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Letters to the Editor

Encourage winners and losers

Everyone loves a winner, and our fall sports' teams have been doing great. Congratulations! "But it's not important that we win or lose; it's how we play the game." Every team needs a positive, winning attitude and team spirit.

Have you noticed when our team is behind how quiet and less supportive we get? We need to encourage and get more involved when we are behind.

Kay Piotrawicz, junior

4-6

8,9

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ID's extra work

I feel that having to redo the ID's was not necessary. I'm on the yearbook staff, and I think we worked really hard to make the ID's a success.

It was not necessary to do them over just to correct the expiration date. Now we have to take time out from working on the yearbook so we can correct the date.

Tricia Ort, sophomore

Editorial Policy

The HATCHET is a monthly newspaper written and designed by the publications staff at Washington High School. It is a school news magazine which upholds all the ideas and ideals of the First Amendment to The Constitution of the United States of America, freedom of the press.

The HATCHET has been established as a forum for student expression and as a voice in the uninhibited, free and open discussion of issues. Editorials represent the opinion of the editorial board but not necessarily those of the administration, staff, or student body. The HATCHET will not print obscentities, libelous material, or anything that disrupts the educational process or invades the privacy of any group or individual.

Letters may be submitted to the HATCHET from the students in order to provide a full opportunity for students to inquire, question, exchange and submit ideas. Content should reflect all areas of student interest, including topics about which there may be dissent or controversy. The HATCHET also reserves the right to condense, edit or not print material submitted by students at the discretion of the editors and supporting staff. Letters that are submitted must have the author's signature but may be omitted upon request.

Faced with the wall; a moving experience

by Amanda Griffis Editor-in-Chief

On a warm autumn day, an unforgettable scene was set at Howard Park when the Moving Wall came to South Bend. The Wall did not just move to South Bend for a week, but it permanently moved the hearts of all who saw it.



Decorated with flowers, pictures, and medals, the Moving Wall moved the hearts of all who saw it.

People quietly walked by the Memorial with a sad smile, or sometimes tears as they thought of their loved ones who so long ago passed away. Occasionally they would stop and stare at a name, touch it with a trembling finger, and see through the Wall into a familiar face who reached out to return their longing stare. Names suddenly came to life, memories began to unfold, and pain was eased, but never forgotten as grieving widows, mothers, and friends faced the Wall.

"I knew seven people on the Wall; five from high school and two I grew up with. The initial impact is tough," sadly replied Tom Niedbalski from the Michiana Vietnam Veterans.

Although the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial is in Washington, D.C., the people of South Bend did not have to travel such lengths to experience the emotional impact and sentimental value of the Vietnam Memorial.

Thanks to the Moving Wall, people could pay their respects to all the men and women who died for their country within their own town.

Courtesy of the South Bend Tribune, WSBT, and the Michiana Vietnam Veterans, Inc., the Wall was available for all to see at Howard Park in South Bend the first week in October. The wall contains 58,183 names, 1300 of which are unaccounted for prisoners of war or missing in action (POW's and MIA's). Sixteen listed men were military chaplains, and two of them received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Also, eight women are named, seven Army nurses and one Air Force nurse.

"A lot of people died; most of them were ages 19-21. People don't

realize that many of these people could have been a doctor, a president, or a minister," said Rich O'Grady who helped with the Moving Wall.

The Moving Wall differs from the original one in Washington, D.C., in size; the Moving Wall is 253 ft. in length and 6 ft. at the vertex in height, and the Memorial in Washington is 494 ft. long by 12 ft. high.

President Dan Hardman, of the Vietnam Veterans of Michiana said, "The Wall in Washington, D.C., is more dynamic. This one is a half-scale replica, but it still has the same emotional impact."

The Moving Wall is made of aluminum panels that are 100 in. thick with an allodined and electropainted gloss black surface. John Devitt, who had the idea of the Moving Wall, decided that silk screening was the best method to use in replicating the names.

The names are arranged in chronological order from 1959 to 1975. Under each date of casualty, the names are alphabetized with the MIA's placed under the date that they were declared missing.

The Wall has both an east and west side. The East Wall begins in 1959 with panell E which has an inscription that reads: "In honor of the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War; the names of those who gave their lives and of those who remain missing are inscribed in the order they were taken from us."

The names continue to panel 70 W, the end of the West Wall. The date on panel 70 W is 1975, and the words inscribed on it read: "Our nation honors the courage, sacrifice and devotion to duty and country of its Vietnam Veterans. This Memorial was built with private contributions from the American people Nov. 11, 1982."

The American people do honorall names on the Wall for their courage and sacrifice; the many visits to the Wall from people all over the country and the invaluable etchings done by a family member or friend prove this. Hardman said, "The etchings are very important; the body is not there, but it is a part of his/her life."

As people comes to the Moving Wall to visit a special name, they usually bring along with them a poem or a letter for that person who will always remain in their memories. Some may also bring pictures, flowers, medals, newspaper clippings, or other sentimental objects to leave at the Wall.

Before the Wall travels to its next destination, all these artifacts are collected and put into boxes labeled with the location that they came from. They are then sent to San Jose, CA, where they will be stored until the Moving Wall has fulfilled its purpose.

Once the Wall's journey has ended, a museum will be established in San Jose, filled with artifacts from families and friends all over the nation. Each artifact has a special meaning and represents a piece of someone's life. Therefore, it will have its proper place in a glass case beneath the state flag of where it was once placed in loving memory.



Dedicated to the courageous men and women who died for our country, the Field Cross Memorial brought tears to the eyes of those at Howard Park.

The museum completes the Moving Wall's purpose and will one day show everyone how truly moving it was.

Hardman concluded with his feelings when he views the Wall, "There's no explanation. All those names are friends. It's just seeing those names there and giving them all the respect to them that they deserve for doing what they thought was right, and dying for our country."

Theology a gathering time for reflection

by Michele Perez Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered what theology is? According to Miss Amelia Munoz, resource specialist, "Theology is the study of God and how people live out their beliefs in God. It is such a big question that youth from all over the U.S. were gathered to deal with this issue and with questions relating to what and why people believe."



Theology student Diana Palomo enjoys a chance to dress up and dine with new found freinds.

This past summer WHS's own Diana Palomo attended the first annual Youth Theology Institute at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. This program brought together a diverse group of people who viewed each other as equals to discuss and learn more about theology. Students would not only discuss and learn more about theology, but also learn to make practical daily use of their beliefs.

Palomo was awarded a full scholarship from the Candler School of Theology which is funded by the Lily Endowment, Inc.

Twenty nine males and thirty females participated in the month-long program. Those who attended were selected from over 200 qualified applicants nationwide. The scholarship she received covered room, board, field trips, and learning materials.

The scholars lived on campus. This was an added advantage to the program. Or as Palomo said, "It was like a jump start to college." This added to the well-rounded program which emphasized exploration of theology; service to local agencies; enrichment in the arts; contemplation; and recreation.

The students explored the relationship of theology to contemporary public policies and social issues, such as health care, ecology, economic policies, and race relations. During this exploration time, the students were able to visit the Dr. Martin Luther King Center. While they were on this visit, they received quite a shock.

While it had been rumored that Mrs. Coretta Scott King would be talking with them, it still amazed the students when she actually arrived. She discussed with them how race relations have changed and how they could help take race relations a step forward. As Palomo explained: "It was unique because she came all the way over from another building to discuss issues we had previously explored."

The scholars served the community by volunteering for various local service agencies. Palomo mostly helped in soup kitchens. She did, however, get to help at the headquarters of Habitat for Humanity. She reflected that it was a rewarding experience for her to be able to help so many people in such a short time.

Although the scholars were required to volunteer only on certain days, most of the students spent their free time also doing something of benefit for the community.

Enrichment in the arts was a varied theme throughout the program. The scholars had the chance to meet Emily of the Indigo Girls, a popular singing group, as well as to form a gospel choir. Palomo said she and her friends felt that they weren't exactly record-label material, but they definitely made improvements.

The students also had time for contemplation not only about their own beliefs, but those of others as well. The scholars, who were of diverse religious backgrounds, had the chance to visit Methodist, Baptist, and Tibetan churches; a Jewish temple; and a Buddhist temple. These were only some of the places of worship they visited in addition to the traditional Christian churches.

While the objective of the program was not to change the scholars' beliefs, some did leave with a different perspective on life. Palomo explained that although she may have questioned her own personal and religious beliefs, they remained basically the same.

Palomo thinks that she has brought back a knowledge of how to use theology to share with others to broaden their perspectives.

Since returning home, Palomo has already received many letters from the new friends with whom she shared so much.

National Hispanic Month celebrated

by Amanda Griffis Editor-in-chief



On Sept. 29, high school and middle school students traveled from schools as far as South Central Junior/Senior High School in Union Mills, In., to enjoy a cultural learning experience at Notre Dame's Stepan Center. Mayor Joe Kernan commenced the festivities with his proclamation delivered in Spanish. He stated that it is important to have a society combined with a diversity of languages, culture, and people from which others can learn. Infancia Mexicana, a youth Mexican dance company with children ranging from ages 3-13, started off the fun with their great dance steps in traditional Mexican dress. One of the dances they performed was the well-known Mexican Hat Dance.

Next, some students had their names drawn and received prizes. Junior Monica Estrada was in luck and won a pinata, but all she could say was, "Woooaaa, I was surprised!" Sombreros (hats), maracas, sarapes (blankets), and games were also given away.

The Salazar Family, including junior Noella Salazar, played musicand sang songs that made the audience join in and sing with them. Junior Chris Escobedo especially enjoyed singing *Cielito Lindo*, as he would emphatically sing out, "Ay, ay, ay, ay!" Asi es Mi Tierra, a Mexican folk dance group, performed and then taught the teachers and volunteer students a simple dance. Junior Jessica Majors said, "The dancing was great until all the students got up on stage and made a chaos."

After a word from Notre Dame President Father Malloy, everyone ate lunch. But the food did not satisfy many. "The food was not Hispanic. The rice tasted flat; it had no flavor, and the tacos did not have enough meat in them," said senior Adrian Velez.

After lunch, the students began to leave Notre Dame, but took with them a better understanding of Mexican culture. Spanish teacher Joel Krueger said, "Overall, it was a great cultural learning experience for all students who attended."

Clinic fire shatters family's lives

by Craig Langhofer Sports writer

For many people it is something that you just hear about on the radio or see on television and can only imagine what those poor people are going through—their lives suddenly shattered, chaos everywhere, people watching in disbelief. For me this image became reality.

Personal Experience

It was 10:45 am Mon., Aug. 9, 1993. Ihad just been awakened by a telephone call from a friend. We talked for 45 minutes and then were cut off. I assumed that our phone had broken again, as it had been doing quite frequently since my sister had dropped it. I got up to remind my mother again that we really need to go buy a new phone.

Suddenly, I hear someone yelling, "Fire! Fire! The clinic is on fire!" (The Western Veterinarian Clinic, my father's business)

I rush out of my room, hearing my sisters' panicking cries of "Fire!" I hurry out the door not knowing how serious it really is because my sisters scare very easily. I see smoke rising from the back of the clinic; my mind suddenly goes blank as to what to do.

"Get the keys to the cars!" my mother yelled to me.

I run back inside to grab the keys. As I am running to my car, all I see is a big cloud of black smoke rising from the end of my dad's business; I notice people running out of the clinic with animals with smoke following them. Cars are parked dangerously close to the building. I jump in my car to move it away from the building, jump out and grab keys from someone else to move theirs.

"Water! Let's get some water!" I tell my mother.

"Can't! The water pump has shut off!" she yells back. "All we can do is wait for the fire department to get here."

Dismayed I stare into the opened garage door. I hear the crackling and snapping of the light fixtures as the heat distorts their shape, eventually causing them to fall, breaking on the once-clean floor. I am forced to shield my face from the increasing heat as the smoke pours out the door, turning the clear sky to a dark haze. I suddenly feel so helpless as I stand and watch my dad's dream and business crumble.

Turning around I notice my two younger sisters sitting on the grass watching the flames, tears welling up in their eyes and falling down their cheeks. My little brother is sitting next to them, wonder and disbelief fill his face as he is too young to quite comprehend the reality of what is happening. (My father and two other brothers were at the State Fair.)

"Craig, go help get some water from next door for the cars!" yells my mother.

I jump in the back of a truck, bringing some buckets with me. Driving over to the John Deer dealership next to us, some of their employees and myself throw the buckets out and begin filling them with water. I just realize that I have no socks or shoes on; I just never got the chance to even think about that.

"Firemen are coming," someone yells just as I hear the sirens wailing.

"It's about time they got here!" I exclaim. "They must have really taken it slowly." (Now I realize that it wasn't as long as I thought it was, even though at the time it seemed like forever.)

We get all of the buckets filled, put them back in the truck, then drive back over. While I am sitting in the back of the truck riding to my house, I notice the firemen working frantically to get the hoses in order. I see many bystanders just watching as everything goes up in smoke.

The truck stops and I jump out. Grabbing two buckets, I pour one on each of the cars closest to the now melting building.

"Why don't you move these cars instead of pouring water on top of them?" comments someone.

I look up, only to see a gawker. I say nothing, and just turn and walk away thinking—what do you know; you're not even doing anything besides looking stupid and watching my house burn down. My thoughts are quickly diverted though as I run to help move the confused dogs further away from the clinic as the increasing heat becomes almost unbearable for them.

More and more fire trucks are arriving as the fire is quickly spreading across the top of the clinic. It seems as if the water flying from the stiff hoses are doing nothing to relinquish the thirst of this red demon. Some of the fire trucks are already leaving to fill up with water at the nearest hydrant, three miles away.

The rest of the time that the fire was burning is sort of a blur. Everything was happening so very fast that I could not keep track of everyone or what all was happening. I remember bits and pieces of what occurred and that is about it; but once the fire was extinguished, I was able to see what all had been destroyed in this short amount of time.

Once the firemen left, I remember walking through what was still standing of the clinic. As I entered what had been the reception room, I first saw the floor; it looked like a shallow lake with bunches of sponge scattered all over. As I walked across, my feet sloshed and squished between the water and insulation. The walls were charred at the top, the sides streaked black by sooty water that had run down them. The oncecovered ceiling was now letting in the only source of light which dotted the sponged floor. Insulation clung to the severed floor of the attic as water slowly drained off and dripped into the lake. Everything was a mess and barely recognizable through the rubble. It was incredible to think about how long it took to build the clinic and how fast it was destroyed.

I didn't get much sleep that night as I lay on the unfamiliar bed at a nearby motel.

As of today I am still in that same motel, with my two brothers, two sisters, and my parents; I'm still sleeping in that same bed. Reconstruction has just begun on



After the flames have been extinguished, the power of the fire is evident. The Western Veterinarian Clinic was partially destroyed.

the clinic and will probably be a couple more months before it is completed.

As to how the fire started, I am still not completely certain, and I really don't think that it is too important. I blame no one. I realize that many worse things could have happened; I am just glad that nobody was hurt and that all of the animals are safe.

I would personally like to thank everyone who came over and supported and helped my family through this ordeal; also I want to thank God for taking care of the employees, my family, most of the animals, and the firemen.

Solving "the problem"-let's work together

Every school has problems. But every school should be able to solve or try to solve the problems, if we are willing to work together.



At the beginning of the '91 school year, McDonald's closed its doors to students. We were not allowed to eat inside because of loud and vulgar language, littering, and lack of respect to managers. After managers and students had a chance to talk, McDonald's reopened their doors hoping this had given us time to think about and appreciate what we had.

That's why it came as no surprise that many restaurants such as King Gyros, Burger King (in '91, Burger King had no complaints about WHS) and McDonald's were complaining this fall about the behavior of the few students who have not yet matured and who continue to act like children. Every year students are reminded of how to act in public restaurants. This year, complaints such as foul language, trashing, fighting, disrespect and talking back to workers and managers have been high on the list.

We are all young adults and are expected to behave and act like young adults. But behaving like young adults does not involve any of the complaints that the school has had to hear about.

In the 1960's open lunch became a part of WHS. For years students have had the freedom to leave the campus during lunch periods and go to restaurants to eat their lunch. Do we want to lose this right because of a small minority of students who cannot behave?

Why do we complain that restaurants are complaining about us? We need to step back and take a good look at ourselves.

How long would it take to throw away trash? Maybe ten seconds, tops.

Foul language, fighting, and talking back is all just a matter of control. Workers and managers, along with their customers, do not deserve to be treated with disrespect.

Keep in mind that not all students are behaving in such an undisciplined manner. These students deserve some credit. Without these students, we would have no one to look as an example.

We, as students, need to work together to change the negative comments about our school community into positive comments and stop all the nonsense. Show the restaurants and everyone else that we are a school with pride, spirit, and students who want to make a difference.

As long as we give a valiant effort and work hard, then the restaurants have nothing to complain about. But until then, we are forced to listen to the negative comments about WHS and its students, and to wonder why students don't care enough to change the reputation we have made for ourselves.





-to the students, class sponsors, faculty, and staff who participated in spirit week and with all the homecoming decorations. This Panther spirit was very much appreciated!

-to those hardworking students who are spending long grueling hours working on their research papers. Hang in there, Panthers! This will pay off in college.

-to the fall sports' teams and all loyal fans keep on cheering!

-to junior Christina Fidler for appearing on Sixteen, a talk show for high-school students. You did a great job representing WHS, Chrissy!

-to the day off we had because of teachers' meetings. It was wonderful sleeping in until noon. You teachers should have meetings more often!

-to the band/guards competition. Even though you lost, you deserve a special pat on the back for working so hard!

-to all the students who participated in the PSAT's. It will help you next year.

-to all the students who are participating in the school play; curtain goes up in less than a month.

-to the band who did a great job firing up school spirit at the pep assembly.

Thumbs down-

-to the students who continue to roam the halls without passes. Aren't you scared of Taffy, yet?

-to the fighting amongst the immature little kids. When are we going to learn that fighting does not solve anything?

-to the low attendance on Fridays. Okay, sure you may be sick, but isn't it surprising how everyone happens to "feel better" by Friday night?

-to the students who still continue to block the hallways. Please, have some courtesy and get out of the way!

-to the students who have not yet learned how to act in public restaurants. Are you allowed to act like animals in your own home? Let's show a little respect and act like adults before we all have to eat in for lunch.

-to no heat. Students cannot concentrate watching icicles form around their hands and noses.

Cars travel roads of self-expression

People express themselves in many ways without even knowing they're doing so. These expressions can leave lasting impression on others. It wouldn't be a surprithen, that every morning when students jump into the cars on their way to school, they're heading down the roa to self-expression.

by Stacey and Stephanie Kaufman Feature Editors

Some drive a car simply as a way to get where they need to be. Others, although they may not realize it, drive a certain car as a way to define themselves. The differences can be seen in "how individuals relate to the car--the one they choose to drive and in which they choose to be seen," said Peter Marsh and Peter Collett in *Driving Passion*.

In agreement senior Ricky Scott, himself an owner of 23 cars said, "A person with a small and well-kept car would be more timid, while one with a loud and flashy car would be considered more outgoing."

Marsh and Collett explained that relationships with cars have a certain purpose in the secret minds of the individual. "Our attachments are certainly passionate, and the car is truly a vehicle of fantasy."

In the U.S. today, every three people have two cars. "In this country alone, more than 11 million new cars ventured onto the already overcrowded roads," according to Marsh and Collet. "Love affairs" with cars is not a new passion. Computer paraprofessional Mrs. Janet Buda said, "I first fell in love with a car about 20 years ago. My love is a black Jaguar with tan interior. It has style and class."

As the automobile has gained im-

"How you keep your car and what you want her to see is a reflection of yourself." -Ricky Scott

portance in people's lives, the home has altered to accommodate the new "family member." Before the mid 1930's, the garage was usually a shed, unkept, out of sight, and detached from the home. Today the garage has become a significant part of the house, offering new meaning to the principle of cars. "The real reason for these architectural 'advances' may be a deepseated desire to include the car in the ily and to emphasize our strong, sym attachment with these objects of affect

Senior Jennica Pawelski's famil dition, Sherman, is a 1979 Chevy Im "We named the car, Sherman, becaus

a 'big boat' and it makes us think of war," laughed Pawelski.

People take pride in their car treat them as their "baby." This explain senior Lance Robbin's quest for his own pride: "Since my black, it's hard to keep clean. I us clean it every other day."

Scott admitted that he, too, c his car on a regular basis for his satisfaction. Satisfaction is the reas has made fixing and selling can hobby. His hobby started at age 1 has sold about 40 cars and feels

has sold about 40 cars and feels knowing he has assembled these cars his own hands. Scott confirming hi as the owner of all these cars says his is on all the titles. He added, "It' expensive; I know a lot of people."

Scott also said knowing he h; ability to make his car look nice a show that it is his gives him gratific "I like people to hear my ca



engine that I built. The whole mechanical part is more than just looks to me," proudly stated Scott.

People adorn their cars with charms and trinkets to show more of themselves to everyone passing by. Vanity plates, car phones, and the insides of cars all show self-expression. "These fixtures allow the owners to pamper themselves and their passengers," said Marsh and Collett.

Senior Amy Hoffman said, "People put vanity plates on cars so people know it's their car. It's a status symbol."

Hoffman distinguishes her car with a name plate that says "AMY -N- DAN" because "I wanted everyone to know Dan was mine." said Hoffman.

For most, a license plate on a car causes little concern, but others personalize them for distinction. They can offer

statements for both the car and the owner.

Junior Jill Cunningham and her family personalize their license Her plates. mom's license plate has her initials J.S.C. Her dad, also has his initials, J.J.C. Cunningham

said the reason they do this is, "So we can

stand out and be different from everyone else. To look important."

"It is unique to personalize license

plates because not many people have it done. People like it because sometimes the

Senior Ryan De Lee gloats over his cousin, Kristi Chrzan's, new red sports car.

plates can be funny and interesting to read," concluded Cunningham.

Sara Bailey adorns her rear-view mir-

ror with abow tie. She reasons: "People have done it for a long time, so people still do it."

Scott also gives his car an original look with name plates and custom-paint jobs.

The car one drives has a definite effect on the opposite sex. Junior Alex Abbott thinks that the kind of car a per-

son drives "reflects your appearance." Abbott drives a Buick Skylark even though he would like to own a Ford Mus-

tang because "it's a fast, classic sports car." Abbott, however, is not embarrassed to be

seen in his Buick Skylark.

Bailey thinks that it is to a guy's advantage to own a nice car because a girl will "remember him more than she would if someone came up to her in a 'crappy' car. She'd probably talk to him more."

For this reason, Scott thinks it's very important to take a girl out in a clean car. "How you keep your car and what you want her to see is a

reflection of yourself. A clean

car leaves the impression with a girl that you actually cared enough to make sure things were nice."

Bailey supports the idea that an untidy car can be a turn-off to some girls--"especially if it's real bad, like smelly or something," laughed Bailey.

Senior Craig Lauver, who drives a '92 Camaro, thinks that when a person does take care of his car, it shows how much he takes care of himself. "If they take care of their cars, they're going to take care of themselves."

Lauver continued, "If you're going to take a girl out, your car should be clean; it's a nice presentation."

Abbott agrees: "A girl might think negatively towards a guy with an untidy car because he didn't prepare for the date."

Looking down the road as the Camaros, Mustangs, and Yugos pass by, one can find variations of self-expression, leaving enduring impressions behind in the dust.



Seniors Aimee De Cocq and Michelle Hagedorn pose next to the green Volkswagon that Aimee drives.



We've got spirit; yes, we do! Football Homecoming '93 Oct. 4-8



Homecoming day proved to be totally fun. Basketball coach Milt Cooper, after losing the bet with football coach Bovenkerk about senior **Rey Garcia's** touchdown return, *eased* his way through 25 push-ups. Around the 21st push-up, his age began to show; but he did his Panthers proud and managed all 25. Good form!



Football players geared up for the big game with a traditional huddle after the pep assembly. "Beat Riley!" they screamed.



Anticipation on the court as to who would be the lucky girl increased as the clock ticked down to halftime. The court and their escorts demonstrated the secret to a good Miss America wave--elbow, elbow, wrist, wrist.



Finally, at halftime, Sarah Bandera, escorted by Craig Lauver, was crowned Football Homecoming Queen 1993. It took a while for the reality to hit, but she soon gave the crowd a beautiful smile. Watching court member Tasha Reed's niece present the roses are escort Lance Robbins and court member Julie Brenner.



Sophomore Stephanie Schwandner and junior Nicole Green kept the spirit going at halftime. Even though the Panthers were down by seven, they were still very optimistic.

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Cardiac arrest strikes cross country team

by Jason Whitmer Sports Writer



he heart transplant performed by Coach Dan Kaserhas experienced cardiac arrest. Early in the season, the Panthers had sprinted to a 3-

3 start. Since then, they've managed to sleep walk to a 3-11 record. Natural disaster has traveled with them to every meet in the form of heavy rains, and or arctic temperatures, and devastating losses.

The suggested criteria for a good season proved to be inefficient against top-notch, or even not-so-top-notch teams. The potential of their opponents was greatly underestimated. Despite placing six runners under the twenty-minute mark against Elkhart Central, the Panthers still suffered a staggering 15-47 defeat. (The lower score wins.) Personal achievement has greatly improved, but team improvement has proved disappointing. For example, in the recent City Meet, senior Manuel Herbert surprised the field, and the media, with an astonishing third-place finish.

When asked about his outstanding finish, Herbert replied, "I had nothing to lose and everything to prove. The press article didn't even mention me as a top runner for the race. Coach Kaser constantly reminded me of that throughout the race by flashing a clipping of the article in my direction. I had one goal—to prove them wrong."

Kaser commented, "From the beginning of the race I never doubted 'Manny' for an instant. I knew he would run strong, and he did."

On the girl's side of the coin, junior co-captain Christina Hughes showed her desire with a strong finish in the City Meet on the heels of top Panther girls' runner, junior Melanie Whiteman. Although the girls have not had a strong year, they have managed to muster a hefty amount of male phone numbers.

But things are not as bad as they appear. The majority of the Panther runners have increased their personal best times by up to three minutes, pack running has come to the forefront, and junior Ryan Duddleson proved his ability to perform the Heimlich maneuver on a voluntarily choking junior George Miles.

With sectionals around the corner, the Panthers are hard at work. Look for Herbert, junior Mario Besera, senior Adrian Velez, and sophomore Kevin Keppler to come away with an upset and advance to regionals.



Sprinting for the finish line, senior Manuel Herbert shows the pain that one has to endure while running a cross country race.

Tennis team gained experience

by Nate Reeder Sports Writer

This year's boys' tennis team had their ups and downs. They made some tough competition for opponents, but they managed only one win.

The season ended in despair for the netters in sectionals. They drew a bye in the first round, but then faced St. Joe in the second round. The Indians trampled the Panthers, winning all five matches on their way to the sectional crown.

The Panther netters, however, gained much experience. Sophomores Kevin Dixon and Joe Tiseo are two examples. They were both on JV, but next year they will take over varsity spots in the place of the team's many graduating seniors.

Tiseo said of next year's team: "Hopefully, our seasoning from this year will help prepare us for next year's new challenges on varsity. We



Senior co-captain Craig Lauver puts all he's got into this unreturnable serve.

want to win at least four matches next year, but if we can win three, it will be great. Coach Steve Chung will find a way."

Dixon added, "With the help of the incoming freshmen, we should have a good rebuilding year. Our experience from this year should help us win many more matches."

Senior Craig Lauver reflected on the season: "Hopefully, with us gone, the people who have to step up won't miss any leadership. I think that next year they will win more than we did this year. The added experience will help a lot."

The team is looking forward to next season, and they are hoping for at least three wins. That would exceed the number of wins of the last few years. The team thinks that if they achieve this goal, they will surpass the hopes and expectations of the student body.

Lady Panthers make history

by Amanda Griffis Editor-in-Chief

The Lady Panthers finished with a kick as they went down in history as the soccer team with the most wins. Their record of 6-9-1 is the best record WHS has ever seen.

Last year the team recorded a total of only two wins, one against LaSalle and another against Elkhart Memorial. This year, however, they started to turn things around.

Senior Tasha Reed said, "I am extremely overwhelmed with our season's record. The players played as a team should play-with discipline, aggressiveness, and respect. I am proud of our team, but I wish we could have been winning like this in my previous three years."

In the Penn Invitational, the girls' soccer team had a double header. First they lost to Fort Wayne by a score of 3-1, with senior Amanda Griffis scoring the goal for the Panthers.

Determined to have a victory in the second game, the team tightened their cleats and entered the game with confidence. Reed and sophomores Stephanie Schwandner and Becky Wilfing all scored one goal, while Griffis added to the offensive with two goals scored. After defeating Concordia by a score of 5-1, the Panthers had

their taste of victory and were ready for their Westside rivals.

In their last home game, the girls' soccer team upset the LaSalle Lions and sent them running home with their manes matted and their tails between their legs. With a score of 3-0, the cold and rainy night did not dampen the Panthers' plans for a shutout.

Reed scored two goals, one of which was assisted by junior Monica Estrada. Griffis also kicked one in for the team off of a penalty kick.

The South Bend Tournament was next on the schedule. The Panthers entered the sectionals with high hopes and determination, but these hopes were quickly diminished when Riley defeated them at Clay Field by a score of 9-1. Walking back to the bus with their heads hung low in disappointment, the team realized that their season was over.

Looking back on her soccer experience, senior Aimee DeCocq said, "I feel proud to have been a member of the WHS soccer team because we have accomplished so much throughout my four years on the team."

With the loss of nine starting seniors, the team has its work cut out for them next year. They hope to keep the soccer program heading in the same direction and add more victories to their record next year.

gher level--more competition

by Mike Whitlock Sports Writer

The competition increases as an athlete's career continues. This is evident again by the volleyball records: varsity 7-12, JV 10-6, and freshmen 5-5.

The varsity slowed down after a great start, ending the year facing tough opponents such as Penn, Mishawaka, and Michigan City Elston.



Junior Karyn Calbetzor covers, while sophomore Christine Wrobleski prepares to serve.

Not satisfied with their record, junior Charlena VanDeveire said, "We lost our enthusiasm because not everybody was playing up to par at the same time. We are looking forward to the sectional."

JV, however, ended the year looking impressive. Leadership and improved play was a key part in their success.

They are led by juniors Elizabeth Shearer and Sabrina Opaczewski, and sophomore Jamie Infalt. The girls' strong will to advise and keep the players' spirits up makes them leaders. Freshman Courtney Litka has improved her setting from the beginning of the year, while sophomore Andrea McNemey has improved on both her passing and hitting.

Shearer said, "Even though we are 8-5, the team needs to keep up the teamwork and lose some of the attitudes.

The JV finished the year in third place in the IV tournament.

The freshmen were red hot, winning five of their first six games, but struggled in the end to finish 5-5.

In volleyball, teamwork means everything. Maybe that is why the freshmen girls have a 5-5 record should come as no surprise.

The three most feared teams in volleyball are Penn, Mishawaka, and Riley. This is how the freshmen team ended this year. They lost to each team, but left their impression on the other coaches.

The freshman team finished the year in the freshman tourney. They lost in the first round, but won the consolation game and finished third over-all.

The season came to an end as the Panthers lost to eventual sectional champion Riley 15-13, 15-0 in the first round of sectionals.

well as the losses. The players on the team were like a family, and I

Sports Profile

Tasha Reed Senior

Awards and Achievements-- soccer MVP (94); soccer 2nd team allconference (94); Basketball All-Conference Honorable Mention (94); Prep Profile- South Bend Tribune (93); Basketball All-State Honorable Mention (92): Soccer All-State Honorable Mention (92); Top 20 of class (91-94)

Age- 17

Class Rank-- 6

Role Model-- Mother

Favorite Class-- All

Favorite Food-- Tacos

Favorite T.V. Show-Martin

Favorite Book-Malcom X by Alex Haley

Sports Played -- Soccer and basketball

Future Plans -- Play soccer or basketball for a college and major in physical therapy or psychology

Clubs at WHS-- National Honor Society and Friends Always There Greatest Accomplishment-- With score tied and five seconds left in the game, she scored the winning basket against Clay herjunior year. Most proud of -- Being sixth in her class and still playing competitively in two sports, basketball and soccer.

Most Embarrassing Moment-- In the Jamboree, I went to kick the ball and my shoe fell off.

Advice to Others-- Keep your head up, work hard and strive for excellence

Other Hobbies-- Reading and watching T.V.

Her summary of the soccer team: This year's soccer team played extremely well. Many people didn't think that we could win over two games, but we did. I'm proud to have taken part in the victories as think that is what kept us going.

Panther roll stopped abruptly

by Greg Bovenkerk Sports Writer

At the beginning of the season, the Panther football team, was on a role. They were 2-1 and 2-0 in the NIC and very optimistic about what was ahead of them. Their only loss was to what is still an undefeated and now-ranked #2 team, Munster. Then the team picked up big wins against Mishawaka and LaSalle.

After these wins, they traveled to Michigan City to face undefeated Elston. This game would propel the winner into a first-place tie with Penn. The Panthers started out ahead with a secondquarter touchdown run by tailback Ricky Ward. The Panthers held that lead until the fourth quarter when Elston finally got on the scoreboard.



The men in the trenches work extremely hard during a tough practice.

The score was 7-6. Right away the team drove down the field and scored on a 14-yard run by sophomore fullback Jason Wilson for his first touchdown in his high-school career and, more importantly, gave the Panthers a 13-6 lead.

Elston didn't give up, though. They had the ball at their own 15-yard line with less than two minutes left in the game. After an arguable facemask call, the Devils had fourth and ten at their own fifteen when disaster struck. An 85-yard touchdown pass with one minute left made the score 13-12, with the Panthers still in favor.

Elston went for the two-point conversion and got it to stomp the Panthers, 14-13.

This loss put the team's record at 2-2 and 2-1 in the NIC, but still in second place.

The team's next opponent was the everforceful Elkhart Central Blue Blazers. The Panthers started off poorly and dug themselves into a hole by being down 20-0. This time it would be the Panthers that came back. First, a 10-yard run by Ward cut the Central lead to 14. Then a 14yard run by sophomore Randy Shelton made it 20-14. Central then scored late in the game to put it out of reach. A final 28-yard touchdown pass from sophomore Matt Wood tosenior Art Deleon on the last play of the game ended the scoring. The final was 26-20.

This loss put the Panthers' record at 2-3 and 2-2 in conference play. They would try to bring the record up to .500 with a win at Elkhart Memorial. Memorial was coming off a winagainst Clay, their first in 15 games. The Panthers knew that Memorial would be ready for this game. A crucial mistake by the Chargers after refusing a holding penalty gave the Panthers the ball at the six-yard line.

Two plays later Wilson scored on a twoyard pass from Wood. Two touchdowns by Ward gave the Panthers a comfortable lead late in the game. But Memorial didn't give up. They scored twice to give the Panthers the lead only by seven. As the Chargers tried to win it late, senior Rey Garcia intercepted a pass and returned it 65 yards for a touchdown. This sealed a victory for the team, bringing their record to 3-3.

WHS's next opponent was city rival Riley. It was homecoming for the Panthers. The two teams had the same record going into the game and were tied for fourth place in the conference. The Panthers scored first on a 14-yard run by Wilson. Riley took over from there. The Panthers rushed for only 68 yards and passed for only 18. Riley, on the other hand, gained over 200 yards on the ground. WHS suffered its fourth loss of the season, 17-7.

To end the regular season, the Panthers



Sophomore Peter Bandera watches a perfect kick sail through the uprights.

faced the #1 ranked Penn Kingsmen and lost 34-7. In the first round of the sectional, the Panthers staged a comeback to defeat Westside rival LaSalle 22-21.

When asked what the team's chances are come sectional time, senior co-captain Nate Giszewski said, "The team's chances are very good because a lot of the teams are evenly matched." Senior co-captain Brian Outlaw said that he would like to end the year "knowing that everyone played his hardest, and that we got better than last year."

Don't count the Panthers out of anything yet because the road to the Dome starts with LaSalle and ends in Indianapolis.

Next season looking to be better

by Kisha Perry Sports Writer

Swim coach Kristi Walz thinks that the reason the girls can't seem to pull off a victory is because of a lack of experience: only five were returning swimmers, and they only practiced during the school season.

Despite no wins, meets with Adams, Bremen, and Rochester were close.

Fighting for positions were key swimmersjuniors Heather Woods, Sara Nemes, Becky Kelsey, Heather Alerding and sophomore Jill Wall.



Racing against the clock, freshman Stacy Page continues to work hard in practice.

Nemes said that she worked really

hard to help out the team this season.

Concentration, getting faster times, and positive thinking were her keys to success. She reached her goals by dropping her times by three to four seconds in each event.

Nemes also has four first places: one each in 100 breast, free, back, and the relay.

As advice to her teammates, Nemes added: "There is no strength where there is no struggle, because hard work and dedication pay off."

Walz is optimistic about the future: "All 16 girls are coming back next season, and we should have a larger squad."

"Air" taken out of NBA

by Jim Wiskotoni Sports Editor



hock. That is the only way I can describe my feelings when Michael Jordan announced that he would retire. The greatest player in the history of basketball had walked away from the game bis career

in the prime of his career.

At first I could not believe what I was hearing. How could Michael quit at this point? It took me a while to realize, however, that it was a good time for Michael to leave the game. He was on top; he was the greatest, but most of all, he was ready—ready to leave the game.

Just when everyone thought the Chicago Bulls would create a dynasty like that of the Boston Celtics, the heart of their team leaves. Why did Jordan decide to leave at this point?

Many people have speculated. It was because his dad died; it was because of the probe into his gambling activity; people have even tried to say it was because he was in debt from gambling with the mob, and they forced him to retire. The reasons have ranged from believable to outlandish.



Sitting at the press conference, Michael Jordan explains to the press why he retired from basketball.

In my opinion, we should just believe what Michael told us. After all, he has always been honest with the press and his fans. "I just feel that I don't have anything else to prove... The desire just isn't there."

Let us assume that Michael is telling the truth. After three straight years of being in the NBA finals, and winning the championship, along with playing in the Olympics in 1992, can we not understand why the man is burned out?

Notice, I use the word "man." Too many people look at Jordan as an immortal, but he is just as human as the rest of us, even if his abilities are far beyond that of the average human. When one considers the pressures that a superstar such as Jordan has to endure, it is easy to see why he decided to retire at this time. Not only has Jordan accomplished almost

every goal conceivable in basketball, he has brought the NBA into a new era; some would even say he carried the NBA. Then when one adds the media pressure he has been subjected to in the past year over his gambling activities, I am almost glad that Michael decided to retire. He deserves to live a semi-normal life, where he is free to do things without every little detail being scrutinized by the press.

Maybe now that Jordan has stepped out of the limelight, he will be able to spend some time with his family. Michael needs some time to collect his thoughts about his father's death; he also needs time to spend with his wife and mother. People sometimes don't realize that superstars have families just like we do.

In the future, we will have to adjust to the NBA action without Jordan flying through the air and dunking over Patrick Ewing or shooting a three-pointer in Cliff Robinson's face and then shrugging as if he didn't know how he did it.

So anyway, what does Michael plan to do now that he is retired? "I don't know," he says. "The word retired means you can do anything you want." It looks as if Michael will back away from the media as much as possible in the coming months, just as he did this summer. His face may then start to appear on the cover of the *National Inquirer* as much as Elvis Presley's does.

Some may wonder how the NBA can survive the loss of Jordan after just losing Magic Johnson and Larry Bird. The NBA has been preparing for this time, and now is ready to launch new superstars to replace the old. Even though the time came earlier than expected, the young stars are ready.

The Orlando Magic tout the hottest player in merchandising today in Shaquille O'Neill. The Charlotte Hornets have the largest salaried player in history in 12 years for \$84-million man Larry Johnson. Shawn Kemp is a rising superstar for the Seattle Supersonics. A former member of Michigan's Fab Five, Chris Weber, signed a 15-year, \$74.4-million contract, and will play his first pro season for Golden State this year.

Don't worry about the NBA; it can stand on its own two feet even without Michael. And Michael can definitely stand on his two feet without the NBA: "I won't miss the cheers and adulation. They were there and I enjoyed them, but they are not necessary for my survival. They are there for me to look back on and remember. Therefore, they will never be lost."

Every Jordan fan has his own special memory of Michael. Whether it be the shot that won the National Championship for North Carolina; the winning shot in game seven of the play-offs against Cleveland; his spectacular move when he switched hands in midair and hit a lay-up against Los Angeles in the Finals; or just a special personal memory, they all are forever ingrained in our minds for all time. Never before has one man affected the game the way Michael did.

Nobody knows if Michael will ever unretire, that includes Michael himself. "Will I ever unretire? I can't answer that. Right now I don't have the drive to play the game. Five years down the line, if that drive returns, maybe I'll return to the game. But only if the NBA and David Stern will allow me to."



Cleveland will long remember the shot that Jordan hit over Craig Ehlo to win game seven in the Eastern Conference semi-finals.

I would like to see Jordan return and play again. He has been the greatest player in the game for so long; it doesn't seem right that he will not own the all-time scoring title. At this point he stands at #15 all-time. If that drive ever does return, you can count on Michael to once again be the greatest player in the game. No one at this time can match his abilities on the court.

When Michael was asked if he thought a player would come along that is better than he was, he replied, "Definitely. Sooner or later someone will come along who is better. There is always a better man out there somewhere."

Many think that Jordan has made a great contribution to the game of basketball. But what does he think is his greatest contribution? "The tongue. Definitely the tongue."



by Eric Bastine Sports Writer

As the NBA season draws near, many questions arise. One is, will this year's rookies be as successful as last year's? The answer: yes. In fact, they will be even better. This year's rookies still have the power of this years sophomore class, but are much better shooters. Chris Webber, the first pick in April's NBA draft, can easily match up with Orlando's overrated Rookie of the Year Shaquille O'Neal underneath and then could go outside and shoot right over him.

Jamal Mashburn may not be as big as O'Neal or Alonzo Mourning, but could still hang tough in the lane and could tear them both up with his shooting range. To me, Anfernee Hardaway reminds me of the unrelated Tim Hardaway, just bigger. He can drive, pass, shoot, steal and even do a few things Tim can't do exceptionally well: block and rebound. He should be an immediate impact for the Magic, and he should take some much needed pressure off of Shaq.

So, as you can see, with the likes of these players and Calbert Chaney, Bobby Hurley, 7'6" giant Shawn Bradley, and many more thrown into the mix, this crop of rookies should prove to be a great one.

Another question is the Chicago Bulls and their quest for a fourth straight title. The Bulls can just four-get it. After losing Michael Jordan, arguably the best individual and team player ever to playprofessional basketball, to retirement, the Bulls are left to defend their titles with limited company. So with what the Bulls lost this year and with not only their division, but the whole league strengthening considerably, can the Bulls win it all for the fourth consecutive time? The answer: no.

Jordan is not the only thing that Chicago has to worry about. For instance, the heralded Croatian rookie, Tony Kukoc, could very well turn out to be a flop for the Bulls this season. Trade rumors involving forward Horace Grant only hurt the Bulls' chances. Don't get me wrong, though, the Bulls will have another excellent season and will definitely be contenders; they just won't be having one of those parties in Chicago next year.

Chicago will not only have to worry about the pressure of winning their fourth straight title, but they will also get some heat from division rivals, Charlotte and Cleveland. The Hornets have a young team who could one day be among the league's elite. Also keep an eye on Cleveland center Brad Daugherty, who could finally get some recognition as one of the best centers in the league. The Bulls will pull out the division, though, with a strong last month of the season.

The Indiana Pacers will pull out another winning season, make the play-offs, and then get swept away by the Bulls. All-Star guard Reggie Miller will provide scoring and three-point range. Detleef Schrempf will grab the boards, and if Rik Smits can put together a whole season like he plays in the play-offs, the Pacers could be a force to be reckoned with. In Atlanta, Dominique Wilkins will have another career year, but as we found with the Bulls, one person cannot lead a team to a championship. He does have an excellent power forward in Kevin Willis, and with the addition of guard Craig Ehlo, the future can only look brighter for the Hawks.

REV/

Central Division				
1. Chicago	55-27	-		
2. Charlotte	54-28	1		
3. Cleveland	51-31	4		
4. Indiana	42-40	13		
5. Atlanta	40-42	15		
6. Detroit	30-52	25		
7. Milwaukee	26-56	29		

That is not the case in Detroit, for the Pistons are descending fast. With Isaiah Thomas past his prime, and the loss of NBA rebound leader Dennis Rodman, the Pistons have some holes to fill. The back court is still one of the best in the league, but the front court lacks any bite what so-ever. Watch out for rookie Lindsay Hunter as Thomas tutors him into a quality guard.

Coming in last in the Central will be Milwaukee. With little experience and even worse rebounding, the Bucks have little hope. They also lack an experienced star, which could open the door for guard Todd Day or rookie forward Vin Baker to lead this team.

Atlantic Division				
1. New York	56-26	-		
2. Orlando	46-36	10		
3. New Jersey	43-39	13		
4. Washington	41-41	15		
5. Miami	38-44	18		
6. Boston	30-52	26		
7. Philadelphia	25-57	31		

Now, east to the Atlantic division, where the Knicks will hope to improve on their 1992 Eastern Division-best record. New York will still run away with the division, but their record will drop a few games. But sure enough, the Knicks will be primed and ready to go come play-off time.

Coming in a distant second to New York will be the very popular Orlando Magic. Of course, everyone knows about 7-foot, 300 pound Rookie of the Year, Shaquille O'Neal. How he will back up his great rookie year is yet to be determined, but I do know that Hardaway will be an immediate impact for Orlando, but in a different way than Shaq.

Hardaway is much more balanced. He can

pass like Magic, shoot like Michael, and block like Ewing. So I guess you can compare him to... Uhh...Uhh... ,well, now all he has to do is prove himself in the NBA. If he can do that, like he did in college, he will be a force to be reckored with. With Shaq and Hardaway leading the charge, the Magic will battle with New Jersey for the second spot in the division.

The Nets, however, will give Orlando a run for their money. For this to happen, guard Kenny Anderson, whose 1992 season ended when hebroke his hand last February, must return to his earlyseason form, which he can do.

Also, the very talented forward Derrick Coleman will contribute strength and scoring in the lane and outside

The Washington Bullets have a good chance to become the most improved team in the NBA this year. With star Pervis Ellison moving back to his traditional power forward spot and Kevin Duckworth stepping in at center, they should make the play-offs.

Micheal Adams is a seasoned pro and rookie Calbert Chaney hopes to follow in the footsteps of 2nd-year pros Tom Gugliotta and Don McLean, who both had impressive rookie campaigns. Keep an eye on the Bullets. They could turn some heads.

Look out, New York. Here comes the Heat. Wrong. At least not for a couple of years. Miami is a young team, with only three players with over four years of NBA experience. Harold Minor was a bright spot for Miami last year. Grant Long, Ron Siekaly and John Sally anchor a strong front court, and guard Glen Rice is starting to give opposing teams headaches. The Heat are still young, but with practice, and a little bit of luck, they could be contenders within the next few years.

Now, the legendary Boston Celtics. With the losses of the retired Larry Bird and Kevin McHale, and the tragic death of star Reggie Lewis, the Celtics have little to work with. If ironman Robert Parish can just hang on till the end of the year, rookie Acie Earl could be ready to fill the starting position.

Xavier McDaniel and Kevin Gamble will each score 15 points per game, and Dee Brown is starting to mature at guard. The Celtics won't do anything spectacular this season, but they could be fun to watch.

Next in line are the Philadelphia 76ers. They finished last in the Atlantic division last year and 7'6'', skin-n-bones rookie Shawn Bradley will not get them out of the cellar this year either.

The 76ers starting back court of Hershey Hawkins and Jeff Hornecek combined to average 39.4 points per game last season. Unfortunately for Philly, that duo is not together anymore. With the trade of Hawkins to Charlotte for Kendal Gill, the Sixers back court has been broken in half. Not that Gill is a bad player, but he's not Hawkins. He shoots too much and benefitted from a star-studded lineup in Charlotte. That's not the case here. The 76ers could one day be competitive; they just need experience.

For a look at the Western Conference and the play-offs, look in our next issue.



Entertainment Scene Mariah Carey's dream come true

by Vanessa Whitmer and Heather Mann Staff Writers

In Mariah Carey's number-one hit, *Dreamlover*, she is looking for someone to rescue her and understand how she feels, the traditional love plea. So why has she made it so far with the same old, same old?

The mixture of Mariah's

undoubtable talent and the common romantic ballad, renewed with an upbeat rhythm, quickly took her to the top of the charts. Her eight-week reign at number one has tied the record for the longest stay at the top of the charts.

Mariah's marriage on June 5, 1993, has greatly influenced her career. She is beginning to demonstrate new self-confidence. Her husband, Tommy Mottola, is the head of Sony Music, which, by the way, is Mariah's record company.

She will begin her first tour later this month or early November to promote her fourth album, *Music Box*, which was released at the end of August.

Dimension X by Mark Sniadecki



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