Wildcat Chronicle

West Chicago Community High School
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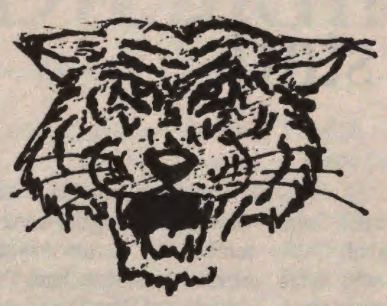

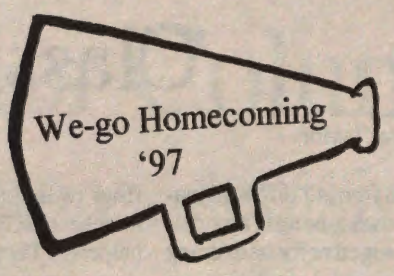

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See what our boy's soccer team has been up to on page 8.

What about the We-go poms and cheerleaders? Read about them in sports.

Once upon a time at We-go...

By Allison Taylor

Festivities will kick off at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow, September 20, with the window painting competition as West Chicago's annual homecoming week begins.

The theme for homecoming this year is fairy tales. The senior class will represent Peter Pan, the juniors represent Alice in Wonderland, the sophomores represent Hansel and Gretel, and the freshmen represent Camelot.

"Homecoming is a great time for each class to show their pride. I just hope that everyone practices good sportsmanship," said student council secretary, senior Jennie Grobe.

Float building starts at 1:00 p.m. and ends at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20. On Sunday, September 21, building starts at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 10:00 P.M.

Monday, September 22, starts the morning games at 7:25 a.m. in commons with the "How far can you fly?" game sponsored by the senior class, and the "Meet the Candidates" assembly during first hour. At this time, the school will be introduced to the 10 guys and 10 girls nominated for homecoming king and queen. These 20 people were chosen by members of the senior class on Wednesday, September 17. Voting for the top five candidates will follow during second hour.

Float building Monday-Friday will be from 4:00-10:00 p.m. in each class's respective location. If you are unsure of your class location, talk to your student council representatives. Seniors can ask Trisha Tinnes, Josh Xiong, or Meg Runyan. Juniors can ask Nicole Gomez, Autumn Planek or Jeff Stogis. Sophomores can ask Chris Thomas, Chris Pagnozzi, or Suzy Bolhoffer. Freshmen can ask Dennis Janek, Sara Donovan, or Shannon Sterne.

On Tuesday the "Hansel and Gretel" game, sponsored by the sophomores will be at 7:25 a.m. in commons.

Wednesday is the class dance competition at 7:15 a.m. in commons. People from each class will be given an opportunity to dance and the best dancers will compete at the pep assembly on Friday.

Wednesday is also dress-up day. Students can dress in costumes representing their class's theme.

On Thursday the "Tweedledee and Tweedledum contest, sponsored by the juniors will be at 7:25 a.m. in commons.

Hall decorating starts at 6:00 a.m. on Friday morning. The senior class decorates senior hall, the juniors have the social studies/ramp hall, the sophomores have auditorium hall, and the freshmen have C3 hall.

The pep assembly, sponsored by student council and the Spirit Machine, will be held after school at 1:15 p.m. in the Bishop gym. At this time the 1997 homecoming king and queen will be crowned.

photo by Allison Taylor

Drum Major Leslie Harlson and the marching band(seen here at Good Old Days) will be in the homecoming parade.

The fall athletes will be introduced to the school and the team captains will talk about what each team is up to. The cheerleaders and poms will perform new routines they have been practicing especially for the assembly.

Following the assembly are the mini-Olympics on the football field and the Fairy tale feast on the track.

On Saturday morning, the alumni breakfast is from 8-11 a.m. in commons. The parade is set for 9:00 a.m., before the start of the football games.

The Wildcats will host Glenbard East for football. The sophomore game begins at 11:30 a.m. and varsity is set for 1:30 p.m.

The week will conclude with the dance, "Once Upon a Time" at 7-10 p.m. in the cafeteria. The cost is $6.00 if tickets are purchased during lunches the week of homecoming and $7.00 at the door. All students must bring an I.D.

Homecoming 1997 calendar of events

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Window painting 8-11:30 a.m. Float building 1-10:00 p.m. in various places in downtown We-go.	Float Building 4-10 p.m. in various locations	Assembly 7:50 a.m. Morning game 7:25 a.m. Float building 4-10 p.m.	Morning game 7:25 a.m. Float building 4-10 p.m.	Dance Contest 7:15 a.m. Dress-up day Float building 4-10 p.m.	Morning game 7:25 a.m. Float building 4-10 p.m.	Hall decorating 6-7:45 a.m. Blue and White Day Pep assembly 12:45 Mini-Olympics and Fairy Tale Feast following assembly.	Alumni breakfast 8-11 a.m. Parade 9 a.m. Football games-11:30 and 1:30p.m. Dance 7-10 p.m.

Students spotted at the pole

By Kelley Betts

The damp weather didn't stop We-go students from joining in prayer and participating in the nation-wide event, See You at the Pole.

About 200 students gathered around the flag pole located on the football field Wednesday, September 17 to worship and sing songs of praise and pray for the school, the students, the faculty and the nation.

"I thought it was really cool. We did a lot of singing and it was cool because we prayed all at one time and we heard everyone all at once and it was really awesome," said senior Kelly Fioroni.

Some faculty members stood outside and watched the event including teachers Kristin Allen, Mary Ellen Daneels, Gail George, and Principal Dr. Alan Jones.

"I think it's great that these students all get up this early to participate in this event," said Jones.

Jones has approved this event for seven years.

Leading the students in song was senior Jerry Erickson on the guitar.

"It was really encouraging to see everyone leave with their hearts so on fire for God," said senior Tracy Busse.

The count of students from junior high to college who participated in it nationally was about two million last year, according to Jim Hodgeson, Youth Pastor of West Chicago Bile Church.

See You at the Pole began in 1990 at a home in Texas where a youth group met. This group decided to go pray at high schools where the members were from. They gathered around the flag pole just for the sake of a common meeting place.

The youth pastor shared this idea with other pastors.

In the spring of 1990, youth pastors met at a stadium in Dallas, Texas and challenged students all around the state to pray around the flag pole at their school.

Around 40,000 students participated that year.

This idea traveled across the nation and the first national See You at the Pole took place in 1991.

The first year We-go participated in See You at the Pole was in 1991. Students met in the feildhouse and brought their own flag. About 40 students gathered from our school.

Two years later students decided, with the consent of Jones, to meet on the football field.

Diving into the community

By Jennifer Lasky

This year the girls swim team is giving back to the community, instead of remaining school oriented. Last Saturday, September 15, the swim team helped Habitat for Humanity build a house. The team is helping to do PADS, a homeless shelter that rotates to different churches. They are also running food and clothing drives.

Every summer, the senior swimmers come together and discuss what they would like to see happen in the upcoming year as a team bonding activity. This year's seniors decided to make the swim team more community-oriented instead of focusing on themselves or on athletics.

The decision was made in an attempt to do something different and to make an impact and senior Jessica Bina hopes the community service will be continued in years to come. Bina said they hope to "keep the community aware that there's still lots of good kids out there."

This community effort was organized by the girls on the swim team. Coach Dan Johnson says he will help and support the girls if they need it, but this is something they came up with on their own.

Class of 2001 off to a great start

By Allison Taylor

Freshmen from all different junior highs, backgrounds, and cultures came together for an evening of dancing and socializing on Thursday, August 28, at the Freshmen Mixer.

Close to 200 members of the class of 2001 came to the dance, sponsored by student council, to meet people from Winfield, West Chicago Middle School, and Benjamin.

After paying a $2.00 fee, freshmen entered the small gym, decorated with balloons and crepe paper. The D.J. started playing music shortly after 7:00 P.M., however the only people on the dance floor were student council members, F.B.L.A. and peer helpers. They were there to encourage freshmen to get involved and to make sure they had a good time.

"The freshmen seemed shy at first, however, as the evening moved on they seemed to mingle a little more and they started to dance," said student council secretary, senior Jennie Grobe.

Once the freshmen became more relaxed, many come onto the dance floor and grooved to such favorites as YMCA and the electric slide.

Photo by Allison Taylor

Freshmen conga at the mixer

"The freshmen really got into the dance, especially the conga line," said Grobe.

Besides dancing, the freshmen mixer was an opportunity for freshmen to meet their fellow classmates.

"It was awesome. I got to meet a ton of new people," said freshman Lauren Nickelson.

"The dance was cool," said freshman Sam Mashal.

Upperclassmen who were there to help had a great time, too.

"I didn't get to go to a freshmen mixer, so this was my one and only chance to relive that fond memory I never had," said senior Liz Edwards.

"It was the coolest thing I've ever been to," said senior Jerry Erickson.

In addition to the dancing, F.B.L.A. set up games and gave freshmen a chance to learn about the club.

The freshman class elections were held during the week of September 8. Dennis Janek was elected president, Sara Donovan was elected Vice-President, Shannon Sterne was elected Secretary and Alexandra Corson was elected Treasurer. Laura McQueen, Cathy Wilken, Chris Hendricks, and Joe Wasiqi were elected representatives.

The next freshman activity will be homecoming, with freshmen portraying Camelot (King Arthur, Lancelot).

Press Release: Forensics

Forensics, or speech team, is an organization which practices speaking skills, interpretation, and communication. They meet every Monday at 3:30 p.m. in Mr. Kellner's room, 154. Membership is open to all students. However, students must attend a certain number of tournaments and must practice once a week. Tournaments start in November and go through February. If you're interested, contact Mr. Kellner or one of the following officers: Steve Garcia-captain, Tanya Austin-co-captain, Meg Runyan-secretary, Jessica Inch-treasurer, or Melissa Birch-social coordinator.

IGAPS are back

By Hannah Kenny

Due to a misunderstanding on the part of principal Dr. Alan Jones, the IGAP testing will take place again for the next two years.

Based on memos from the Illinois Board of Education, Jones was under the impression 1996 would be the final year for the Illinois Goal Assessment Program tests.

In the years to come, IGAPs will not be administered, and exit exams will take the place. To graduate from high school and receive a diploma seniors will have to pass the exam irrespective of their GPA. This is already taking place in some states.

Sophomore Humza Azam, who will most likely be taking the exit exam thinks it is "Stupid, because even if you work hard through high school, one exam can keep you from graduation."

"Students shouldn't have to take the test if they get good grades because they have worked hard and shouldn't have to prove it," says junior Melissa Miller.

IGAP testing began in 1984 when the Illinois Board of Education passes the Education Reform Act.

This act was for schools to become more accountable of the outcome of the students knowledge. Each school in Illinois would have to meet state goals in six learning areas: social studies, science, english and math.

This year, the board decided to add to the testing areas with fine arts and health.

Voters face referendum again

By Dan Young

On November 4th, West Chicago will vote on a $29.8 million referendum which will be used by District 94 for both development the building systems, and to wire the entire school to modern technology.

The referendum is the third in the last three years, and the reason We-go is asking for money, has changed from great ideas to basic needs. The school actually needs the money to replace the electrical systems, plumbing, heating and air conditioning in the school. The referendum would also include an expansion to accommodate a student population of up to 2,250. The expansion would include about 25 classrooms.

According to Dr. Griff Powell, superintendent, the referendum is the only way for West Chicago to raise money for repairs. This money is for new pipes, electrical systems, and heating and cooling systems.

According to Dahlquist and Lutzow Architects, Ltd. the pipes are corroded and filled with lime deposits. They believe the only way to fix this is to replace the entire piping system.

The steam system is between 40 and 60 years old and is beyond its service life. It needs to be replaced.

The electrical system needs to be changed, to make it more efficient and will reduce costs in the end.

Overall the company believes the school has outlived its infatstructure and major work needs to be done.

If the referendum passes, the new taxes will cost the owners of homes in the district an increase of total market value of $100,000 and would be an increase of $104 per year, for over 20 years.

This referendum is necessary, though, because if things are not fixed now, they will only get worse and cost the school more in the long run.

The big difference between this referendum and past referendums is that this time the school is asking for money to meet basic needs. Previous ideas included a new track, a new football stadium, and expanding the school onto the current football field. However, now the school wants to fix the infastructure.

Just three days ago, on Tuesday, September 16, the School Board met to talk about the issue on their agenda. The referendum popped up a couple of time, and was discussed towards the end of the meeting. There is a special meeting on the 22 of September to discuss the referendum. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., and all students are invited to attend.

There are a lot of things students can do to help with the referendum. There is a group called We-go Cares who work towards passing the referendum. They are a group of student in this school who help promote the referendum to the community. If you are interesting in volunteering with the referendum, contact Dr. Griff Powell, or go to one of the many board meetings. The next meeting is on the 29 of September.

Wildcat football booster club outing a huge success

The Wildcat Football Booster Club, under the leadership of Tim Raymond and Dave Osterkamp, sponsored its Second Annual Golf Outing on July 31, 1997, at St. Andrew's Golf Course in West Chicago.

All proceeds from this outing were designated to go for the purchase of equipment for the weight room for the use of all students. The weight room has recently been relocated to the Lincoln School annex.

Sponsorships for the individual golf holes were sold at $250.00 each, and all eighteen holes were purchased. Forty-five golfers participated in the outing and twenty-five stayed for the dinner, which was also held at St. Andrew's. The day concluded with the raffle drawing, and several wonderful items were given away.

Thanks to the hard work of the Wildcat Football Booster Club Committee and the generosity of many of the Community High School parents and local businesses for this fund raising event, a check in the amount of $6,000 has been presented to Dr. Jones and Athletic Director Bob Stone for the purchase of weight room equipment.

Contributors to this event include: P & M Sewer & Water, Inc. ; Forward Telecommunication Service; Kammes Properties; The Scott Hall Family; United Die Co., Inc. ; Jefferson Smurfit; Citizens for Tom Johnson; Crossroads Chevrolet-Buick, Inc. ; The McLoughlin Family; DuPage National Bank; Eagle Storage; Airhart Construction; David P. Lauzen & Co. ; Peter LaPlaca, Jr. ; Sound Inc. ; Monarch Fire Protection; The Don Neal Family; First Chicago, Winfield; MND Transportation; Builders Aluminum; Vern Moore & Sons Roofing, Inc. ; Winfield Fuel & Material Company; Central DuPage Hospital; and Mike and Kathy Wheeland.

A wall in the weight room has been designated as the "Wall of the Fame," and the first plaque to be placed upon this "Wall" will bear the names of all contributors of $200.00 or more to the 1997 Wildcat Football Booster Club Golf Outing.

Breaking the code

By Dan Young

The internet, infotrac, Chicago Tribune, and other informational programs to help you access information are on all the computers in the library now.

The school has come up with a new way to access information that was once contained in a few CDs and a couple computers in the library.

This is a great idea because you can get the infotrac, the internet, and the Chicago Tribune from the same computer, and there's no need to change terminals.

Large amounts of work put in by Tech. Coordinator Andy Glowaty and Tech Assistant Mike Stoner made this possible. The two came up with the idea, then put in countless hours making the system run.

However, the two came up with a system that includes a password. The password is students' name and ID numbers. Then comes the best part of the idea, all of the informational programs on each computer.

The password idea is what gets to me.

This maneuver is a big waste of time. What is the difference if you and your best friend use the same ID number on different terminals?

When you can access anything from any terminal, that's great. This way you can get information from any computer, and you don't have to wait in a line looking like a parade of people waiting for a train to pass.

Also, you can get on-line without having to find some sheet of paper and have it signed by your parents.

You can still lose your internet privilege if you aren't careful, but at least the school is showing trust in the students by allowing them internet access.

If I want to write an article for English class and I need information; I can have the information on one side of the screen in full and what I'm typing on the other side. This is excellent. I can also look into what the Tribune or Grolier said on the topic.

However, I disagree with the password screen. If all the passwords get to the same screen and the same menu, then why do we need the password? If you find the last user was accessing bad things, what difference does it make?

You don't know if the last user was the person it was supposed to be. It isn't that hard to find a lost ID, or to look on someone else's ID and take off the numbers needed to get into the program.

You and your best friend could use each other's passwords and the system could be defeated. I think this is crazy. There is no way to find the person who used the computer every time.

The school ought to change the system so there is no need for a password. It doesn't help and it slows people down.

Then again, the school might stop some people from going on the system in somebody elses name and doing bad things, but how?

However, there are those people who don't know their ID numbers and those who forget their ID at home all the time. This password system will hurt those people because they won't be able to get into the system and get the information they need to complete a given assignment.

I think the idea of interlocking all the programs and internet availability on to every computer in the library is one of the better things this school has done. It just doesn't look necessary to have the password feature.

Senior Column

Decisions, decisions

By Kelley Betts

I don't know about the rest of the seniors out there, but I'm becoming pretty sick of all the pressure being put on us to know what we want to do as a career. It is such a hard decision and some times I just wish it would come to me over night— yeah right.

This major life shaping decision has been pushed upon us since sophomore year, maybe even freshman year. All the counselors have programs and surveys and pamphlets and a ton of other junk for us to use to help us decide what we want to do for the rest of our lives.

They try to push it so hard that they make everyone nervous and leave most of us with the thought that if we don't know what we want to do, we'll never make it in the business world.

Do they have any idea how many people change their major during the four or more years of college? Almost half.

My assumption is all these students who change their major actually realize they didn't know everything that's out there yet. They finally gained more knowledge to make an accurate choice.

That's the way it should be done. Otherwise, college will just be a waste of money on classes we thought we'd like, but didn't.

I really don't want to spend my last year of high school being pressured into what I want to do for the rest of my life.

I don't want it to seem like I'm lazy either. I really have thought hard about what I want to do, and I have it narrowed down, but I still don't know exactly.

I feel I need more experience and more knowledge of the careers out there in order to make a definite decision, and it will take time to gain enough knowledge to make that choice.

I don't want to say I'm going to go into some career field just because it's the easiest thing to do, or because someone tells me to. I want to do something I really enjoy.

Sure, I'm using high school as an opportunity to find out what my interests and strong points are, but I don't want to use it as the only opportunity.

I want to actually get out there in the career world and find out everything there is to know, and that is going to take time. There are so many jobs out there that a lot of people don't know about, or take the time to learn about.

When I figure out what I want to do, I want to be one hundred percent sure that that is what I like and enjoy. I want to be sure there's nothing else I'd rather do.

I know the first two years of college will be filled with mostly required courses, so I know I still have time to decide. I do not need to make a final decision right now, so I'm not worried.

I want to remember senior year as the most fun year of high school, and that is the way it should be.

Letter to the Editor

"Many problems found in the 1997 yearbook"

Dear Editor,

When I get information in the mail about school starting again, it's not a very good thing because summer is ending, but when I go to register for school, the one thing I am excited about is seeing the yearbook from last year.

This year I was extremely disappointed with the yearbook I received. When I noticed that the year was wrong on the first page, I was wondering how someone could make a mistake like that.

Then when I went through the book more and found many spelling errors, I was wondering if the yearbook staff knew what "check spelling" meant.

I realized after some help from many others that not only had several people's picture's been left out from the classes, but many people were just omitted from the yearbook itself.

I guess change is good, but I do not think the class of 1997 was very happy with their pictures being the last thing in the book.

After I had gone through the yearbook the second time, I was starting to notice that it was not a school yearbook; it was the Yearbook Staff's yearbook.

Their pictures and names seemed to be on at least every page. I personally did not understand why it was necessary for them to put their names in those little boxes on four different pages. If we wanted to know who was on the Yearbook Staff, we could have simply turned to the page with their picture and noticed that there are five Kristen Chorobik's working on the Challenge.

It did not seem right when they gave some clubs/sports two pages and then others two pictures. Considering all the white space left on the pages, it seems apparent that there must have been more room for more pictures.

Our Forensics (or Speech) team was one of the few groups that made it to the state level last year, and they only got two pictures.

Not only did they "forget" individual people, they forgot teams. They managed to squeeze Varsity Badminton in, but what about JV? Are they not good enough for the yearbook?

In another section of sports, the boys Varsity and JV volleyball team captions were switched around.

On the Prom pages, many people are wondering why there was a huge picture of people whose faces you cannot even see. Those people are not even at Prom, they are at the hospital!! You can actually see the faces of the people in the Prom Court picture and it is one quarter the size of the other picture.

I was also wondering why they used two pages for what they called "The Many Faces of Love." Several of those people were not even going out, not did they even like each other. These were just a few of the many problems found in the 1997 yearbook.

At the end of the book they have the editor's page. This is where they usually have statements and pictures for each of the editors.

Out of all the pictures on the page, none of them showed the editors being productive. They were either sleeping, talking on the phone, or doing their nails; they each got a quarter credit for this.

On page 43 of the yearbook, there was even a quote about this: "Challenge staffers worked hard throughout the year to find pictures and beat deadlines. Like usual, neither happened."

I found it interesting that the yearbook staff did not have time to meet deadlines, but they did have time to find pictures of themselves to put in the book. Some of the staff members take up space on thirteen pages of the yearbook, when others aren't even in it at all.

I put the yearbook together in eighth grade. We did not get school time to do it, we had to come in on Saturdays. Even though it was a smaller book it only took us about four Saturdays, not 180 days. (Probably because it takes a longer amount of time to look for all the pictures of yourself.)

I do not understand why Yearbook is a class. (I know it says there was an advisor, but what did she do?) I wish something could be done about last year's book, but I guess last year's staff does not feel the same way.

I just hope out Senior yearbook is not as bad as the Challenge '97 or was it the Challenge '96?

Lisa Mueller

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The Wildcat Chronicle is the student newspaper at West Chicago Community High School. The views and opinions of the Wildcat Chronicle do not necessarily reflect or represent the majority of the staff or the student body.

Any suggestions or comments for the newspaper can be delivered to the Chronicle box in the main office. Letters to the editor must be signed to be printed. The newspaper has the right to exclude any letters that are inappropriate or will not fit in a particular issue.

The Wildcat Chronicle is a forum for freedom of expression and encourages readers to express their views and thoughts.

What they are getting for $62 million

By Beth Siwy

As the new school year begins we all walk through the familiar halls of West Chicago with the same people, the same rooms, same colors and mascot. Most school districts begin the same way, but as of August 27, 1997 Neuqua Valley became a new school in the Upstate Eight.

As the population in Waubonsie Valley, a school only capable of holding 3000, increased to numbers closer to 4000, the administrators decided to take it to the parents. With plans drawn up in 1995, by parents and administrators, close to $100 million was in question. The referendum passed, and by fall of 1997 two new schools have been built and another is in the works for Spring.

Located at 95th street in Naperville, where 950 freshmen and sophomore students are enrolled this, fall Neuqua can hold up to 3500 students; next year the school plans to enroll at least 1500 freshmen, sophomore, and juniors. The juniors and seniors enrolled at Waubonsie Valley but in the new Neuqua district will stay at Waubonsie for the rest of their high school career.

Along with the high school students the campus, which covers 50 acres, is also the home to three kindergarten classes, three classes of three and five year olds, and 150 staff and faculty. An additional 50 acres is used by the school through the facility of the Naperville Park District. The school is able to use baseball and softball fields and will soon have thirteen soccer fields at its disposal.

All students and some staff were taken from the over- populated Waubonsie Valley High School. Vice Principal Mike Pop was transferred from Waubonsie Valley as well; while principal Kathy Berket moved from the middle school.

The sophomore class from this year will be the first class to graduate from Neuqua Valley. Pop said, "Everyone, students and faculty were very excited," about the opening of the new school. He also commented that the parents had more say in the process than anyone else. The plans for the school were, for the most part, drawn up by the parents, and the new boundary lines deciding which kids would attend the new school were also drawn up by the parents.

The kids had their say also.

Before the school opened Berket and Pop made a strong, successful effort to meet with each and every student who would be attending Neuqua. In groups they discussed passing periods, the mascot, and the school colors.

The $62 million put towards Neuqua Valley didn't just go towards the building itself. Every single classroom, even those currently unused, has access to the internet.

Athletically, the navy and gold Wildcats are currenuy parucipating at the junior varsity level. With only freshmen and sophomores, the administrators did not feel it would be fair to put junior varsity level athletes at competition with varsity level athletes.

The school has many programs outside of athletics. A program called Interact, which is the equivalent to We-go's Key Club, does at least two community service projects monthly. Along with the school paper and a very active student council.

Big man on campus

By Allison Taylor and Jennifer Lasky

It was a time of mourning for West Chicago. The beloved principal, Samuel Bishop, had just passed away and West Chicago High School was left with a new principal who the community hardly knew anything about.

John Theodore Weyrauch was hired by the school board in the spring of 1960 to serve as assistant principal to Bishop, who had been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Before the 1960 school year could start, Bishop died, leaving Weyrauch as principal of a grieving high school.

Weyrauch was born on August 21, 1924, in Sterling, Illinois, and later moved to Oregon, Illinois. As a boy in Oregon, he sold newspapers, raised and sold rabbits, and worked in his dad's furniture store.

After high school, Weyrauch attended the University of Illinois. He only attended for one year, then headed off to Europe in 1943 to do his part in World War II. Over in Europe, he served as a cook, infantryman, and sergeant.

He returned home shortly before the end of the war in Europe. When he returned home, he continued his education, this time at Beloit College, where he majored in Business Administration.

At Beloit, Weyrauch was a co-captain of the football team and president of his fraternity.

Following college, Weyrauch married his hometown girlfriend Anne. As they started their new life together, Weyrauch began his teaching career.

His first job was in Greybull, Wyoming, teaching social studies and coaching football.

He left Greybull after one year and returned to Illinois where he taught in Mattoon, Illinois. He remained at Mattoon for 10 years, and during this time, became principal, had four children, and received his master's in Education and Administration.

Weyrauch left Mattoon when he accepted the position of assistant principal at We-go. The Weyrauch family, with children Meegan, Jack, William, and Mary in tow, moved to the town of West Chicago.

Weyrauch chose West Chicago because it was closer to his hometown of Oregon, Illinois.

Weyrauch was principal up until 1964, when the school board promoted him to the position of superintendent.

As the superintendent, Weyrauch made it his job to know most of the students and faculty. He was a big man and his presence was felt.

Photo by Jenny Lasky

The We-go auditorium, dedicated to Weyrauch

"When he entered a room, you knew it," said Gail George, P.E. teacher and assistant athletic director.

"He was a teacher's teacher. He was always available," said George. "He was in charge of everything and people listened to him. And he was usually right."

During his reign as superintendent, Weyrauch suffered from heart trouble. In 1967, he was forced to return early from an educators trip to Europe after suffering his second heart attack, his first being seven years earlier.

In early April of 1968, Weyrauch suffered another heart attack while trying to extinguish a grass fire in his back yard. This heart attack was the cause of his untimely death. The community was in shock and could hardly believe their beloved superintendent and friend was gone.

On April 6, 1968, school was dismissed for the day for John Weyrauch's memorial service. The service was held in the auditorium and according to Anne Weyrauch, Weyrauch's widow, many students and staff were in attendance.

Soon after his death, the community began asking about a memorial for Weyrauch. A memorial fund was established and a committee was formed to decide how to honor their friend and colleague.

The city council decided in 1973 to rename East Street after the beloved John Weyrauch.

The memorial committee decided to use the funds to refurbish the auditorium and rename it in Weyrauch's honor. The school board commissioned an oil painting of Weyrauch to hang outside the auditorium.

On January 21, 1973, the auditorium was dedicated in the honor of John Weyrauch. The speech at the dedication ceremony was titled "Three Views of John Weyrauch," and was given by Howard Holcombe, John Johansen, and Harold Spelman. Holcombe stated, "He had great faith in what education could do for anyone and sought the best of education for the people of this community. He was no studious planner, but a vigorous man of action, searching for better ways to accomplish the goals. He was a doer."

Weyrauch had a tremendous influence in the town of West Chicago. He is remembered for his concern for students and his love of the school. Now a new generation of students pass by his picture daily and he watches over them just as carefully as he did during his lifetime.

And you thought Peter Pan was weird...

We-go past Homecoming Themes

1965- Future
1966- Food
1967- Medieval times
1968- 1920's
1969- Cartoon comics
1970- Nursery rhymes
1971- Walt Disney characters
1972- Hillbillies
1973- Roaring 20's
1974- Surfing 60's
1975- Independence Day bicentennial
1976- Fabulous 50's
1977- Star Wars
1978- Disney (Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Mickey Mouse, etc.)
1979- Muppets (Kermit, Miss Piggy, etc.)
1980- Western
1981- Hawaiian
1982- Video games (Pac Man, Donkey Kong, Frogger, etc.)
1983- Fantasy (castles, fairies, etc.)
1984- Music
1985- Jungle
1986- Beach
1987- Outer space
1988- Hollywood Dream
1989- Medieval Fantasy
1990- International
1991- Wild West
1992- World of Animation (Flintstones, Smurfs, Peanuts, Looney Toons)
1993- Sports of the Windy City (White Sox, Blackhawks, Chicago Power, Bulls)
1994- Time periods (future, 1920's, 1960's, ancient Greece)
1995- Movies (Batman, Grease, Wizard of Oz, Jaws)
1996- Music (reggae, oldies, 80's, disco)

Get a hands-on look at your future

Press Release

Would you like to spend a day exploring a career field?

The West Chicago Chamber of Commerce and the Business/ Community Education Partnership Committee are sponsoring a YOUTH IN INDUSTRY DAY on Tuesday, November 11, 1997.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity for an on-the-job look at fields such as engineering, sales and marketing, healthcare (medicine), hotel management, law, investment (broker), banking, real estate, graphic arts, law enforcement, firefighting and manufacturing.

We will try to match your interests with you site visit; however, schools and many government offices will be closed that day so some limitations do exist.

We hope this day will be an asset to your future as you begin to select a college major or field. We have purposely scheduled this day on a school holiday to avoid any conflicts with your classes.

Don't worry though you can still sleep in; for most participants, the day will begin with a complimentary luncheon followed by a site visit.

Be aware that you are responsible for your own transportation to the luncheon and business site.

If you are interested, please see Cass Streicher in the Business Office.

Come and play The Game

By Jeff Goluszka

It's a game, but not a role-playing game, not a board game, not a computer game. A real-life game, where people are kidnapped and left for dead in Mexico, where people are locked in cars and driven into lakes, where real bullets are fired, where you can trust no one but yourself.

Michael Douglas plays this game in his newest movie, "The Game."

Douglas portrays Nicholas Van Orton, a San Francisco investment banker worth over $600 million. Nicholas is going through a tough period in his life. He keeps having flashbacks to how his father died by falling off of a roof to his death in front of the whole family at age 48. Today happens to be Nicholas' 48th birthday.

Nicholas lives in an enormous mansion, where he is your typical rich man. His brother Conrad (Sean Penn) comes for a visit to wish him happy birthday, and gives him a quite odd birthday present.

They meet for lunch and Conrad gives Nicholas a card that says Consumer Recreation Services, with a phone number and address. Conrad tells him to do it for fun, it's entertainment, but he wouldn't tell Nicholas anything more than that he had played it in London and it was a "life-changing experience."

So one thing leads to another, and Nicholas decides to give it a shot. He goes to CRS where he meets Jim Feingold (James Rebhorn) who says he needs to fill out an application and take a physical, he'll be there about two hours. However they run a bunch of tests on him on everything from his voice patterns to his private cellular phone number.

He is there literally all day and then he goes home and calls CRS. After everything he went through and all those tests, CRS says his application was "rejected."

Naturally, Nicholas was not too happy. A short time after he finds a wooden clown sitting in his living room. Nicholas is confused wondering how this clown was placed in his house, being that he has a high-tech security system in his huge estate.

He checks out the clown, and he pulls on the tongue, it pulls and pulls and finally comes out, and there is a key on the end with the letters "CRS" engraved on it.

He then notices the reporter on CNN is talking about him, and when he touches the clowns head, the television screen flickers. Eventually the man on CNN starts talking to him, telling him there was a hidden camera in the clown, the game has started, and Nicholas will keep finding keys. He won't know when, how or where he will find them, but he will find more and they will be an integral part in getting out of many tight spots.

Then more weird things begin to occur. He flies overseas to fire one of his executives for "failing him." To fire him he needs to give the man a pension plan, etc. It's in his briefcase, but suddenly he can't get it open. He gets out the CRS key, thinking maybe it will work, but it doesn't, so he can't fire the guy.

Then everything goes absolutely crazy. Nicholas goes to a fancy restaurant where a waitress (Deborah Kara Unger) spills her drinks all over him, and she gets fired on the spot. A mysterious man drops a note telling Nicholas it's his check. Instead there is a note that says "Don't let her get away." Then another adventure begins.

The whole story is a good plot to start out with, but it has one of the worst endings I have ever seen.

Michael Douglas and Sean Penn both acted extremely well, and unknown Unger may have boosted her career with her acting in this film.

This movie was directed by David Fincher who also directed "Seven" and "Alien 3." This movie will not be nearly as big as those two.

Overall, this movie was a major disappointment. Although the movie was great until the end, the way the film concludes overshadows the rest of the movie.

When you see a good movie, you normally leave the theater saying "That was good" or "I'm glad I went," but after seeing this movie, the reaction is more like "That movie sucked. I can't believe I wasted my money on it," which was my reaction.

Don't waste your money. ★

Horoscopes

Aquarius (Jan.20-Feb.18) Don't let school bring you down. This month your social life booms and that wouldn't happen if you weren't in school. You're meeting new people and loving it. Your lucky day is Friday and your lucky color is topaz.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar 21) You are bothered be someone who took something or someone who was important to you. Sweat it out. You will soon discover that the thing you miss is actually nothing at all. Your lucky day is Tuesday, and your lucky color is Pearl.

Aries (March 22- April 19) A friend will ask you for a favor which may challenge your values ethically. Think about your decision and most importantly think about yourself before your friend in this case. Your lucky day this month is Sunday. Take notice of the color purple.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) You're feeling good this month. That's great. Keep others around you in the same spirits. Stay weary of dogs this month, but remember their bark isn't as bad as their bite. Your lucky day is Wednesday. Your lucky color is white gold.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) You're thinking about your future this month. Think positively. The stars hold great things for you. Your lucky day this month Thursday. Your lucky color is aqua.

Cancer (June22-July 22) This month you find yourself thinking about a short summer fling. Don't let is get to you, you may miss something even better that could take its place. Climbing fences could be dangerous this month. This may also be a good month for dieting and getting rid of rich foods. Your lucky day is Saturday, and your color is orange.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) You're angry with a friend who has drifted, but don't worry, friendships never fade. Steer clear of driving a lot this month. People may not let you change lanes. Your lucky day this month is Monday, and wear the color magenta.

Virgo (Aug 23- Sept. 22) You feel pressured with school, but don't fret, you can handle it. People have been a bit short with you lately. Just smile and world will smile with you. Your lucky day is Tuesday and your lucky color is yellow.

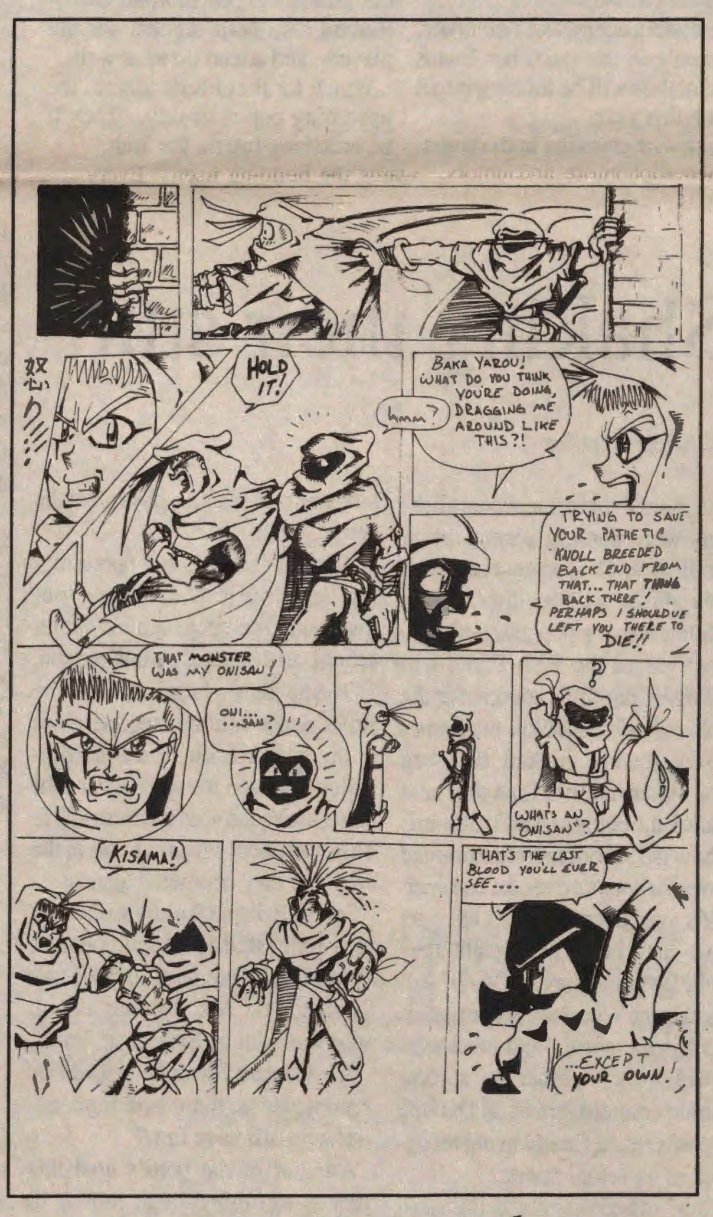
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct.23) You have a lot of energy this month. Use it for the right reasons and don't try too hard at any one thing that you do. You'll get what you want in good time. Be patient. Your lucky day this month is Sunday. Wear green socks this month.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov 21) Don't worry so much. Think about what it is that you value most in a relationship and work to make yours better. Your lucky day this month is Friday. Put on something navy blue this month and feel great.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec.21) You regret a decision you made over the summer. Think about why you made the decision and you may find that the reason isn't as great as you thought it was. Be careful this month. Your lucky day is Monday and you color is black.

Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan. 19) You having a lot of fun this month. That's cool! You're always one to find the simple joys in life. Help a friend in need who doesn't see things the same way you do. Your lucky day this month is Tuesday and you should always color with a green Crayola.

Comic



Are you an artist that wants to get noticed? See your artwork in the next Wildcat Chronicle. Leave a copy of your art in the Chronicle mailbox in the main office.

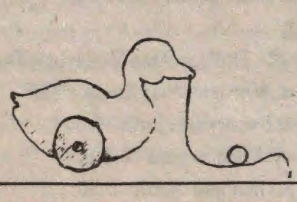
Nursery School

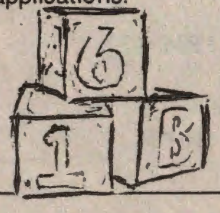
Are your parents tired of trying to find a babysitter while you're in school?

The Child Development classes are looking for kids ages 3-5 (under 3 if potty-trained).

Morning & afternoon sessions December 1-19; 8:45-10:45 & 12:15-2:15.

See Mrs. Kozlowski in room 102 for applications.





Sports

Cheering to victory

By Beth Siwy

The West Chicago cheerleaders are doing just that, cheering. The '97- '98 football squad consists of seniors Amanda Olson, Jenie Perry, Amber Planek, Beth Evans, Kelsey Link, Jenny Ventrelle, Angie Berg, Kelley Berec, Connie Pappas, and juniors Beth Nagel, Megan McDowell, and Kim Charbaneau.

Photo by Jenny Lasky

These Wildcat supporters practice three days a week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The role of the three senior captains, who are Ventrelle, Planek, and Evans, is to keep the squad in line during games and practices.

The new coach and teacher Patty Clifford also helps to keep the team in line along with teaching new cheers. The girls attend away games and are all looking forward to Homecoming. Senior Amanda Olson said "class of '98 rules."

The cheerleaders don't compete, or haven't in the past, but Evans says that they will be looking into it later on this year.

Along with cheering and competing, the girls also hold fund raisers like car washes and Burger King nights for various things such as new uniforms.

The soccer and wrestling squad includes seniors Eva Silva, Nancy Ortiz, Sheridan Bolz, Malgotia Steciuk, Jennifer Lasky, junior Lisa Mendez, and sophomore Tiffany Gunther.

The one problem the squad had was there were nine girls trying out for a non-competitive squad of eight. Captains Eva Silva and Nancy Ortiz are in charge of running the practices and teaching the squad new things.

Along with hours of cheering every week and doing the main job of the program, which is projecting and promoting school spirit these lady wildcats also hold fund-raisers and have the job of being pep pals to the athletes. The football cheerleaders also hold dinners for the players, and attend them as well.

Watch for the cheerleaders at the upcoming pep-assembly. They'll be breathing fire on the 26th.

Boys off to a running start

By Arlete Penaflor

The boys cross country team spent their summer days running, watching inspirational running videos. They, as million of other people did over the summer, watched "Men in Black," at the movie theater as a team, and, of course, miniature golfing.

The team competed at the Wauconda Invitational. There were 28 teams at the race, and the Wildcats took second to state ranked Crystal Lake Central.

Visser lead the way with a fifth place finish, and was followed by Keller with an eight place finish. Behind him came Young (14), Stogis (23), Skidgel (34). Visser, Young and Stogis all got personal bests.

The team also raced at Glenbard North on the 16. They lost to Glenbard North, but beat Glenbard East behind personal bests of Skidgel and Belcher.

The team enjoyed playing when they had some spare time, but those were the hours they weren't out running. They have practices everyday for two and a half hours. They also lift weights and spend the rest of their time running.

This year the cross country team has set goals for themselves they really hope to achieve. They hope to place third in conference this year, and to go down to state this year. Another goal of theirs is to win a few invitationals. To achieve these goals, head coach Paul McLeland tells his runners, "They should always focus on one thing, never give up no matter what. They should also always keep in mind that they can bend but never break." This helps the team keep focus on what they want to achieve.

The cross country team plans to go to the Peoria Notre Dame Invitational, site of the state meet. This is not the actual state meet, but is run at Detweiller Park, where the state meet is run. Mcleland considers the cross country team as competitive as they were last year, "They can achieve anything they want to if they really want it," said McLeland. The team hopes to win a couple of invitationals. This will mean a lot to them if they did.

This years cross country team is made up of senior Alfredo Muhlberger, junior's Liam Doyle, Nicholas Duffy, Bryan Franckowiak, Wesley Skidgel, Jeff Stogis, Bart Visser, Dan Young, sophmore's Rich Belcher, Ben Harkins, Tim Keller, Doug Strock, David Toney, and freshmen Kyle Hempel, David Pande, and Chris Patnaude.

The boys team has a home meet on Tuesday , September 23, at Reed Keepler Park.

Shaking their stuff

By Arlete Penaflor

The poms summer accomplishments were placing second place overall at NIU tournament. The teams ability will be displayed at the homecoming pep assembly.

That means the Pom Pon's will once again put on a routine for the whole school, based on the homecoming themes picked for each class. After summer long practices at camp, the poms squad finally gets to show the school their hard earned accomplishments over the summer.

This year the pom-pons have set some very important goals they would like to achieve. One of Advisor Myrna Woodson's main goals is to see the pom's and the cheerleaders work together on accomplishing common goals, and having the poms squad finally being recognized as an actual sport.

They've been very busy this summer with car washes, working at the Carol Stream District Clinic, selling cotton candy at Railroad Days, a community fund raiser, and most important, summer camp.

The camp was held at Northern Illinois University from July 23 through the 27th. 19 of the girls on the squad went . The pom's have always done a great job, and are doing great at some of the past camps that they've gone to over the summer.

They compete at the summer camps every year, all of those hard long hours of practice pays off at the end.

"Summer camp is an opportunity for the girls to learn some new routines and to compete against oother schools in the area," said Woodson.

Overall they placed first on the street dance routine, second place in the open routine, third in originality, and won the spirit award for being the squad with the most spirit. This was out of seven schools in the area that they competed against.

Senior Brianna Smith finished off by winning the Ms. Badgeret award, as well as tieing with junior Staci Swan for the Ms. All star award, who was won by Swan and Smith.

Co-Captain Swan described this years squad as, "hard working dancers, who just have fun."

Another of the pom's goal this year is to raise enough money to send the All star winners to Disney world in February to compete, and to be able to compete at USDA in the spring. Some of the most memorable experiences over the summer with the pon's, according to Swan and Smith, was qualifying for the grand class champions and placing second place overall out of nine squads.

Be prepared for the poms at the Homecoming assembaly, as well as basketball games in the winter season. The poms are ready to show their stuff in this new season.

Tennis gets into the swing of things

By Dan Young

The girls tennis team has been prepared for the season ahead, and now they are ready for the challenges of the DVC. Although the small numbers may hurt the teams chances to compete with the rest of the school in the DVC, the team is relaying on quality, not quantity. Coach Sione Moeaki said, "Lack of depth is really hurting us."

The girls team just played against Wheaton Warrenville South yesterday, (results were unavailable at press time) their second DVC match this year. The other match was against Glenbard East on Tuesday. The girls were ready to face the best of the DVC, however, they don't have the number of participants to match others school's numbers.

The girls have beaten tough oppenents in Bartlett and Oswego. Against Bartlett, the team swept six to nothing. The single winners were seniors Kelly Yednock, Liz Breiseth, and Tiffany Hanshaw. The doubles teams consisted ofjunior Marla D'Aversa and sophomore Neha Soneji, senior Liz Murphy and sophomore Nicole Wigder, and the team of sophomores Sheetal Rami and Kristine Cleveland.

Against Oswego, the varsity team won by a score of four to two. The winners were Soneji, and doubles teams of Brieseth-D'Aversa, Murphy-Wigder, and Rami-Cleveland.

The girls year started with a loss against Geneva, and then followed with a loss against Wheaton Christian. Their next match was a heartbreaker, as they lost a close one to IMSA. The problem lies in numbers.

The girls are short one player on the varsity level, and four players on the junior varsity level. Low numbers is a large problem. Moeaki said, "I don't known how well we will do against the other teams in the DVC. They (the girls) are improving each week, and that is what we strive for." Moeaki said, "Yednock has played very well, but she is getting a lot of support from Rami, Cleveland, Murphy, Wigder and others on the team. Yednock is the first single, and Rami and Cleveland are a double. Murphy and Wigder are the other double on the team, and the second single spot is played by Soneji.

Sports Schedule

Boys Cross Country
Sept. 20 - at Peoria Invitational - 9:00 A.M.
Sept. 23 - vs Wheaton North and WWS - 4:30 P.M.
Sept. 27 - at Belvidere Invational - 10:00 A.M.
Sept. 30 - at Naperville North - 4:30 P.M.

Girls Cross Country
Sept. 20 - at Peoria Invational - 9:00 A.M.
Sept. 23 - Wheaton North and WWS - 4:30 P.M.
Sept. 27 - at Newton Park - 9:00 A.M.
Sept. 30 - at Naperville North - 4:30 P.M.

Football
Sept. 27 - vs. Glenbard East - 1:30 P.M.
Oct. 3 - at Naperville North - 7:30 P.M.

Boys Golf
Sept. 19 - at Glenbard South - 3:30 P.M.
Sept. 22 - at Wheaton North - 3:30 P.M.
Sept. 24 - vs. IMSA - 4:00 P.M.
Sept. 25 - vs. West Aurora - 4:15 P.M.
Sept. 27 - at Geneva - 8:00 P.M.
Sept. 29 - vs. Bartlett - 4:00 P.M.
Sept. 30 - vs. Glenbard North - 4:00 P.M.
Oct. 2 - DVC

Girls Golf
Sept. 23 - at Lake Park - 4:00 P.M.
Sept. 24 - at Rosary - 4:00 P.M.
Sept. 25 - at Benet Academy - 4:00 P.M.
Oct. 1 - at Hinsdale Central - 8:00 A.M.
Oct. 2 - at Batavia - 4:00 P.M.

Soccer
Sept. 20 - at Lyons Township - 10:00 A.M.
Sept. 23 - at Naperville North - 6:30 P.M.
Sept. 30 - at WW South - 6:30 P.M.

Swimming
Sept. 20 - Wildcat Invite - 10:00 A.M.
Sept. 25 - vs. West Aurora - 6:00 P.M.
Sept. 30 - at Oak Park - 6:00 P.M.

Tennis
Sept. 23 - at Naperville Central - 4:00
Sept. 25 - vs. Naperville North - 4:00
Sept. 30 - at Wheaton North - 4:00
Oct. 2 - vs. West Aurora - 4:00 00

Volleyball
Sep.19 & 20 - DuPage Area Volleyball Tourney
Sep. 23 - at Wheaton Warr South - 6:30
Sep. 25 - at Naperville North - 6:30
Sep. 30 - vs. West Aurora - 6:30
Oct. 2 - vs. Glenbafd North - 6:30

Quick start holds hope for future

By Dan Young

As girls swimming gets ready for the Wildcat Invitational tomorrow, they can be proud of what they have done so far.

After trouncing the York swimming and diving team, they swimming cats left Evanston and Barrington on the diving boards eating their dust.

The cats last meet was 13 days ago, but with the pace their going at, a shot at a team bid to the state meet is very likely. Coach Dan Johnson said, "It all depends on how we swim. We have the potential to be a very strong, talented team, but we must improve our work habits."

The Wildcats swam against top ten ranked Barrington and Evanston. They took 3rd in the meet, but the individual swimmers swam extremely well.

The Wildcats beat the tar out of York, by a lopsided score of 134-55.

"Normally, York is a good sectional team," Johnson said. The Wildcats got good performances out of freshman Shannon Stern, who got lifetime personal bests, and from Katie Coffman as well.

Johnson said, "She (Coffmann) had an outstanding meet. Stern has been swimming with the Shark's program for her grade school years, and now she gets all of her lifetime bests." Johnson also said that he was extremely proud of how well the diver were. "The divers were excellent," he said.

Johnson also said, "Danielle Lureau swam extremely well, and she posted good times this early in the season." Lureau is a returning state swimmer, and just a sophomore last year. "She has a very good chance of going downstate," said Johnson.

The team is ready for the season. Johnson said, "Some swimmers are already at state times, and it all depends on how bad they want it.

This team could make it to state, but it all depends on how bad they want it. It's hard to say if they will make state, because it also depends on how they swim on the sectional day."

Johnson also addressed the loss of the senior swimmers, saying, "It is always tough to say good-bye, but it is exciting to see the freshman and sophomores step up and take the seniors places. I take personal enjoyment in watching the seniors go to college and do great thing."

However, there has a been a problem with the school pool. The pool heating system filters into the main boiler to heat the water. However, there was a faulty part in the heating system, and the water began to leak in the main boiler, and the pool had to be closed. Johnson said, "It threw a crimp in our training."

We wanted to get a few double workouts in there during the week, but we couldn't because of the leak. We even opened the pool early to get some workouts in. We had to workout in the outdoor pool, and I arranged for us to workout in St. Charles. It was a problem, but now we are back."

Girls Running Brave

By Kelley Betts

The Girls' Cross Country team has their eyes fixed on their goals and is ready to run over all obstacles in their path.

These Ladycats are off to a positive start finishing just short of their goal of placing in the top ten at the Wacaunda invitational last Saturday, September 13. They placed 11th out of 30 teams.

"They didn't run as they were expected to," says coach Kelly Kolassa, "but Racheal Altergott ran her best race."

Altergott, sophomore, is among the top returners for this season along with sophomores Jenny Wiechert and Crystal Adams.

September 16 was the girls' first conference meet. They beat Glenbard East by one point having the girls place second, third, fifth, sixth and 12th.

"We are lacking a fifth runner in a big way," says Kolassa.

The Ladycats lost to Glenbard North at the same meet.

This season also marks the first season boys and girls cross country is completely separate. Last year, Kolassa was the assistant coach of the cross country team. This year, she is the head coach.

"We now have the freedom to run in different meets," says Kolassa.

Janine Morris also joined the team which started off as a big boost adding to the list of top runners, but Morris is currently out with an ankle injury.

"Our goal for this season is for Varsity to try finishing fifth in the D.V.C., and in order to do this, everyone needs to be in good shape," says Kolassa

At this point many of the runners have one year of experience behind them providing a good start into the season.

The biggest problem girls cross country is faced with in competition is the experienced runners most schools have.

Looking ahead, another goal is to be consistent in placing in the D.V.C., says Kolassa. The past five years were very inconsistent compared to years before.

The girls struggled last year with a lower turnout of nine runners, most of them being new. Girls cross country also lacked a Varsity team. Despite these major drawbacks, the frosh/soph team managed to place

The DVC's got a new red and blue

By Jennifer Lasky

There are new faces in the DuPage Valley Conference starting in the 1997-98 school year. Glenbard South's departure from the DVC left an opening and the West Aurora Blackhawks seized the opportunity to move from the Upstate Eight to the DVC.

West Aurora saw the opening in the DVC as a great opportunity for the students. The DVC is a smaller conference than the Upstate Eight, making game scheduling easier. The DVC also offers better lower level competition for the students. Some of the schools in the Upstate Eight do not offer lower level competition in some sports. Joining the DVC gives the younger students more of an opportunity to play.

In order to join the DVC, the school had to apply. St. Charles, Waubonsie Valley, and Lake Park also applied for the spot.

Each school in the DVC sent a representative to a meeting to interview each of the schools. West Aurora matched the other schools in the DVC in size, condition, levels of sports, and facilities.

With a student population of 2500, the Blackhawks were once a big name in the Upstate Eight. The Upstate Eight consists of St. Charles, Waubonsie Valley, Lake Park, Elgin, East Aurora, De Kalb, and Larkin high schools. West Aurora was a part of the conference since the start of the conference in 1963.

During West Aurora's 34 years in the Upstate Eight, the school collected 120 conference championships.

The school's most recent accomplishments include a state championship in girls tennis, a second in state in boys basketball, and boys tennis and girls badminton were conference champs.

West Aurora has already played many of the schools in the DVC in non-conference games. The school is known for having a strong athletic program. According to We-go athletic director Bob Stone, the school has strong boys basketball, baseball, and wrestling teams, and strong girls tennis and swim teams.

The only We-go team to have played West Aurora is the soccer team, and the Wildcats were defeated 4-3. The rest of the teams are scheduled to play the Blackhawks later in the season.

Joining the DVC has increased the school's turnout for sports. The school currently has 10 boys sports and 12 girls sports. Some sports have as many as 50 more people than last year. The girls cross country team has approximately 50 members, boys soccer has 65 members. Of an approximately 80 member coaching staff, 75 work in the school building.

Most of West Aurora's sports facilities are located on campus, with the exceptions of tennis, golf, cross country, and swimming. There are plans to move tennis on campus. Swimming is held at Illinois Math and Science Academy.

The property on which IMSA is located was sold to them in the 1980's by West Aurora. West Aurora has a large but old gymnasuim and the best football facility in the DVC. The school just installed a new sprinkling system and has the largest pressbox in the DVC.

We got spirit, so lets hear it

Sports Editorial

By Allison Taylor

"Why would I want to go to the football game? We're just going to lose anyway."

"Spirit days are so dumb, why do we even have them?"

"This school sucks."

I hear comments like this all the time. People who are too cool to take pride in our school. I hate the negative attitude some students at We-go have.

I am not saying everyone is like this. In fact the majority of students support our school and take pride in our Wildcats. However, there are always some exceptions.

These are the people who refuse to attend pep assembly days, who make fun of athletes, and who verbally put down our school.

People like this make me mad. I understand that not everyone enjoys watching a soccer game or singing the school song, but why do they have to say anything against those who do?

When I was at a football game earlier this month, I heard some students talking about how bad the team was and how they would lose no matter what. This made me angry. I always show up to football games, or any sport for that matter, with the hope that we will win. If these people felt we would lose then why were they at the game in the first place?

I think as a school we should have confidence in our athletes. We need to support them, whether they win or lose. The fans need to be respectful and keep their losing attitudes to themselves. I think if everyone had a better attitude about our teams, especially football, the players would appreciate it.

I know some people will say they're just stating the facts when they put down our teams, and maybe they are. If they stopped to think about what they were saying, though, I think they would see how rude they really are.

I think the students and staff would also like it if people could stop saying how bad our school is or how much they hate it. Just because a few rules bother someone doesn't mean they have to go around and tell everyone just how much our school sucks.

Pep assemblies are another pet peeve of mine. I would love to see the bleachers filled to capacity instead of just a few big groups of people. I am proud of the people who go to the assemblies, though. They are choosing to support We-go and show their support by cheering for our teams.

As I said before, I think most We-go students are proud of this school and they support our teams. Those people who have a bad attitude, though, should think about what this school means to the rest of us and be respectful. Don't share your snide remarks about school spirit because chances are, most people don't want to hear them.

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Football wins opener, prepares for Homecoming

By Jeff Goluszka

The West Chicago football team started out the season with a thrilling victory, but things quickly went from promising to grim.

The Wildcats won their season opener game against former DuPage Valley Conference rival Glenbard South, but then fell apart facing two savage defeats at the hands of Batavia and Glenbard North.

Last week Glenbard North ravaged the Cats 57-12. This was especially tough to take after week two's defeat at the hands of Batavia 36 to 0.

In week two the Wildcats lost at Batavia 36-0 and in week three at home versus Glenbard North, the Cats were destroyed 57 to 12.

The Cats got down to Glenbard North 23-0 early and could not recover. The Wildcat defense had trouble containing GBN junior running back Mike Mims, who ran for 182 yards on 10 carries including four touchdown runs.

A factor in the losses was star junior quarterback Brian Raymond's season-ending collarbone injury in week one that shocked the team and it's fans.

The game against Glenbard South was played at home, and the Cats won the very emotional game 15-14. Glenbard South's missed two point conversion in the fourth quarter was the difference. The team was ecstatic after the game and the crowd was definitely into it.

Adam Morissey and Mike Schneider scored for the Wildcats.

The team unfortunately has begun to point fingers at each other Raymond said, but "we need to stick together and be pointing fingers at ourselves not each other," said Raymond.

In the third quarter against Glenbard South, We-go took the lead 15-0 with backup senior quarterback John Jensen playing that position for the first time.

Jensen was in because Raymond was lost for the season with a collarbone injury he sustained in the second quarter, although he continued to play until halftime.

Raymond completed two of three passes for 22 yards and a touchdown before being injured. Raymond's loss leaves the team without an experienced leader.

Jensen has played well so far, as he has completed eight of fifteen passes for 125 yards and one interception.

Jensen clearly has the support of his teammates. "John Jensen is perfectly capable of doing the job. We're fine. He's got a strong arm (Jensen is also a pitcher). He's gaining confidence every game," said senior co-captain Jim Carstensen. Raymond added that Jensen is working hard and is doing well.

New head coach Bob Stone also is pleased with Jensen's performance. "He's done a very good job considering he hasn't played quarterback since his freshman year...he's only getting better," said Stone on Jensen.

Carstensen's words mean very much, since he is a co-captain and is highly regarded by his teammates. "He's got great leadership...he takes control in the huddle," said senior defensive tackle Rich DiVito.

Raymond also was the placekicker, so the new kicker is junior Chris Weston. "He's got a good foot, he can kick," according to Carstensen. Weston has not come into a game to kick an extra point or field goal yet, but he has 7 kickoffs with an average of 47 yards a kick.

Unfortunately, none of that mattered as the Cats were blown out in the next two games.

However, the season is not over and the team has time to regroup and possibly salvage the season. Stone will have to get his team to be more confident to be competitive.

In the end it looks as if Stone will play a huge part in the rebuilding process of the We-go football program. Raymond said Stone described things best when he said "We're building a program, not a season."

Being competitive the rest of the season may be a tough task for the Cats, since their upcoming schedule includes three teams that were in the Chicago Tribune Preseason Top 10, Naperville Central, whom they play tonight, Wheaton-Warrenville South and Naperville North.

In the coming weeks We-go has the Homecoming game against Glenbard East Saturday.

We-go will end their regular season with a home game on Senior Parent Night, October 17, versus DVC newcomer West Aurora.

Photo by Kristi Ault

Football prepares to run over their oppenents in the DVC

A Stable Rock

By Hannah Kenny

After three head football coaches and Athletic Directors within one matter of a year, We-go hopes Bob Stone will be the rock of the Athletic Department.

July 1st marked the arrival of Bob Stone who will fill the position of athletic director by day and head football coach by night.

Stone left the same position at Joliet Catholic Academy to come to We-go. Since he did not have any assistance as athletic director, he turned down both positions at first.

He accepted the position here at We-go to attempt to turn around a struggling We-go football program that has experienced several coaching changes. He hopes to bring stability by keeping the present assistant coaches, PE teachers Tony Neverly and Greg Hansen, and PE and Drivers Education teacher John Walters.

Competition and concentration on We-go are goals Stone anticipates, but he will take what happens.

Maybe some of Stone's previous records will polish the records for We-go. He brings an impressive record: 80-17 in his seven years as the Hilltopper head football coach, including a state title in 1990 and runner-up to Wheaton-Warrenville South in 1992.

As athletic, director Stone feels it will be a challenge to persuade participation. He said "Girls have a greater participation than boys," but hopes to see participation equal in the future.

Another role he wants to fulfill is "being there" as a spectator at both girls and boys sports. Former interim athletic director Gail George said "Athletic director is his job and he knows that [so] the equality will be balanced and fair."

Stone chose to make the move to West Chicago for the challenge, the teacher retirement system, and his friend business teacher and head basketball coach Dan McCarthy. He is currently residing in Geneva.

Golf is driving fore success

By Kelly Kaylor

Wildcat golfers are heading in their anticipated direction for success, despite a close defeat at the hands of Naperville Central on Tuesday. The girls are working towards improvement after a tough loss to Geneva.

The boys golf team came close, but lost to Naperville Central on Tuesday on Naperbrook GC. Top scores were posted by Justin Sadaukas, Jeff Powell, and Kevin Brewer.

After a 6-9 record and a fifth place finish in the DuPage Valley Conference last year, Coach Tim Courtney is expecting more this season. "This team should do really well, we should be in the top half of the conference," Courtney said.

With the losses of Bart Gallagher and former captain Terry Yormark to graduation, this season depends on strong performances by the senior class. Led by captain John Brigowatz, the seniors include: Kevin Brewer, Adam Bridge, Justin Saduaskas and Jason Sewell.

New additions to the varsity roster are juniors Jeff Belokin, Chris Howell, Kyle Mulligan, Jeff Powell, and Rick Williams.

"In order for this year's team to be successful they need to continue to shoot scores in the thirties, and just keep doing what they are doing," Courtney said. Courtney expects the team to continue the progress he has seen in the past opening weeks of the season.

During the Homecoming week the team has a meet against West Aurora on their home course of St. Andrews at 4:15 p.m.

Lady Wildcat golfers lost on Monday to Geneva , top scorers were; Lydia Schroeder(53), Helen Walsh(57), and Jessica Leston(60).

The girls' golf team which has only been in existence for two years, continues to work on gaining respect in the DVC.

This season the number of participants increased to ten from last years' six including; seniors Leston, Jenny Mullaney, Candi Widerski, juniors Allison Kuranshi, Ellen McLoughlin, Molly Saul, and sophomores Angela Mullaney, Christie Palombi, Schroeder, and Walsh.

Thus far into the season the girls have a record of 0-5. On the more positive note, some girls have bettered their scores by twenty strokes which leaves coach Mike Cain and Leston hoping to send a few golfers to regionals.

This season the team hopes to improve on last year's winless conference play.

Leston who was last year's MVP commented on the goals of the team,"Already this season we have seen a lot of improvement, our goal is to keep building this program. We had to cut players this year which has forced us to compete with ourselves to get better."

During Homecoming week, no home meets have been scheduled for the girls, but the team plays Benet Academy at Elburn Golf Course on Thursday, September 25, at 4 p.m.

Soccer kicks off its new season

By Kelly Kaylor

Varsity has kicked off their season with a winning record of 6-1-1, and are foreseeing sucess for the rest of the year.

Despite the key losses of All-Conference recipients Roberto Martinez and Chris Payton to graduation, this year's soccer squad has made up for the difference. Led by captains seniors Jim Callahan, Arturo Guevara, Brian O'Hara, and junior Alberto Perez, the team hopes to avenge last year's 3-3 conference record.

Looking for their strength to be in the backfield, the team feels comfortable in their experienced defense. Confidence is found in their seniors Callahan, O'Hara, and Jason Hempel in the defensive positions, in addition to strong performances by Uriel Bejarano, Damian Guerrero, and Perez on offense.

A strong class of seniors with varsity playing experience should prove beneficial to the squad, which also boasts talent in their junior class. The team's junior goalie, Kevin Rugaard, has impressed many with his numerous saves in the past two weeks of the season. Two sophomores and a freshman have also been added to the varsity roster. Ryan Dorn, David Boyle, and Dennis Janek have been seeing playing time.

Photo by Jenny Lasky

Soccer prepares for another season

In the DuPage Valley Conference, captains Callahan and O'Hara are expecting challenges from Wheaton North and Naperville North. Callahan commented on their predictions saying, "both teams [Wheaton North (5-1) and Naperville North (4-1)] are decent, but I feel we have a good chance to be on top."

O'Hara spoke for the team saying, "We are looking forward to a good year and could really use some fan support...the more fans we have the better we play."

The Cats are ready to scratch and claw their way to the top of the DVC. The soccer team lost to DVC rival West Aurora (4-3), and tied to Oswego (3-3). However, the rest of the games the team has played in have ended up with the Wildcats running the victory laps. The team won the first two games, then faced Oswego.

The team is scheduled to play Naperville North on Tuesday, September 23, at 6:30 P.M., at the Naperville campus.