

Journalism class being cancelled, moved to an after school club instead

By Alexandra Garibay
Center Spread Editor

After running the class for 45 years, the journalism class will no longer be available.

"There weren't enough students signing up to offer it as a class," Bridges said.

Keeping journalism as a class would affect other classes as well.

"The impact on other classes in the English department can be significant if journalism was kept as a class," Bridges said. "We don't have a specific number as a requirement, we just have to look at the big picture of everything that's offered in that department."

Having student interest and requests impact the classes offered at the school.

"We've been very lucky. We get requests from students and that's how we make decisions on what classes we will offer," Bridges.

Offering journalism as class can still be an option for the future.

"The number of students signing up for that class was extremely low, but each year with the course selection process they can always change

year to year, so there's definitely a possibility for next year," principal Moses Cheng said.

Having student interest will make an impact on whether or not journalism can come back as a class.

"If we get a higher interest

in the future we can be able to reconsider that in the future," Bridges said. "Unfortunately we have to make decisions for next year at this point."

In the past yearbook had been allowed to recruit members through spring, but the Chronicle did not have the op-

portunity to recruit.

"If every teacher had a chance for their course that had a low enrollment to try to solicit more kids, when does the course selection process end?" Cheng said. "It would never end, next thing you know teachers are handing

out candy bars, gift cards for kids to sign up, it doesn't work that way."

Having journalism being offered as a class is important, according to several journalism professionals.

"By far I would prefer it to be part of a curriculum," Journalism Education Association president Mark Newton said. "It's probably one of those things where it's all going to come down to how motivated are the kids, how motivated is the sponsor."

Although the classroom will not operate, the Wildcat Chronicle will be offered as a club.

"Wildcat Chronicle is the activity connected to the class," Cheng said. "The Chronicle will still operate after school."

Working on the newspaper only after school is not a plan for a successful paper, according to Newton.

"I think everyone would prefer to have it as a class because there would be more motivation and it would perform better," Newton said.

Having journalism as a class as well as a club makes it easier for students.

"By making it only an after school club it makes it more challenging," Newton said. "It's much better to have any student media as part of the curriculum as opposed to after school."



Photo by Sarah Denning

Wildcat Chronicle staff have put in countless hours to perfect the newspaper, next year the class will no longer run, but will be offered as a club.

School gearing up for new computerized testing

By Kyle Paup
Editor in Chief

West Chicago is piloting the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers test Wednesday and Thursday.

The PARCC test is a computerized assessment under new Common Core Standards that next year all freshmen, sophomores, and junior students will take.

"The major shift in terms of administration of the tests is that it will all be computer based," Assistant Principal Allister Scott said.

Only a few select classes will be participating in the testing this year.

"This year we are piloting the assessment with three sophomore English classes, four junior classes, and two freshman English classes," Scott said.

Students' grades will not be affected by the PARCC testing, and this year it is only a practice test to see if the school is technologically ready for this sort of test.

"We are not getting test results back from the state. The whole purpose of doing it this year is to make sure we are ready technology-wise for next year, and to make sure we have all our procedures in place since it is a major change

from how we do SAT's," Scott said.

The PSAE and ACT tests will no longer be administered in this school after this year now that the PARCC test has replaced them.

Only English testing will occur this year on the PARCC test.

"English language arts (will be the only) assessing this year, next year will be English language arts and math. A component of the English language art will also be informational text so it will touch on social studies, science, and technical subjects as well," Scott said.

Being a computerized test,

the PARCC test will offer new opportunities for assessment.

"Because it is technology-based, a lot more types of questioning can be used other than multiple choice," Scott said.

The PARCC test is not like anything students have seen yet.

"I think at first scores will plummet because students are certainly not used to this type of test. It's going to take a while for students to get used to this sort of a test and for us to build up some technology that could emulate what they're going to be starting," math teacher Gwen Geiger said.

INSIDE

Team headed to Nationals

LifeSmarts team headed to nationals in Orlando, Fla. after winning first place during state. ---see News, page 4.



Spring Time

Looking for ways to get ready for spring? See outfit ideas and a D.I.Y. craft to get ready for the new season. ---see Lifestyles page 8.

Teachers who are ex-Wildcats

Teachers were once students too, some of them even graduating from this school. ---see Center Spread, page 6.



Winning record

Proving people wrong during their season was not the only success the basketball team had. ---see Sports, page 11.

Keeping good company on the stage

Teacher, graduate edited play heads to state competition

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

WeGo Drama's interpretation "Company" is advancing on to state competition.

"I never take going to state for granted. It's a celebration of these students and their work ethic especially for the play that we did," director Mark Begovich said.

The play Company was unique from all the rest.

"It was different from all of the other plays that were done in the competition. We did a heavy mature piece while everyone else was doing serious work, but not with the characters at a certain age and

maturity," Begovich said. The cast loved competing and are thankful for the experience the competition gave them.

"It was a really awesome experience to see all the high schools come and perform. It's really cool because you know how much work they put into it and everything that has gone into that performance, and now they're giving it their all. It's what we love to do," sophomore Robert Bradley said.

Their goals were achieved in what they wanted to do at the competition.

"Our goal this year is to make good art and that's what we did and it was recognized," Begovich said.

"Company" and "Dollhouse" are both difficult pieces, but the cast seems to be able to handle the plays better than Begovich expected.

"Company" is a play based on marriages. The main character, Bobby, is a single man with only married couples for

friends.

"Bobby surrounds himself with married people and really just observes the relationships and tries to see what (makes it) worth the marriage, but struggles in trying

to figure out what it is he really wants," senior Josue Munoz said.

Begovich appreciates the team work involved in creating the play.

"It's just pure creative mo-

ments as a team. We make pictures together, we do crazy things together. The effect they have that's what I like," Begovich said.

"Company" was edited and put together by Begovich and 2013 graduate Dan Stompor.

"What we did was we edited and cut. Dan came in and looked at it with me. We worked together, kind of bounced ideas off of each other. It was nice to work with him like that," Begovich said.

"Their understanding and their work ethic is phenomenal. I'm just so proud of them for all that they have done," Begovich said. "They're exceeding my expectations and really showing maturity for the shows."

"Dollhouse" is a play about a couple, Terry and Nora, who are struggling with trust issues because of past mistakes and Terry's paranoia that Nora will leave him for another.

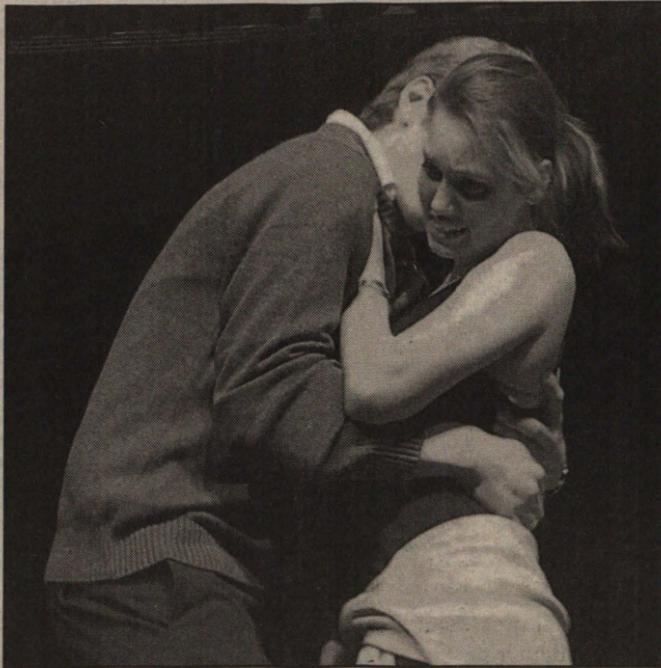


Photo by Sarah Szremski

Trying to ward off an unwanted kiss of her husband's best friend (Robert Bradley), is Nora (Jackie Fabiszak) during rehearsals of "Dollhouse."

Textbooks could be on the way out

Opening up the courtyard one of many changes coming

By Alexandra Garibay
Center Spread Editor

Many changes will be happening this upcoming school year, including the opening up of the courtyard and placing outdoor furniture there.

"We are going to put on doors and give students the chance to eat indoors or outdoors," Superintendent Doug Domeracki said.

Teachers will also benefit from the changes.

"This summer we are doing work on the parking lots in the south side of the building where teachers and students park," Domeracki said.

Tearing up two of the parking lots and replacing them is a change impacting students.

"Also, the lot across the street has a lot of chunks of the lot you can pick up," Domeracki said. "So both of those lots are planned to tear up and replace them."

Changes to the kitchen will also be happening.

"We will be demolishing the single kitchen and replac-

ing it with two new kitchens," Domeracki said. "We will be moving the STARS classrooms in order to make two kitchens."

One of the biggest projects that will impact students is the arrival of Chromebooks.

"Another project that will impact students the most is we are beginning to engage in a one-on-one computing program," Domeracki said. "We have been in that process since I got here."

Teachers have had the opportunity to learn how to teach differently because of the Chromebook.

"Instead of a textbook, now you have to find resources. Some books might have electronic resources, some might not," Domeracki said.

Students will still have to wait a year in order to get their own Chromebooks.

"The plan would be to outfit every student with a Chromebook in the school year 2015-2016, by then we'll have all the procedures and protocols as to what it means to have a Chromebook," Domeracki said.

A state of the art child care facility is also planned.

"We are going to be having a new child care facility so it can be the appropriate size and have the right services," Domeracki said.



Logo created by Maddie Castelvechi

Student Council wants to ensure prom is made for the students, by the students, including the logo. Instead of using a Google image, student artist Maddie Castelvechi created one.

Shattering prom misconceptions

By Alexandra Garibay
Center Spread Editor

Prom is moving to Brookfield Zoo, and Student Council wants everyone to understand, the dance will take place inside.

"We want to shatter the misconception about it being outside, it will be in a pavilion and we don't have to worry about weather," junior Jacob Urban said.

Students going to prom should arrive at the school by 5:15 p.m. and from there students will be driven to the zoo in coach buses at 5:30 p.m.

A lot of hard work has

gone into making prom designed by students.

For example, the 'Night at the Zoo' logo was made by junior Maddie Castelvechi.

"Rather than simply resort to Google for a logo we thought it would be best to give an opportunity to a Wildcat to contribute to prom. This way every aspect, including the logo, was created by students for the students," Urban said.

For party favors, each student will receive a tumbler cup.

Once students arrive at the zoo they can enjoy a carousel ride, according to Urban.

Next there will be a tram

ride to and from the Swamp indoor exhibit which features crocodiles. Students will have a "mocktail hour" there.

Afterwards, students return to the main pavilion for dinner followed by dancing.

Prom will end at midnight and students will board buses and return to school around 1 a.m.

Tickets can be purchased until April 15 in commons during all lunch hours, and cost is \$85.

When junior students purchase a prom ticket they can also give in their nominations for prom court. Students can select three boys and three girls.

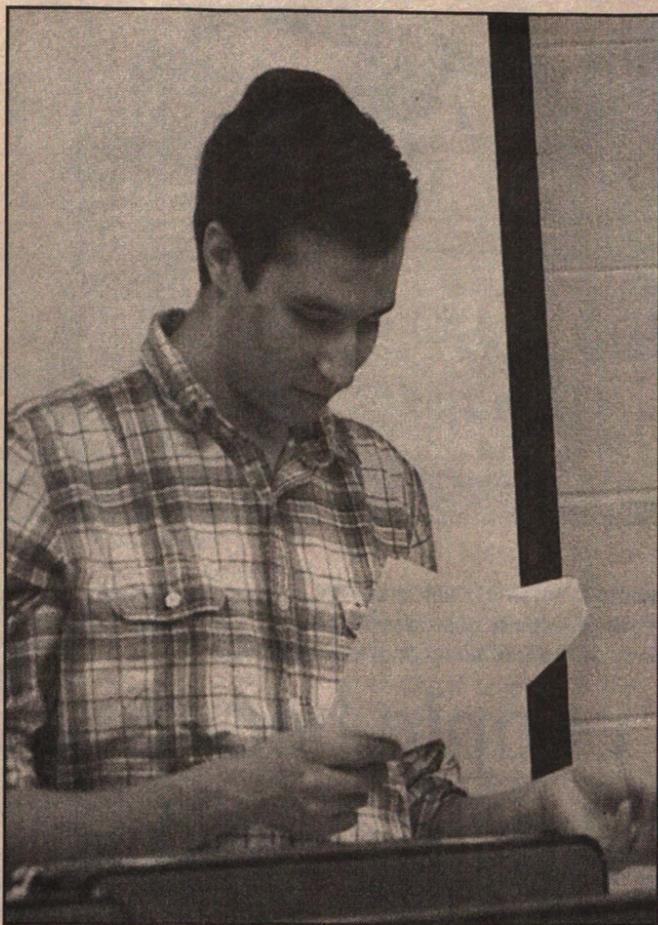


Photo by Sarah Denning

Sharing and performing scripts for a theater professional is senior Josue Munoz during an in-school field trip.

Improving acting, writing focus of day

Theater grad offers tips to students

By Sarah Denning
Lifestyles Editor

Improving their script writing skills seems to have worked for students attending an in-school field trip with drama teacher Mark Begovich.

Begovich invited Bret Emmanuel, a theater studies graduate from the University of Illinois to help students analyze their scripts on March 6.

Twenty-four students par-

ticipated in the day-long activity, sharing their scripts and getting them analyzed by Emmanuel.

"(Emmanuel) was very honest, but it was helpful. You need very honest criticism when you're working with (writing scenes)," junior Noah Watkins said.

The students spent the day reading each others' scenes and having others give constructive criticism to help improve the piece.

"We already see leaps and bounds of improvement in terms of discussion and their quality of work," Begovich said.

Before arriving, students typed up scripts for others to read aloud and act out.

"To actually get up and do some sort of movement, and get to throw your own little spin on the characters was a lot of fun," junior Kris Arnold said.

The students gained helpful tips from Emmanuel, including how to make a script better, and as an actor to pay attention to what the writer does with punctuation, breaks and pauses, and how to fulfill the writer's vision.

"(It's helpful) to have somebody from the industry come talk to us and teach us what they have learned, and give us their feedback. To really inform us and give us the information that we need in order to improve our skills," senior Josue Munoz said.

Time's running out to experience Loyola Workshop allows students to stay in the dorms

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

Loyola University is giving students the experience of life on campus and what it would be like majoring in digital media at Loyola.

"Students will essentially attend classes, and do dif-

ferent workshops using the digital media that Loyola has available in their communications lab," counselor Jill Holubetz said. "They get to stay in the dorms, so they get the whole college experience and it is in the city."

Students will participate for five days starting June 15.

"Students will arrive Sunday and they will be finished that Friday early afternoon," Holubetz said.

This is a good opportunity if for students who plan on attending Loyola.

"If you're thinking of going to Loyola this is a good chance to go see Loyola as

a school and all they have to offer in terms of this major," Holubetz said.

Access to the application is easy with it being in the counseling office and online at the Loyola website.

"The workshop is free, so there's no cost to the student. To do it they would have to

fill out an application, which we have hard copies of here, that they can mail in or they can fill it out online," Holubetz said.

The application has a few questions to answer.

"Students have to rate their experience with software and write an essay about why they want to attend this workshop. (They will) also tell them their GPA," Holubetz said.

Applications are due April 1.

Students take a bite out of the Big Apple

Broadway actors take time to meet students on trip

By Alexandra Garibay
Center Spread Editor

In late February choir and orchestra students had chance to take a bite out of the big apple in New York City.

Although students stayed in Manhattan, they got to see and experience different parts of the city.

Going to Ellis Island, Times Square and touring were some of the experiences students had.

Students had the chance to experience Times Square on several different occasions.

"I really enjoyed the shopping and being at Times Square at night," senior Gabi Garcia said.

Several students enjoyed the stores and shopping New York had to offer.

"Seeing the NHL store was one of my favorite parts and having the opportunity of going to it," junior Abbie Lomeli said.

After watching a Broadway show students got to do talk-backs with the actors from the show.

"(One of my favorite parts from the trip) was going to see 'Pippin', and meeting the actors afterwards," Lomeli said.

Students had the chance to choose what shows they saw.

"I loved seeing the musicals and doing the talk-back with the actors from 'Once'," senior Melissa Metzger said.

Besides sightseeing, and watching Broadway, students participated in workshops.

Orchestra students also got to participate in a workshop.

"The workshop was fun, our instructor was really nice and it was very useful because we learned new techniques," Garcia said.

Workshops helped both orchestra and choir.

"The clinician was positive and addressed issues that needed addressing," choir

director Brandon Fantozzi said.

Also, both choir and orchestra students performed at St. John's Chapel.

"Overall I think the trip was a positive experience.

Everyone got to see the sights and sounds of New York City" Fantozzi said.



Photo by Alexandra Garibay

One of the highlights of traveling to New York was when the choir and orchestra students met with the actors of "Once." One of the actors signs autographs for the students.

Writers get loud at Chicago semi-finals

By Megan Provenzale
Reporter

Creative Writing Club made it to Louder than a Bomb (LTAB) semi-finals for the first time in the club's history on March 8.

In the competition places are not given and only the top team moves on. Although the Creative Writing Club didn't move on, the club did well overall.

Competing were seniors Ashley Anderson, Julia Dieter, and Kelley Kozlowski, juniors Zandra Starks and Maria Garcia and, sophomores Chris Airbudzinski and alternate Jesus Valdez.

LTAB is the nation's largest slam poetry competition and takes place in Chicago.

"I think what is so cool about Louder than a Bomb is that everyone wants to be there; and they're not there to put you down. I feel like in some competitions you see the anger, frustration and you're just mad, you don't want to shake hands with the other team. In these poetry slams we are there to hear everyone else, and obviously our team. The camaraderie is awesome; it's just communi-

ty," adviser Tara Deleon said.

The competition's rules were simple. Their piece had to be original, 3 minutes or less and a topic of the performer's choice.

Deleon's favorite part about helping her students with LTAB, was their drive and passion.

"Just watching all the hard work be something so amazing that those kids will always remember. This is the best we've ever done," Deleon said.

"It was amazing. Just the experience being there and being up on the stage and watching the other teams perform. It was incredible, might I even say life changing," Kozlowski said.

The competition was also a great place for members to meet new friends. Every slam team has a lot of respect for each other.

Creative Writing Club is thankful for the people who came out to support them.

"We've never seen this much support of Creative Writing Club. Miss Cordes and I both want to thank every WEGO student or staff who supported us because it was awesome," Deleon said.

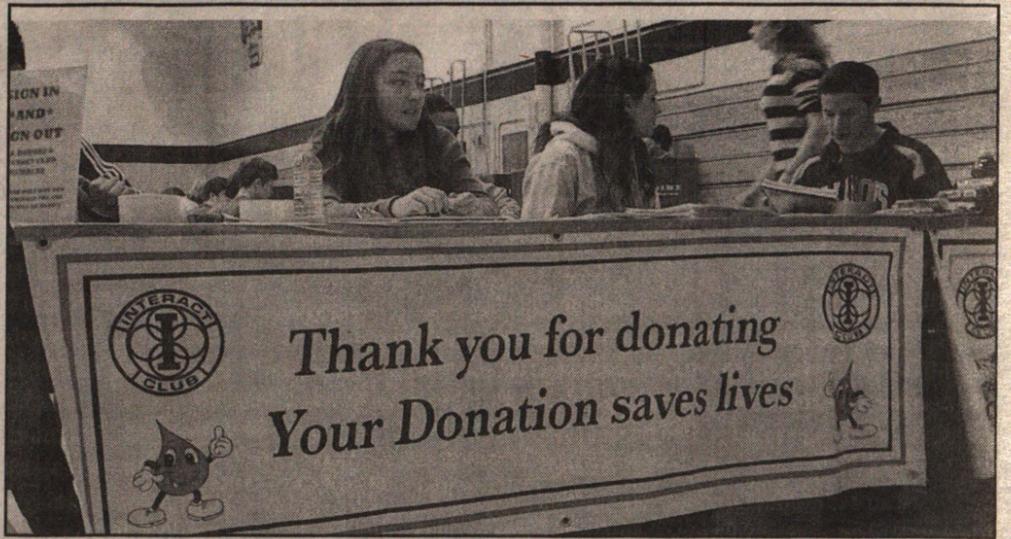


Photo by Sarah Denning

The spring blood drive, held annually by Interact Club, drew 126 donors, which means over 300 people will benefit from the generosity of students and staff. Those who donated received plaid blue pants in addition to the traditional snacks and drinks.

Over 300 people benefit from blood drive donors

By Sarah Denning
Lifestyles editor

Over 300 lives were saved at the blood drive March 14.

Interact Club held the blood drive with the help of 23 staff members from LifeSource, 25 students from Interact Club, and 126 students and teachers who donated blood.

With every donation of a pint of blood, up to three lives can be saved, according to LifeSource.

The 126 donations tran-

lates to 378 lives being saved.

Interact Club adviser Gavin Engle continued with the blood drive after former adviser Ward Rowe retired.

"It's a little something we can give back," Engle said.

Many students had donated during the fall blood drive and had received a shirt after donating.

In the spring blood drive students were given plaid blue pants as well as snacks and drinks.

Students and staff took time out of their day to help

people in the Chicagoland area who may need blood for various reasons.

"It can save three lives and why not take a little bit of time out of your day to help somebody who might need it more than you do?" junior Michael Molm said.

Students had the option of getting out of one of their classes in the day to donate.

Not all could donate.

Having tattoos, recent piercings and being underweight prevented people from donating.

'Awesome' LifeSmarts heading to nationals

By Hector Cervantes
Perspectives Editor

LifeSmarts students are on their way to nationals after defeating Lamoille High School at the state level March 4.

Nationals takes place on April 26 in Orlando, Fla.

LifeSmarts is a quiz bowl with students answering questions related to business and consumer issues.

Students answers questions about consumer rights, the environment, health and safety, personal finance and technology.

Advisers for LifeSmarts

are Nancy Blume and Marc Wolfe.

"Our students did awesome and they demonstrated good sportsmanship. The students watching were a great audience and they represented West Chicago very well," Blume said.

Wolfe agreed, "We got

something our school will appreciate. It definitely brings positive recognition to our school," Wolfe said.

Junior team captain Jacob Urban and his team of seniors Sonya Olson, Logan Bruce and freshmen Garrett Hosticka won first place and will represent West Chicago in nationals.

Senior team captain Emma Noelke won third place with freshmen Harsh Patel and Rivaldo Correa, and sophomore Kayla Kaenig.

Noelke will represent West Chicago in nationals.

"I learned that I knew more than I thought and that's better to take a guess and take a point," Noelke said.

The team is also happy because they represented West Chicago well.

"It feels good, this is a good school and I'm happy to make people proud of our school," Olson said.

The competition was competitive.

"It was a very competitive match and we came down to the last few questions. The questions were pretty chal-

lenging and the questions students had to answer were current real world questions and high school students may not have experienced them," Wolfe said.

The first place team faced struggles in the competition.

"The competition was exciting, yet intense to compete in," Hosticka said.

Blume agrees.

"The team lost their first match, which was difficult to watch. They had to win the next four matches to win state championship."

To prepare for the competition the team had to answer practice questions.

According to Wolfe, West Chicago has a history in this competition because energy education specialist Don Zabelin started the competition when he taught here. Also, the competition increases student knowledge because all the questions students answer are real world problems that will help students prepare for adult life.

"It prepares teens for the everyday adult decisions adults make," Blume said.

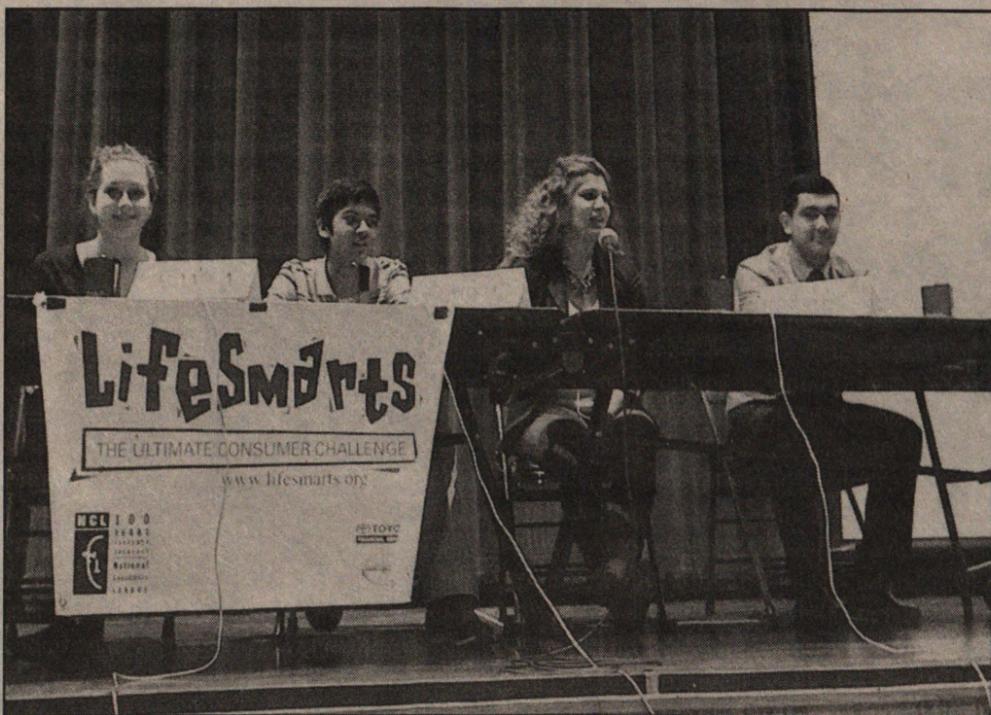


Photo by Sarah Szremski

Senior Emma Noelke, third from left, is heading to nationals for LifeSmarts. Also competing were, from left, Kayla Kaenig, Harsh Patel and Rivaldo Correa.

Perspectives

March 27, 2014

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Our View

Running journalism as a class equals success

Cancelling journalism as a class because of low enrollment and morphing it into an after school club is a bad decision.

Even though student enrollment is low, the Wildcat Chronicle managed to win national awards from professional journalism societies including the National Scholastic Press Association, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, Quill And Scroll and several others.

The Chronicle wins awards and brings honor to our school, not to mention bringing news to students on a monthly basis.

Since low enrollment was an issue, the Chronicle staff would have appreciated the opportunity to recruit new staff instead of seeing the class removed without discussion. Even a hard working small staff is still worth preserving.

Being an editor and reporter for the Wildcat Chronicle requires a lot of effort and hard work during class time, before and after school.

Taking away the class time makes a tremendous difference as the paper quality will be affected in a bad way.

Sports editor Katelyn Foehner put together an online petition about the issue and got comments complaining about cancelling journalism as a class from students and former students, some who are enrolled in university journalism programs.

Helene Sankovitch, a 2011 graduate, expressed her view on the petition.

"Keep the newspaper!! I am a PR/Journalism major in college and honestly this is the one class in high school that truly helped me. My journalistic writing truly benefited from being on the paper and it taught me how important it is to follow deadlines," Sankovitch said.

Carrie Mocarski, former adviser of the Wildcat Chronicle, signed the petition as well, expressing her thoughts about cancelling journalism.

Mocarski took over the paper in 1993, changing the paper's name from The Bridge to The Wildcat Chronicle. Current adviser Laura Kuehn took over in the fall of 2000.

"As the faculty moderator when the Wildcat Chronicle was founded, I saw the individual growth, collaboration and real world applications possible when the students met daily. They learned the 21st century skills needed to be ready for college and for careers post-college. Students need the opportunity for the depth of instruction and revision afforded by daily class instruction," Mocarski said.

Former reporter of the Wildcat Chronicle Amanda Rathe commented as well.

"I was a part of the program when I was in high school. I learned a lot between the journalism one course and journalism production course.

Let me just say the paper means a lot to the people who make it. It also is popular with the students, and keeps them reading about local and national news instead of just surfing Facebook all day. Keep the paper," Rathe said.

This class is needed for almost every career and taking it away doesn't seem right. Cutting journalism as a class will close many avenues for careers and give students fewer classes to choose for electives. Reporters for the Chronicle put so much effort into putting out a quality paper by conducting interviews, writing stories, editing the stories and laying out during class time and deadline after school. This takes a lot of responsibility and needs a dedicated staff. Taking away the class time will result in a poor product.

The Chronicle isn't a club. It's an important class that requires students to learn press law, journalistic writing, layout, photography and more.

Students, journalists, staff, former reporters from the Wildcat Chronicle and current reporters from the Wildcat Chronicle all agree to keep the paper.

If you are interested in reading the comments or signing the petition, you can go to www.change.org/west-chicago-community-high-school-district-94-keep-the-wildcat-chronicle-as-a-class-not-a-club.

Negative words creates a bad reputation in West Chicago

Spreading rumors about people is wrong, doing that about the town you live in is just as bad.

Most of the time those who talk bad about West Chicago don't even live here, or know really what they're talking about.

For those of us who live here and talk bad about this town, you should think about what you are saying and how it affects our community.

By spreading rumors, people who live in other towns around West Chicago will get the wrong impression or think the worst.

Students who don't even go here shouldn't be saying anything negative considering they don't go to this school, and they might not be certain about what they hear.

Social media also helps pass around this negative image of West Chicago.

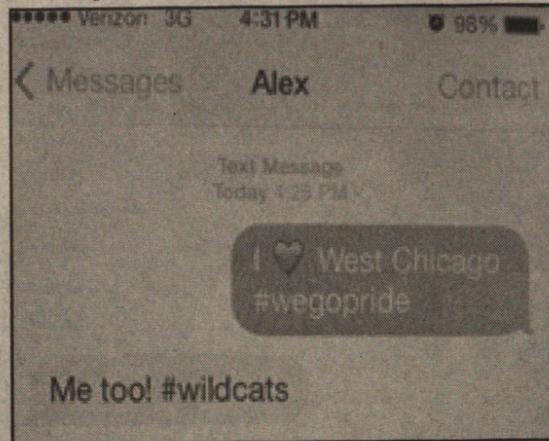
Students from this school are tweeting and posting that West Chicago is a 'bad school' with unsuccessful students, when in fact there are many students here who have been successful in what they work towards.

People who live in West Chicago who talk bad about it only make it worse.

You don't have to have a lot of school spirit or love your town in order to respect it.

Talking bad about where you live not only makes your town look bad but also yourself.

Instead of defending our town and looking at all the positives, some people prefer to keep rolling the bad punches.



After a gang-related death happened in Nov. people automatically assumed that West Chicago was overrun with gangs and that some people act as if a gang-related shooting occurs often, when it doesn't.

West Chicago also gets made fun of having people from a lot of different ethnicities.

Having a community with families from different ethnicities only makes it a diverse town, not a bad one.

Everywhere you go, you will find places that are diverse, and better for it.

Why is West Chicago the only one that gets made fun of for this?

If anything, having a more diverse town is better because we get to meet people with families from all over the world.

This school has more to offer to students than other schools do. We have a nationally recognized government program. Our newspaper brings in top awards, LifeSmarts, SkillsUSA, speech and drama all bring honor to our school, and the list goes on. Sports are also successful and deserve more recognition.

Instead of searching for negative aspects people should look at all the positive offerings in West Chicago and the school. Unless we start doing this, we will continue with our undeserved, bad reputation.

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Laura Kuehn



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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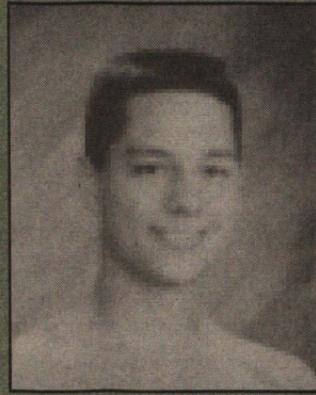
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Once a Wildcat, al

Students might not realize how staff members were once in the shoes of some of the Wildcat



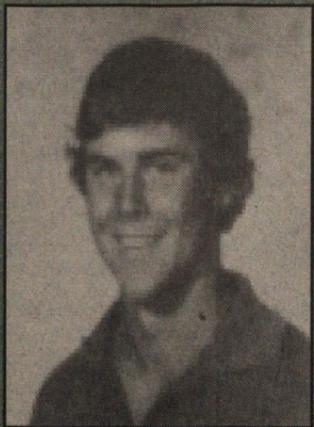
Helen Cortez
Class of 1987
Sports: softball and volleyball
"My favorite memory is having contemporary life with Mrs. Kozlowski. Awesome class. She made it so fun and put future life into perspective."



Brandon Fantozzi
Class of 1995
Clubs: National Honor Society, band, orchestra, choir, peer listeners
Sports: football, swimming, baseball
"I loved high school, but my favorite memory would have to be the musical ("Oklahoma") my senior year."



Maria Fernandez
Class of 1975
Clubs: Spanish
"My favorite memory was the year before I graduated the last year so we could wear jeans to school. I also remember how much fun we had to go see all the activities that were after school. We were winners of regional games. I was also on the football team when we won state championships."



Greg Hansen
Class of 1980
Sports: football, baseball, wrestling, track and field, swimming and diving
"My memories from my school years would be the great athletic rivalries we had with the Wheaton and Naperville schools, the great friendships I was fortunate to develop, the awesome teachers and coaches I had, and the fact that I started dating my wife here in high school!"



Mary-Megan Kalvig
Class of 2002
Clubs: Literary Magazine
"One of my favorite memories of high school was going to Theater Fest with Thespians. It was always fun to go and see other high school performances, but the one year we were asked to perform. The play was called "The Foreigner", and I remember it being a great comedy."



David Pater
Class of 2002
Sports: football
"I don't believe I would change a thing about my high school experience. I had a good group of friends, great teachers and the school had a supportive atmosphere. It was and still is an outstanding place to be."

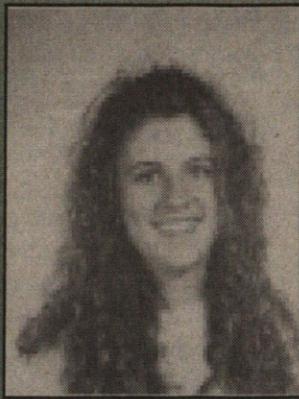


, always a Wildcat

Imagine how many teachers and students have worn these shoes, here are some Wildcat graduates.



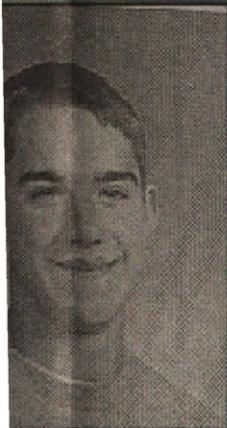
Maria Fernandez
Class of 1975
Clubs: Spanish
My favorite memory was that the first time I graduated the law passed and I was allowed to wear jeans to school. I never knew how much fun it was to do the activities that go on in school. We were winners in a lot of games. I was also a junior state champion with the football team."



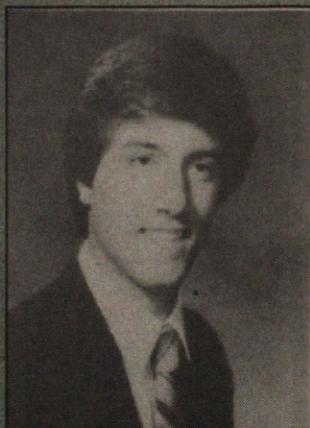
Candance Fikis
Class of 1993
Clubs: Student Council, Pep Club, dance club
Sports: cheerleading
"My favorite memories would be every year homecoming, because I was involved in sports and clubs, homecoming was always just fun. Because we used to do a lot of class competitions, so our class became kind of close through doing all of those competitions. Our football team had a winning record so that was pretty exciting at the time too."



Edie Fruend
Class of 1972
Clubs: Pep Club, Spanish, yearbook, president of sophomore class
"I have a lot of favorite memories, working on the display for the homecoming king and queen, we tried to make it look like a big castle. We would stay really late at night working on it and it was very fun."



David Pater
Class of 2002
Sports: football
I believe I would miss everything about my high school experience. I had a great group of friends, great teachers and the school had a great atmosphere. It's still an exciting place to be."



William Recchia
Class of 1984
Clubs: Spanish club, The Bridge (newspaper)-, National Honor Society
Sports: basketball, baseball



Corrie Stigletz
Class of 1993
Sports: swimming, badminton
"All of my favorite memories had to do with swimming because my junior year we won state and we got to go to an assembly and all the greatness and coolness that comes with it."



Spring into a whole new look

By Megan Provenzale
Reporter

As spring begins its slow blossom, so does the ability to start wearing the untouched tanks, skirts, and dresses that hang aimlessly from their hangers.

Eager students, ready to embrace the abandonment of winter, will do anything to swap heavy sweaters for light-weight cardigans and jeans for loose fabrics.

Ladies, floral and pastels are super in right now. It's time to lose all the drab winter hues, and really embrace what spring and summer are all about: color!

The combination of pastels and vivid brights is highly recommended to women who want to be bold.

Senior Lauren Pauling searched through the wardrobe in front of her and managed to create the perfect spring look with a little help from a friend.

Pauling wears a casual combination of a denim jacket and a daisy print skirt. The sheer tank underneath softens

the dark colors and pulls the outfit together.

Outfits like these are great for school because the jacket keeps you from freezing indoors but, can be easily taken off to reveal the loose tank underneath once outside.

What is also great about these three pieces is that they are very versatile and can be the foundation for many different outfits.

The tank top can be paired with colored capris and a fun pair wedges to make a bold statement.

Throw the jacket over a sundress and create a laid back but adorable look or, pair a baggy graphic tee with the daisy skirt to bring a little bit of edge to spring.

The possibilities are endless.

"I love this outfit! I like it because it's casual enough to be comfy during school but, edgy enough to make a statement. Also, I can go straight from school to work without having to worry if I am dressed up enough," Pauling said.

What is important to re-



Photo by Megan Provenzale

A casual denim jacket helps pull senior Lauren Pauling's outfit together.

member is to stay true to your own style, and shape the seasonal trends accordingly to what you feel most comfortable in. If you feel self-conscious in a skirt or a dress don't feel like you can't embrace spring.

Try wearing white capris with a colorful pair of Toms.

Girls are not the only ones who can have a great fashion sense

By Megan Provenzale
Reporter

Boys, take notes! This season it's time to get your color on.

Don't be scared to wear coral, aqua blues or, fun yellows. "For men, t-shirts with a designed pocket have really been selling. Also bright colors are really beginning to make a comeback with spring and summer underway," American Eagle Outfitters associate Lauren Brinkmann said.

American Eagle Outfitters offers a great selection for guys this year. Fun t-shirts, and colored long board shorts make it possible to look nice but stay casual while doing it.

If you feel weird about wearing bright colors, layer your favorite zip up sweater over to break up the brightness.

Another way to embrace the change in weather is by wearing khakis, and a fun polo shirt.

The best accessories a guy can pull off with this kind

of outfit are boat shoes or a unique pair of sneakers.

If you are really ready to play with this year's spring palette take some tips from your fellow student senior Pierce McGlynn, with an outfit he created himself.

"Spring is a great time to introduce some colors. I also like to layer in the spring giving me versatility and to not have to lug around a coat in school," McGlynn said.

McGlynn is right when he says his outfit is very versatile. Sporting a thin colorful pull-over layered over a crisp white polo with jeans, the look is perfect.

Wearing a thin sweatshirt allows you to stay warm during chilly mornings, but be able to take a layer off when the sun comes out.

Also try cuffing your jeans slightly to show off your shoe, and wear a belt that coordinates to really pull the outfit together.

Overall, wear color the way you want. Style is all about what you feel comfortable in.

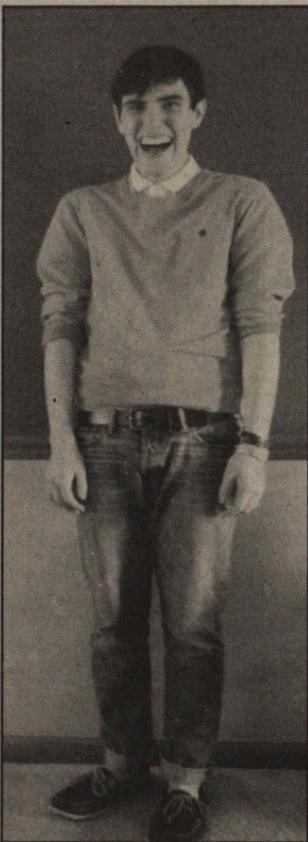


Photo by Megan Provenzale

Bringing some color into his style, senior Pierce McGlynn dresses it up for spring with a colorful sweater and cuffed jeans.

New season, new room

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

With the weather outside not promising spring any time soon, bring spring into your room with a few of these ideas.

Girls

1. Start off with organizing your room. It will make your room easier to decorate now and more pretty.

2. Splash it with color. Get out those crazy color pillows or tie-dye your sheets and pillow cases.

3. Make fake flowers to give a nature feel to your room and to give your room some accessories and color.(See below.)

4. Go out and buy yourself a new swimsuit.

5. Change up your make up with brighter colors and add a rosey blush.

Boys

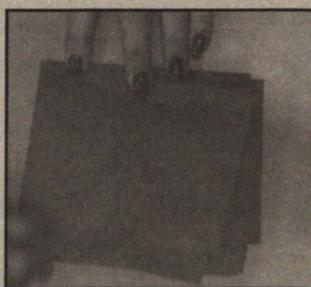
1. Start off with giving your room that spring clean, that means picking up those socks.

2. Make plans with your friends so you're ready to go out when the sun does come around.

3. Change up your playlist to have more summer songs.

4. Start working on those abs for the pool.

5. Get some scented Febreze to make your room smell fresh.



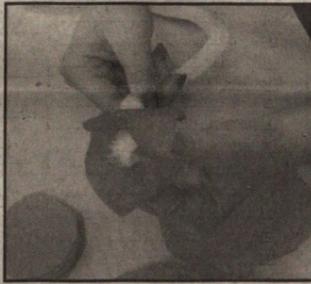
Step one: fold colored tissue paper into squares.



Step two: Use scissors to cut tissue paper in circles.



Step three: Tie the end of the pipe cleaner in knot.



Step four: poke hole in tissue paper with pipe cleaner.

Supplies needed: Tissue paper, scissors and pipe cleaners. To make colored tissue paper flowers follow steps one through four and repeat until you have the desired amount of colored flowers.

Photos by Sarah Szremski

No plans for break? Here are some you can use

By Hector Cervantes
Perspectives Editor

Still caught up with the winter blues and not planning on doing anything fun over spring break? There is no need to worry because Chicago and it's suburbs have much to offer to get your mind off of school during spring break.

A week off of school means many things to do. Here is a list of some possible activities to do during spring break.

Sox's opening day versus Minnesota Twins on Monday at U.S. Cellular Field.

3. Explore Brookfield Zoo and see its exhibits and don't forget to say hello to the zoo's new 4-month-old gorilla named Nora.

4. Catch a Chicago Fire game versus Philadelphia Union on April 5.

5. Try something new and eat in one of Chicago's diverse neighborhoods such as Little Italy or Chinatown.

6. Enjoy the premiere of Captain America on April 4.

1. Don't miss out on the 100th Cubs home opener on April 4 at Wrigley Field versus the Philadelphia Phillies.

2. Have a fun day at the

Upsets causing madness

By Katelyn Foehner
Sports Editor

With March Madness underway, there are already quite a few upsets within brackets.

On the first day of the tourney, No. 11 Dayton knocked off No. 6 Ohio State. According to Fox News, over 80 percent of the brackets entered in Yahoo's Tourney Pick 'Em game were one and done after the win.

Just a few hours later, No. 12 Harvard took down No. 7 Cincinnati, causing more uproar amongst basketball fans.

The two upsets ruined almost everyone's brackets, including my own.

But wait, it didn't end there. On day one Duke was de-

feated by the unknown Mercer. Does anybody even know where Mercer is located? If anybody cares, it's in Macon, Georgia.

In the round of 32, No. 10 Stanford shocked many when they won over No. 2 Kansas by a mere three points. Jayhawk superstar Andrew Wiggins had a bad night, a really bad night at that. He played for 24 minutes, had four points, and went 1 for 6 in shooting. Not such a superstar performance huh Wiggins?

Also advancing to the Sweet 16 is No. 8 Kentucky who had a stunning win over the Wichita State Shockers, who were literally left in shock.

Wichita State had a perfect season until the devastating

loss. But there's always next year to try for perfection again.

No. 3 Creighton was projected to go far in the tourney, however that was not the case. The team made it past Louisiana-Lafayette pretty easily, and then it went downhill from there on out. In the second round, no. 6 Baylor completely destroyed Creighton by 30 points. The term 'blowout' cannot even begin to describe the humiliation that the team must have been feeling.

And poor Doug McDermott. He gave up entering the NBA Draft last year to play his senior year and this is how he has to go out. The embrace he gave his dad, head coach Greg McDermott, after he was subbed out, left many viewers

in tears, myself included. He then sat on the bench, holding back tears while watching his career end before his eyes. How tragic, and no that is not sarcasm.

There were also plenty of game winning shots that propelled teams to victory.

In round one Texas crushed Arizona State's dreams of advancing with barely seconds left on the clock. Big man Cameron Ridley shot the game-winning lay-up to defeat the Sun Devils. The Sun Devils were left in stunned silence and sprawled across their bench in utter disbelief.

But they shouldn't be too upset. The Longhorns lost in the second round to Michigan. Poor Texas, first they lose

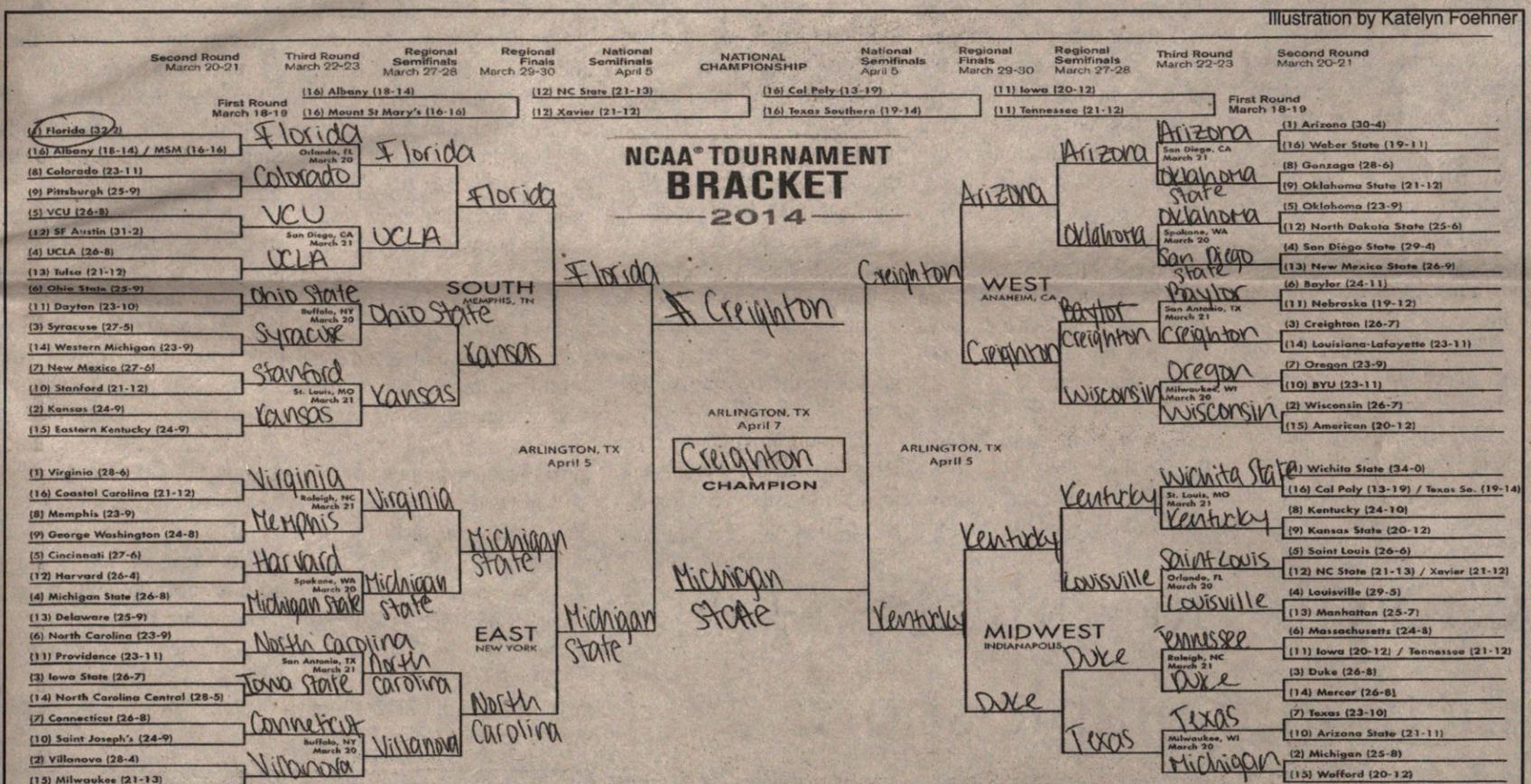
Mack Brown as the head football coach and now the basketball team loses its chance at the national championship. At least they have the women's basketball team to get them through the year.

The upsets mean that no one is going to win the one billion dollars from Warren Buffett and Quicken Loans. What a shame. Buffett is probably laughing to himself at the mere thought of people actually believing that they could possibly win a billion dollars.

The Sweet 16 begins tonight. Hopefully basketball fans can salvage what's left of their brackets and get a few wins.

Or we all wait until next season for a decent bracket or possibly better teams.

Illustration by Katelyn Foehner



Team goes undefeated in first three matches, getting big wins

By Kyle Paup
Editor in Chief

The girls badminton team has had a strong start to their season and have been undefeated until their most recent game that took place on the 24th.

"We've been doing awesome. We were undefeated in our first three games. We've won 15-0 against Elgin and Streamwood in all three levels. On the 20th we played Saint Charles East and JV2 and JV won 15-0 again and varsity won 11-4," head coach Katie Wood said. "We're starting the year not just undefeated, but we're getting big wins."

Badminton players also have acknowledged their success.

"We're really good this year. On the 24th we played Geneva and they are really tough but we came through and won (in the JV levels) but varsity lost. So JV and JV2 are undefeated so far," sophomore Lindsay Bruce said. "I think the way we are headed, we are doing really well. I'm really proud of how the teams are doing so far and I think that we are going to have a great season."

Joining the Upstate Eight conference has changed the competition for the team, but has not stopped them from achieving success.

"Being in a new conference, the competition is a little bit different than it was in the DVC, but the girls are experiencing a lot of success and I think the will continue too," Wood said. "We were relatively competitive in the DVC last year and based on our schedule this year and the new teams we'll be playing in the Upstate Eight I think we'll be highly competitive."

The team encourages students to come out and watch them play and believes that it is a much different experience than what they would expect.

"I feel like so many people don't understand badminton. They think it's just what you play in the backyard at a barbeque, but to see it played competitively is really cool," Wood said. "It's a different kind of sport, and I'd love to see people come out and see

just how hard it is and how much fun it is to see it when it's played well."

Even though it is not an IHSA sport, Wood would like to see a boys badminton team.

"I would love (to see a boys badminton team). Unfortunately it's not an IHSA sport right now but some high

schools in the Chicago area have badminton clubs which could potentially turn into a sport if there was enough to recognize it. We've had a lot of guys express interest in joining badminton and come out to the open gyms just to play but I would love a spot for them," Wood said.



Photo by Kyle Paup

Badminton players practice hoping that they pay off and help them stay undefeated this season.



Photo by Sarah Szremski

Being able to throw a pitch is essential in baseball, that's why seniors Jon Michiels and Grant Hosticka along with junior Connor Dall practice in the fieldhouse on a cold, snowy day.

Even with low turnout at try-outs, coach is hoping for the best this season

By Sarah Szremski
Reporter

The baseball season started with a shortage of people trying out, but still is strong.

"We didn't really have try-outs. Anyone who came out made the team.," head coach Daniel McCarthy said.

All the boys who did try-out had experience with the game.

"These were all kids that have been in the program before, it wasn't like we had new kids trying out," McCarthy said.

With the season just beginning McCarthy and the

team look forward to getting started.

"I think that our competition is going to be very similar to what we had before," McCarthy said. "There are some strong teams and a few weaker teams I think in the Upstate 8 then there were in the DVC."

Their first game was supposed to be on March 20, but as McCarthy predicted, they were not able to play because of the weather.

"From all the snow we had, everything froze," McCarthy said.

McCarthy isn't the only one looking forward to the

baseball season.

"This season is going to be the best chance we have had in a long time to be extremely successful," junior Connor Dall said. "We have the opportunity and expect to be the best sports team at West Chicago this school year."

Since all of the players have been on the team before, they already know each other's strengths and weaknesses.

McCarthy expects great games in the upcoming season.

"The team is better than I anticipated far better, and in defense were very good," McCarthy said.

Growth in athletes helps them in multiple sports

By Hector Cervantes
Perspectives Editor

While the boys indoor track season ends, the team is continuing to grow in athletes and is looking forward to the start of outdoor track.

"I like competition and we already improved in the increase for the number of athletes for indoor track," coach Paul McLeland said.

Track helps athletes in other sports that they are involved in.

"Track is important for every sport because it increases speed. We have soccer and football players come to track, who want to get faster and stronger," McLeland said.

Team member junior Joe Skipor wants to be a better athlete.

"I'm hoping to become a better athlete. I work well

with my teammates," Skipor said.

Even though the team increased in members some athletes are missing practice and McLeland is hoping to improve this issue.

"One struggle we have is some athletes miss a lot of practice and they shouldn't have to miss a lot of practice because it interferes with them getting better," McLeland said.

By the end of the season McLeland would like to have state qualifiers.

"Our team hasn't had any state qualifiers but we are hoping for one qualifier. It will be nice to have a relay compete in state," McLeland said.

Shin splints are another struggle the boys track team needs to overcome. Practicing indoors causes shin splints.

When athletes have shin splints they have to strengthen by resting, which causes them to miss practice.

"Weather permitting sometimes we can't go outside and we have to practice indoors," McLeland said.

Boys track has a tradition in which the older athletes help with the younger athletes.

"We have upperclassmen mentoring the less experienced in track and it's a good tradition. It's like the upperclassmen are assistant coaches helping out," said McLeland.

He also wants the boys to compete fairly and do their best.

"I want them to learn to compete but compete fairly and to always do their best. I want the team to learn to do the right thing and have integrity," McLeland said.

High expectations await new season

The team is looking forward to playing in the Upstate Eight conference as well as looking to improve their record and team morale by becoming more physical through practice.

By Hector Cervantes
Perspectives Editor

New competitive schools are awaiting the girls soccer team as it plays in the Upstate Eight conference for the first time.

"We are in a new conference and we are looking forward to being there and our expectation is to play well," head coach Cesar Gomez said.

Team captains for varsity are senior Shelly Molskow, and juniors Stephanie Mata and Kayla Kirkwood

"We have the best teammates and coaches and practice is always fun. It's a great sport to play," Molskow said.

Mata is anticipating a good season.

"I'm looking forward to team bonding and getting a lot of wins and leaving a good first impression on the new conference," Mata said.

Struggles are still expected in the new conference.

"Our team is moving to a new conference and we have to compete with competitive schools like Waubonsie, Nequa and Metea Valley," Gomez said.

To achieve this goal, the girls are working hard to be one of the best teams by sea-

son's end.

"Our goal is always to get something out of the season. Last year (we achieved) our goal by beating Schaumburg twice and they are competitive in soccer," Gomez said.

Team members also see room for improvement.

"We want to improve on moving the ball on the field faster by working hard and improving our record," Kirkwood said.

According to Gomez, the team needs to be more physical, possess the ball more often and be able to play a full game of 80 minutes with full strength.

To reach this goal the girls are working hard by conditioning.

"I want the team to know that we are good enough to play with anybody, and we are mentally strong enough to win games," Gomez said.

To motivate the team not to quit, Gomez believes you must have a purpose to keep on going.

"You have to have a purpose to motivate your team. I encourage them to find a purpose and to stick with that purpose," Gomez said.

Varsity plays tonight at home.



Photo by Hector Cervantes

Members of the girls soccer team stretch before practice to perform at their best and to help keep warm in the cold.

Double digits in win column helps send team to playoffs against former rival

Senior John Konchar breaks one more school record held by coach as boys basketball makes it to the playoffs for first time since 2004

By Katelyn Foehner
Sports Editor

Switching conferences worked well for the boys varsity basketball team.

"The season went a lot better than what most people expected. We proved a lot of people wrong," junior Alex Mitchell said.

This season was the first time since the 2004-2005 season that the team had wins in the double digits. The 2004 season ended with the team going 10-4 and second in the DVC. The team this season ended up going 16-10 in the

regular season and 2-1 in the playoffs.

"We did a lot better than the last 10 years, since we haven't had a winning record in 10 years," senior John Konchar said.

Switching from the DVC to the Upstate Eight has not made a difference with the team.

"We made a statement in the Upstate Eight," Mitchell said.

Mitchell believes that it was the same level of competition, just different teams in the Upstate Eight.

The season ended on March 4 when former rival Glenbard North beat the Wildcats 51-48.

"It was a fun game to end out on. We started off strong during the game, and they came back stronger," Konchar said.

The Wildcats' offense was strong in the beginning, but started to crumble after halftime. The Panthers came back stronger and took the win.

"The main factor (in losing) was they made their shots in the end of the game and we didn't. We went 2 for 18 from the three point line which is far below what we normally would do," coach Bill Recchia said.

Konchar scored 22 points while sophomore Mikey Bibbs scored 18.

"(You're) never happy with that last loss. In Illinois

high school basketball only one team in each class wins their last game, and that's the champion," Recchia said.

Although the season ended with a loss, there were still some high points throughout it.

This season Konchar broke two records set by Recchia. In December he broke the most points in a game record. In the season finale on Feb. 27, Konchar broke the all-time scoring record. He has 1,551 career points while Recchia had 1,461 points.

"I couldn't be more proud of John. I wanted to shake the hand of the person who broke [the record] and to actually be able to coach the kid who broke it is an absolute blessing," Recchia said.

The record had been held for 31 years.

The team this season was the highest scoring team in

the DuPage Valley.

"All of the honors we received this year were a direct result of all of the hard work put in in the offseason. The group really molded together as a team, there were no jealousies," Recchia said.

Recchia also noted that the players had each others' backs from the first day.

"I think that cohesiveness contributed to the success we had this year," Recchia said.

With roughly eight months until the start of the new season, Recchia has already begun thinking about it.

"I started thinking about next season the day after we lost to Glenbard North," Recchia said.

After this season the team will be losing more than half of it's players. Six seniors will be graduating, leaving only five underclassmen left for next season.

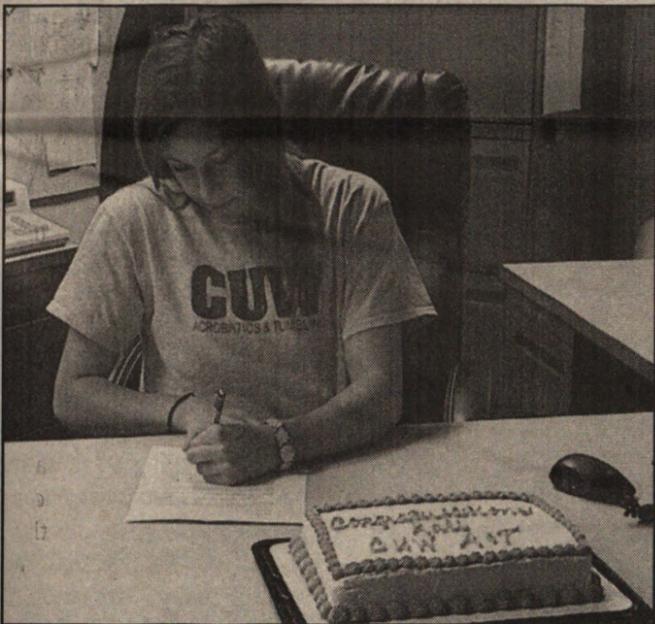


Photo by Alexandra Garibay

Making choices for college can be overwhelming as a senior, that's why Kali Strachota committed to Concordia.

Tumbler signs with Concordia University

By Alexandra Garibay
Center Spread Editor

Working hard to achieve your goals is possible, and for senior Kali Strachota that has become true.

Strachota received an academic scholarship and signed on with Concordia University in Mequon, Wis.

"I choose Concordia because I got recruited to be on the acrobatic and tumbling team which is a new varsity sport recognized by the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association)," Strachota said. "Concordia will be the 11th school in the nation to have this sport and

I will get to compete against Hawaii Pacific, Baylor and University of Oregon along with other top D1 schools."

According to Concordia's website, acrobatics and tumbling is the university's 24th sport with a competitive championship.

Strachota also had her family present while she signed her commitment paper, as well as athletic director Doug Mullaney.

Concordia also offers a program in her interest.

"Concordia just got an optometry program which is what I have always wanted to study so it worked out well," Strachota said.

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Waiting for an Iditarod t-shirt

Photos courtesy of Mark Poulterer

What is the Iditarod?

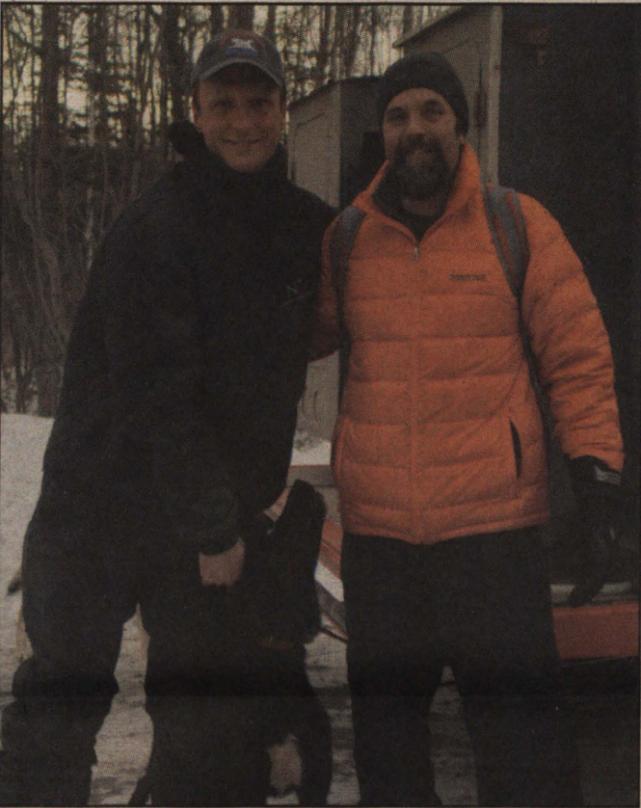
By Katelyn Foehner
Sports Editor

The Iditarod is a long-distance dog sled race held in Alaska every year. The mushers along with their teams of 16 dogs travel from Anchorage to Nome.

There is a ceremonial start in Anchorage but the official start is in Willow, Alaska. At

least six mushers must be on the towline at the finish line, covering the distance in 9-15 days or more.

Every year the mushers race a semi-different course. Odd years they travel the southern route, and even years they travel the northern route. The Iditarod began in 1973 and is the most popular sport in Alaska.



Mark Poulterer, right, with Charlie Bejna and one of his dogs met before the start of the race.



While in Anchorage, Mark Poulterer had the chance to meet some of the mushing dogs.



Mark Poulterer stands in front of an Iditarod race sign, outside of the headquarters, which gives an insight into the history of the race and includes flags from the countries of mushers.

Hoping to become the Teacher on the Trail for 2015

By Katelyn Foehner
Sports Editor

Upon returning from his trip to Alaska, ESL teacher Mark Poulterer will now have to wait until April 2 to see if he will be the Teacher on the Trail 2015 for the Iditarod.

The Teacher on the Trail is an opportunity for educators who teach about the Iditarod, to fly to Anchorage during it and volunteer with the dog mushers and the dogs. They also blog throughout the trip so students throughout the country who follow along so can stay updated with what is happening.

"The trip was incredible, I worked from about seven in the morning to almost midnight every day," Poulterer said.

Poulterer spent a week in Alaska, mainly Anchorage, to complete a few tasks to be considered for Teacher on the Trail.

These tasks included an interview, challenge question, writing a blog, speaking at a conference, and much more.

"We had to blog about anything we wanted to related to what we did. I blogged mainly about the sun and how important the sun is and the sunlight and how the sun only comes during certain parts of the year," Poulterer said.

In Anchorage there are models of the sun and all of the planets. The models show how big the planets are and the distance between them.

The finalists had the opportunity to walk beside the models and look at them. The model is so big that it took them about 45 minutes just to walk to Jupiter, which is only the fifth planet.

While there Poulterer also spoke at a conference where he shared lesson plans from his classroom. He also was interviewed by the five committee members.

"The conference and interview both went very well," Poulterer said.

The entire trip was not all business, as Poulterer along with the two other finalists had the chance to unwind for

a bit.

"I got to go to the banquet that all the mushers were at. I had all 71 mushers walk by and sign my poster," Poulterer said.

The poster is now displayed proudly in his classroom. He also met the "Michael Jordan" of mushing at the banquet.

Poulterer also had the chance to meet all of them and take pictures with a majority of the mushers.

The three finalists had the opportunity of being tourists for the day, including the chance to see the start of the race.

"On March 2 we went out to Willow where they start the race again. As far as I know it's the only sporting event with two starts," Poulterer said.

The first start in Anchorage is a ceremonial start where people can celebrate and cheer. The start in Willow is the official start time.

Poulterer had the chance to be a part of the race, even if it was only a minor part.

"I got to dog handle which means I was holding one of the dogs back until they were ready to run," Poulterer said.

Ironically the musher was Charlie Bejna who is a resident of Addison, Ill. This is his second time racing. He had to drop out of his first race because he did not have enough dogs. Poulterer explained how the dogs can get sick and tired and cannot continue to race.

"This race isn't about coming in first, it is for the big names. But for everybody, if you finish it, that's awesome," Poulterer said.

Poulterer also clarified that if chosen as the Teacher on the Trail he will not be mushing.

"I would be flying from checkpoint to checkpoint," Poulterer said.

He will hit about five checkpoints where he will volunteer, help ready the dogs' food, and skype with his class.

About 1,000 students across the nation follow the Iditarod so Poulterer will

also be blogging so that the students can see what is happening.

Poulterer thinks that he has a pretty good chance at becoming the Teacher on the Trail 2015.

"I have a good chance. The other two teachers were phenomenal as well," Poulterer said.

He also noted that in past years it was an easier decision for the committee members to make. But this year it will be a more difficult decision.

"If one of the others gets chosen, I'll be disappointed but I won't feel like somebody who is not going to do a good job will be on the trail," Poulterer said.

Staff and students will be on spring break when Poulterer finds out if he will win, but he has come up with a clever way of notifying them of the win or loss.

"So if I'm chosen, after spring break I'll have an Iditarod t-shirt on and if I don't, then they'll [students] know that I wasn't chosen for the race," Poulterer said.