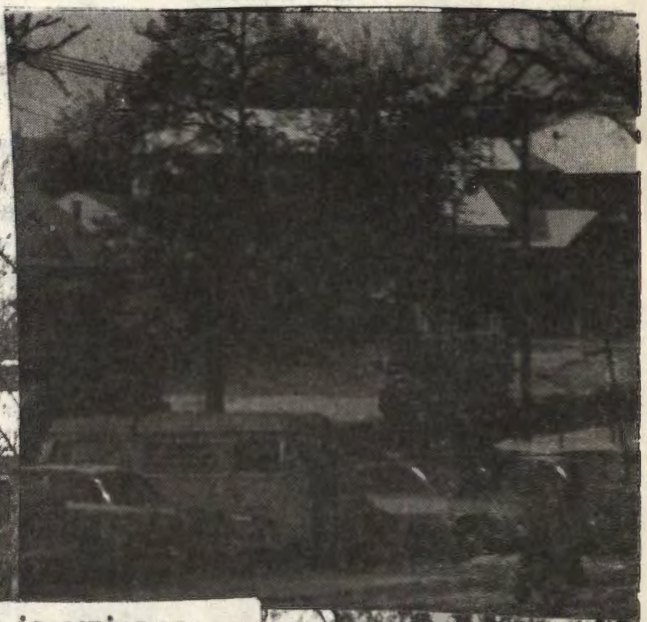
West Chicago

BRIDGE

Voice of Students today - for a better school tomorrow

West Chicago Community High School, West Chicago IL 60185 February 11, 1977 Vol 6 No. 7



The time of winter is coming up;
The time of day is soon enough;
The time of winter is here to stay,
To see the snow float down this way;
To see the winter, night and day.

Poem and photos by Mark Stephano

NEWS BRIEFS

Have you ever thought of adopting a river? Recently six girls from Mr. Arnolds second hour Contemporary Political Problems class did just that. Kim Quirin Missie Mitz, Laurie Kesler, Renee Caputo, Dorine Barajas and Chris Haag adopted a small branch of the DuPage River near Winfield.

Before doing so, they made a trip into Chicago to talk to the director of Environmental Services to get the information they needed for their project.

During second hour they sometimes go out to the river to try to clean it up. It is hard work, but the girls say they enjoy doing it.

Math students at WCCHS unite! Top students in math will participate March 8 in the 28th annual math contest. High school students across the country will take the exam. Scores will be compared nationwide and out with the highest grades will recieve awards.

Dr. Irwin Rovner, of the Department of Archeology, Northwestern University, will give a color-slide presentation of the Koster Arcicheologial site, February 14, during seventh hour in the auditorium.

The dream of all Rhineys has finally come true. They are released from quiet Study Hall. On the basis that they have regular attendance, no unexcused absences no more than one referral, no suspensions and a 2.0 grade point or above. So Rhineys, you're free at last.

People interested in making reservations for the State Wrestling Tournament at Champaign February 25-26 had better hurry! Time is running out and so are rooms.

Student's from West Chicago Community High School attended a string orchestra clinic at Northwestern university in Evanston January 8. Those attending the clinic were Terry Ferro, Barbara Elslager, Robyn Snowden, and Mike Teal, playing violins. Scott Walters played viola and Jenny Walters played cello. Chaperon for the day was Mr. Gene Haney.

During the day Mr. Bernard Rubestein, new orchestra director, held rehearsals. The WCCHS string players also attended section clinics conducted by members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

The choirs, band, and orchestra are now making plans to attend the Illinois State Music Contest at Rochelle, on March 5.

Students are working on a variety of music including solo and ensemble pieces.

Nearby and old conference schools in the competition are Aurora East and West, Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles, Morris, Oswego, and Sycamore.

Mrs. Lorraine O'Brien is the new teacher in Adaptive Ed, who so far likes her new job. She's originally from Gary, Ind. She went to Rosary College in River Forest and had been working at Pleasent Hill school in Wheaton

The high school had purchased a new microwave oven. It will be used in the advanced food courses. Using this space-age way of preparing meals will cut cooking time in half. The Litton microwave features varitemp control, different settings for cooking, and even a browning capability.

Due to the lack of space, trackmen, weightlifters and wrestlers are using the schools hallways for running purposes. This however creates a problem for those people who are here after school and walk the halls. No one has been hurt yet, but something should be done before an accident does occur. An indoor track will be appreiated by both athletes and teachers.

Don't throw your silverware away! Recently there has been a shortage of silverware and bowls in the cafeteria. This is due to the negligence of the students. Throwing away bowls and silverware for no reason is only a waste of the taxpayer's money. When you throw away silverware and bowls you are just throwing away things your parents have purchased through taxes.

At a meeting December 12, the Student Council proposed an amendment to the Constitution dealing with membership. Membership in Student Council will consist of ten people per class, with a limit of forty members excluding officers, foreign exchange students and class officers.

From The Principal's Desk

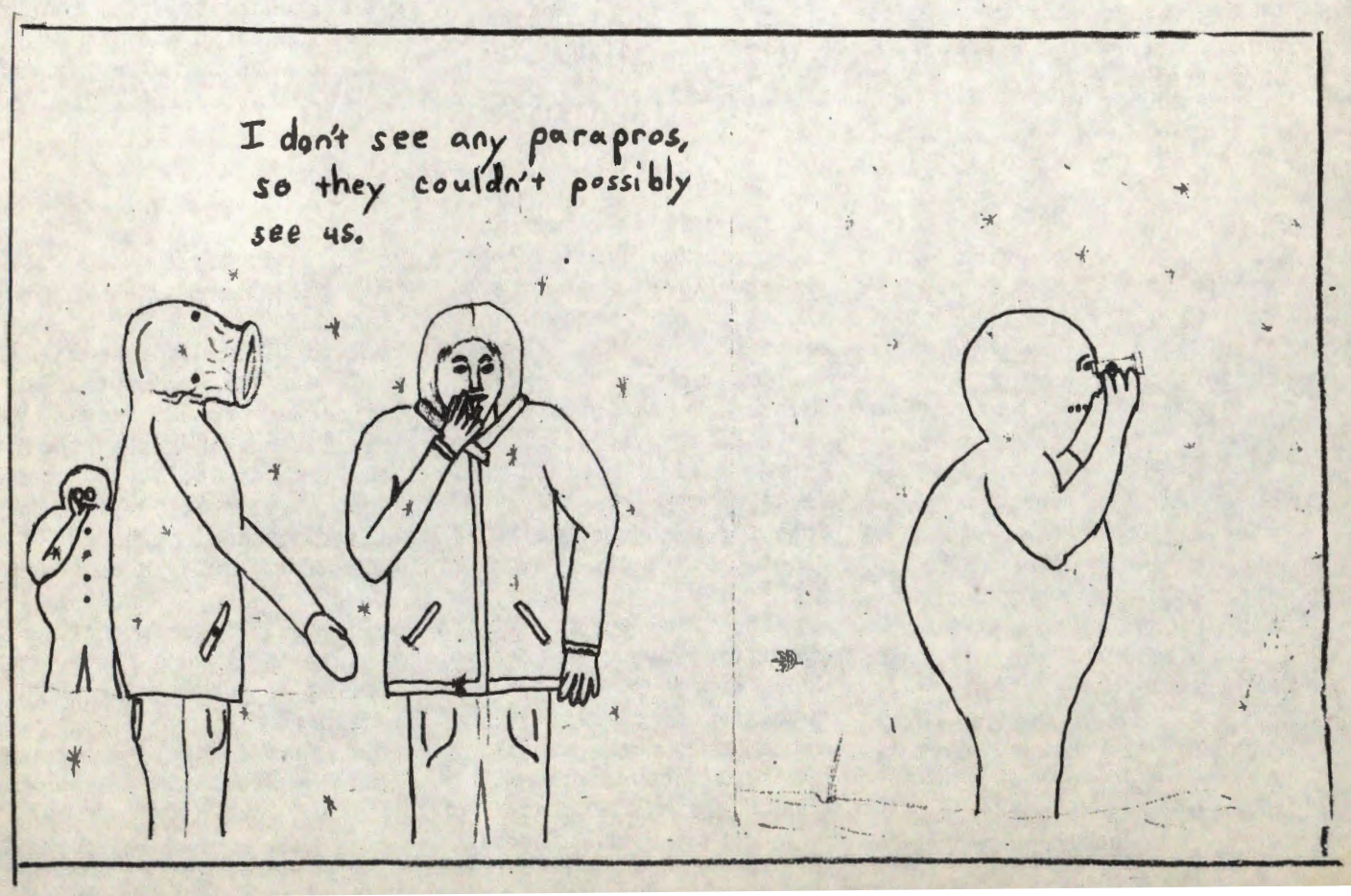
by Paul Durr

Dr. Richard Kamm announced several educational changes scheduled or in planning for the near future.

The board of education has approved these curriculum changes for West Chicago:

1) The English department will start a new course on science fiction: two of their literature courses, Major European Writers.
2) Home economics will start a new course on clothing careers.
3) The Illinois Office of Education plans a statewide program on "Responsible Education." This program will involve 50 to 60 schools throughout the state. West Chicago is one of the schools asked to participate. Various schools will pool ideas. Some of the topics to be discussed will be citizenship, politics, particularly voting and personal responsiblilty. Dr. Kamm feels that although this program will be tough and difficult to teach, it will be worth while.
4) Building plans and designs are progressing well.
5) Tentative plans include a "school in a school" for seniors. Teachers involved in the plans are Mr. George Strecker, Mr. Dean Burgess, Mr. Steve Arnold and Miss Kathy Hayes. The three men recently attended a conference in Quincy, IL., where six alternative schools for juniors and seniors operate successfully in one complex. The meeting was primarily to pool ideas. There are three basic classroom systems: The traditional system, which most classes follow; A flexible system, midway between the two others; and the type similar to the system taught in Mr. Strecker's history courses which stresses independent education. This involves an individualized personal curriculum, which promotes responsibility. The major goal of this program is a different atmosphere in student-student and student-teacher relationship.

The longer I have been at West Chicago High School (3 years now), the prouder I have become of the school. I hope that you share this pride and will join me in an effort to use our school wisely and to take good care of it.



A Letter To All Students

I imagine that by now you all know that a few weeks ago the voters in School District 94 voted to increase their future real estate taxes enough to provide $5.3 million for the purpose of improving this building and adding two major additions to it.

It is my opinion that these improvements, including a new learning center, expanded cafeteria, commons area, swimming pool, fieldhouse, and additional classrooms, will result in a better school for all of us. Better because of the additional educational programs we will be able to offer students, better because of increased learning resources, and better because of a more efficient and convenient arrangement for providing student services (Learning Resource Center, Commons, Guidance, Attendance, Cafeteria, Registrar).

---It is also my opinion that the passage of this building referendum by the voters is a very significant expression of faith in the youth of this community. It is apparent that a lot of people want you to have a good high school education and are willing to tax themselves to provide it.

In view of this commitment by the taxpayers of District 94, I believe that all of us here at the high school have the responsibility to try to make the best and most efficient use we can of the facilities with which we have been provided. I also believe we have the responsibility to take care of these facilities in a manner that will maintain their excellent condition for future generations of high school students.

Clothing Careers

by Rich Blacklidge

Do you like working by yourself? Do you enjoy sewing? If you do, you should try the new clothing careers minicourse. Nine weeks work earns a quarter credit. Projects range from designing window displays and wardrobes to the business end of setting up one's own tailoring shop at home. Those of you who like this kind of work may see Mrs. Patti Kozlowski in the home ec department.

The requirements for joining the course are two semesters of beginner sewing and an unscheduled period during the spring semester.

Who Chooses the Courses?

by Clay Trentlage

The curriculum committee is a group of five teachers, two counselors, and one administration member. The members are Mrs. Beverly Gossen, science; Mr. Ron Salzman, math; Dr. John Murphy, Data processing; Miss Cheryl Waldorf, speech; Mr. Wayne Kosek, English; Mr. John Delap and Mr. Peter Alvino, guidance; and Dr. Richard Kamm, principal.

The main purpose of the committee is to accept or drop proposed classes. The committee discusses a class after a member submits a proposal sheet which answers such questions as these:

1. Does the title conflict with other titles, and does it tell the nature of the course?
2. Briefly describe it.
3. Will the course objectives and requirements be realistic, and what should the credit be? Is there enough information for the length of the course?
4. Who should the course be offered to? Should it be offered over the summer?
5. Does it duplicate existing courses or the DAVEA program?
6. What do the members of the departments feel abour this course?
7. What's the need for it?

Indoor Track

The indoor track team is not looking as good this year as it did last year. The team lost several seniors, like Brad Davis, Steve Mueller, and Tom Malia, all of whom broke school records set in 1965. The team does have outstanding athletes: Ken Mueller, who jumped 43'6¼" to break the school record at triple jumping; Craig Sisson, who ran the 330 low hurdles in an amazing 41.3 seconds, breaking the school record; Armando Gonzales, who broke the school record running the 220 in 22.4 seconds; Mark Stark, alias Starknaked, who helped break the record in the mile relay.

Last year the team took fourth in the school conference. This year they are trying to do better. Coaching the team this year is Mr. Richard Stabach, who has confidence in the team. The first meet will be at West Leyden, at 10 a.m. January, 29.