West Chicago

BRIDGE

Voice of Students today -
for a better school tomorrow

West Chicago Community High School March 4, 1976 Volume Five Number Nine

Peer Counseling Program Proposed

by Tim McAdams

On Thursday February 5, West Chicago High School teachers participated in a peer counseling seminar at the school. They discussed the starting of a peer counseling program for the students of the high school.

The program has been approved by the school administration and staff, and will be presented to the school board on March 16.

If approved, the program would start in August with the training of any interested students. The students would learn how to work with their peers to help them with their problems. They would work as a type of bridge between the person in need and the professional counselor.

The program would be for students with the average need for information, understanding, friendship, and assistance with education and/or personal concerns.

It is hoped that if the program can help make students feel better about themselves it would reduce the rate of their problems at home, drug abuse, alcoholism, and delinquency.

The proponents think that how you feel is more important than what you know in the decisions that you make. This means if you feel good about yourself you will be less likely to have other problems. They consider this more important than knowing the consequences of your actions. The director, Mrs. Giszczak, and other teachers who have participated in a two-week training program in Chicago would be the advisors for the peer counselors. The other faculty members involved are Mr. Alvino, Mr. Owens, Mr. Hofland and Mr. Stoda.

The program is a project from the U.S. Office of Education. This program has worked in other districts around the country. For further information contact Mrs. Cheryl Giszczak in room 104.

Et Tu, Brute?

by Kathy Kennedy

"Ooah, Ooooah, Ooooooah!" If you hear moans March 15, you'll know that Julius Caesar has once again failed to heed the warning, "Beware the Ides of March!"

According to Plutarch, a famous ancient Greek biographer, Caesar had been warned by a soothsayer of his coming assassination, in 44 B.C. William Shakespeare later adapted Plutarch's account of Caesar's death in his tragedy "Julius Caesar." Betrayed by his close friend, Brutus, Caesar is the victim of a plot to free Rome.

A word of warning: Watch even your closest friend this Ides of March, March 15!

Ireland's Patron Saint Wasn't Irish!

by Kathy Kennedy

O'Brien, Kilpatrick, Murphy, Finnegan, McNamara. Irish stew and soda bread, corned beef and cabbage."The Wearin' of the Green," "My Wild Irish Rose," "When Irish Eyes Are Smilin'."

St. Patrick's Day, the feast day of Ireland's patron saint, has been celebrated in the United States since early colonial times. A national holiday in Ireland, March 17 is celebrated by the descendants of Irishmen all over the world.

Some historians believe that St. Patrick was born in Scotland in 387 A.D. It is thought that he was captured by Irish marauders when he was 16. He spent six years as a slave to a Druid chief, learning the Gaelic language and Irish ways. At 22 he escaped and returned home. After studying to become a priest, he returned to Ireland in 431 and preached Christianity to the Celtic people. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the shamrock, a small plant whose leaves are divided into three lobes, to explain the doctrine of the Trinity. The shamrock is the emblem of Ireland.

"Erin go bragh....Ireland forever!"

Cast is Chosen

by Kevin Hodges

The work is continuing on the musical,"Of Thee I Sing" with the cast decided after tryouts. Wintergreen will be played by Max Monningh or Kurt Liebezeit; Vice-Pres. Throttlebottom will be played by Dan Robbins; Mary Turner will be played by Lisa Gould or Marvel Sampson; and Diana Devereaux will be played by Chris Velbel or Jenny Havlin. Leads and understudies will be decided on March 19. Leads will perform on the Friday and Sunday shows, and understudies on Saturday.

Chairpersons for the committees are Scott Brauer, lighting; Margie Iuro, make-up; Sharon Smith, publicity; Mary Beth Woomer, programs; Shirley Mackie, tickets and sales; Victor Alcazar, house manager; Tim Sampson, props; Becky Brauer, costumes; and Debbi Anderson, choreography.

New Psychologist Likes Job at We-Go

by Matt Rowland and Kim Kynast

If you're ever walking down the hall and you see a short, brown-haired man with a moustache looking deeply into your eyes, hang on to your brains because you just had your first introduction to the new psychologist, Mr. Thomas Cusack.

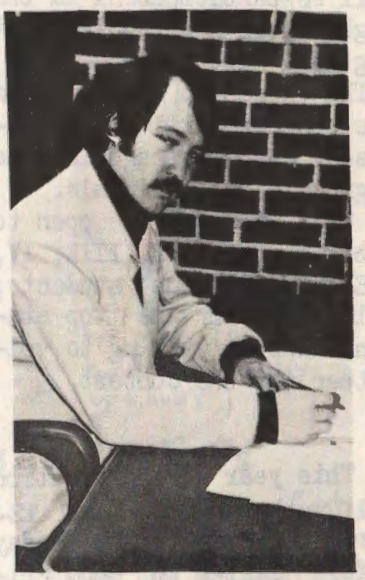
Mr. Cusack's job as a psychologist in District 94 is to give help to troubled students. The case most often found is a student referred to him by a teacher or counselor. Then he will test the student and report his findings to the teacher or counselor. Mr. Cusack's evaluations consist of tests of intelligence, of perceptual functions, and of social and emotional growth.

Although he is a psychologist, he is not at all like some psychologists with their offices and fees paid by normal clients. Mr. Cusack likes his job as a different sort of psychologist because he has no fees whatsoever.

Mr. Cusack formerly lived in this area and he likes the community and his work here. Although he does like his job, he also has his dislikes.Mr. Cusack says the only thing he doesn't like is that many of the answers to the questions in psychology haven't yet been found.

Mr. Cusack first became interested in psychology when he worked in a hospital emergency room right next to the pediatric ward where he would help out and talk to kids.

Mr. Cusack went to school at North Central College in Naperville and to Western Illinois for his master's. He will be studying for his doctor's at Northwestern.



Mr. Thomas Cusack

Winter Concert of American Music

by Dick Waterhouse

We-Go's winter concert was presented February 24 in Weyrauch Auditorium. The orchestra, directed by Mr. Gene Haney, performed music of America and American composers. The concert featured "Mardi Gras" and "American Salute." "Victory at Sea," a medley of memorable Navy tunes, and the theme from M*A*S*H were also performed.

Vocal numbers included the Girls' Double Ensemble, the Mixed Double Ensemble, and a duet by Lisa Gould and Steve Ernst.

The Concert Choir sang four numbers, including "Shenandoah," to complete the concert.

Band to Fox Valley

The West Chicago High School Band will be performing at the Fox Valley shopping center March 14. Invited to the shopping center by the management, they will perform from 4pm to 5pm in the Mall. They are attending this function instead of going to the State Music Contest, which was cancelled because no school would sponsor it.

They will be playing some of their numbers from their Winter Concert, but will also play "A Tribute to Glen Miller", "American Variations", and "A Lennon-McCartney Portrait".

Golden Gloves

by Mark Hendricker

Once again all of Chicagoland's best boxers from 16 to 21 are turning up for the Chicago Golden Gloves Boxing Tournament. The boxers represent athletic clubs or schools in the area. The weights and ages of the competitors make up the various competition brackets. The tournament is sponsored by the Chicago Tribune. They are already printing forms in the paper, in the Sports section. The forms show the address and phone number of the office where the forms are to be sent.

A contestant doesn't have to represent a club; he can be independent if he chooses. After he sends in a completed form, he will receive a call telling him if he qualifies. He must get a doctor's permit before he will be told when, where, and whom he will fight. Contestants should watch the Trib for further information.

NEWS BRIEFS

This years AFS week will be held April 4-9. The week is spent generally pushing AFS and selling AFS shares and possibly buttons to raise money to bring a foreign student to West Chicago.

Friday, April 9, AFS students from surrounding area schools will come to We-Go to present programs about their native countries.

The AFS program still needs some host families to sponsor a foreign student before sending two students abroad.

The Harlem Diplomats, Canada's version of the Harlem Globetrotters, will perform at West Chicago High School on March 22 from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m., sponsored by the freshman class. Tickets will be $1.50 and $1.75 at the door for students; $1.75 and $2.00 for adults, and $1.25 for the elementary grades. Tickets will go on sale March 15 in the cafeteria.

The song "I Need You" was voted to be the junior prom song.

Some two hundred students will be participating in the High School Math Contest being held March 9.

The three top scorers from the contest will go to represent West Chicago in the regionals and nationals.

This contest is open to Math IE, IIE, III, IIIE, IV, IVE, and calculus students, primarily for the top students who are willing to volunteer for the contest.

This year spring vacation will be the week of April 12-April 16. This is the Monday before Easter to Good Friday. Easter is on April 18. Other full days off will be tomorrow, March 5, and May 31. Half-days will be March 24 and May 19. The last day of school is Friday, June 11.

"Each One Teach One"

by Bill Hayes

A new dimension was added to West Chicago's learning process as students got out of the classroom and onto the slopes to teach the fundamentals of skiing.

Wednesday, February 25, forty-four students ignored the sixty degree weather and headed for Alpine Valley, Wisconsin. The trip was originally scheduled for February 18 but was postponed due to warm weather.

Twenty-two experienced skiers taught the other students how to make it down the hill without breaking their bones. Mr. Steve Arnold, originator of the program, believes that this kind of program can benefit the students and hopes other trips similar to this will be made in the future.

When all is said and done more is said than done!

Inflation Hits We-Go Cafeteria

by Lisa Black

Do you mind getting only two pieces of bread instead of three? Inflation has hit everywhere, including the cafeteria.

In the past ten years the price of food has doubled, but unfortunately the budget hasn't. But the food still has to meet government standards on the type of food served. Bread, meat, milk, and some type of fruit or vegetable must be served in every lunch. To avoid going into the red, as they did in 1975, the cafeteria had to raise its prices this year.

Mrs. Mary Ann Hensel, manager of the cafeteria, said another reason the price rose is that there are now seven workers instead of the six from last year. They have more workers now because there are just too many students for six women to handle.

Mrs. Hensel, who is in her tenth year of working in the cafeteria, said they usually begin preparing the lunches about 7:40 a.m. They work until about 2:30, cleaning the kitchen and serving areas.

When asked what she does with the leftovers, she said they freeze most of it and use some in the next day's lunch. Most students don't mind leftovers, she said, because they get them at home.

Mrs. Hensel pouring a bowl of chili in the cafeteria.

Advertising Policy

From time to time we feel that it is necessary to restate some of the policies of the Bridge. We would like to restate our advertising policy to clear up any confusion that might exist.

Although there has been very little advertising in our paper up to this point, we can provide more space for advertising.

The Bridge is allowed to accept advertisements, but is not allowed to solicit advertisements. The price for an advertisement in our paper is $1.75 per column inch.

To maintain the present quality or to improve the quality of our paper, it is necessary to acquire additional funds.

We are planning to have an advertisement supplement in our April issue. Any person/business interested in placing an advertisement in our paper should contact Ms Mary Patterson, 231-0880 extension 64. Your business will be appreciated! Thanks!

— The Bridge Staff

New Lockers For School

I think the administration should get better lockers in this school. The new ones are just as easy to open as the old ones without the combination. In the halls there are many different techniques to open the lockers without any problems. It is very easy to open about half of the lockers in this school. If more people should find out how easy it really is, who knows what would happen to all our personal belongings!

US come in Third in Olympics

by Don Dierschow

The 1976 Olympics were very successful for the United States. The U.S. did not do too badly. They won 3 gold, 5 silver, and 7 bronze medals. They came in third out of 16 countries, with the Soviet Union running away with 27 medals and the U.S. with only 10.

An American cannot afford to spend all his life in amateur sports because you can't make a living at it. But on the other hand, the Soviets are supported by the army as their main job. But they really practice for the Olympics while they are in the Service. Until the Americans receive some provision for the amateur athletes, the Soviets will still dominate.

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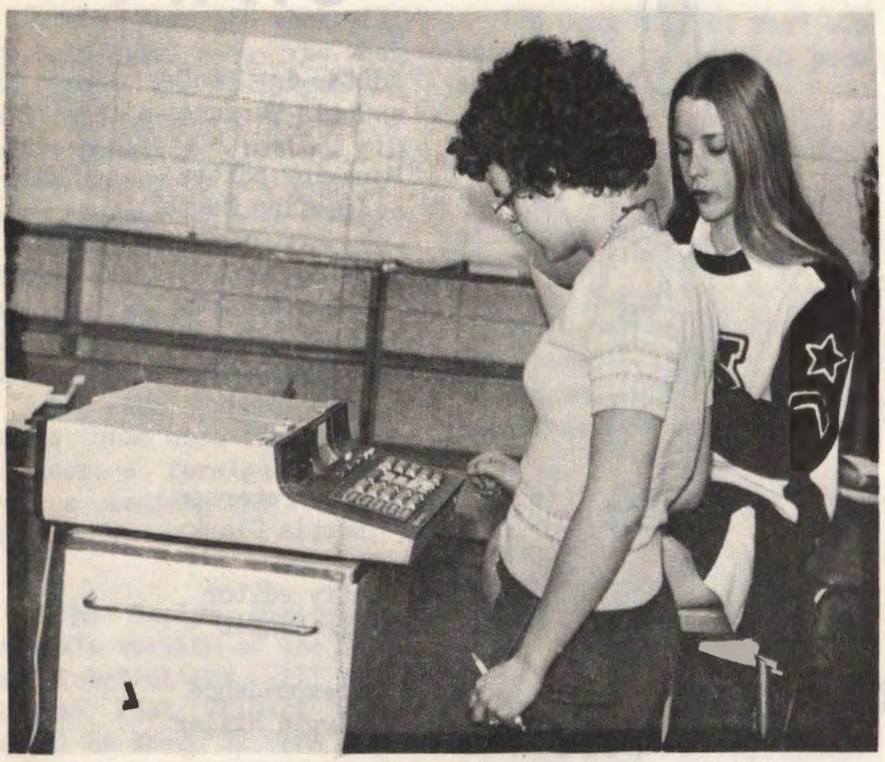
Cheated?

West Chicago High School students are being cheated out of needed vacation days. Each year, five snow days are tacked on to the required number of school days. This high school is notorious for not using these snow days. I think that arrangements should be made so these unused snow days can be used for an early release for summer vacation.

The spring break has been shortened this year. Instead of getting six days of vacation, we get only five. This is because we get off the week before Easter and return Easter Monday. In the good old days, our vacation included Good Friday and the week after Easter. The students need a break!

Math Department Teaches New Language



Paula Bloxam and Deanne Burgess working with the computer.

Computers have become an additional "language" in today's society, a language that most of us have to learn if we are to be considered "literate." Like most modern high schools, West Chicago High School now teaches that language, and each year that language becomes more sophisticated.

A new, portable computer, HP9810A, has been added to the math department. HP9810A is being used for a new program in the freshmen math classes.

The two-week program, entitled "The Fourth Generation Gap," or "How to Communicate with the HP9810A," was written over the summer by Mr. Frank Burzynski, Mr. Dennis Stevens, and Mr. Lee Yunker.

"The purpose of this computer program is to teach computer literacy to the student body," said Mr. Lee Yunker, math department chairman.

"Part of this computer literacy is to give students a realistic outlook about computers and to educate them to the kinds of decisions a computer can and cannot make," Mr. Yunker said. Students in general math classes through enriched algebra classes will take this two - week computer course.

In addition to the computer unit purchased during the summer, the math department has ordered a card reader. The department hopes to acquire a plotter next year which will be used to illustrate graphs.

The input - the question asked or problem to be solved - can be entered into the processor either by hand-punching it on the keyboard of the processor or by writing it in computer language on computer cards and sending it through the card reader.

The output, or answer, appears on the display register or on a paper tape.

Each student fills out a questionnaire before and after completing the two-week computer course to determine changes, if any, in the student's attitudes about computers. By the end of the course, students will be able to write their own program. They will also take a test to see how much knowledge they have gained.

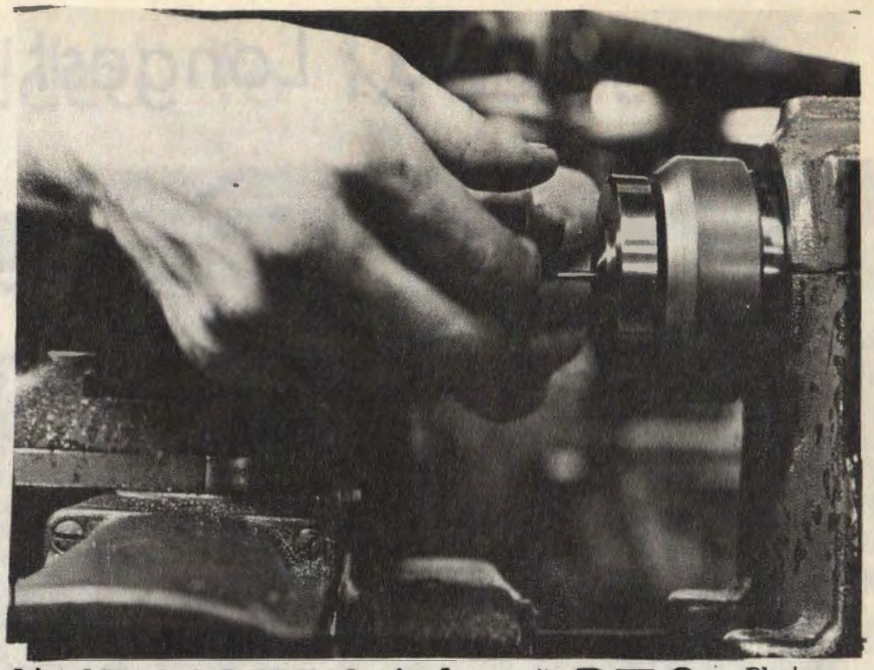
The cost of the computer and card reader is $5,000. The plotter will cost an additional $3,000.

No More Registration for the Draft

Because of President Ford's budget recommendations for the Selective Service System, Lieutenant Colonel W. Robert Kinseherff, the State Director of Selective Service for Illinois, has announced the closing of all local draft offices in Illinois.

Colonel Kinscherff said, "This means local boards will not take any further classifications actions. The offices have been closed and all records transferred to appropriate Federal Records Centers. Replacement draft cards are no longer being issued, and new information about individual registrants should not be sent to Selective Service."

This means that 18-year-olds don't have to register for the draft. People with draft cards don't have to replace them if they are lost or stolen. The annual lottery has also been abolished. These draft policies will only be brought back in case of a national emergency.



INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Photos by Liebezeit

Rich Ranahan (above left) works on metal lathe during shop class. The lathe is pictured above. Terry Armstrong (right) gets back a piece that he gas welded after being evaluated.

Free Concert

by Donna Slivinski

Would you like to attend a free "Kiss" concert? If "Yes," grab your 3x5 cards and writing utensil and start printing. In the LRC is a box where the card with the printed names of Marathon, Milky Way, Snik-Snak, Peanut Munch or 3 Musketeers candy bars can be deposited. Wrappers from any of the above candy bars are also accepted.

The contest, sponsored by student council, ends March 15. According to some of the members, there are more than 10,000 wrappers or cards already. The winning high school must have the highest percent of cards per student.

Grapplers Take Fifth

Grapplers Tom Reed and Jim Hensel represented West Chicago at the Class AA Wrestling Meet at Champaign last Saturday. Both brought home two fifth-place medals.

In the 119-pound class, Tom Reed, a junior, was defeated in the first round. But he was victorious three times in the wrestle-back which enabled him to grab fifth place.

Jim Hensel, wrestling in the 155-pound group, started the tournament in good shape as he won his first match; but he was stopped the second time around. In the wrestle-back, the senior won twice and earned another fifth-place medal.

If you think you can or you think you can't - you're probably right.

Never put off till tomorrow what you can avoid altogether.

Please be patient - God isn't finished with me yet.

If we learn by our mistakes, I'm getting a fantastic education.

Two can live as cheaply as one for half as long.

World Longest Straw?

by Rowlando and Cruz

We've only just begun...

Thursday, February 19 could be a night for the record books as a creation of over 250 straws was constructed which could have possibilities for the Guiness Book of World Records.

A bunch of rowdies always assembles at McDonald's after sporting events. This time after a Donkey Basketball game, there was nothing to be rowdy about. Instead of the usual straw whistling, a mammoth chain of straws was put together. At first it was just to see how many straws could be assembled and still be able to drink root beer out of the cup. Suddenly people started flooding the straw containers, grabbing for straws to help on the chain. The chain went from one of the tables in McDonald's, out the exit door, around the building to the next entrance, back through McDonald's, across in front of the counter and to the original starting point.

Girl Athletes to Receive Varsity Letters

West Chicago High School girls are receiving letters for participating in girls' varsity sports for the first time this year.

The girls' athletic department had been considering changing the award system for several years, according to Miss LaVora Singleton, girls' athletic director. This year appeared to be a good time to make the change because We-Go has moved into the new DuPage Valley Conference.

The system adopted is similar to that used by the boys' athletic department.

For the first year a girl participates in a varsity sport, she will receive a varsity letter and a pin. For the second year of participation in the same varsity sport, she will receive a set of numerals and a bar. The bar has the same meaning as a stripe for the boys.

For her third year of participation, a girl will receive a necklace and another bar. For the fourth year, she will receive a wall plaque listing the girl's athletic accomplishments. She will also receive another bar.

The varsity letter winners have the option of purchasing a sweater or a jacket to display their awards.

Unlike the boys' awards, the girls' awards system allows only one set of letters and numerals regardless of the number of varsity sports in which a girl participates. However, the girls receive a pin for each varsity sport. They also receive a bar for each additional year of participation.

Spring Sports

by Mark Hendricker

Baseball' kicks off March 10 with a meeting for all of the varsity squad, at 3:35 in Room 146. Practice will start March 15. All interested people are urged to pick up permit slips and physical exam cards in advance of the meeting from Mr. Dave Ream or from Mr. Ron Hansen.

Tennis begins with a meeting March 1. If you have any questions, see Mr. Kosek in Room 139 any time during the day.

Track begins March 20 and is coached by Mr. Gary Lunak.

Donkeys Prodded To 12-10 Scores

by German Cruz

West Chicago's basketball court was full of asses February 19. Riding the beasts of burden, the Winfield and West Chicago Fire Departments played basketball. In the first quarter, Winfield took command of the game by outriding West Chicago 12-10.

During the second half of the game between We-Go faculty and seniors, the teachers were hanging on by the seat of their pants. It was the seniors 12-10.

In the last game, the senoirs were pitted against the Winfield Fire Dept. As the game grew progressively harder, both teams had a taste of the floor. Both struggled to stay alive, but at the whistle, We-Go senoirs trailed 12-10.

Mr. Robert Owens and senior Jim Gunnell trying to control their donkeys.

We-Go Loses to...

by Lisa Black

The Wildcats fell in defeat February 20 to the Glenbard South Raiders.

The starting five quickly took control of the ball and at half-time the score was 35-28 in favor of the Wildcats. However, our Cats were unable to keep their lead, and at the final bell the score was 69-68 in favor of the Raiders. Senior Mark Soderquist scored 18 of the Wildcats' 68 points.

"They are really playing much better now, Paul Best especially," says Coach Paul Netzel. "He always had the ability, but lately he has put it all together." Mark Soderquist has also been playing well, being the highest scorer in the last three games.

"For the last few games our cheering section has been twice as loud as the other team's, at home and away games," says one student. "This really encourages the guys, because they know that someone really cares how they play. They just aren't out there for no reason."

Greg Frommert paced the Wildcats with 17 points and several assists but West Chicago still lost to Wheaton-Warrenville 76-62. The Cats' loss was attributed to a bad first half losing by as much as 27-5 at one point in the game. The Wildcats gave it a good effort, though pulling within five in the last quarter. West Chicago had three men in double figures with Paul Best at 15, Kevin Bailey hitting 13, and "Slim" Frommert popping 17.

by German Cruz

West Chicago's Boys' varsity basketball team ended their conference season tied with Naperville North for last place.

In Friday night's game with Wheaton Central, the Cats came out biting the Tigers in the first quarter. We-Go performed well in the first six minutes, but after that they were fighting to get control of the ball. West Chicago was no match for the Tigers, who had both height and speed. They outplayed We-Go in rebounding. The Cats couldn't get near their basket. Every time they shot, the Tigers blocked them and were there to rebound. The Tigers made many fouls.

By the second half, the Cats tried to outhustle the Tigers, but the Cats couldn't get with it. The final score was 67-37.

We-Go Sports

Girls' b-ball take first!

Sports Editor
Lisa Black

Cries of "We're number one!" can once again be heard in the halls of We-Go.

Girls' varsity basketball, under the high scoring of Cheri Straka with 14 points, We-Go captured the DuPage Valley Conference girls' basketball title after defeating Wheaton Central 50-40.

Straka also led the rebounds with 17, Tammy Waterhouse added 13 points, while Raye Murray had 19. Joel Bebber was the leading scorer for Wheaton Central with 8 points.

Wheaton and We-Go would have shared the championship if our Cats had lost the game.

We-Go has a 7-0 conference record. This is the second year We-Go took first in conference. Last year We-Go shared the title with Kaneland of the Little Seven Conference.

Raye Murray Outjumps Opponent from Kaneland