West Chicago
BRIDGE
Voice of Students today - for a better school tomorrow

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'Wini' Saluted on Eve of Retirement

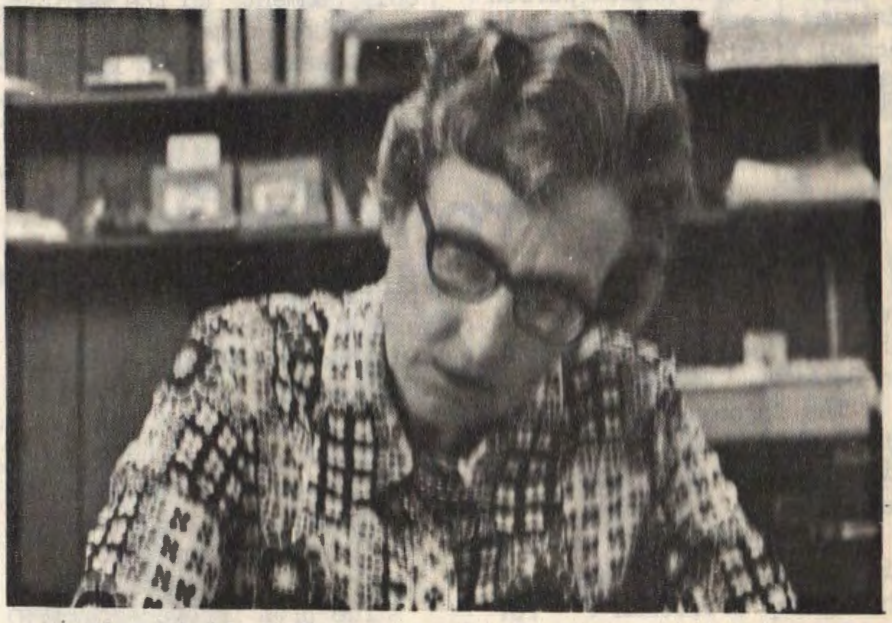
Miss Winifred Thomassen, who spent 33 years of her 35-year career in education at West Chicago High School, will be retiring at the end of the school year. At various times she served as teacher, dean of girls, and as administrative assistant. It is in the latter role that she has been known to most current We-Go students.

On the eve of her retirement, Miss Thomassen was saluted by Dr. Jerald Saimon, Superintendent of District 94, and Dr. Richard Kamm, principal, as a person of unusual efficiency and dedication.

"I've never met anyone more dedicated and persevering," Dr. Saimon said. "Wini will be missed by a great many people. She is one of the kindest and most generous persons I know. She is the kind of person that we are proud to say that we knew!"

Dr. Kamm also paid tribute to Miss Thomassen's competence and dedication. "She was especially helpful to me when I came here a few years ago. As I look back on it now, I can't imagine how I would have gotten along without her!"

Miss Thomassen's decision to retire was something of an emotional experience, she admitted, because she had spent more than half her life working for District 94. Now that she has been in the school system for 35 years, she is eligible for pension benefits.



Miss Winifred Thomassen, Dr. Kamm's right hand ma'am

"I think West Chicago Community High School has always been a good high school," she said. "I think when changes have been in order, changes have been made. The Board of Education is in tune with the times, in my opinion, and has provided good teachers for the youngsters of the school district."

In the time that Miss Thomassen has been at We-Go the size of the school has more than doubled. She said that one of the things she misses in a large school is the contact with the students. "I used to know every student and every student knew me," she said.

A graduate of Illinois State University, Normal, Miss Thomassen started teaching business courses at We-Go in 1943. Later she became dean of girls while still continuing as a teacher. In 1971, she took the post of administrative assistant. Before coming to West Chicago, she taught for two years in Cooksville, a small town in central Illinois.

"I feel very proud of the fact that I come from a family of school teachers," she said. Miss Thomassen and three of her sisters combined have taught more than 100 years in Illinois public schools. "I kind of grew up with the idea that school teaching is a great career," she said.

Miss Thomassen said that she would like to find a part-time job for next year, but right now her plans are indefinite. However, she said, "I don't plan to go home and sit in a rocking chair!"

COMMENT

SENIORS ESCAPE!

May 12, 1976, Lake Geneva, Wis. This was the date and location of the first senior ditch day. It started out with most of the students trying to figure a way to get out of the building, with an unidentified person driving a car across Lincoln School field and down the steps.

Between the football games and milk and cookies, there were several dunkings and sand fights. The following day, offices were filled with sunburned fugitives trying to get admits and failing. The only comment to the seniors was "Three detentions!"

It was all worth it! Look out, administration, it may happen again!

Junior Prom Tonight

Tonight is the annual junior prom to be held at the Fox Valley Country Club in Batavia.

The prom, organized by the Junior class officiers will feature the theme "I Need You."

The fun begins at 8:30 with dancing to the music of the group "Truckin'." For people attending the prom, preparation took place long ago with the ordering of the Tuxedos and corsages, and the purchasing of dresses and other necessities.

Highlighting tonight's activities will be the announcement of the queen and her court, chosen last Monday by the Junior class.

The prom is over at 11:30 and then, who knows what happens?

Hot Time for Linda Nichols

by Tim McAdams

This summer Linda Nichols will be an AFS student to Indonesia. She will be there for the 8-week period of June 25 to September 10.

Linda will be staying with the Patompo family in the city of Ujung Pandang. She will have 2 younger brothers and 2 younger sisters, the father of the family is the mayor of the city. The family lives in a government house on the ocean.

Ujung Pandang is the largest city on the Island of Celebes. The city has a population of over 400,000 people. Indonesia is a country made up of many islands. It's located near the equator, 250 miles north of Australia and 1,500 miles southeast of Vietnam.

During her stay Linda will be attending school. She is excited about going but does not really know what to expect and doesn't know how her time will be spent.

Coming Events Calendar

Baseball

May 21 at Glenbard North Var.
May 24 Wheaton-Warrenville here Var.
at Wheaton-Warrenville So., Fr.
May 25 at Wheaton-Warrenville Var.
Wheaton-Warrenville here So., Fr.
May 27 Wheaton-Warrenville here Var.

** All baseball games start at 4:15 p.m.

Track

Track

May 22 Districts
May 28, 29 State meet

Girls' Track

May 21, 22 State meet

Tennis

Tennis

May 22 Districts
May 28, 29 State tournament

Summer School Registration Now

Summer school registration is open now and until classes are filled. The six week program begins June 18 and ends July 30.

There will be a tuition charge this year because of the lack of state aid available to the summer school program. A semester class will cost $40 and a half-semester course will be $20.

Mr. John DeLap, guidance counselor, said that he felt the tuition fee would have a factor in this year's program. However, he said, "I think summer school will still function—it always has before."

Mr. DeLap said that vacations and summer jobs also affect the summer school program.

Driver's education, field biology, American government, American history, and consumer education will be offered. Other classes, including all D.A.V.E.A. programs, will be offered if enough students enroll in them.

See your counselor for more information and registration applications.

Opinion

Public School or Reform School?

Sometimes you have to wonder if this is a public school or a reform school. The administration has the teachers patrolling the halls like guards. They have para-pros sitting at corners with their spot lights. Students must have explicit permission to do anything. Of course you must agree with some of Dr. Kamm's corrections, but there is such a thing as working too much one way and not enough another. The least Dr. Kamm could do is get some consistency in asking for passes and patrolling. Some teachers will stop and talk to you and not even ask you about walking in the hall. Others will jump all over you before you can even answer about having a pass. Most people know that the pressure is on the teachers from the administration. If teachers are so responsible, how come they have to have permission to go home or anywhere off school grounds? Then there are some teachers who are the chosen people, that think they own the halls. When late to class, one student, just leaving his locker, was asked for a pass less than one minute after the bell rang. The student said he was just late and did not have a pass. The teacher then threatened to give a referral, still less than one minute after the bell rang. Shouldn't the punishment for being late be left up to the teacher of the class your going to, and not a teacher in the halls? The teacher should be teaching a class or where he is supposed to be, and not roaming the halls ready to swoop down on his unsuspecting victim.

Talent Show

Munchkins, Marie Osmond, and an old-time barbershop quartet were part of the annual Talent Show held at West Chicago High last Friday night. The extreme effort made by both cast and crew was evidenced by the many fine performances.

ADVERTISE IN THE BRIDGE!!

Rebuttal from Dr. Kamm

I would like to reply to a letter to the editor in the April 30, 1976 edition of the Bridge. The subject of the letter was the availability of certain assembly programs to students.

The letter expressed regret that all students were not able to hear the Linmar High School Choir that performed here on April 23.

I also regret this, but there is a rather logical explanation. Although we wanted them to, the choir was not able to stay long enough to do two or three performances as the University of Illinois Varsity Men's Glee Club, Mime Group, and others have done. In order to enable all students to hear the group at one performance we would have had to move into the gym, an alternative that was unacceptable because of the gym's poor acoustics, the impossibility of using lighting effects (an integral part of the Linmar choir's presentation) and the necessity to disrupt many P.E. classes for bleacher set-up and take-down time.

Beyond the logistical problems connected with using a gym for a musical performance, there is no doubt in my mind regarding the advisability of requiring all students to come to any assembly programs of this kind. True, the choir was excellent, but not all students are interested in hearing choirs, and disinterested students make poor audiences. I would much rather strive to present more and varied programs which are offered, whenever possible, two or more periods, and then allow teachers, classes, and individual students with unscheduled time to choose to attend if they consider the program relevant and interesting to them.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Kamm
Principal

MUSIC REVIEW

Led Zeppelin, long-time masters of heavy metal rock, have cranked out a new album entitled "Presence." Not as diverse or explorative as their previous work "Physical Graffiti," "Presence" still has a lot of power and talent pumped into it. "Presence," their sixth album, is right in line with all their other platters. The consistnet, distict flavor of Zeppelin's sound is all there with Robert Plant, their unique, unmistakable vocalist; Jimmy Page, ace frontman guitarist, and all the other folks which make up this super group. It's really worthwhile to give a listen to Zeppelin's most recent work of rock.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Thespian initiates, who were initiated into Thespians last Tuesday in a ceremony and dinner at Oakwood Castle.

Spring concert is a success!

by Dick Waterhouse

A packed auditorium was the scene for this year's choral concert. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment provided May 11 by the Concert Choir, the Madrigals, Boys' Octet, and Swing Choir. A girls' ensemble
and Peggy Bloxam sang a Carol King favorite, "So Far Away."

This concert was more informal than the past choral concerts because of the arrangements of the groups while they were singing. This was a welcome change from the traditional singers in choir robes standing on risers.

Among the concert choir's selections were "Corner of the Sky," from the broadway musical, "Pippin," and "And I Remember." They also sang "Fields of Joy" and "Wind of Life." "The Morning After," from the "Poseidon Adventure" and "If I were a Rich Man" from "Fiddler on the Roof" were sung by the Girls' Choir and were two favorites of the audience. The Swing Choir did "Life is a Song Worth Singing" and closed the program with the concert choir singing a medley of tunes from "Godspell." The frosting on the cake for all who participated, was the standing ovation at the concert's close. The entire concert was a total success. Compliments of how smoothly the show ran and how excellent the choirs sounded were numerous.

Choir director Mr. Ron Benner and student teacher Mr. Daniel Fleming deserve much of the thanks for the evening.

I'm sure that if as much work on sunging, choreography, lights, and publicity go onto next year's choral concert, it will be as much of a success.

RICK MONDAY, MOVE OVER!

by Margaret Shurtleff

Chicago Cubs, the girls' softball team at West Chicago Community High School may be able to help you out of your desperate slump! Yes, we have a crop of hopeful Rick Mondays; well, not exactly...

The girls' varsity softball team at West Chicago has a notable record thus far in the season. The team seems to have a record surpassing that of our Chicago Cubs with four wins and two losses.

The varsity team's players are Debbie Berndt, Pam Best, Colleen Courtney, Kathleen Courtney, Laura Farcas, Debbie Finnegan, Leslie Gunderson, Chris Miltner, Rae Murray, Mary Ellen Nickleson, and Debbie Walker. Roxanne French is manager and Kathy Lenertz is scorekeeper. The coach of the varsity team is Ms Gail George.

The junior varsity girls' softball team has played well also. They have three wins and one loss. The players attaining such a worthy record are Cindy Clark, Denise Enders, Lucy Fernandes, Tracy Finnegan, Bobbi Foster, Mary Hattula, Carol Hedrick, Donna Hookham, Pat Macko, Peggy Olson, Sandy Westley, and Cindy Wicklund. Didi Leithem is manager and Diana Schmitt is scorekeeper. Miss Barbara Baechle is junior varsity coach.

Students to Attend Workshop

The University of Minnesota will again be holding a summer workshop for high school students interested in journalism.

The purpose of the workshop is to instruct students in all aspects of newspaper production. Special emphasis will be given in the areas of newswriting, editing, and layout.

The two-week workshop will begin August 1 and end August 14. The cost of the workshop is $169.00. This includes tuition, fees, and room and board. Transportation to and from Minneapolis is not included in this amount.

Jeff Highland, Katy Peterson, and Bob Perez attended this workshop last year. All three students found this two-week experience valuable in aiding them with the production of We-Go's school paper. Katy Peterson and Lisa Black, sports editor, will be attending the workshop this summer.

Several other universities will be holding similar workshops this summer. For more information contact Miss Mary Patterson.

Mother: Everything is going up-the price of food ... the price of clothes... I'd be happy if there was one thing that went down.

Daughter: Mother, here's my report card!

Frosh Baseball

by Dave Hallman

Monday the freshman baseball team will travel to Wheaton-Warrenville to take on the powerful Wolverines.

Tuesday the Frosh will take on the Wolverines again, only on home turf.

The A team played the Naperville Central Redskins Friday night, only to go down to the Redskins 8-3. Dean Tuinstra got the only powerful hit when he hit a double to left field.

The A and B teams played the Wheaton North Falcons on May 5, A losing 7-4 and the B team losing 11-10.

The A team traveled to Wheaton North to take on the Falcons May 4, winning 3-1. Tom Nogaj was the winning pitcher.

We-Go Sports

Track - off and running!

by Don Dierschow

As the Wildcat varsity track team emerged from the bus May 1, they started a day they would rather forget.

Fourteen schools participated in the Warhawk Invitational. The Wildcats came out with one second and two third places. The mile relay team took a second and the 880 yard runners took a third. The Wildcats placed third in the triple jump.

At Naperville North May 4 the Wildcats had a decisive victory, 95-50. A member of the team said that they could have increased their score and times but there was a strong southerly wind.

At Crystal Lake May 8, the Wildcats broke three school records: the 220-yard run by Armando Gonzales, the 880-yard by Brad Davis, and the mile relay team consisting of Mark Stark, Phil Tinnes, Brad Davis and Tom Malia. The team took fourth out of eight schools participating. This meet lifted the team's morale for their upcoming meets.

Sean Kelleghan overtaking an opponent in a relay.

West Chicago Wildcats met their archrival Geneva May 11. We-Go pulled another victory, 75-60, the first time they have ever won two meets in a row. Don Mueller, long-distance runner, broke the school record in the two-mile run.

Tomorrow the track team travels to the district meet at Glenbard East.

Don Stockton makes it up and over the high bar.

Junior Mark Stark is being followed closely be Senior Phil Tinnes.

Photos by Cruz