kozlowski.



Photo by Amanda Pope  
James Winquist and Sarah Bauler got married last week. Just kidding - they participated in the Mock Wedding.

## It's a hard knock life

By Dan Young

The West Chicago Thespians have decided it's time for "Annie" to visit We-go on May 8th, 9th, and 10th in the John Weyrauch auditorium. The maximum cast and crew of almost 100 people is nearly ready for ticket sales.

This is a happy musical which has been preformed all across America. Young actresses often dream of becoming Annie in a Broadway production. The girl who got that acclaimed role was sophomore Abby Brown.

This is Brown's first play and she feels upbeat and ready for the challenge. She is, admittedly, a little nervous as well: "[The play] is a little overwhelming. I still can't believe I'm Annie."

The play is all about a young orphan by the name of, you guessed it, Annie. Annie was left at the orphanage by her parents with a note she said they would get her later on in her life. She believes the note, and waits for her parents to come and pick her up.

She eventually grows tired of waiting and decides to search for her lost parents. She is caught by Oliver Warbucks, and returned to the orphanage. Time passes until it is Christmas time and Mr. Warbucks would like to

adopt a child. He falls in love with little Annie, who teaches him many things.

"The cast is really working hard, and even though there are lot of younger actors, we are right on schedule," said Lori Watson, the director for the musical.

Oliver Warbucks is going to be played by junior Steve Garcia. Garcia is looking forward to the play saying, "I really like my role a lot, and Oliver Warbucks and I are really alike."

This is a completely different musical than "Pippin," which was last year's play. The two have vastly different settings and images. Watson said, "'Pippin' is a more modern musical, while 'Annie' is more of your traditional musical."

The crew and cast are optimistic for the production. With 30 to 40 crew members, 34 actors, and 25 people in the orchestra, the play has drawn many different styles and talents.

The "Annie" crew and cast has put in over 200 hours, and have got the musical down flat. Right now, they are putting the final touches on the set, and preforming run throughs on stage,

which are when the cast goes through the entire play to see what they need to work on.

Last year "Pippin" sold out almost every night and "Annie" is hoping for the same success.

COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE  
IS PROUD TO PRESENT:

# Annie

Music by Charles Strouse  
Original Production Directed by Martin Charnin  
Presented on Broadway by Mike Nichols  
Produced by Irwin Meyer  
Stephen R. Friedman  
Lewis Allen

Book by Thomas Meehan  
Lyrics by Martin Charnin  
Alvin Koffler  
Associates Inc.  
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
Icarus Productions

May 8-10  
7:30 pm  
in the Weyrauch Auditorium

Admission:  
\$3.00 Adult  
\$2.00 Student

BY THE UNION OF THE TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

## A responsibility too big to handle

By Dan Horyn

Kids like to seem older than they are. That's why you see miniature kitchen sets, infant-sized cars, doctor toys, plastic houses, and clip-on ties.

Between the ages of zero and twelve, most kids have a constant infatuation with wanting to be grown up. That infatuation generally leaves until the opposite is true- people want to be younger than they are.

In this respect, nothing really happens with high schoolers. They're stuck in the middle: on their way to becoming adults, yet not quite there, but still happy to have lost the little kid label.

I disagree with this: a countless number of significant things happen to high school students. Many of us at Community High School have daily responsibilities previously exclusive to adults. Some students work thirty hours a week. Others own and maintain cars. Still others baby-sit, and nearly parent, younger brothers or sisters.

Though difficult, these adult responsibilities build character. They prepare us for the future.

But at the same time, there are some adult things that students aren't ready to take on.

What comes to mind is drinking.

In itself, teenage drinking can be a pretty harmless thing. A beer every now and then, and maybe a drink on the holidays.

No harm done.

But when you've walked the halls for four years, your ears start to recognize recurring conversations:

"How was the party over the weekend?"

"It was one of the best keggers I've been to. It was so cool, I can't remember a thing- I got drunk pretty fast."

"Yeah, but that's the best way, isn't it?"

"You bet. Can't wait till Friday night."

And that's when teenage drink-

ing becomes a problem.

You see, there's a difference between social drinking and drinking all the time.

The social drinker has a beer every now and then, but doesn't consider drinking necessary to have a good time.

The problem drinker relies on alcohol. Weekends surround it. Beer becomes the only pathway to enjoyment.

What do you have to look forward to if all you do now is get drunk? Well, you could continue that for the next, oh, ten years, and maybe if you're lucky you'll either be an alcoholic, drunk, or dead.

No joke.

In my opinion, high schoolers, more than any other age group, want to be older than they are. Drinking is a prime example, as it is legally reserved to adults (21 years old and up), making alcohol consumption all the more enticing to teenagers.

It's almost as if people need liquor present to have a good time. That's a lie.

I'm sure that a beer loosens you up a little- relieves stress from a demanding week of school- but does it need to be involved in every weekend plan? Has beer become as necessary as food for you?

Besides, what will you have to look forward to? If you're jumping into alcohol now, won't drinking get real old, real fast? Look at music- a good song comes on the radio, but after hearing it one million times, you grow sick of it.

Why can't you go out for a coffee rather than out for a beer? Why not just rent a movie instead of go to a drinking party?

We are at a very precious time in life. We're still allowed to do crazy things, things that adults would scoff at. We can trick or

treat, watch the Simpsons, TP houses, and attend dances like Prom.

But the sooner we jump into adult-like things- namely drinking- we're expected to carry ourselves in a different way.

The problem is, many high school drinkers don't know how to carry themselves.

Hallway conversations are proof of that. Too many students get drunk, drinking becomes too regular a habit, and, unfortunately, too many students drive while intoxicated.

West Chicago suffered a terrible tragedy in 1993 when senior Joe Pietsch died in a car crash. His blood alcohol content was over the legal limit.

So think twice before you grab the beer. Because the moment you take that drink, you're throwing away a piece of that clip-on wearing tie kid who loved to pretend he was a doctor.

Are you sure you're ready to be an adult?

## One final thought before voting

By Allison Taylor

When I hear the words "student council" I imagine a group of students working together for the sake of our school. I think of responsible, honest, and experienced people who will represent the student body.

However, these are not always the people who are elected.

Many people just vote for their friends or for the most popular

person. Either way, we should stop to consider who it is we are really voting for.

I am not going to vote for someone who is irresponsible, just because he or she happens to be my friend. I refuse to vote for a bossy, self-centered person just because he or she is popular.

Instead, I consider each of the candidates and make my decision

based on their qualifications. These elections may not mean much to some people, but I consider them important.

People must be serious when it comes to elections. Don't vote for a candidate because it would be funny if they won. Chances are this will backfire and people will regret their choice.

Become serious now, in school.

Taking an interest in school politics will prepare students for real elections in the future.

Don't take the "It won't matter if I vote or not approach" either. One vote could make the difference between a good 1997-1998 school year and a great 97-98 school year.

Student council members have a lot of responsibility. They have meetings every Friday morning in addition to separate class meetings. Student council runs dances, such as prom and homecoming, they work fund raisers, do volunteer work, and devote a great deal of time to We-go.

Each class has a big responsibility, too. Those elected from the freshman class of 2000 will have

to concentrate on fund raising for prom next year. The students elected from the sophomore class of 1999 will be planning prom. Juniors from the class of 1998 will be in charge of many things including senior class gift and class reunions.

Elections for class officers will be held on Thursday, May 1, in the cafeteria during all lunches. Elections for class representatives are on Friday, May 2, during all lunches.

Spring Fling Week, Homecoming, and many other activities depend greatly on student council. If we want next year to be unforgettable, then we better elect the right people. So, vote seriously and next year is guaranteed to be spectacular.

## Conflicts of faith

By Hannah Kenny

**Memo to God (for future reference)**

**We pray you do not send us the messiah unless the messiah is nice, the messiah obeys American laws and the messiah cooperates with the FBI.**

In order to rationalize cult events, a lot of rhetoric has been drawn from common society. Cult leaders- David Koresh and Marshall Applewhite- are "psychopathic," "sick," and suffer from "paranoid delusions."

The Heaven's Gate cult was involved in a mass suicide, what they thought was escaping from their human bodies and leaving earth on a space ship following comet Halle-Bopp. The group of people who believed this notion had a "leader," and because of this it is thought brainwashing took place.

There was also a theory about Koresh. He was spoken of as Satan; the flames which consumed him were the flames of Hell, not the flames of a burning home.

This kind of rhetoric, also displayed on the covers of magazines and on TV, suggest the FBI defeated the Devil down in Texas and America was rid of 41 loonies.

But nobody defeated Satan. There was no Satan down in Waco. There were people who experienced brutal deaths. Heaven's Gate members believed what they thought was true.

We never penetrate the facades placed in front of our eyes by media. Nowhere have I heard any serious discussion of the consequences if Koresh really was the messiah or if there really was a space craft following Halle-Bopp.

Even in history people didn't believe God sent his son to save people from hell. They beat him and put him on a cross to hang and die.

I thought this was a country of freedom and equality. The first amendment of the Bill of Rights says Congress shall not prohibit

the establishment of religions, the exercise thereof or the right of the people peaceably to assemble. Then why did the government intervene with Koresh, and why is a big deal

Why did no one ask could these men, leaders of an "evil cult," could they have spoken the truth? Must the True Messiah abide by the laws of an imperfect nation? Does resistance of the FBI or abiding by the norm prove a man or woman is the True Messiah?

Few people believe in Second Coming, but if there was really a "God" and if this God sent either a divine incarnation or space craft to usher in a millennium of perfect peace, would that messiah get good press?

Would the people who believed be considered to be foolishly believing a lie? Or would we simply kill him?

Something to think about now those labels have been placed.

### Wildcat Chronicle

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The Wildcat Chronicle is the student newspaper at West Chicago Community High School. The views and opinions of the Wildcat Chronicle do not necessarily reflect or represent the majority of the staff or student body.

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to advisor Carrie Mocariski in room 319. Letters to the editor should be signed if they would like to be printed. The newspaper has the right to exclude any letters that are inappropriate or will not fit in a particular issue.

The Wildcat Chronicle is a forum for expression and encourages readers to express their views and thoughts.



# Prom Edition

## 1997

A wonderful night

at the

### ~Time of my Life~

## The years have past, and the time has come

By Allison Taylor

When the doors of the Ambassador open on Friday, May 16, be prepared to have the time of your life. At 6:30 P.M. the adventure will begin and prom-goers will enter a world of midnight blue, burgundy, and gold.

The junior class presents the 1997 junior/senior prom "Time of My Life" just 17 days from today, so let's review some of the important details.

Tickets are on sale and will be sold through May 7. The price is \$50 a couple or \$25 a person, which is lower than last year's prices of \$70 a couple or \$35 a person. "This will be one of the most affordable proms in years," said Jennie Grobe, committee member.

These tickets are key chains and must be brought to prom. Prom

Committee would like to remind prom-goers to leave the slip of paper in the picture slot on the back of the key chain. This paper is needed to check in on prom night.

Prom photos will be taken by Spelman studios. Several different packages will be offered, ranging in price from \$20-\$60. These packages must be ordered and paid for at the time they are taken. No late payments will be accepted.

If a couple wishes to have pictures taken, they will be given a color-coded card which corresponds to a specific time. For example, if you had a silver card, then the silver would represent a certain time when the pictures will be taken.

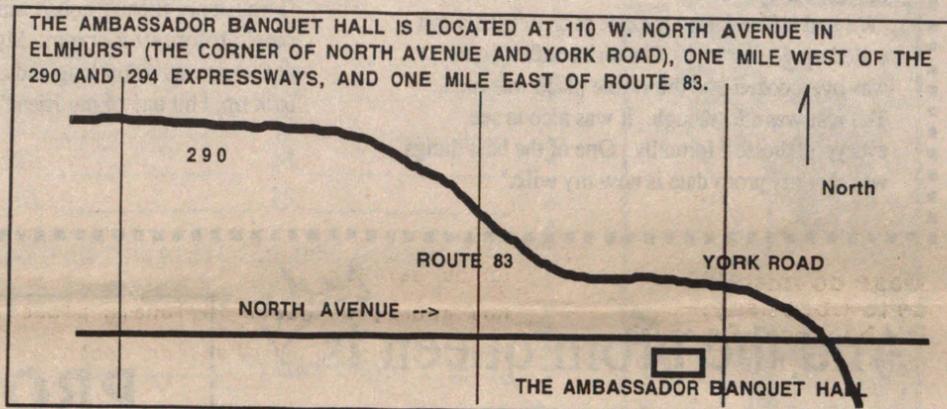
Nominations for prom court are

currently taking place and will last through May 7. The court will be announced on May 12, the Monday before prom. Prom-goers are encouraged to vote for their favorite junior guy and girl.

Prom committee has worked on

planning this year's prom since the end of the 95-'96 school year. Advisor Maura Rowland says prom committee has been fun. She felt "a lot of hard work and good thought" came out of the committee.

Through various fund raisers, countless meetings and many hours of work, prom is expected to run smoothly. "This will be the best prom ever," said Committee member Lisa Mueller.



## Please, oh please will you go with me?

By Jenny Lasky & Allison Taylor

There are many ways to ask that special someone to Prom. You could ask them in a variety of ways, from sending a dozen roses, to jumping out of a plane. If you have someone in mind and don't know how to ask your question, here are some creative suggestions.

### Rent a plane to fly a banner over his/her house

This idea is an expensive way to get your message across. If you both like to be spontaneous, this idea is a winner. However, if the person you are trying to impress is easily embarrassed, this will be a turn off.

### Pay a friend to wear a sandwich board during their lunch

This would work if you definitely want your message to be seen. Although it may be hard to convince a friend to embarrass themselves, it would be sure to get a response.

### Decorate their car with balloons, streamers, and a big sign

This is a sweet and almost romantic way to ask, but the person may not appreciate the mess on their car.

### Alone at sunset, give them a rose and ask your question

This idea is a classic. It is very

common, but still romantic, no where you are. Be sure the person doesn't have allergies though.

### Stand under the person's window and serenade them

If you have a great voice, this is sure to melt the person's heart. Write your own song or sing "Wonderful Tonight". But this is not recommended for those with little musical talent.

### Bake them a cake and write it in the frosting

The way to a man's heart is through his stomach. The way to a woman's heart is with chocolate.

### Send them a handmade invitation in the mail

This idea is sweet and romantic and would definitely impress the girls. Anything handmade shows how much you care. Finger paint is not suggested, unless it is already dry.

### Make a tape of his/her favorite songs and somewhere in the tape, ask your question

This is a sweet and surprising way to ask someone, but if you don't know them too well, how do you find out their favorite songs? You may want to put the question near the beginning to be sure they hear it.

### Mow "Will you go to Prom with me?" in their front lawn

This won't work if they live in an apartment or have parents who worship their lawn. However, it is really sweet and quite different.

### Call the person's favorite radio station and ask on the air

This will work as long as you are sure the person is listening when you call. Since it is not face to face, this will make it easier to ask.

### Go to one of their sports events and get members of the crowd to hold up parts of a sign

Obviously, this won't work if the person doesn't play sports, but if they do, it is a really different and noticeable way to ask.

### Write your message in chalk on their driveway

Wouldn't this be cute if you used the Prom colors? Check the forecast before you try this one. It probably won't work if it's raining.

### Get to their next class before them and write it on the blackboard.

This is a cute and original way to ask, however, it may not go over too well if the person has a strict teacher.

## As the years go by...

- 1980.... "You Decorated My Life By Painting Your Love All Over My Heart"
- 1981.... "Keep on Lovin' You"
- 1982.... "Time in a Bottle"
- 1983.... "You And I"
- 1984.... "Up Where We Belong"
- 1985.... "Tonight, A Celebration"
- 1986.... "Almost Paradise"
- 1987.... "Heaven In Your Eyes"
- 1988.... "Time of My Life"
- 1989.... "Faithful"
- 1990.... "In Your Eyes"
- 1991.... "Don't Leave Now"
- 1992.... "Never Tear Us Apart"
- 1993.... "Wonderful Tonight"
- 1994.... "Faithfully"
- 1995.... "After All"
- 1996.... "Enchanted Evening"



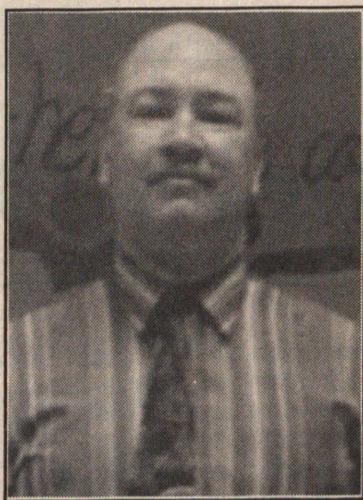
You, like Kelly Kolasa and her date, could be almost in paradise on prom night. Check out the teacher prom picture contest on page 7 and win a pair of prom tickets.

	<b>WEST CHICAGO HIGH SCHOOL</b> Junior-Senior Prom '97	ADMIT ONE
	<i>"Time of My Life"</i>	
	THE AMBASSADOR Friday, May 16th 6:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	

## Teacher Poll: What is your favorite Prom memory?

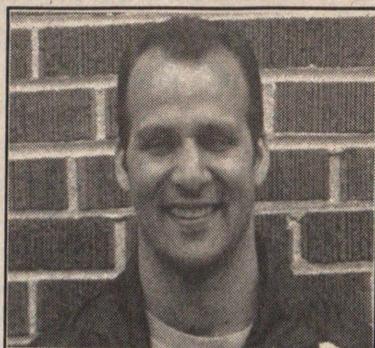
Nancy Douglas- Guidance Counselor

"After Prom was really cool because our school rented an entire train with about 15 box cars, and each box car was decorated and had dancing or games in it. It went on for two days. We traveled from Chicago to Wisconsin and back, and never lost anybody."



Miguel Arroyo- Dean

"We had a friend who just got over Hepatitis and ended up getting sick. The dinner-after-dinner was overcooked and the whole place was rude. The rest was o.k. though. It was nice to see everyone dressed formally. One of the best things was that my prom date is now my wife."



photos by Amanda Pope

Tony Neverly- P.E. teacher

"One of the last dances, I was being a fool. I was dancing so badly that my date walked off the floor and when the song was over, I turned around and my buddies were throwing roses at me."

Jeff Ainsworth- P.E. teacher

"I was at my friend's house with six other people before senior prom. My friend's driveway was really long and as I tried to back up, I hit one of my friend's cars."

Kelly Kolasa- English teacher

"Five other people had my dress, including two people that were in my group. I also had an eye infection which came in handy for the slow dances. It gave me an excuse to get away from my date."



Diana Vasquez- social worker

"The God-awful dress with hearts. It was white with red hearts. It looked like I stepped right off of Happy Days."

## And the prom queen is

By Hannah Kenny

If you're not going to prom this year, what better way to join in on the experience than to watch someone else's in a movie?

From psycho prom queens and ones that come back from the dead, to entirely different people making it as couples, these movies have got it all.

So loosen that bow tie and kick off those heels to watch proms you never had. You might even pick up some new dance moves.

### Carrie

Telekinesis enabled misfit with a sacrilegious mother gets asked to prom by somebody who feels sorry for her. Carrie White (Sissy Spacek) is a nobody, but by the wonder of computers becomes the prom queen.

Her mother doesn't want her to go because "everybody is going to laugh at you." John Travolta's character plans an evil trick, making Carrie prom queen. Mother is always always right, but Carrie's fellow prom goers aren't laughing for long.

Carrie isn't the psychotic movie I thought it would be, it wasn't even scary, but the odd personalities were interesting to watch. Some of the angles and tricks by the cameras also made the movie unlike one I've ever seen before.

### Back to the Future

Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) travels back in time to the 1950's to save his parent's marriage. If it wasn't for him, his mother (Lea Thompson) would end up marrying someone she didn't love.

With the help of his scientist friend, Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd), Marty attends his parents prom.

While he's there, he shows the crowd the new new craze in music as they watch in awe. He also gets a chance to beat up a family acquaintance who was too big to beat up in the future.

Before he leaves back to the future, Marty attempts to get his parents to ease up on the punishment of thier future son.

### Valley Girl

Randy (Nicholas Cage) and Julie meet at a party Randy crashes. He's from Hollywood and she's from the Valley, but they figure out they love each other despite their difference backgrounds.

When Julie's friends talk her into going against what she really wants, Randy is heartbroken. Then comes prom and the perfect opportunity for Randy to win Julie back and get even with her boyfriend.

### Hello Mary Lou: Prom Night II

It's prom night 1957 at Hamilton High and promiscuous Mary Lou Maloney is up for prom queen, but because of a fatal accident involving a stink bomb, she never gets crowned. Now it's 1985 and Mary Lou is back and ready to claim her royalty she never received.

Mary Lou's ghost Vickie's body and has to kill a lot of innocent people to get the crown. Everything works out in the end, but is Mary Lou's ghost really dead?

## PROM IS A TIME FOR MEMORIES

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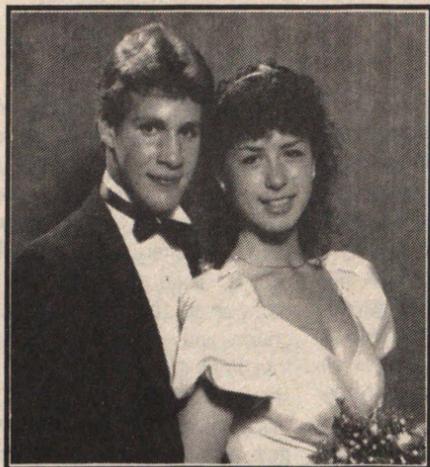
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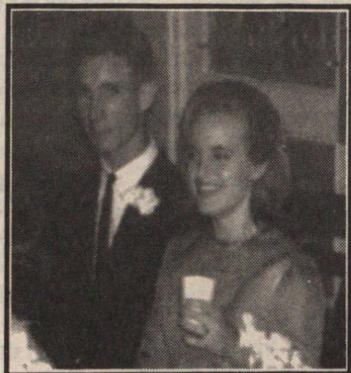
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## The Wildcat Chronicle takes you back in time for the "Time of their Lives"



1



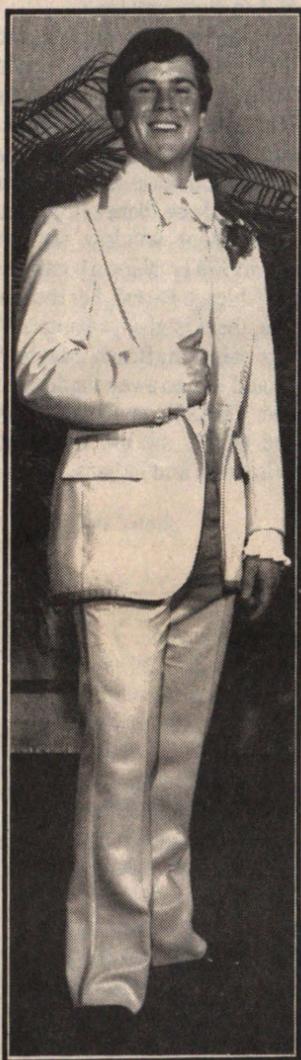
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15

Want to win tickets to Prom? Are you good at guessing games? Or do you just know the teachers at our school very well? Correctly identify the following teachers and return the form directly to Ms. Mocarski in Room 319 by 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, to win two free Prom tickets.

*"Time of their Lives" Contest Form*  
WIN 2 FREE PROM TICKETS

1. _____	6. _____	11. _____
2. _____	7. _____	12. _____
3. _____	8. _____	13. _____
4. _____	9. _____	14. _____
5. _____	10. _____	15. _____

All forms must be handed directly to Ms. Mocarski in Room 319 by 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Year in school \_\_\_\_\_



5



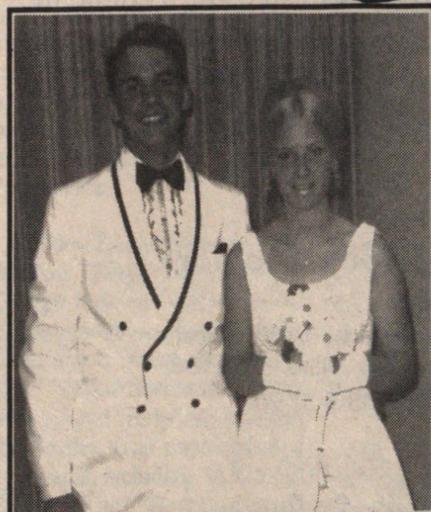
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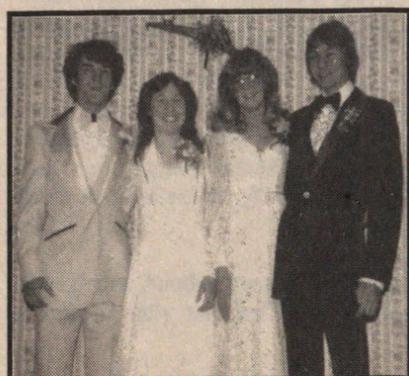
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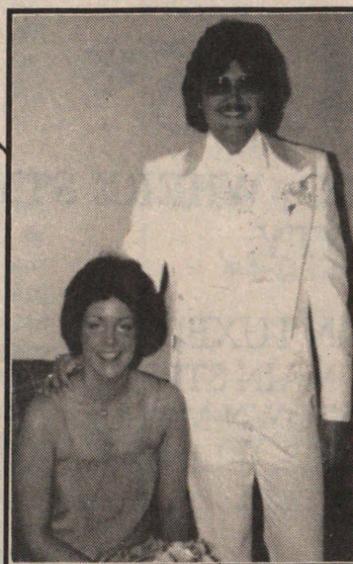
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8

## Lets get Ready to Rumble

By Amanda Pope and Beth Siwy

Hey ladies, going to Prom? Want to look your best? Then there's a whole list of things to be done: hair, nails, facials, even waxing! NOTE: Waxing is not recommended the day before prom. Redness and irritation may occur.

Where do you plan on going? What's good for the price? When getting your hair done you need to be careful; some salons may misunderstand that you mean up for the evening, down for tomorrow. In some cases they may use products that are very hard to wash out, such as Clay Pack.

A suggestion: unless you are daring, don't get a drastic haircut before prom. It may ruin your evening. But if you feel inclined to do so, the price range is usually \$25 and up. This generally takes 30 minutes to an hour (all times are average, but may vary with stylists). A style on the other hand, can go from \$15 and up, and is not permanent.

Speaking of permanents, this is another no-no right before prom. Imagine walking into prom and seeing everyone turn in your direction as sparrows start nesting in your hair. But if you enjoy the aviary-look, the prices are \$50 and up. Getting a perm takes anywhere from an hour and a half to two hours.

Unless you have previously had your hair colored, don't experiment now. While you may be

having visions of a lovely red, the chemicals may not agree, leaving you with a hair color which matches the prom colors of burgundy, midnight blue, and gold. But if you're feeling lucky, prices range from 30 to 60 dollars, and you will spend a good 45 minutes to an hour and a half in the salon.

Nails are one of the most popular changes around Prom. Chronic nail-biters suddenly have beautiful nails. Those who aren't and up, and a French Manicure for \$17 and up. This only takes thirty minutes. You can also get these if you are a nail biter, but chances are they won't look very good. It's also more expensive if you are a nail-biter.

If you are a nail-biter and would like to fake like you're not for a night, too bad because the nails will be with you for at least two weeks. If that is not a problem for you, you can get a full set of sculptured nails for \$30 and up, or silk nails for \$50 and up.

If you already enjoy the luxuries of having sculptured nails, you can get a fill-in for \$20 and up. It is recommended that you make an appointment for this 30 minute procedure quickly because there are a lot of appointments.

If you want to go all-out for Prom, you have the opportunity to get a Pedicure for a set \$30. I know it sounds a little expensive, but what would you charge if you had

to be touching and painting someone's toes? Think about it. One would wonder who would be looking at your toes anyway.

If you have trouble seeing through your eyebrows, this might mean you need to get them waxed. This simple, painless procedure will open your eyes for the low price of \$8, and it takes 10 minutes. The price is the same for waxing your lips, if on occasion you have a piece of hair in your food that fell off your lip.

If you are the bearded-lady in the circus and would like to attend Prom, our suggestion is to get your chin, side of face, and neck waxed. It only costs \$12.

Men, if you are bringing your hot European chick to Prom, please advise her to get her underarms waxed. It's only \$20 and it matches better with the dress.

If you plan on showing off your legs Prom night, you can get a partial wax for \$25 and up, or a full wax for \$50 and up. Remember to make your appointments for a couple days before Prom. Don't worry, the hair takes a while to grow back.

Often times, people feel a little tense and worried around Prom. You may be thinking there is nothing you can do about that, well you're wrong. You can get a half hour massage for \$30, and if you are really stressed, you can have an hour for \$50.

## I Don't Want to Go!

By Jennifer Lasky

So you're not going to Prom. WHY? Because you don't want to spend the money? Because you don't want to go through the hassle of dress shopping? Because you can't find the courage to ask anyone? Because nobody will go with you? For those of you with an excuse why to stay home from Prom, there are so many things you could do instead

### Not unusual and really close

There are lots of things close by that, while not very different, are still fun. Why don't you go see a movie? If you don't have much cash, go to a \$2 theater, such as Wheaton or Glen Elyn, and see something that has been out for awhile. Go bowling or maybe just go to dinner. You could always go skating at someplace like Coachlite or Funway. Or if you prefer ice, there is Center Ice and the Carol Stream Ice Rink. If it's not too cold outside, go mini-golfing.

### Something different, but still close by

You could get together a group of

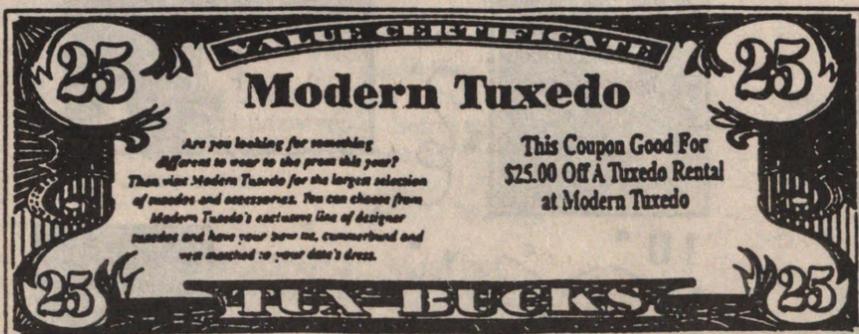
your friends and go camping. Why not go see a local band? A very different, but still fun idea is a progressive dinner. This is where the group starts at one person's house and everyone eats the first course. Then you all head to the next person's house for the second course, and so on. You could get together a group of friends of the same sex and all go spend the night in a hotel. Yet another option is to go to a live theater, such as Pheasant Run or Drury Lane.

### Not so close options

There are so many things you could do if you don't mind the driving. There is Great America, Gurnee Mills, the Factory Outlet Mall in Kenosha. You could go downtown for dinner at places like Hard Rock Cafe or Planet Hollywood. How about window shopping downtown or taking a boat ride on the Chicago River? For the kid in you, there is always Santa's Village or Indiana Beach. Maybe you should just go away for the weekend. The Dells aren't that far away and neither are the dunes, both Wisconsin and Indiana.

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## SAINTLY DONE

By Dan Horyn

Val Kilmer is a balding Russian female reporter/poet who cleans houses for a living and is a member of the Communist party.

He pulls it all off with the grace of a ballerina and the charm of Don Juan, strengthening his reputation as a strong male lead actor.

Kilmer is great in "The Saint" the new film about a professional thief who disguises himself as a million different people in order to steal millions of dollars.

"The Saint" can be called the Val Kilmer Talent Show. Kilmer takes on so many different characters that I lost count midway through the movie. Some of his disguises are funny, others serious, and all amusing.

The basic plotline is this: Russia is freezing its way through a terrible blizzard; a young physicist (Elisabeth Shue) invents cold fusion (a way of creating energy from nearly nothing); Kilmer steals her formula sells only part of it, then falls in love with her. The whole while long the two are angrily pursued by the Russian Mafia.

I used the word "basic" very loosely. "The Saint" comes with a plotline more convoluted than "Mission: Impossible", only "The Saint" doesn't tie things together as well.

The audience is left to assume too much, and because of this, "The Saint" is a little too unbelievable, even for Hollywood. I wondered why Shue would fall in love with the man who sold her life's work for a couple of million dollars. Then again, love has done crazier things.

If you aren't crazy about Kilmer ("The Doors", "Batman Forever") or Shue ("Soapdish", "Leaving Los Vegas"), then "The Saint" isn't worth your while.

But if you're curious, the movie is definitely worth the time and money. Aside from the unbelievable parts, Kilmer and Shue light up the screen, looking truly in love with each other.

In one particular scene, I thought the two were going to run off and get married—even though they'd known each other for less than twelve hours. The funny thing is that I wasn't at all surprised: They were that believable.

In addition, there are some great action sequences. The music and cinematography were stellar as well. It was nice to see so much film devoted to Russia.

After a fantastic performance in "Leaving Los Vegas" and a solid showing in "The Saint," Shue is on her way to becoming a household name.

As far as Kilmer is concerned, he's on a roll. He perfectly took over Michael Keaton's role in "Batman Forever" and "The Ghost and Darkness" won strong reviews.

Though Kilmer is a multidimensional actor, he is probably at his best when he plays the dreamy, yet profound character. He practically was Jim Morrison in "The Doors" and his poet disguise in "The Saint" is unforgettable.

With Kilmer and Shue, "The Saint" is a boat still afloat. Without the two, "The Saint" would be twenty thousand leagues under the sea.

★★★

## Old music that still rocks

By Dan Young

Have you ever been forced to listen to your parent's music in the car? It might be enough to make you sick. However, if they have a little musical taste left, they could be listening to some good music.

Why should I listen to my parent's music? you ask yourself. Why not? What is wrong with checking out a bunch of "prehistoric" music? Some of it could be pretty good, and you might like it. You should listen and decide before criticizing the old tunes.

If you think that some old geezer couldn't produce music that sounds different and cool, think again. Some of today's artists got their ideas from those old geezers. In fact, most of the modern music has already been played by a past artist. So try some of this music. Here are a few groups or artists who are pretty cool, and "prehistoric."

**Beatles:** Everybody knows this fab four. Ringo, John, Paul and George have so many hits the Beatles are the most popular group of all times. Songs like "Michelle," "Yellow Submarine," "Yesterday," and "Help" have helped the Beatles to an unprecedented 14 awards, including "Album of the Year," and "Best engineered recording."

Their total number of albums shows their commitment to the group, even though they broke up in 1977. John died, yet the group has released more of their songs through the miracle of recording. Their most popular albums are *Abbey Road*, *Meet the Beatles*, and *Hey Jude*.

**The Doors:** Another group with an unbelievably talented lead

singer, Jim Morrison, you might want to look into. Songs like "L.A. Woman," and "Touch Me" are just a few of the excellent songs the band has produced. They have made quite a few albums like *Morrison Hotel* and are known to be the first underground group from L.A.

The Doors are a group that is very deep into their lines, and they are very poetic. When Morrison died in 1971, the group played music while a tape of Morrison provided the lyrics.

**Jimi Hendrix:** One of the greatest guitarists of all times. Hendrix starred at Woodstock, playing some of his hits like "Purple Haze," and "Foxy." He even played his own version of "Star Spangled Banner," which is one of the most inspirational pieces ever performed. Later on in his career, he played blues like "Red House."

It is thought Hendrix, used acid during his performances, but is unproven. He has died, but his songs will live forever. His music career peaked from 1966 to 1970, when he produced albums like *Are you Experienced*.

**Eric Clapton:** Speaking of talented guitarists, why not add Eric Clapton? Clapton has done everything from blues to rock, and then some. He has released a lot of albums, and some of his songs include "Crossroads," (with a band called Cream) "Layla," and "Change the World." Our prom song, "Wonderful Tonight," was performed by Clapton. His style is definitely unique, and most people could find one of his songs that they like. He has won more than five awards, including best overall guitarist for the third time this year.

**Jethro Tull:** After all of the bands above, we add an oddball to the list. Jethro Tull has a weird style that nobody else uses anymore. He includes both the guitar and the flute. He has a group of songs that are really good and really different. A few of these are "Locomotive Breath," "Aqualung," and "Thick as a Brick." He has produced a lot of albums.

**Stevie Ray Vaughan:** As another excellent guitarist, Stevie Ray Vaughan tops my list. He may not be as well known as Jimi Hendrix, yet both of those artists have a few things in common. One thing would be that their styles are almost the same, and the other thing would be that they are both dead. They both started in rock and then moved to blues.

Vaughan produced records like *Texas Flood*. Some examples of his hits are "Pride and Joy," and "Crossfire." He redid "Red House" in a salute to Jimi Hendrix. The only large difference between Hendrix and Vaughan is Vaughan guitar playing is a little smoother.

**ZZ Top:** Last, but not the least, I add ZZ Top. The men with beards down to their navels broke through in the early '80's and even played at the half time show in the Super Bowl XXXI with the Blues Brothers and James Brown. In the show, they played "Sharp Dressed Man," which is one of their best songs. They also produced "Cheap Sunglasses," "Legs," and "Jesus Just Left Chicago." They produced a lot of albums like their new one, *Rythmeen*, and started in the early seventies.



## A drill in the head

By Hannah Kenny

A unique sound is hard to find in music these days, but Drill has one to offer.

The music in their self-titled debut album can be dark and melodic but turn quickly unpolished and exposed. A few bands Drill gives credit for developing and shaping their style are The Cure, Beastie Boys, Sisters Of Mercy, Pink Floyd, Soundgarden and Alice In Chains.

Drill's basic look is like that of Garbage. The lead singer, Lucia Cifarelli, is pouty with stringy hair, lots of dark eyeliner and leather and backed by male instrument players. Even the album cover looks like Garbage's. The photographs were warped to produce a hazy, water-spotted look and their logo is almost identical.

Cifarelli changes the sound of her voice too often to give any hope to the band. The first track off their album "Go to Hell" begins with upbeat guitar and drums, while Cifarelli is singing about the good times in life in a soft, throaty voice to sound seductive. Her tone repeatedly seems as though she is trying to be gothic, first alluring in a sing-song voice, then wailing and moaning when the good times turn bad.

Towards the end of the chorus in "Go to Hell" she begins to agonize about what went wrong, warbling "I wish to God you go to hell." Her voice overpowers the background music and sounds obnoxious, the sound an injured horse makes comes to mind.

"Wave of Change" has a fitting title. The lead guitar sounds from the psychedelic era, resembling waves of calmness. Cifarelli's voice changes constantly through the song. It begins as innocent, childlike, similar to Gwen Stephani from No Doubt. It then becomes more clear a concise, gradually working up into a high pitched wail. It drifts off sounding like the beginning, but because of her annoying screaming I wished I hadn't heard the middle.

In "Innuendo" she does not scream as much but is backed by her prerecorded voice sing the same lines. There was also mixing in "Over and Out" along with her

deep prolonged breath. The drums solo in "Over and Out" is what keeps the song alive, but with the guitar chords droning on in "Innuendo" kills the song.

Although Cifarelli's voice pretty much messes up the whole album, the instruments are played well, however "All He Wanted to Know" sounds so monotone and ordinary it might be heard on Q101 in the future.

The instrumental portion is the better part of the band. Lead guitar player Dan Harnett along with Marcus Farny on the drums, John DeServio on bass and Paul Alves on rhythm guitars make up for Cifarelli's irritating screeches.

Some guitar solos are basically the same chords tedious played, but most of the time the melodies sound good without much distortion. Farny plays the drums well so they don't overpower the guitars, but can still be heard.

Drill's lyrics aren't their strong point. The poor little me scenario refocuses as Cifarelli moans "And the sky is falling like an enemy/ So alone you can't believe/ you turn your back on me" in "Could You Care."

It continues with "Screamer" when she cries "When all the pages turn to black/ There is nothing left for you or me/ ...The sun is setting in your eyes/ Touching me, I don't know/ Oh, help me." Like other bands crabbing about their lives, the lyrics quickly get old.

Not only can the basis of the song can easily be figured out by the title, but is often repeated in the chorus line in such songs as "You Suck" and "I Like You," and is usually shrieked out customarily.

Drill has toured with Marilyn Manson, Chemlab, Stabbing Westward, Sister Machine Gun, and Seven Mary Three, and influences show in their music. They say they are ready to record another album and "take their music to the next level." Hopefully the next level would be getting a new lead singer, then Drill would be tolerable.



## FBLA

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## A murder worth seeing

By Beth Siwy

A woman in the White House is murdered. Who dunit?

Was it the President's son? Or Spikings? Or the President himself?

Wesley Snipes and Diane Lane star in the new murder mystery flick of '97 called *Murder at 1600*

In this surprise ending movie Snipes and Dennis Miller portray detectives assigned to a case a bit bigger than what they are used to.

The two are hired to investigate the murder of a woman who worked and was killed in the White House.

Harlan Regis (Snipes) is a serious detective who is not taken seriously by some of the people who he is working for on this specific case.

He is hired by the government's head of White house security, Alvin Jordan (Alan Alda), to figure out what happened that

evening in the White House.

With numerous suspects such as Kyle, the President's son, and Nick Spikings (Daniel Benzali), who is the head of Secret Service, Snipes fits the role well as the hero.

Regis is a Washington police detective assigned to the case.

He is not accepted well into the case by the head of secret service, Nick Spikings, but is accompanied by ex-Olympic sharpshooter, and secret service agent Nina Chance, (Lane) who is less than generous in helping him at the beginning of the movie.

As the plot thickens so does the relationship between Chance and Regis. Once Chance discovers that something fishy is going on she seems more than willing to jeopardize her job.

The Secret Service finds out about her dealings with Regis and

they try to come after her, but are unsuccessful.

Once some of the suspects are weeded out Chance and Regis become suspects themselves, and are running out of time to get back to the White House before President Neil (Ronny Cox) gives his resignation.

The ending is both surprising and believable. The characters are presented well and are realistic.

This is not the first role which Snipes has played this kind of character.

In the '95 flick *Passenger 57* Snipes played the role of the incognito FBI agent who is aboard a plane taken over by terrorists.

Snipes played a strong role in the movie. His usual tough guy exterior showed through in the

flick, while he was also smart and at few times humorous and sarcastic.

Lane also played an outstanding role in the movie. She was a strong independent woman. *Murder at 1600* has a hero and his female sidekick, the new thing for an action show to have.

Being both an Olympic sharpshooter (gold medal of course), and a member of the secret service, added to the toughness of Nina Chance.

Although some gave it low ratings, I would suggest seeing this movie. With its "R" rating, its violence, language, and sexual content is moderate with only one strong sex scene which is very important to the movies plot.

And don't you want to know who was responsible for the *Murder at 1600*?

★★★★

## Grosse Pointe is bland

By Jeff Goluszka

Professional killers and high school reunions don't mix. John Cusack's latest film, *Grosse Pointe Blank* proves it.

Martin Q. Blank (John Cusack) is a professional killer, working for the government.

Blank is sent to Grosse Pointe, Michigan to do a job, coincidentally where his family, friends and old high school are. He sees his old high school sweetheart Debi Newberry (Minnie Driver from *Circle Of Friends*), who is now a radio disc jockey.

Blank and Newberry were supposed to go to prom, but he stood her up on prom night to join the army.

As Blank surveys his old town, he notices two men following him around. He thinks they are suspicious, and they're either after him, or helping him.

Throughout this, Blank is getting advice from his therapist, Dr. Oatman (Alan Arkin) and his secretary, Marcella (Joan Cusack, Cusack's sister, from *Nine Months*).

Oatman mostly tries to avoid him, because at first Blank threatens to kill him unless he remains Blank's therapist.

Blank looks to him for advice, then fires him. Oatman tried to turn going to Detroit a good experience, after they find out his high school reunion is there. Oatman says "Try not to shoot anything for a few days."

Blank responds with "I'll give it a shot."

Of course, Blank can only go so long without killing somebody.

Marcella is trying to keep him updated on all of the things happening, like who is killing who, etc., and she notifies that the two men following him around are Lardner (Hank Azaria) and McCullers (K. Todd Freeman), who were sent by Grocer to eliminate Blank.

Grocer (Dan Akroyd), offers Blank a hitman job, but he does not accept it, which angers Grocer.

There's a catch, though. Lardner and McCullers won't kill Blank until he does his job, so they look good. Blank opens the portfolio to see who he has to kill. This is when things get all tangled up.

Cusack co-wrote this film with his old Evanston pals D.V. DeVincentis and Steve Pink with original writer Tom Jankiewicz.

This was Cusack's film-writing debut, and it was pretty good for a first shot.

The acting in this comedy/action flick is exceptional, but could have used a better storyline.

One of the songs in the background of Blank's high school reunion was A-ha's only hit "Take On Me." Other hits songs from the 80's brought the reunion back to 1986.

Akroyd does a great job acting as a psychotic as a villain.

Cusack took a turn for a death-related movie from his usually comedy roles, but fills the shoes of a killer well.

*Grosse Pointe Blank* has its moments, but it's not a great movie. This movie is probably best for adult couples. Don't go unless someone else pays for you.

★★

## Star 69 shoots for the stars

By Jeff Goluszka

"A little short of astonishing." That quote describing Star 69's freshman effort *Melody Maker*, can also be used to describe their newest release *eating february*.

Star 69 sends a message in this album that could be happy or sad. Most of their songs are about something bad that happens, and then a recovery to make things better.

The two year-old band from England has gone from having just two singles out in 1995, "Mama Don't Let..." and "You Are Here" and "I'm Selfish" to having their video premiere on MTV's "120 Minutes."

Before you listen to this album, you must have a clear mind.

When you look at the song list, and see titles like "I'm Insane," "Burning Down The House," "Rotten Punch," "I'm Selfish," "Lay Me," "Scabs," and "Bruise," your first instinct may be, "Did I accidentally pick up a Marilyn Manson CD?"

But it's far from the truth. They may have much anger, but they're just a normal band.

The foursome blends an alternative type of music that sounds much happier than it is. The lyrics are sad and demented, but they sing them so happily as if to say, "Oh boy, the president was assassinated!"

In the first song, "You Are Here," lead singer/guitarist Julie Daniels starts off by singing "I'm falling, falling faster, I hit the ground, it's the end, here comes the next disaster...here comes the big survival."

Daniels plays along with lead guitarist Richard Corden, bassist Warren Huart and drummer/background vocalist Johnny Haro. They begin the second song, "I'm Insane" slowly, then get louder with guitars and slamming drums while Daniels exclaims, "Crazy, steal my heart again, stranger, I'm insane."

Inbetween the choruses, she moans about a couple who lies and cheats on each other. The song closes while Daniels and Haro both happily repeat "Insane," a few times.

The third tune, "Burning Down The House," sounds like it was sang by soft-voiced alternative artist Jewel.

Slow most of the way, with a little bit of guitar and a drum beat, Daniels quietly mumbles words that are hard to understand because they are all strung together.

Then she goes into the chorus where she screams "Burnin' down the house," and the song ends with the same chorus.

The fifth song and previous single release "I'm Selfish," follows the pattern declared in this album of starting off slowly, then getting loud and fast-paced, then slow again.

During the chorus while Daniels is explaining that she's selfish, the guitar adds nicely to the song as it sounds like one long fluctuating note instead of many strung together, as in their other songs.

Song number seven starts out unusually with "The sky looks absolutely beautiful," for a song called "Scabs." The chorus is very nasty and crude as when Daniels tells, "I can't stop pickin' the scabs in my brain, only to bleed and feel again."

The song ends as if she's telling a friend, or perhaps a psychiatrist, "If I looked you in the eye, one more time to say goodbye, it might be fine...but I can't change things now."

"Mama Don't Let," the '95 single and eighth song, is a very likable ballad that might be heard on many different radio stations because it can be inter-



preted as anything from a rock song to a country song.

Daniels explains, "Mama don't let, you can be a rock 'n roll star...Mama don't go, goodbye, take it to heart." This is probably their best song, a song that nearly everyone can enjoy.

In "Bruise," also a wide amount of types of music, where Daniels is "just a bruise on the brain." In the tenth song, "Sometimes I'm just heartless, I got colder, I'm not you," informs Daniels. "I'm Not You" ends abruptly, and so does the album.

Star 69 may not be much now, but *eating february* may rocket them off to an exceptional career. Look for "You Are Here," "I'm Insane," or "Mama Don't Let" to be on the radio soon. Star 69 could be headed for stardom.

## Hydroponic Sellout

By Josh Sebastian

311 has a new CD on the way and will soon come to town to play a 30,000 seat venue instead of their usual 700 or smaller.

Omaha natives, Nick Hexum, Doug Martinez, Tim Mahoney, Aaron Wills, and Chad Sexton released a series of live CD's to boost their already sold out image to higher level of alternative mainstream despicability.

The easiest live CD to come across from 311 is *Kind*.

*Kind* is an acceptable live show from the pre-sellout days. The price, \$30, is one of the few complaints about the CD.

The overall sound of the show is one of the other complaints about the CD. The voices seem to change dramatically in songs like "Salsa," and "Freak Out." These songs are somewhat butchered, do to the poor recording of the great concert.

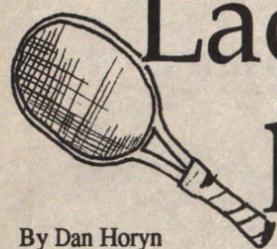
Funkadelic as ever, Chad Sexton plays the kit with pure intelligence making the CD a well sounding rhythmic ensemble.

Proving when it comes to making a good band, the kit plays a large part. The melodic Tim Mahoney brings the distinctive sounds to 311, and Aaron Wills plays bass off Mahoney like reading a book.

Taking care of vocals, Nick Hexum and Doug Martinez feed the crowd an abundance of energetic good tunes as "Omaha Stylee," and "Off-beat Bare Ass" with a rappy, raggaeish, and punkish kind of way.

The band definitely knows what they're doing when it comes to making good songs sound great. Each member of the band's instruments are well recognized in each of the songs played.

So if you have the cash and need some tunes to listen to, *Kind* is very much worth your while.



## Lack of players hurts Cats

By Dan Horyn

Lately the Wildcat tennis team has entered tournaments with one arm tied behind its back. Lack of numbers has been a major handicap head coach Sione Moeaki is trying to help his athletes overcome.

Things started badly at the beginning of the season when only sixteen guys tried out for the team. Numbers wise, things have only gotten worse. Presently there are only seven varsity athletes.

Individuals have been quitting because of schoolwork, jobs, and other time commitments. "It really hurts me," said Moeaki.

"But there's nothing we can do," he added. Even though the Cats forfeit to each team they face, Moeaki is trying to find ways to keep his team focused and motivated.

"We look for their personal best," said Moeaki. He said that individual aspects are stressed over team concepts.

Senior team captain Matt Bowne is Moeaki's greatest hope in fulfill-

ing the goal of having a downstate player. Though amidst a slump, Bowne feels he is "starting off better than last season."

He feels he needs to work on his net play. "He can do much better," said Moeaki of Bowne. "He played great in his first match, but now he is kind of down and frustrated."

Moeaki is very optimistic that Bowne will get back on the right track.

The next most talented player on the team is senior Tim Martin. Like Bowne, Martin is struggling a bit now. "I'm having power problems," said Martin. "I have a way to go, but things can work out."

Martin added that he is much more mobile on the court than seasons past.

Moeaki has experimented with Bowne and Martin as a doubles team. Two weeks ago against a strong Streamwood team, the two played great together, pulling off an upset.

But some days it is the best of times and others it is the worst of

times. Last week the pair played poorly against Wheaton North.

This inconsistent play is the reason why Moeaki believes Bowne and Martin will soon be knocking down respectable opponents. Presently they are showing flashes of that potential.

After Bowne and Martin, Moeaki has junior Maulin Soneji, who just returned from a trip to Spain. "He'll get it back," said Martin of Soneji.

Reluctantly, Moeaki moved sophomores Christian Vigsnes and Andy Spalo to varsity. "I hate to do that," he said. "The varsity level is totally different [than the JV level]."

"Christian has a lot of physical talent and potential," said Martin.

Senior Anup Gurnani is also contributing to the varsity team. "Anup's coming around," said Martin. Gurnani played tennis as a freshman and sophomore.

Moeaki, who is a para-pro, is unsure of his future as a coach at We-go (see "Para-pros", page one), stating he will have a clearer picture near the end of the season.

## Cats eye the birdie

By Tracy Morris

The Ladycat badminton team heads into the DuPage Valley Conference tournament this week after a jam packed schedule of 15 matches in seven days last week.

The Cats will travel to Naperville Central for the tournament this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

"We don't have a whole lot of breathing time right now," said head varsity coach Lavora Singleton.

What the Cats do have is a good fighting chance at some upsets in the conference.

Singleton believes the DVC to be fairly equal and doesn't see the conference champ dominating at every level.

"There's a lot of equity in any given match," said Singleton, "Naperville North and Wheaton Warrenville South are strong again, but they're even beatable."

At the forefront of the drive to sending as many players as possible to state and producing upsets are seniors Melissa Kern and Kathy York.

Singleton has praised Kern, at third singles, as a bright spot to the season and one who could find herself at the number one or number two seed in third singles, depending upon what she did last week.

Kern has also won some key matches against the Huskies of Naperville North and the WWS Tigers. The Cats lost by a score of 2-13 to both teams, with Kern winning her matches both times.

The number one singles player on the team, York, should be in top shape for the tournament.



Photo by Josh Hitchcock

York has lost some close matches to some very good opponents lately, but Singleton liked the effort and expects York to keep her skills where they are.

Singleton has also noted freshman Dana Mourning, the

only freshman she has ever started on varsity, as a "pleasant surprise." Mourning has also been picked out by her coach as one who could "surprise some people at conference."

Mourning was one of two players to win versus Naperville North on Tuesday, April 15, along with Kern.

Another highlight to the Ladycats' season as of late was a 12-3 win over Glenbard East on Tuesday, April 22.

"We've seen some real growth as far as things we've practiced and executing them," said Singleton.



## Can the cats pass the test?

By Amanda Pope

With their loss to Naperville Central (5-15 and 12-15) Wednesday (April 23) evening the Cats have had tough competition all season but are continuing to play hard. Coach Kris Hasty said, "I think we had a good start at Hoffman Estates."

The boy's volleyball team started out with pretty tough competition as they lost (2-15, 6-15) against Wheaton North and also lost to Naperville North (ranked second in state), putting them 0-3 in conference, at their first home games.

Rich Standish and Ed Gomez are the only returning varsity players, and work well together. Their set-kill combinations earn many assists and help

in the the game. Hasty would like to see more involvement of the other players though. "I think sometimes Gomez and Standish try to do too much and put too much pressure on themselves."

The boys seem to have bad luck as far as away games go. On the way over to Fenton, the bus driver was called and informed that the game was canceled because of a brown out.

There was also some confusion as to if St. Joseph was supposed to come to We-Go, or if We-Go were to go there over Spring Break. The game was rescheduled, and when they played them, We-Go won in two matches scoring 15-5, 16-14.

The team is 3-3 after a tournament in Hoffman Estates. They won one game against Mundelein (15-10), but unfortunately lost the second and third matches 2-15, and 13-15

respectively.

Their next opponent in the tournament was Oak Park, who seemed to have an edge on the Cats as they won in two sets (7-15, and 6-15).

Saturday morning seemed to be in We-Go's favor. The boys were pumped as they blew Waukegan away in two games, scoring 15-11, and 15-7.

There were a variety of hitters and the game went remarkably well. The next game was against Leyden, in which the boys took the floor again in two games scoring 15-4 and 15-8. The last game was against Palatine which was concluded in three

games, the third game being in the opponents favor. The scores were 5-15, 15-13, and 10-15. The boys ended up sixth in the tournament.

One strong point of the team is the "solid setting by Gomez," commented Hasty. She believes that if the team would give the same "intensity" when they practice, that they might be more effective at game time.

Senior Chris Payton thinks that "the biggest challenge is to have everyone come together as one."

The starters for varsity are seniors Payton, Gomez and Standish, and juniors Mike Herzberger, Joe Mendez and Mitch McCabe. Other members of Varsity are juniors Randy Labak, Evan Larson, Derek Scott, John Laprall, Alan Ahlgard, Rene Allende, and Emilio Trejo.

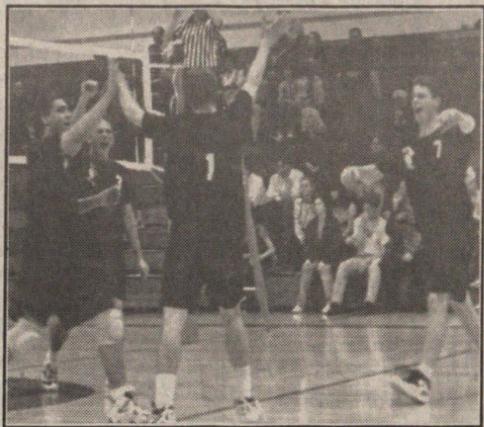


Photo by Amanda Pope

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## Baseball hurting for wins

By Tracy Morris



After recent losses, including two by slaughter rule, the varsity baseball team is looking to pick up the pieces to what could still be a promising season.

The Cats had been setting for an 0-2 DuPage Valley Conference record before taking on the Tigers of Wheaton Warrenville South on Wednesday April 23 (results were unavailable at press time).

The schedule isn't cutting the Cats any slack either. They are slated to take on conference powerhouse Naperville North tomorrow, April 29, on the Huskies home field.

Luckily, the Cats have identified the problem areas that led to their most recent defeat, at 10-0, six inning blowout at Naperville Central, last Monday April 20.

"People are intimidated by teams were playing with better records than us," said senior Ryan Baker.

Even with an intimidation factor out of the way, the Cats are not performing at full potential in the field.

One of the teams strengths is its experienced roster, including four senior starters, right and left fielders Chad Perry and Zach Davidson, respectively, along with catcher Ted Barszo and Mark Milauskus at second base, but is making rookie type

errors. The pitching staff is walking batter after batter and allowing a large member of runs that are hard to defend.

More bad news for the pitching staff comes with the injuries of seniors Bart Gallagher and Jim Richardson, who are suffering from are problems.

Gallagher is expected to be out of commission for pitching for two weeks, while Richardson's layoff period was undetermined at press time.

Versus Glenbard South, a departed conference opponent, junior P.J. Leitherer took the loss when the team couldn't quite overcome a mixture of walks, hits, and errors.

Prior to the second conference loss to Naperville Central last week,

the Cats lacked off their conference schedule with an 8-5 loss to Glenbard North.

West Chicago battled the Panthers but two bad innings spoiled the day for the team, as well as for losing pitcher Gallagher.

"Its all mental," said Leitherer, who heads up the outfield as center fielder when he's not on the mound. "We had two bad innings and we couldn't come back."

The Cats had seen better days, including a major league trip when We-go rented out the Metrodome in Minnesota.

We-go traveled to the field the night before their game and attended the Detroit Tigers vs. Minnesota Twins game.

On April 3, West Chicago took on St. Frances of Minnesota in one var-

sity game, which they won in nine innings, and with the remaining time part of a junior varsity game was played.

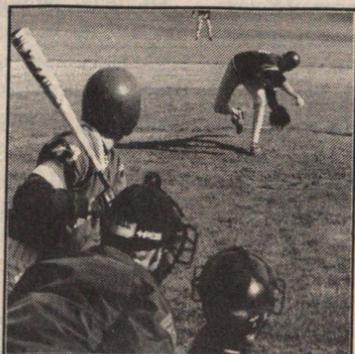


Photo by Sandy Weiss  
Freshman Victor Osario pitches to freshman catcher Dan O'Hara

## Inexperience: ladycats biggest hurdle

By Dan Young

As girls track heads into the outdoor season, they are only missing two things. One of them is experience, and the other is good weather. On the 8th of this month, the girls had a meet canceled because of gusty winds and chilly weather.

Even with the bad weather, the girls managed an 8th place finish in the Geneva Co-ed Invite, which had 14 teams.

They earned personal best performances from junior Janine Morris in the high jump (3rd place) and in the triple jump, freshman Regina Oroni in the long jump, junior Becky Blenkle in the 100 meter hurdles and the 300 meter hurdles, junior Andrea Beutjer in the 300 hurdles, freshman Janet Drenth in the shot, and senior Amanda Petrovich in the mile.

At Geneva, the team also earned a fourth place finish in 800 medley and 800 relay, and fourth in the shot from Shannon Baker.

The girls have a couple of individuals who have stood out this season. Freshman Jocelyn Schineller has competed on the varsity level, and placed third in the Indoor Conference. Her shot putting has been one of a few surprises this season. The freshman girls have been one highlight of the track season.

The distance core of Jenny Weichert, Merritt Olson, and Crystal Adams have paced the team's success with quality runs. The young team also shows an excellent sprinting team, starring Michelle Lasky, Francesca Smith, and Oroni.

The junior and senior athletes aren't as plentiful as the younger teams, yet they have shown the way to the rookie runners. Sprinters like junior Lexie Nussbaum, Blenkle, and Beutjer show a lot of promise. The team lost the majority of their varsity team to graduation last season, but this is a team of the future.

The girl's team also competed on Tuesday, April 15th against Glenbard East. The lady cats had numerous top finishers like the 3200 meter relay team, Schineller in the discus and Blenkle in the hurdles.

The girl's are looking towards future meets like the DVC Finals, where they will compete with the best of the DVC.

The lady cats' final home meet is on April 29 against Naperville North and Wheaton-Warrenville South.

The DVC finals are May 9th, and Sectionals are May 16th-17th. After Sectionals is State, which is the ultimate goal for all athletes on the high school level.

## Individual runners boost Cats

*Horyn and Stogis lead team*

By Amanda Pope

The boys track team took 2nd place against Glenbard North at We-go on April 22.

John Stogis, the number one sprinter according to Coach Paul McLeland, won the 400m, and the 400m relay consisting of seniors Stogis, Dave Blozis, Jake Meyers, and sophomore Bryan Franckowiak took first with a season's best time. The team did well individually, as junior Arturo Robles took first in pole vault and Franckowiak took first in long jump and the 300m hurdles with a personal best on both events.

McLeland said that because "Stogis spends a lot of time on starts, it has helped him to excel."

Stogis and senior Dan Horyn are team captains. McLeland picked them because he believed they could communicate with the coaches and the athletes.

At the Geneva Co-Ed Invitational April 19, the varsity placed fourth out of nine teams, and placed in 15 out of 18 events. Meyers placed first in the high jump and was two inches short of his personal best. Horyn placed first in the 800 with a time of 1:58.9, a meet record, and was .8 seconds from his personal best.

Blozis placed second in the triple jump as he jumped over 40 feet for his personal best. Horyn also took

second place in the mile run with a time of 4:23.9 which was only one second from his personal best.

Horyn was the only member of the varsity team to participate in the Illinois Prep Top Times Invitational on April 5 at the University of Illinois.

Horyn ran the mile in 4:23.4 to take first in this unofficial state meet. Horyn says, "It was an indoor personal best, and half a second off my outdoor personal best." He claims it was one of his best performances ever. He said, "it was more of a race than a run," and was very happy with his performance. He said he was nervous, because it was an important meet and good preparation for outdoor meets.

Other than normal practice, Horyn can be seen running three miles four mornings a week before school. His personal goal is to take first in state for the mile.

Horyn has been on the cross-country and track teams all four years, and he plans on continuing his efforts at the University of Illinois, or University of Iowa.

McLeland says this year's team is strong partially because there are eleven seniors. He feels next year will still be strong, because there are many strong distance runners in

the sophomore class.

McLeland said sophomore Josh Slattery will be a strong point in shot put and discus, and Franckowiak is a good jumper and sprinter. Sophomore Bart Visser is also a strong point in distance.

McLeland said freshman Tim Keller "gives us some real high quality that can help us in the meets. He's focused and dedicated, and that's good to see."

McLeland said next year there will be a need for more high jumpers, long jumpers, and triple jumpers.

There have been a number of injuries this year. Junior Jason Hempel tore a muscle in his hip, and will be out for the rest of the season. Junior Alfredo Muhlberger has had a number of injuries, and sophomore Liam Doyle will soon be returning after having pain in the arches of his feet. Junior Joe Kaczmarek is also out for the season after he tore his posterior cruciate ligament.

The goals for the team are to improve scoring points and place at invitationals, move up in conference, and for each person to improve in each meet.

The boys hope to finish in the top two in the Willowbrook invitational on April 26.

## Even cold weather can't cool off hot Cats

By Kelley Betts

The fierce roar of the Ladycats is louder than ever as varsity softball leaps into the season with a record of 5-0.

So far the Cats' most important defeat was against Naperville North last Wednesday with a score of 4-1. All of the runs were scored in one inning and led by the strong pitching of senior Angela Barnes, the Ladycats earned a huge victory. Last season, Naperville North was tied for first place in conference.



Photo by Josh Hitchcock

Senior Nicole Winkler takes a swing.

Two games were called by slaughter rule, one being against Oswego (17-1) and the other being against Bollingbrook (10-0).

In the Bollingbrook game senior Dana Nelson hit a three run homer and seniors Emma Cortez, Barnes, Natalie Fijalkowski, Tracy Morris, and junior Jenny Mullaney hit doubles throughout the five innings that were players.

As of last Thursday, pitchers Barnes and Morris have great pitching records with Barnes' being 3-0 and Morris' being 2-0.

"Our pitchers are doing what is expected of them," says coach Jim Schaudt.

Two players were also named athletes of the week last week for their outstanding plays in games played last week. Senior Dana Nelson hit an over the fence home run against Oswego and Morris had a two hit shut out against both Elgin-Larkin and Bollingbrook.

The weather is not favoring the Ladycats this season. They have had eight canceled games which will be made up in May. None of the games that were canceled were conference games.

The results for the last three games played (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) were not available at press time.