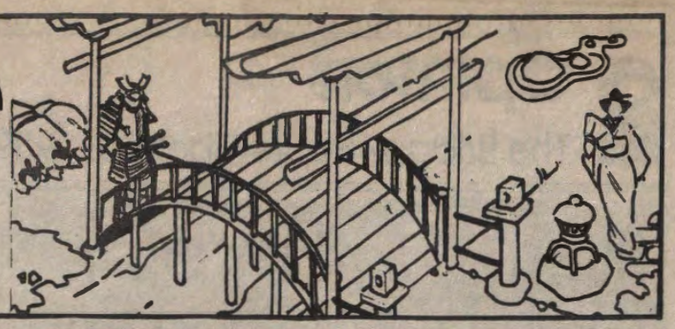
The Bridge

West Chicago Community High School
326 Joliet St. West Chicago , Il 60185
September 15, 1989 Volume 19 Number 1



WCCHS is top rated

by Dana Billick

A recent study completed at Illinois State University named West Chicago High School as one of the 21 most "efficient" high schools in the state.

A professor at the university, Dr. Alan Hickrod, came to this conclusion from studying the ACT scores of high school students throughout Illinois. From researching these scores he found that 21 of 114 high schools in the state have better than expected scores based on their economic background.

West Chicago Superintendent, Dr. Richard Kamm told the **West Chicago Press**, "We're very pleased with the results of the study. While there are limitations to the study in that it uses scores of a test taken by mainly college bound students, it does give us some evidence that we're doing some important things right."

As well as having many of the smartest students in the state, WCCHS seems to be passing on many encouraging things to other area high school. The administration of District 94 has aggressive recruitment for the best teachers and high expectations within the curriculum aimed at the students.

Downers Grove High School was also named in the top 21 schools. Assistant Superintendent William Renner at Downers Grove and former principal of WCCHS feels that he was hired there because of the excellent results West Chicago was having as a school overall.

Administrators at West Chicago High School are very proud of this outcome and are striving to keep the level of education at the top.

Kickin' Kats score big

by Dave Smith

During the week of August 1-4, WCCHS Pom-Pons attended Badgerette Pom Camp at Aurora University where they placed an unbelievable first place. Each night they participated in "ratings" which included skills routine, and three routines taught by the Badgerettes.

While there the Poms managed to capture first place overall, first place senior kick-line, second place originality, three first place nightly ratings, showmanship award, and the "B-Board", which is a spirit award.

In addition to these awards they also received an invitation to the Midwest championship at the end of August. Squad members who attended these events are: Rachel LaCour — captain, Colette Dispensa — co-captain, Jessica Dibella, Gayle Trava, Lisa Riegert, Nicole Kersting, Erin Keeley, Taretta Arnold, Lisa Sterling, Efpril Coronel, Carmelyn Beltran, Jeni Dispensa, Melanie Christian, Jacki Mari, Melissa Herold, and Chelly Arroyo. Here, Jeni Dispensa and Melanie Christian placed second in duet.

In addition to performing at all home football and basketball games the Poms also have plans to attend competition at Great America in September for the second year in a row, where they will compete with 50 other area squads.

New faces and changes for WCCHS in 1989

by Michele Rittorno

As the 1989-90 school year begins, there will be five new faces among the faculty.

Thomas McCann will be teaching Advanced Placement English while filling the position as Chairman of the English Department, replacing the departed Dr. Thomas Fischer. According to the **West Chicago Press**, McCann has published many articles about teaching, writing, literature, and high school composition that have appeared in professional educational journals in addition to having taught for the past 12 years.

The library will be adding a new addition to their staff. Carol Grandholm will be a library assistant.

A graduate from Michigan State University will be teaching math along with chemistry.

Hector E. Espana, a native of Guatemala, will be teaching English as a second language.

Davis G. Exner will be teaching art survey courses, ceramics, and arts/crafts.

Along with the changes in the faculty, some changes are being completed for the building. The north side of Bishop gymnasium had new bleachers installed, along with the refinishing of the gym floors. The grandstands surrounding the football field were refinished, and the new lighting system is expected to be completed soon. A new fire alarm system has been installed, and according to the **Press**, landscaping by the front entrance is predicted to be completed this fall.

Inkspots

As many people are aware, Homecoming Week is September 16-23. The events scheduled are as follows:

Monday, September 18: Introduction of Homecoming Candidates, 8:00 a.m. in the Bishop Gymnasium.

Wednesday, September 20: Event Night, 7:00 p.m., Bishop Gymnasium.

Thursday, September 21: Coronation of King and Queen, 2:55 p.m., Bishop Gymnasium.

Friday, September 22 Pep Assembly, 12:00 Noon, Tug-of-War, Pie Eating Contest, and Egg Toss, Bishop Gymnasium. Parade 2:00 p.m. and Game 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 23: Homecoming Dance, 7:30-11:30 p.m. cafeteria.

For the first time in the history of WCCHS, students will be given the opportunity to teepee the school with the Administration's approval. This will occur during Event Night, on Wednesday, September 20. Each class will be given a tree and a certain amount of time to teepee it. Points will be given to both the best teepee job, and the best job at clean up.

On Thursday, August 31, officers were named to the Pep Club for the 89-90 season. The officers are as follows; President: Margaret Shim, Vice-President: Lisa Riegert, and Secretary: Jamie Christopher. A representative for Treasurer has not yet been selected.

Inside this issue:

Is West Chicago bound for unbridled glory this year? Or will they be stuffed for a loss? All this and much more in Sports!!!

ACT revised

by David Smith

For the first time in 30 years Juniors and Seniors at WCCHS and other schools across the country will be facing a revised edition of the **American College Test, ACT**, come this October. Omitted will be the science and social studies tests, replaced by science problem solving and reading comprehension.

Reasons given for the changes are such that the emphasis is being shifted to reasoning skills from just simple knowledge.

... facing a revised edition of the American College Test, ACT, come this October.

However, the changes made do not satisfy all critics. Some still believe the test is still biased with white males scoring higher than women, blacks, and Hispanics.

While the bulk of the ACT testing is changing, the scoring will basically remain the same. For example, a person with a composite score of 23 on the old ACT would receive a grade of 24 on the new ACT, which is approximately the same score.

According to **Newsweek** magazine, the **Scholastic Aptitude Test, SAT**, is also planning to make some revisions to keep up with its main competitor, the ACT. These plans may include essay questions replacing the usual multiple choice questions.

Spirit? ... Here??

"Hey, are you going to the game Friday night?"

"Oh, probably not. We'll only get stomped on anyhow."

This has been the closest thing to school spirit that West Chicago has had in recent years. But this year, it seems that attitude may be changing.

School spirit is on the upswing. On even the second day of school, volleyball players had the enthusiasm to decorate lockers. The football team has a new optimistic attitude. Concert Choir has been invited to sing at Carnegie Hall. So many people have joined music that we now have two bands. Changes and repairs in and around the building have instilled a sense of pride. Basically, good things are happening all over, and we are responsible.

It's about time WCCHS started taking itself seriously, and the change is refreshing. But just because we have spirit now doesn't mean we can take it for granted. Enthusiasm is an ongoing thing. Spirit always requires effort.

Throwing confetti at games isn't all spirit is. Willingness to try new things and pride in accomplishments are more important. Granted, sports attendance is a way to be involved, but there are other ways to show your spirit. Meet the new teachers. Join the speech team. Help build sets for the play. Do the *Victory* cheer at the next game. Write a letter to **The Bridge**. Get up. Do something. But most of all, enjoy the new epidemic: Wildcat pride.

Wildcat Purrs and Hisses

Purrs for the funky new mobiles in the LRC.

Hisses for the new LRC rule that students can't wait in the stairwell for the ending lunch bell to ring.

Purrs to all the freshmen who are looking forward to the next four years and were able to find their classes with minimal wandering.

Hisses to everyone who lost their schedules or receipts on the first day and crowded up commons waiting to get new ones.

Purrs for the third-floor teachers who bring fans to the sweltering classrooms.

Hisses to everyone who messes around with other people's things without permission.

Purrs for the abolition of the P.E. shirt, but

Hisses to all the misinformed souls who already bought new ones.

Purrs to the new teachers this year.

Hisses that they must teach in overcrowded classrooms.

Purrs for the new curtains in the auditorium.

Hisses that the lighting in there is so bad that no one can see them.

No more 'smokin' in the boys' room,' now it's ... the teachers' lounge???

by Chris Seper

A smoking section should be here especially since one already exists. The bathrooms in the main hall? Nope, the teachers lounge.

Gosh, I can see it now. Senior student Axe discussing his math grade while getting a light from Mr. Lemon. The only way there shouldn't be a smoking area is if the teachers aren't allowed to smoke along with the students. But if you expect teachers to give it up, forget it. I have come to see that teachers are deprived of many things. They are underpaid, overworked, and disrespected. But, then again, so are a lot of high school students these days, so why take away their right to smoke just like the next person?

Now, smoking is illegal for people under 18, and even though the law is not enforced it must be when you are dealing with a high school. Plus, this would alleviate the complaint of the people who want clean air. The air in the teachers lounge already stinks so you don't have to worry about it getting any worse. Have you ever smelled it in there? I thought I was across the street for a second.

For the teachers who might object to this plan just because of the invasion of the students into their lounge, I really have only one thing to say. These students have almost every right you do. They're legally adults. So why can't they have their rights bestowed on them. They have a right to smoke in school just as much as your coworkers do. If you want clean air so badly have the administration spend some money on a separate teachers lounge for the non-smoking teachers.

I am personally against smoking., And a lot of people think that people shouldn't be allowed to smoke. But we must allow something that is neither illegal and/or immoral. But if there is going to be a no smoking ban then the teachers must abide by that too. But if they don't then the students over 18 should be able to smoke too. People over 18 have every right except the right of alcohol. They can vote, be convicted, and smoke. Unless their smoking disrupts the learning process or damages student's health, which smoking in the teachers lounge doesn't, the school really has no choice but to allow them to smoke right along with the teachers.

Or, teachers could smoke across the street ...

Photopinion by Kelly Howard

What is your favorite improvement made to the school building?

(Senior) Christy D'Aquila "I think the new bleachers and floor in the gym are a lot brighter. It used to make me feel so gloomy."

(Junior) Brian Koslovski feels that the fact that P.E. students no longer have to wear P.E. uniforms is real "awesome dude!"

(Sophomore) Alicia Garceau: "The new curtains in the auditorium are a lot better than the ancient ones."

(Freshmen) Paul Hallahan and Art Ludivio did not wish to be photographed for unknown reasons but when asked they mentioned new mobiles in the library.

THE BRIDGE

326 Joliet St.
231-0880 ext. 268

Business Manager ..... *Liza Lenertz*
Sports Editor ..... *Chris Seper*
News Editor ..... *Dave Smith*
Opinion Editor ..... *Peg Osterman*
Features Editor ..... *Jeremy Mains*
In Depth Editor ..... *Julie Mastro*
Photo Editor ..... *Kelly Howard*
Copy Editor ..... *Bill Hein*
Advisor ..... *Tim Courtney*

***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, as necessary, for length and libelous material.

*Unsigned editorials appearing in the newspaper are the opinions 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 by the newspaper are not necessarily those of the majority of the student body or the high school.*

ATTENTION! Writers Requested

by Jeremy Mains

Although an auspicious core of writers currently lies at our disposal, a problem has arisen here at Features Department requiring immediate relief. We suffer most heinously from *lackus staffi bigtimus*, as it is termed in the Latin. Put more plainly, we could use more writers.

Therefore, as editor of this prestigious organization, it is my role to point out the swarm of benefits enjoyed by members of the Features Department. I can't think of any offhand, but I'm confident if you chose to endow your talents on our behalf you would find the rewards beyond your wildest hallucinations.

In short, if you (or any of your associates), have at least one functioning appendage, can scrawl, drool, or even type in English, and have the slightest urge to be a journalistic stud-person adored by both student and faculty — I ask that you consider writing for Features. Or any of the other, lesser departments of the Bridge for that matter.

I'm sure you will find the staff to be all fun, warm, generous, and accepting individuals. Our bi-weekly trips on Bridge funds to Abduhl's Pizza and Jacuzi ,Palace on Bridge funds don't hurt either.

If interested please contact either Mr. Courtney in room 216 or any of the Bridge staff conveniently listed on the Opinions page. Or better yet contact this editor sixth hour in room 216.

We're you're complete Flower Shop
We can help you celebrate all occasions!

- Corsages
- Bouquets
- Special Arrangements
- Gift Ideas

Tell that special someone that you care with Flowers from Jacobsen's!

"The beauty of our business is flowers!"

Jacobsen's Flowers & Gifts
115 Main 293-1338

Not ready for school to start yet?
Stop into Tastee Freeze for a taste of summer before it's gone.
tastee freez
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Ice Cream Delights.
Across from West Chicago Post Office.

Doodles desired

Has everyday classroom tedium been getting to you as of late? Do you ever find that, though you try with gut-wrenching effort, sometimes little works of art appear almost effortlessly at the corners of your papers, where in fact notes should be? Well then, Features wants 'em. The doodles I mean.

Sometime in the near future, relatively speaking, a collaboration of the more outstanding or unusual doodles we've received will be printed up in Features along with an appropriately witty article. If you think you've got anything worth spitting on, why not give it a shot?

There are a few things we ask, however. If possible, draw in ink because pencil doesn't come out very well. Also please refrain from neo-nazi-sadist themes and the like.

All drawings can be turned into the box labeled FEATURES DOODLES located on Mr. Courtney's desk in room 216. Deadlines and other mundane details will naturally depend upon when this story is printed.

St. Andrew's Golf Club
Help Wanted carts
231-3100 ask for Dan

Will we ever get better?

by John Prusko

A winning season is what Head Coach Bruce Donash envisions for this 1989-1990 football season. If this year turns out to be a successful season it would be the first one in a long long time.

Despite last years 1-8 season where the only time they won was against Glenbard South and in the 2-7 season the only wins were against Geneva and Glenbard South, Donash and the rest of the team feel optimistic about the season that lies ahead. Donash feels that a win against Geneva will ultimately set the tone for the rest of the season. Senior Chris Nippert feels that in order for Wego to do well this year the team really needs faculty and team support and interest.

In the past there have been several problems that may have attributed to the performance record of previous teams. Nippert feels that part of the reason is that there has never been any unity and that the seniors and juniors basically did their own thing. Graduated senior Brian Radkiewicz, who now plays football at Western University said, "There isn't enough dedication in the school's spirit. A lot of people could go to the games but didn't. Everybody put the team down because of the history of the team and nobody put any dedication in it." Graduated senior Mike Moffatt views the problem is in size. "We do have the number of kids like Wheaton North and Wheaton Central so we can pretty much pick and choose. Our problem is that we just get enough people for just one team and maybe a special team." Moffatt feels that Wego has at least freshness, size and weight.

Speaking from personal experience, after appointing a new head coach for the football team a few years back, Coach Shepard from Waubonsie Valley and former Wego head coach believes that the problem lies in the newly introduced coaching system. Shepard said that it takes a good year to introduce a new system to the players, and that it will just take some time. Shepard also views the problem is in the conference that Wego is in. "I just don't think that Wego can compete with the Napervilles," Shepard said. "So for enrollment purposes I think Wego is in the wrong conference." Naperville Central has an enrollment of 2400, Naperville North has 1615, Wheaton North has 1550, Wego has the lowest with 1300. To remedy this Shepard suggests that either Wego leaves the DVC and the Napervilles stay or vice versa.

Donash agrees that part of the problem is the newly introduced coaching system, but feels that the team will adapt well this year.

"There are an awful lot of people in the community and in the school that feel Wego cannot compete in the DVC," Donash said. Another reason was that he said that the team lacks consistency. "An example of this is when we played Naperville North." Donash pointed out, "We were tied 7-7 with two minutes left in the half. At half time the score was 14-7. We played a solid first half but ran out of gas in the second half. Part of the reason is mental. There is a lack of depth and many (players) got tired in the second half because some players had to play on both offense and defense. This year we are going to emphasize conditioning."

Some individuals that might help the team to a successful season this year are Steve Klingberg at quarterback, Ed Gonzalez at halfback, senior Matt Snell at fullback, senior transfer Steve Heeter as offensive lineman, and seniors Chad Busse and John Winterhalder.

Just a gap away from greatness

by Chris Seper

Last season, freshmen Erin Myers and Jennifer Vavrek, sophomore Carol Petusky, and senior Carrie Ryan made it to state championships. But this year, Ryan is gone and a question is posed to Head Coach Dan Johnson, Who will be the person to fill the gap left by Ryan on the swimmers four lady relay team?

Johnson is not at a loss for fine swimmers. This year's swimmers contain freshman Corrie Gilgallon, sophomores Alicea Garceau and Malia Leck, junior Jeannie Janaes, and senior Kelly Howard. Who gets the call as Ryan's replacement? The freshmen Gilgallon.

"Carrie Ryan was a scholarship swimmer," Johnson said. "It will be hard to replace her. Corrie's (Gilgallon) times are right now as a freshman are about the same as Carrie's (Ryan) her senior year. She's (Gilgallon) an excellent swimmer."

Gilgallon is not a familiar name but will be undertaking a similar task. Like her relay teammates (Myers, Petusky, Vavrek) Gilgallon will be promoted to varsity her freshman year. Gilgallon had been swimming in the Sharks program at the high school until two years ago. She then went on to a different program where she continued to excel and be an outstanding swimmer at the junior level. Now she must prove herself all over again at the high school level.

But even if Gilgallon is not as successful as Johnson hopes, he still has many swimmers to back her up. "We're a much deeper team than last year," Johnson said. "Natalie Baker has just joined the team and is a strong swimmer, and Sarah Bant has had a great summer." Johnson also mentioned that Debbie Dvorak, Amy Garceau, and Regina Viscgliosi were doing well and that there might be some surprises. "We practice nine times a week," Johnson went on. "I hope we have some surprises."

Myers, Petusky, and Vavrek have not exactly watched this go by. All three competed in the sharks summer program as well as competing in the highly touted Prairie State Games. Myers took a gold medal in the 100 meter breast stroke and the 200 meter breast, third in the 100 meter free, and was named the Pioneer Regions MVP. Petusky took second place in the 200 back and third in the 100 back and 100 fly. Petusky and Myers were also on a second place 400 free relay team. Vavrek took second in the 200 free and 1500 free and third in the 400 free. Vavrek was also on a 800 free relay team that took third.

The summer sharks team as a whole took 13th in state while Myers and Petusky had been voted onto TEAM ILLINOIS, the state all-star team. While in competition, Petusky captured a gold and silver medal in the 200 and 100 meter backstrokes.

Even though the diving team only has two divers, juniors Teresa Johnson and Julie Loek, they have hired a new diving coach Linda Alexander. Alexander holds the diving records at Augustana University and Coach Johnson said that evident progress is being made each day. Diver Johnson seems to be comfortable with the switch as well, "Our coach (Alexander) has been diving for a long time and she knows what she's talking about."

Carol Petusky practices the backstroke to get ready for a tough season.

Something that Johnson said would also be a test would be the new upgraded schedule containing powerhouse schools such as Downers Grove and Aurora Rosemary. Johnson claims that even if they don't win all their meets, it will make swimmers like Petusky, Gilgallon, Myers, and Vavrek have a bigger challenge. Johnson said that was the most important thing.

All these things wrapped together could mean a trip down state, and they could not. So far the ladies' swim team have won their first two meets with the relay team taking first. Their next challenge is in the Wego Invitational here starting at 9 a.m.

Taking a run at state

by Kate Jemsek

Last year the Cross Country team had the best season in the history of WCCHS by winning five invitationals, having a 10-1 record in dual meets and also placing second at regional competition and qualifying for sectionals

This year they hope to do even better with putting less stress on dual meets and will try to retain their invitational places. They also hope to place in the top four at the DVC races and qualify for state.

Returning varsity letter winners are senior John Jakubowski, All-State junior runner Rick Montalvo, and seniors James Stuart and James Zimmer. Joining them on the varsity team this year are sophomore Mike Callarman, and juniors Jason Fagan and Dave Zeisler. For the first time in two years, there will also be a girls cross country team that consists of varsity track MVP junior Nicole Horyn, freshmen Amy Kositas, Kelly Mcgloon, senior Stephanie Payton, and freshman Ann Zimmer. But head coach Bob Thompson warns against instant success. "I feel very positive," Thompson said. "However we are in a building process."

Some team members have been practicing and racing throughout the summer. The boys have participated in the park district running program while the girls ran with the Sundowners program. While in the programs, practice runs went up to six miles a day. The runners also competed in public races. Some of the highlights were Montalvo placing sixth at Railroad Days 10K run and third in the St. Charles Triple 8K. While in the 5K run at railroad days Nicole Horyn placed fourth and James Zimmer placed first. Head Coach Bob Thompson said that this year's team and last year's are equally as good.

Thompson is confident Montalvo will not go to state alone, but will be joined by his teammates, accomplishing the team goal to go to state. Montalvo said that he plans to be in the top 20.

Right now, the cross country team is undefeated, placing first and in the two invitationals with an overall record of 36-0.

The next home race will be against Glenbard East September 19 at 4:30 p.m. at Reed Keppler Park.

A wide awake Nicole Horyn stretches out in preparation for last year's track season. This year, she will be the cornerstone of the girls' cross country team.

HOME SPORTS SCHEDULE

Football		
Sept. 22	Glenbard South	HOMECOMING 7:30 p.m.
Ladies Volleyball		
Sept. 19	Glenbard South	5:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Glenbard North	5:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	Naperville Central	5:30 p.m.
Boys Soccer		
Sept. 19	Wheaton North	6:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Glenbard North	2 p.m.
Cross Country (Mixed)		
Sept. 19	Glenbard East	4:30 p.m.
Ladies Swimming		
Sept. 16	Bolingbrook, Lisle Driscoll quad	9 a.m.
Sept. 21	Wheaton North	4 p.m.
Sept. 26	Naperville Central	4 p.m.
Oct. 3	Glenbard East	4 p.m.
Golf (Mixed)		
Sept. 18	Geneva	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 19	Naperville Central	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Glenbard East	3:30 p.m.