The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
Volume 14 Number 1 September 28, 1984

Homecoming 1984

by Jenny Sheriff

Homecoming week begins Saturday, October 6 with window painting from 9 a.m. to 2:45. The four classes will also begin construction of their floats.

According to a tentative schedule set by the Student Council, Homecoming will host a number of events for West Chicago High schoolers to participate in.

Tuesday, October 9 will begin with an assembly to announce Homecoming finalists. Tuesday is also worm day.

T-shirt and hat day will be held Wednesday. Thursday is a half day and school spirit can be shown on this day by wearing clothes that clash.

Thursday night is Parent Open House. The open house gives parents a chance to tour the school and meet teachers and administrators.

Friday, October 12 is a half day with classes ending at noon. At 12:15 there will be a Pep Assembly in the Bishop Gym.

The Homecoming Parade begins at 2:30 p.m. with floats representing the classes and clubs of our school.

Contests to be held on Friday include the pie eating contest, egg toss, and tricycle race.

The football game, held at home against Glenbard North will begin at 6 p.m. for Sophomores and 8 p.m. for Varsity.

The week will draw to a close with the Homecoming Dance Saturday night from 8 to 11:30 p.m. in the Community High School cafeteria.

schedule

Saturday
window painting
float construction
Tuesday
assembly
worm day
Wednesday
t-shirt day
hat day
Thursday
clash day
Friday
pep assembly
Homecoming
parade
pie-eating contest
egg toss
tricycle race
football game
Booster's marathon
Saturday
Homecoming
dance

Centel to televise school events

by Scott Tepe

Centel, the local cable company, is planning on televising school events this year.

The opening football game against Geneva was video taped. The Naperville North game is scheduled, as well as the Wheaton Central and Wheaton North games. Soccer games are also scheduled to be taped.

No formal agreement has been proposed by either side, although taping may extend through the spring and into the next few years.

The basketball game against Glenbard South last year was the first Community High School event to be delay taped by Centel. The 1984 Senior Commencement was televised by tape delay.

On July 3, Centel asked William F. Renner, principal, and Athletic Director Butch Hansen to meet with Wheaton Central's principal and athletic director to propose the televising of school events including sport events, concerts, and segments of one acts, plays and musicals.

Dr. Renner replied with a list of guidelines for Centel, including standard copyright violation codes, to avoid scouting by rival teams, conduct of announcers, standards for commercials during programing, and a provision that stated Centel would assume all profit and expenses.

New Assistant Dean

by Rachel Hadden

The new assistant dean, Frank Stout is a familiar face to most students because he worked as one of the physical education teachers at West Chicago Junior High for the past four years.

Stout has been teaching for ten years, 5 years at the junior high level and 5 years at the high school level. He was the department chairman and teacher of health and physical education at Argo High School before he came to teach in West Chicago. Stout has been a head baseball coach, assistant basketball, and football coach also.

To be Dean of Students, a person must have a Master of Science in Education Administration, experience working with secondary school students, and have a strong interest in school climate and student behavior.

"Student rules should be reasonable and punishment for improper behavior should be based on logical consequences." Stout wants to be fair to everyone because in his opinion everyone deserves a fair chance.

His job is to punish people who get out of line, but he also wants to help the students in any way possible. He wants to find out why the student is having problems, and help to correct it.

Stout wants to help maintain a school climate that is conducive to learning and to promote and maintain high expectations of student behavior.

Ink Spots

Special assembly

Students Against Driving Drunk (S.A.D.D.) is a national organization in over 6000 high schools across the United States. The main purpose of the organization is to reduce deaths involving drinking and driving.

Paul Pacific was a guest speaker for S.A.D.D. at Weyrauch Auditorium, September 19 at 1:30 p.m.

The presentation was geared towards getting students to realize the consequences of driving while under the influence of alcohol.

This date has been designated S.A.D.D. Day and will involve other high schools in our area aiding in solving the nationwide problem that is killing many teenagers.

Any students interest in S.A.D.D. can contact Bob Hein, the West Chicago advisor.

Alumni meeting

Alumni of West Chicago High School are invited to a get together after the Homecoming football game, October 12.

It will be a time to reminisce about old times and visit old friends. The meeting is being sponsored by the Booster Club.

First meeting

The West Chicago Student Council met for the first time this year on September 12 to discuss the organization of freshmen council member elections and Homecoming.

Two guest speakers were also present. Suzy Sackett spoke to the council to inform them of the possible extinction of Pep Club and to inquire for help.

Alice Tinnes of the cafeteria staff also spoke on the topic of cafeteria lunches and suggestions for evaluations and improvements.

Bridge subscription

The West Chicago Community High School Bridge is now offering a subscribtion to parents.

Twelve issues of the award winning Bridge will be sent to your home for $5.

Send your check or money order made out to the Bridge to The Bridge, 326 Joliet Street, West Chicago, IL, 60185.

Poms go to camp

Under the direction of Lisa Gomez the West Chicago Pom Pon squad attended three competitions this summer.

The whole squad attended Badgerette Camp at North Central College July 21 through the 24. There they received a first place in Senior kickline, second in orginality, and second place overall.

They were invited to Midwest Invitational at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine. There they received a third in originality. Two girls did solo routines; Janice DiBella, and Chris Schlenker.

In addition to Badgerette Camp and Midwest Invitational, four squad members attended NCA Camp, Captain Amy Frick, Co-captain Janice DiBella, Junior Captain Heather Siglin, and Chris Schlenker.

Also featured in this issue:

Ferraro for VP?

Freshmen fears

Homecoming victory?

Ferraro for VP?

by Laura Pollastrini

Three cheers for the women of America! They've finally gotten a woman onto the presidential ticket — Geraldine Ferraro. It's too bad that this woman doesn't know who or what she stands for.

Ferraro claims that she is a member of the Roman Catholic Church, the same church that is opposed to abortion. She also claims that she is against abortion, yet her actions don't back up her words. She continues to back laws that would keep abortion legalized, which is against what she says that she believes in. So what are the citizens of the U.S. to believe? Is she for it or against it?

Abortion according to Funk and Wagnall's dictionary, is "partial or complete arrest of development in anything." I'd have to admit that abortion is the killing of another human being, and I could never vote someone into office that agreed to the killing of another life, whether it be that of an adult, child, or fetus.

Ferraro claims that she does not wish to inflict her beliefs onto the people of America, so instead of backing her own judgments and working to abolish abortion, the murdering of unborn children, she backs the legality of it.

Ferraro's inability to establish an objective and work towards it has proved that she is a two sided person that states one thing and does another. How can we put our trust in someone like that? It's a shame that the first woman on the presidential ticket had to be such a disappointment.

Cell block 94

by Heather Siglin
Dianne Kern

High school, the best years of our life. Dances, prom, football games, homecoming, and bonfires. But what will West Chicago students remember? The fun things like waiting in line before entering a dance to have our names checked off to ensure we attended every class that day. That at prom, we had an entire table of administrators breathing down our necks the whole night. We realize that discipline must be enforced, but to such a degree that everything fun turns into a political harassment? Just going into the office as a student, of course, is a political run-around. They run you from one desk to another with more and more red tape. This isn't just a high school, it's a boot camp — Cell Block 94.

Teachers and students agree that the tense atmosphere of this school is impossible to work under. It's as if we're in a prison. Our every move is being watched and recorded. People cannot and will not be dictated to and be expected to walk into a classroom ready to work. There is evidence of extreme discontent and frustration among students about the lack of freedom and trust shown by our administration. How can we prepare for life out of high school, if our every move is approved and no mistakes are allowed?

It's as if the administration thinks we aren't responsible enough to attend classes. We recognize that it's our responsibility to fulfill the requirements of our chosen courses. Therefore, if we fail to attend the class we are the only ones to suffer. The parapros are not necessary to make sure we go to our classes.

Students at Wheaton North, Glenbard North, and Schaumburg High School have never even heard of parapros. They laughed and thought we were kidding. They feel there is no problem in schools without "security guards."

Ten years ago there may have been a need for such discipline and strictness. Today's students aren't as violent, and most come into school with a more mature attitude. The school has a better reputation now, and we should be given parole.

The Bridge

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We-go students show lack of school spirit

by Brendan Lambert

Being a school mascot has led me to believe one thing, the students of We-Go have very little school spirit. My job as a school mascot is to promote school spirit and entertain the crowd. How am I supposed to do my job if everyone is standing around goofing off and socializing. I know many students do not get a chance to talk with friends during the school day, but couldn't they find time after school?

No school spirit!

At the first football game this season, many of the people attending the game were just talking and they did not even know the score. The people who were watching the game were parents, children, and a few students. If everyone attending the sports activities would pay more attention and exert more spirit the game would be more exciting. The more excitement that the crowd gives off the better they would play and more enthusiasm the players would have towards a victory.

With Homecoming Week right around the corner, I hope that all the students will remember to participate in all the activities and attend the football game ready to cheer the Wildcats to a victory.

Editorial policy

The **Bridge** is the student newspaper of West Chicago Community High School. The **Bridge** office is located in room 216.

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must be legibly signed, with a maximum of five names appearing in the paper. Letters will be printed as time and space permit. The editor reserves the right to edit, if necessary, for length and libelous material.

Unsigned editorials appearing in the paper are the opinion of the majority of the **Bridge** editorial board. Content and editorial policy are determined by the editors with concurrence of the **Bridge** editorial board. The advisor acts in the capacity of a professional consultant. The opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of the majority of the student body or the high school.

Review: Revenge of the Nerds

by Scott Grenke

Who wears square glasses with tape in the middle, snorts when he laughs, wears a T-shirt under an opened button shirt, high water pants, and has brains galore? Nerds! They do in the film **Revenge of the Nerds.**

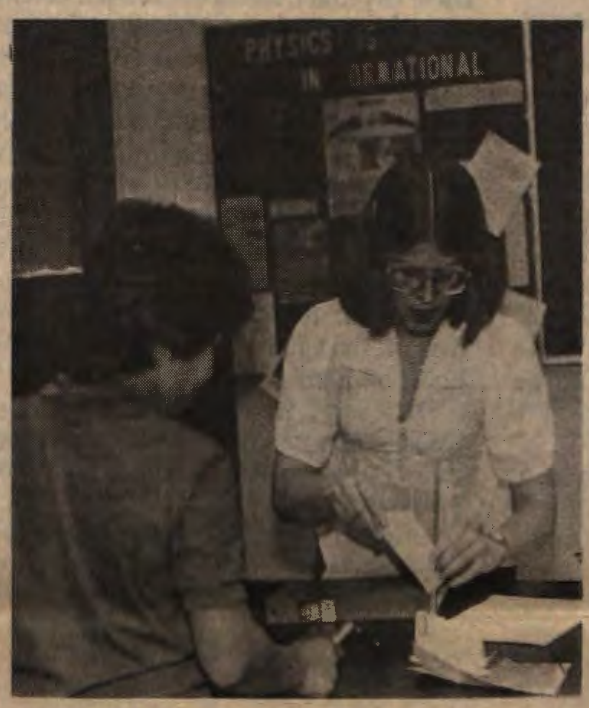
Revenge of the Nerds is a very funny film about the most perennial victim, the nerd, getting back at his tormentors. The film perfectly stereotypes everyone in the movie, from the freshmen nerds and the big strong jocks to the principal and the football coach. The humor in this film is not the fast-word humor of Bill Murray or Eddie Murphy, but rather a humor which focuses on the stereotypical characters and the situations they get into.

In the film, the freshmen "nerds," after being kicked out of their dormatory by a fraternity of jocks who accidentally burned down their fraternity house, buy an extremely broken down house and turn it into a very beautiful home. They try to become a fraternity, but they are rejected. The "nerds" consist of two computer whizes, a scuzbag nicknamed "Booger" for obvious reasons, a gay black, a violin player who has a habit of walking into walls, and a native Japanese man who is ignorant or our customs. The principal is somewhat of a nerd himself, and even though he tries to be fair, he usually backs down before the huge, dimwitted coach who can yell much louder. Among the jocks are the two main "jock" characters, a humongous animal whose nickname is "Ogre," and a well-dressed, fair-haired preppy. One notably hilarious scene occurs when the nerds throw a party to impress another fraternity so that the fraternity will sponsor them. And after the party, the fun really begins as the nerds take their revenge.

There is a twist at the end of the film as the mood and tone become serious, and one of the nerds makes a speech where he admits that he is a nerd and asks anyone who has been an outcast to join him. So, all in all, it is a very funny film with a serious, but touching ending. The film touches on the point that jokes often get out of hand, and instead of being funny, they are often very destructive and malicious. Even though the "nerds" and "jocks" are stereotyped in this film, the film carries truth in the situation that people who look different or act different are often shunned, made fun of, and classified as "nerds," "dorks," or "spazes." The overall message this film carries is to judge people by who they are, not what they wear, look like, sound like, or how they act.

Janet Riehecky
Freshman English

Rachel Bauman
Age: 30
Birthplace: Columbus, Ohio
Occupation: teacher
Current home: Aspen Ridge Apt.
Children: none
Working on: ?
Worst job: maid at a motel
The last good movie I saw was: *The Last Starfighter*
I try to stay home and watch: no TV
Favorite pigout food: ice cream
Nickname: Rache
Favorite performer: John Denver
Personal hero/heroines: Mary Lou Smucker
Every New Years I resolve: to lose weight
Nobody knows I'm: a cake decorator
I'm a sucker for: sweets
The worst advice my mother ever gave me was: —
I can't stand people who: smoke in my face
If I could change one thing about myself, I would: not worry
I knew I was grown up when: I haven't yet!
My most irrational fear is: of failure
The worst time of my life: seeing a test and completely blanking out
The best time of my life: succeeding at something I thought impossible
I can die happy once I've: completed the work the Lord has given me
If I've learned one thing in life it's that: one can rely on God



SUE JUNKROSKI
Age: 27
Birthplace: Chicago
Occupation: teacher
Current home: Chicago
Children: none
Working on: getting up enough nerve and energy to learn German
Worst job: Larsen Jr. High School, Elgin
The last good movie I saw was: Romancing the Stone
I try to stay home and watch: Remington Steele
Favorite pigout food: Trinidads from Fannie May
Nickname: Junk
Favorite performer: Joni Mitchell
Personal hero/heroines: Elizabeth I of England, Isabel the Catholic of Spain
Every New Years I resolve: to get organized
Nobody knows I'm: afraid to speak in front of a group
I'm a sucker for: men in jackets with patches on the elbows. Add a puppy, and I'm a basket case.
The worst advice my mother ever gave me was: She never gave me bad advice — she's still the person I most turn to.
I can't stand people who: lie to me
If I could change one thing about myself, I would: lower the pitch of my voice
I knew I was grown up when: I cleaned the house even when my mom wasn't coming to visit
My most irrational fear is: rodents
The worst time of my life: my sophomore year in college
The best time of my life: now is good, but the best is yet to come
I can die happy once I've: traveled all over the world
If I've learned one thing in life it's that: you really have to want to do something to do it well

GARY BERTSOS
Age: 27
Birthplace: Ann Arbor (A^2 if you're a native)

Occupation: teacher, though my students may disagree
Current home: West Chicago
Children: none
Working on: my
Worst job: dishwasher ($1.60/hr. the night man isn't here today could you work an extra four hours)
The last good movie I saw was:
I try to stay home and watch: PTV (the twenty four hour physics channel)
Favorite pigout food: I try to balance my meals between the major food groups: sugary, salty, greasy
Nicknames: Bert, Serge (I don't answer to either one)
Favorite performer: Bullwinkle
Personal heros: Einstein, Newton, Fermi (but not Firmi)
Every New Years I resolve: To become a better person (obviously I never follow through)
Nobody knows I'm: I don't even know so I can't tell you
I'm a sucker for: sleeping late (next year it's night school for me)
The worst advice my mother ever gave me was: get a job, you can't be a student all your life
I can't stand people who: think they know it all and want me to know they do
If I could change one thing about myself I would: I refuse to answer and have people tell me I have far worse problems to correct than that
My most irrational fear is: losing my mind (some might ask me how I could lose it twice)
The worst time of my life: 7 a.m. every week day
The best times of my life: were in Berkely where I slept to 2 p.m., worked 15 hrs. a week and still had some bucks left over
I can die happy once I've: no, I'm sorry, when I die I won't be happy
If I've learned one thing in life it's that: hind sight is 20-20 I should have lived my life by starting out dead

Poms successful at camp

by Carrie Wrobleuwski

What happened when 18 Pom Pon girls from West Chicago High School attended Badgerette Camp?

They came home with a first in senior kickline, a second in originality, and a second overall.

The Pom Pon girls attended Badgerette Camp at North Central College, July 21-24. There they were rated on routines and a skit. "Camp is kind of fun because you get to meet other girls from other squads," said Senior Vicki Abbott.

After attending Badgerette Camp they were invited to the Midwest Invitational at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine.

At Midwest co-captain Janice DiBella and Chris Schlenker did solo routines. The squad brought home a third in originality.

In addition to Badgerette Camp and Midwest Invitational four squad members attended NCA camp: Captain Amy Frick, co-captain Janice DiBella, Junior Captains Heather Siglin and Chris Schlenker. They won a first place trophy for their routine, a first place trophy for highest average of points, two "spirit sticks" and eight first place ribbons. Amy Frick won a Superstar Award.

Lisa Gomez, the new sponsor, was a 1977 graduate of West Chicago High School. She feels "their style has improved, and they have more variety."

The West Chicago Pom Pon squad was the only one in the conference invited to Midwest. Gomez says that it looks like a good year for the Pom Pon Squad.

New be

Is there life after high school?

by Erin Schaben

Freshman year: most think it's over. One who is destined to college still has one more year of being a freshman.

Hear it from college freshmen themselves about their first couple weeks of being a freshman. Alumni interviewed were: Steve Bahlmann, Mark Hoffer, Steve Pisto and Donna Pavlica.

Donna Pavlica, while in high school, was theatrically involved, in choir, swing choir, and was a cheerleader. Presently she attends Southern Illinois University and is majoring in theater.

Mark Hoffer was also interviewed. He was sports editor for The Bridge, leader of the kamikazies, and on the football team for four years. Hoffer will be attending College of DuPage in January majoring in mechanical drawing.

The third alumnus interviewed was Steve Pisto. Pisto was a band member, and also a kamikazie. He is enrolled at Illinois State University.

Fourth on the list is Steve Bahlmann, a band member for four years, in choir, captain of Madrigal singers and actor in the theater department in his years of high school. Bahlmann is also enrolled at Illinois State University.

When asked how long they've been at college, different things were involved. Pavlica has been at SIU for about a month because of freshman orientation. Bahlmann has been at college since August 19 because of marching band.

Rumor has it that college food is bad, two out of the three students that live on campus go along with that; a "blahh!" from Pavlica, and it's usually "bad news" with Bahlmann. Pisto thinks it's like high school food. You decide if it's a rumor or a fact.

Another topic that comes to people's minds when talking about college is roommates. They all said that they got along with their roommates "so far." Even though Pavlica's roommate is never home, they still get along. Bahlmann's roommate is Pisto — they were friends in high school so they say they get along. Hoffer won't have to worry about a roommate because he'll be living at home and commuting to college.

That brings us into another thought about that subject: rooms. At ISU it was said that they were small but you could do a lot with them. Bahlmann has his bed hanging from the ceiling for more storage space. Pisto described the room, "two beds, two closets, and two desks." When asked if she took too much stuff, Pavlica said "I could have taken more, but I could have left some home."

If you think high school classes have a lot of homework ... Bahlmann says that classes are a lot different and there's a lot more work than high school. But Pisto says "I love it!" He hasn't had any homework since school started (August 27). Pavlica says that it's "just like high school." That goes to show how different schools can be and the different majors make a difference. There's always one in a crowd. The three of them say that there is one of their teachers that they don't like but that's not always the case. "My acting teacher is so cool," says Pavlica.

There seems to be a lot to do on campus that keeps you from getting homesick. Bahlmann says that if there's something you want to do, just ask around on your floor and someone will want to join you. Pavlica thinks of all of her friends here though. Pisto is too busy to think about home too much.

The main fears that seem to arise are not fitting in, first day of classes, and "friends back home forgetting me."

The overall view of college is that it is like "a resort" from Pisto, Bahlmann wishes that you didn't have to start off as a freshman, and Pavlica, "I'm happy."

After high school there are many opportunities of ways to go. College is only one of them and it may not be for everyone. The overall view seemed to be that it was good to be out of high school and in the real world.

Keepin' busy aft

by Rosa Snell

Going to school has its ups and downs. One of We-go's good aspects is the interscholastic activities a student can participate in. They range from academic clubs to athletic teams. There are many extracurricular activities in which you can become involved. Many interscholastic activities are year-long. Maybe one should consider taking part of what our school offers. As Rocky Balboa would say, "Go for it!"

The Theater Department puts together the fall play, road show which is a variety of acts put together by the student body themselves, and the spring musical. Any student can participate in any of these productions.

If acting is not for you, maybe working on a crew would do. For more information contact Ralph Zaffino.

Does working for a school newspaper sound like your thing? The Bridge is the school's newspaper, which is entirely produced by the students. The school newspaper reflects the opinion and interests of the student body. Anyone interested in working on the Bridge can contact Tim Courtney, room 216.

Would you like to expand on your art, photography, or writing skills? These are all part of the Chrysalis, WCCHS's revived literary

Senior leaders take freshmen under their wings

by Brendan Lambert

Many people have heard the term SSP and do not know what it stands for or what it means. Student Support Project (or SSP as it is commonly known) is a student organization comprised of freshmen and seniors. Basically the purpose of this group is to enhance the growth potential of the freshmen. It was started by Robert Owens eight years ago.

The seniors involved have gone through a training course their junior year. The class takes place during second semester seventh hour. In this class they are taught the four methods that they will teach the freshmen. These four methods are: self-concept, problem solving, values clarification, and group process. These four methods were designed to give freshmen more self-assurance in high school.

SSP is offered to freshmen first semester. The SSP leaders will go to the study halls and have them sign up. The meetings are twice a week during school. Each group will consist of two leaders and approximately eight freshmen. In the time of each meeting they will be involved in activities such as reading, playing games, and group discussion. They will learn in an open atmosphere which encourages the freshmen to open up and be more willing to discuss things in a group. SSP was also designed to give the freshmen an upperclassman that they can talk and relate with, without being embarrassed.

Freshmen are encouraged to join SSP as it will broaden their knowledge and help them have a better high school experience. As Owens says, "I encourage freshmen to join as it is a good group experience and it is a fun experience."

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Robert Owens, SSP adviser
(photo by Becky Thuer)

ginnings

er hours '84-'85

magazine. For more information please contact Carol Binkley or Mary Hafertepe.

Many students are presently enrolled in French, German, or Spanish. WCCHS has a club for each language taught here. These clubs familiarize you to their cultures. Contact your language teacher for more details.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is designed to promote business leadership and increase economic awareness towards any student who is interested in business. FBLA is involved in many school and local events. A weekend trip to the state conference is also planned each spring. See Donald Zabelin for more details.

The Pep Club aims to increase school spirit by cheering our team on at assemblies, and creating support of the school's activities and programs. Any student interested contact Richard Waterhouse.

The Political Action Club is for students who strive to be aware of all political issues and informing the student body of current political events. Contact John DeLap for details.

Would you like to get your own amateur radio license? If so, the Amateur Radio Club is designed to teach students the abilities to pass the FCC test. See Lawrence Stark for details.

Freshmen, sophomore, and junior girls wanting to encourage support of the school's athletic teams can try out for cheerleading or Pom Pons. Tryouts are held in the spring. For further information, contact Richard Waterhouse.

There are also 18 athletic activities one might like in particular: badminton, boys and girls basketball, cross country, football, golf, intramural athletics, soccer, girls softball, boys and girls swimming, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls track, girls volleyball and boys wrestling. If you would like to pursue any of these sport events, contact Ronald Hansen.

All you people who are considering getting involved should know that it is a lot of work, but in the end, that work will not just be appreciated by yourself, but other people.

Denise Acker, freshman.
(photo by Becky Thuer)

Freshmen express fears, views of their first weeks at high school

by Vicki Abbott

What was freshman year like? "It was real bad at first, then it was all right after everything started." "I hated it!" "Freshman year was frightening."

These responses were received from previous freshmen. Overall, freshman year was not very good, according to responses from older classmen at WCCHS. But what does the class of '88 expect from freshman year?

"I don't know what to expect!" said Fred Cadena. "Nothing," said Geri Pashkus. Numerous sports were named and "... the best education I can get," was another answer.

All freshmen surveyed think that high school will be better than junior high for different reasons. "The classes are better. There's a better range of courses, there's not much choice at Winfield," said Denise Acker. "More kids," said Brent Smith.

All freshmen interviewed thought that high school was bigger than their junior high schools. "A lot bigger," said Jeff Oswald. But students from West Chicago Junior High, Benjamin, and Winfield Middle School recognized many people from their schools. St. Mary's School students had trouble recognizing many people.

Freshmen from Benjamin, Winfield, and West Chicago say that classes aren't that much different, just a little longer, a little harder and there is more homework. The differences between P.E. classes are that freshmen have swimming, more units, and better equipment and locations.

Freshmen from St. Mary's say that classes are much different. "We have about three classes with one teacher, then two or three more classes with another. We switch off two or three times during the day," said Marya Sosulski. There are five class hours in the day and students go to P.E. once a week.

Most freshmen don't know about all of WCCHS's clubs and activities. Benjamin "... didn't have any clubs," said Smith.

On the average, freshmen are looking forward to their four years of high school and they want to get involved in many sports and activities. No one is scared of WCCHS but many of the freshmen have gotten themselves lost, but upper classmen say that freshman year goes by very fast.

Freshman study hall. (Photo by Becky Thuer)

Glenn's Jewelry

HI STUDENTS:
GLENN'S JEWELRY WILL BE IN WITH JOSTEN CLASS RINGS OCTOBER 4TH AND 5TH, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY.
SURE HOPE TO SEE YOU THEN! IF WE DON'T SEE YOU THERE, COME TO OUR STORE AT 183 W. WASHINGTON, WEST CHICAGO.

How We-Go Got Its Mascot?

by Melanie Mitz

"Gimme a W!, Gimme an I!, Gimme a L!, Gimme a D!, and gimme a C, an A, and a T!" Whats it spell? WILDCAT! that's what! You see it everywhere in our school. You hear it at all the games, in cheers, at the pep assemblies, it's printed on all the school uniforms. Now here's a question: Where exactly did we get our mascot from? Answer — That's a good question!

When a few WE-GO students were asked this grueling quesiton, they came up with these answers.

Ann Feld, junior: "Maybe there were wildcats roaming around this area when the school was first built, and that's how they decided."

Joel Mains, sophomore: "Maybe we were supposed to be the West Chicago Hippos and things just got mixed up, we ended up wildcats from someone's mistake."

Lisa Swanson, junior: "Wild cats are mean animals. The school just wanted something that would be mean."

The latter of the three explanations sounds the most reasonable. Most of the surrounding schools' mascots are rather mean sounding, each of them trying to sound superior than the other. Some of them are the Tigers, Falcons, Rams, Bulldogs, Warriors, Maroons (Maroon was an Indian chief), Panthers and the Vikings. Where some not-so-mean sounding ones are the Saints, or the Royals.

This writer looked to find the answer. She combed through old yearbooks, asked administrators, and called local museums. She couldn't find out either.

A semi-reasonable explanation to this is that it was voted on years back when the school was trying to vote on a mascot. Wildcat was picked because they are mean, quick tempered and because it sounds good with West Chicago. A Wildcat is defined as being a "quick-tempered, savage-like feline." Are our sport teams like that?

Wild "kits", a name given to our sophomore teams, derived from kittens, or "baby cats". Kits is just used to make it less feminine sounding.

What if we weren't the Wildcats? What if we were something like the WE-GO Wombats, or better yet, the WE-GO Wahoos! (A wahoo is a fish.) There are also a lot worse things we could be. Such as the WE-GO wimps, or the willows!

What this reporter does know is that we've been the West Chicago Wildcats for a long time. Be proud that you're a Wildcat and that you go to this school. You can tell a leopard by its spots, and a tiger by its stripes, but the only way you can tell we're Wildcats is by how cool of a school we are. Meow!

Souta — distribution editor of The Bridge

We-go people

by Alice Pegel

Ask any student what the distribution editor of the **Bridge** does, and chances are that you'll only get a puzzled look. Ask Mike Souta, and you'll find out. Why? Because that's his job. Basically, he says, it consists of simply taking the papers and making sure that they get to where they're supposed to be. These places include the cafeteria, the library, the office, and wherever else one can get copies of the **Bridge**.

Souta says that he took this job because he wanted to get involved in school activites, and the **Bridge** seemed like a good way to do that. He admits that distribution wasn't his main interest, but that it's a good job because it doesn't take a lot of time. This leaves him more afternoons to spend time helping Rosa Snell in advertising, his chief interest.

Souta is not involved in any other extracurricular activities. Most of his energies are vested in another concern, namely his own business. He owns and runs an auto detailing business which he started two and a half year ago. "When you're fourteen," he says, "no one will hire you, so I hired myself." He has built a profitable company which even does work for two limosine companies in Chicago. He does most of the work himself, although he occasionally employs someone to help him.

Although he is not sure if he want to continue this business in the future, Souta is happy with the way things are going right now. He is considering careers in film directing and airline piloting, but, for now, he will continue being the distribution editor of the **Bridge**.

Mike Souta at work. (photo by Becky Thuer)

Juniors stuff their faces. (photo by Tomas Aviles)

Homecoming Events

by Julie James

Saturday October 6 — Begin float in the homecoming theme for the parade. Students work on the floats and they will be judged. Several clubs also have floats. See your advisor. Window painting 9-2:45. Local businesses let the school paint their store windows in the homecoming theme. Each class is assigned a window. If you'd like to work on yours, find out where it is and show up. Judging at 3 p.m.

Monday October 8 — No School — Columbus Day

Tuesday October 9 — Homecoming Finalists announced in an assembly 8-8:20 a.m. Worms Day — send a color coded (fake) worm to another student for 50 cents. They're passed out during class.

Wednesday October 10 — T-Shirt Day — stand up and be counted! Wear a t-shirt with your year on it.

Hat Day

Thursday October 11 — Half Day 11 a.m. dismissal hours 1, 2, 3.

Clash Day. Wear really gross clothes and create an eye sore!

Parent Open House 7-9. Parents can come and meet the teacher. This is not time for conference.

Friday October 12 — Half Day 12 noon dismissal-hours 1, 2, 3, 4.

Pep assembly 12:15

74 championship football players make an appearance.

Tug of war between juniors and seniors

After the pep assembly there are contests between classes:

Pie-eating contest

Egg Toss

Tricycle Race

Parade — 2:30

Football game against Wheaton Central

Sophomores 6 p.m.

Varsity 8 p.m.

Saturday October 13 — Homecoming Dance 8-11:30 p.m. Semi-formal, in commons.

Pepsi vs. Coke vs. We-go

Yes, Coke claimed, "We're the greatest," then they flunked the test We-Go Students conducted. Pepsi is the most popular.

It is election year '84, did you vote? If you did you helped decide who would be soft-drink king of 1984 (at least by We-Go standards). Many came to speak out their preference of soft drink.

Not many Coke fans came to support their favorite soda. Pepsi beat out Coke by a majority! Of every 10 people polled eight of them picked Pepsi, leaving Coke with only two votes.

Acerding to statistics, Pepsi is doing much better in the competition department.

Some of the Pepsi lovers were James Sentman, Mike Wilson, and David Wolrey. One of our minority drinkers was Lori Quinn.

Sorry, Coke, I guess the real thing was just an imitation.

Having fun at lunch time. (photo by Becky Thuer)

New tennies for an old locker

This past summer West Chicago's fall coaching staff has changed, with the loss of some coaches and the gain of new ones.

One of the fall sports where there has been a coaching change is the Cross-country teams. This year the head track coach, Doug Juraska, is assisted by Bob Radunzel, a new-comer to the coaching staff this year.

Another addition to the fall coaching staff is Tim Courtney, the new head golf coach. Courtney, who also coaches baseball at West Chicago, replaced Pat LaMaster who is now teaching at Naperville Central.

The football team has also had coaching changes. The new coaches are as follows: Justin Edmonds, Ray Schellenberger from Dundee Crown High School, Wilbert Walters, and Pat Welch from Wheaton Warrenville High School. The newest of these coaches are Ray Schellenberger and Pat Welch.

Another new coach at West Chicago this year is Abel Perez. Perez formerly coached at East Aurora, but is now assisting with the soccer team.

As for girls swimming coaches, there are two new ones. Amy Gibson, the head coach, and Sherry Miller. Gibson has been teaching here since August of '78, but Miller is not only new to the coaching field, but also new at West Chicago.

The final new coach is Nancy Stark. Stark is presently assisting in the coaching of our volleyball team.

In addition to the gain of a lot of new coaches, West Chicago has seemed to maintain a few of the veterans. One such veteran is Coach Wayne Kosek. Kosek has been coaching at West Chicago for fifteen years. He says, "I enjoy working with the kids." Kosek feels that coaching is still teaching, only it is the students' choice to be there, and you can see results faster than in the classroom. Kosek coaches tennis and basketball.

> We-go maintains a "few of the veterans."

Another veteran coach is Terry Lemberg. Lemberg coaches girls' junior varsity level tennis. Lemberg has her reasons for sticking with the job. "I like to use the knowledge that I have to help others, and to help promote the sport." Lemberg has been coaching here for eight years and can see a more competitive team than last year.

A goal: to be a good ball club

by Rosa Snell

Having players that can play more than one position is one advantage that is in our favor commented head Varsity coach Stephen Kimery. Returning letterman Erik Duss stated, "We have good team spirit this year."

> "... reconstruction takes place every season ..."

Wildcats are rebuilding after the loss of graduating seniors. This reconstruction takes place every season because of new players coming into the Varsity squad. Every soccer season "the team seeks to get their own identity," says Kimery. There are presently 20 players on the Varsity team, 6 of them are returning lettermen. Returning lettermen include Antonio Del Real, Erik Duus, David Gomez. Tomas Mares, Juan Mendoza, and Oscar Pasindo.

Wildcat Soccer coach Kimery believes that in order for the team to progress, the team has to work together for maximum efficiency. "Younger kids have to continue to improve to push the older players to improve," said Kimery.

> "We have good team spirit ..."

Duus's outlook for this year's soccer season is, "We will continue to improve every game because we have a very young team."

"It is difficult to replace people who left because most of the players were two to three year lettermen. It is going to take them a little while to improve but then they will start to be a good ball club in the middle," commented Kimery.

Jose Cuiriz in action. (photo by Becky Thuer)

Spikers headed for victorious season

by Laura Pollastrini

West Chicagos girl's volleyball team has proven to their coach Gail George, that they have a lot of talent and potential to rank in the top three of the conference this season.

This year's team consists of four returning varsity players. Stacey Anderson, Colleen Dabbert, Michelle Dovin, and Cateri Weibler, as well as six added junior players from last year. "The added JV brought depth and backbone to the varsity squad," commented George.

Juniors comprise the whole team, except for Senior, Mary Anderson. This does not seem to bother George, for there were sophomores, juniors, and seniors on last years team and as long as they have talent, age does not bother her.

Contrary to past years, this year's volleyball team has a group of good players rather than one or two exceptionl girls. This is one of the reasons that George is so excited about this season. The team is also older, according to George their skill level is higher and they have a good offense. The development of a good defense, a quick offense, and by working together could create a winning team, George feels.

Mary Beth Anderson prepares her serve. (photo by Becky Thuer)

Dovin and Weibler have added to the offense of the game with their setting abilities. They have been consistent in getting the balls to the hitter, which has greatly aided to the offense. George also commented that "Colleen (Dabbert) has added depth to the net," and is there when needed. Jeniffer Rivan has given someone to Stacey Anderson to work with, making team a little less dependent on Anderson.

So far this season, the volleyball team has lost two conference matches and won one non-conference match. They also competed in the Lyons Township tournament where they played teams that are ranked in the top ten schools. We-go "played excellent" according to George, but they didn't win matches. "We won games though which we didn't do last year," she added. "We can do well in conference this year," she went on to say, "but we must start winnning."

George expects all of this years' varsity team, with the exception of Senior Mary Anderson, back next year. She feels that if the team keeps playing as well as they are now that next year the other teams will have to work a lot harder to beat them.

Mary Beth Anderson and Tina Giller warming up for a game. (photo by Becky Thuer)

Homecoming holds promise

by Carrie Wroblewski & Julie Kerbs

Head sophomore coach Dan Benson believes that the key area of action with this years Homecoming game would probably be our defense. Benson said, "The team is not very big, but they are fast."

When asked what his team's strength is, Benson replied, "Team unity and having all 31 team members play up to their potential."

Benson is expecting to see a well built Wheaton Central team this year, not only because "they always have a good team," but he is also expecting their third string to be tough.

Despite the sophomore record of one and zero so far, Benson still has one disappointment. That is the smallness of his team. He said, "It's a small team with only 31 team members, but they all play hard."

Varsity head coach Jeff Ainsworth believes that the We-go team has the desire to succeed, and they have a lot of pride in what they do.

Ainsworth commented that he has a small number of players to work with, but despite this, "they work hard and are a lot of fun to be with."

As for Ainsworth's comments about the Wheaton Central team, all he could really say was that they are stoppable. He believes that West Chicago's strong defense should not only be able to stop Wheaton Central, but should also help us to win the Homecoming game.

The main thing that Ainsworth will stress to his players in regard to the Homecoming game will be that, "We-go has not won their Homecoming in several years," and that "if it were not for the football game, there would be no Homecoming."

The final reason for Ainsworth's true desire to win this Homecoming game against Wheaton Central is that the 1974 State Championship football squad should be present for a reunion.

Despite the last place conference ratings and our zero and one record so far this year, Ainsworth believes that it is still possible for the Wildcats to beat Wheaton Central, who is ranked in the top half of the conference.

Lift-a-thon '84

by Bill Fairbanks

This year the annual Wildcat Lift-a-Thon took place in the small gym August 3, from 6-8 p.m.

The Lift-a-Thon is an event in which the football players receive pledges for every pound they lift on the bench press, the hip sled, and the squat lift.

Varsity coach, Jeff Ainsworth formed an iron man club of a white division and a blue division for the varsity players. The white division is a group of lifters lifting 1000-1500 pounds and the blue division lifts 1501 pounds and up of total weight.

Collecting the most money for the varsity players was Chuck Boorsman with $86.63. For his efforts Boorsma won a walkman donated by Scott Hall.

Outstanding lifts on the hip sled for varsity were Sean Gallagher (900), Brad Bonga (690), Marc Armburst and Dan Zarndt (670). Topping out the Bench press was Bonga with a lift of 300 pounds. Various other lifts of 250 and 200 pounds were turned in by many of the lifters. In squat competition Gallagher lifted 365, Dave Anderson 340, and lifts of 315 from Alan Steur, Boorsma, and Bonga were also turned in.

Outstanding lifts on the hip sled for the Sophomores were Dave Moore (670), Dan Schar (645) and Tom Rogers (590). In the bench press, competition was consistently even with Moore and Ken Leisering topping out with lifts of 175 and 165. In the squat lift Schar, Moore and Rogers were the top among the many lifters contending.

Collecting the most pledges overall was freshman Terry Miltner with a total of $128.00. Miltner received a football by Hall for his efforts.

Although the goals for this years Lift-a-Thon were not met the level, and intensity of competition was very high.

Summer baseball may lead to spring success

by Laura Pollastrini

Summer baseball for 1984 started out fine for the Wildcats, but then "the roof caved in," according to Coach Ron Hansen.

We-go began the summer by winning three games in a row, but then the tables began to turn. Games were lost, but usually by a small margin, losing by one or two points only.

Hansen blames some of the problems of the season on a few of the players that just stopped showing up after two to three weeks. Because of this, there was no set line-up, and players were forced to play where they shouldn't have been. Hansen was pleased, though, with the attitudes of the players that stuck with it all summer.

Another drawback was the emition of home games due to work on the baseball fields. Hansen felt that this was a definite disadvantage, for it is very important to play some of the time on familiar territory.

Basically the season consisted of 12 players, as well as David Noworul, who was out for medical reasons. Orginally, the season began with 16, but Hansen was pleased with the 13 that remained all summer. "Those 13 will form the nucleus of the spring season this year," he commented.

"It was an unusual season," infielder Greg Wilde admitted. Bill Fairbanks and Wilde both agreed that more communication on the field between players could've helped the summer team.

Wilde was noted by Hansen as one of the outstanding players, doing a "good steady job in the infield," as well as being one of the leading hitters.

"Bucky DeRosa was a pleasant surprise at bat," Hansen admitted. "His hitting has vastly improved since last spring."

West Chicago finished the season with a 5-14-1 record overall. Hansen was pleased with the performances of many of his players. "Fairbanks did an outstanding job for us. He was steady behind the plate as catcher, and pitched several good baseball games." He also mentioned that Bill Tijerina did an excellent job at first base and in the outfield. Rick Nickelson did a "good job at first," and as a designated hitter.

Juniors on the team did a fine job as well as the seniors, according to Hansen. Mike Biros "pitched several good games, including a three-hit victory over St. Charles." Al Steur, "a good shortstop," also pitched several good games.

Ricky Guajardo is a good example of someone who was put into a position that they hadn't ever had experience at. Guajardo pitched when needed, even though he had never pitched before. "He did pretty well for an amateur," quoted Hansen.

Hansen is looking forward to the spring baseball season, for he is filled with anticipation as to how it will compare to the summer season. "Spring will be a better ball club," Hansen admitted confidently.

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(no coupon needed)
LARGE 16" cheese pizza $5.00
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Dine in or pickup or delivery
Not valid with any other coupon
or discount

Jock shorts

Golf

Marla Jemsek is the only girl on the Golf team. She's a sophomore with an average of 48.2.

Dave Noworul shot a 38 against Naperville Central Tuesday, Sept. 11.

Cross-country

Doug Juraska, Cross-country coach for both boys and girls, finds it hard to single out any specific outstanding players, for he feels that the whole team is doing a great job.

Girls' Cross-country team are as follows: Jean Blenkle, Jill Blenkle, Laurel Cowper, and Cindy Jakopchek.

Boys' Cross-country team are as follows: Brian Balmes, Dan Davis, Juan Gonzalez, Marty Hunter, Randy Karp, John Koke, Rich Rittorno, and Horge Zamora.

New staff

Carrie Wroblewski and Craig Brown have been selected as the new Sports Editors of the Bridge for the 1984-85 year. Their main purpose is to see that the sports teams at West Chicago are properly covered in the school newspaper, and that a sports schedule is listed so that the students here know how the various teams are doing.

Run-a-thon

A new homecoming event will be taking place this year, introduced by the West Chicago Winfield Wildcat Booster Club, called the Spirit of Homecoming Run-a-thon.

Four representatives from each club or organization will run as many laps as possible in one hour.

All members of each organization can take pledges, so money can be made for each club. Thursday, October 11 is the date that the run will take place. It will begin at 11:30 am, right after school lets out on the track.

Club and organizations will keep 50% of what they make, 25% will go to the Booster Club, and 25% will go to the first place team which runs the most laps. Deadlines for entrance are September 27, and all pledges must be turned in by October 11. Anyone interested should see their coach or advisor for sign-up information.