

# THE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HATCHET

SEPTEMBER  
EDITION  
FREE  
1996

## Panthers in Atlanta: students and staff share stories of the Olympics



### Inside This Issue:

School Board makes good with closed-lunch decision; students and staff adjust. p. 4-5

Olympic spirit burns brightly at WHS with two Panther representatives who attended the 1996 summer games. p. 8-9

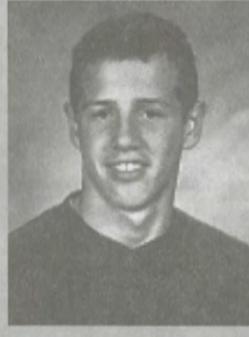
Boys and girls soccer off to fantastic start; football facing some tough challenges. p. 12-15

## Who is your favorite Olympian and why?



"Janet Evans, because she's fast, she tries hard, and she's good."

Emily Bastine  
Freshman



"Alexi Lalas, because he's my hero!"

Derek Hooten  
Sophomore



"Michael Johnson. He was in a league of his own and no one could touch him and his gold shoes."  
Ryan Kring  
Junior



"Eddie Evans, because he ran the six-meter dash."

Scott Siri  
Senior

### *George's to-do list:*

For all of you who crave the candy, but are too old for the costumes, you can get your Halloween goodies throughout the whole month of **Oct. Drama, 7-18; cheerleading, 21-25; and winter guard, 28-31.**

Feel like screaming from all of the long hours of homework? You'll get a chance to holler at the homecoming game against Marian, **Fri., Oct. 4.**

After using your voices, try using your feet at the homecoming dance, following the game from 10-12. Admission is \$2 with your student ID and \$4 without.

Get ready to show your crazy and wild side during Spirit Week from **Sept. 30-Oct. 4.** Mon. is Punk Rocker Day; Tues. is Disney Day; Wed. is Cowboy and Indian Day; Thurs. is Clown Day; and Fri. is Spirit Day.

Also for your college prep needs, the ACT is being offered **Oct. 26.** The SAT will be offered on **Nov. 2.** The late registration date for the ACT is **Oct. 11,** and the SAT is **Oct. 9.** Don't miss it!

College visitation dates are **Oct. 2, 8, 10, 15, 16, 18, and 30.** For more information on times and representatives, see Mrs. Roberts in the Guidance Office.

Getting anxious for a fall break? You'll get a taste of it on a half day, **Oct. 17.**

Come enjoy a night of music and entertainment on **Oct. 19** as the Valley Aire's show us their "barber-shop" music style. Our band and choir will also be showing off their musical talents. Come on out and see this dual performance for only \$5. See any band member for tickets.

While teachers are attending meetings, students get an extra hour of sleep on a late-start day, **Oct. 22.** But don't oversleep; the bell rings at 9.

*-Martha*

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor,  
My, my, my...another summer bites the dust and we're back to this grand hotel some people call school. Right now, however, most students are calling it "a fiery pit of coals." Not only because of all the new changes, but also because of the crazy temperatures that fluctuate through hallways and classrooms!  
Without an adequate climate, WHS doesn't possess a good learning environment. With the climate too hot, students are falling asleep, becoming groggy and uncomfortable; teachers can also become crabby. And when winter comes, some rooms will still be too hot!  
What is wrong with a nice, cool environment? Students are alert and comfy and those that complain from the cold can just cozy up with a great sweater.  
Now closed lunches aren't as bad as I thought they would be, but the cafeteria needs to get a clue here--no one wants to buy a salad that consists of wilted lettuce and one inch long carrot sticks and celery for \$2.25! And nachos and cheese are NOT a balanced meal. One thing that is way out of hand are the prices; the food is WAY TOO expensive!  
I have to admit though--those lunch ladies do have a good selection of drinks, but man cannot live on drink alone.  
The senior commons is a nice idea, but come on, let's spice it up! Underclassmen who keep on coming in and acting like they own the place are getting a little annoying too!  
Hey, higher powers of WHS! Let's make this school a little more comfortable so we students can enjoy being here! Thank you.

Sincerely,  
**Janice Koch**  
Janice Koch, senior

**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 ideals of the First Amendment from 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 obscenities, 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 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 it may be omitted upon request.



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| <b>On the Cover</b> : Going for the Gold <b>Cover by</b> Mark Sniadecki                                      | <b>Printed at LaSalle High School by Mr. Frank Moriconi and the Vocational Printing Staff</b>  |

# Closed lunch opening

By Katharine Chan  
Editor-in-Chief

Lunch...perhaps one of the most looked-forward-to activities during the school day. For approximately 35 minutes, students were allowed to choose what and where they wanted to eat, socialize, or just basically relax.

The 1996-1997 school year was a dramatic turn around for South Bend high schools, though; for this year, the doors of open lunch swung shut.

A floating topic of controversy within the South Bend Community School Corporation (SBCSC), closed lunch finally became reality after a newly-formed safety committee proposed the idea last year. A small rabble of students and other concerned people argued against the idea, but when the board voted seven to two to pass closed lunch, all opposing tongues were silenced.

In this day and age with violence rampant in every imaginable situation, schools are trying to take every precaution to ensure the welfare of students.

The grounds for closing lunch were mainly concerns for student safety. Dr Virginia Calvin, SBCSC superintendent, said, "Every incident of a gun found in a South Bend high school occurred after lunch or in the afternoon." Calvin hopes that by staying in school, outside "incidents" such as weapons or violence can stay outside of school.

Legal responsibilities and attendance problems were also expected to be, "taken care of," Calvin continued, with the closed campus rule enforced. Student attendance in afternoon classes are almost certain to be higher with closed lunch. Calvin added, "Some students who leave for lunch do not come back."

Though attendance was one of the

SBCSC's main objectives of closed campuses, students disagree that they will not be tempted to leave, even if it is harder to "escape." Sophomore Mike Martin said, "I'll still come and go as I please."

Principal David Kaser said that he expects single-period absences to be reduced and is confident about rising attendance figures. "To be honest, one of the biggest [causes] of single period absences was [surrounding] lunch periods because of kids wanting to take more than one lunch for various reasons. I also think it will have an impact on the class after."

Keeping students in-school for the

out of the building and any student-traffic around high schools is virtually nonexistent.

With an absence of speeding cars racing to and from restaurants, in order to beat the crowds, the number of students involved in traffic accidents and violations during lunch are practically eliminated. This saves money and time for students and worries and hassles for parents and administration.

For those students who believe that closed lunch is just a trial project, think again. When asked if open lunch would ever be a possibility in South Bend high schools, Calvin emphatically said, "No! Closed lunches are the wave of the future...it is the tone of the country and part of a new trend of security and safety for neighborhoods and students."

Kaser also agrees with Calvin. "I believe closed lunch is here to stay. I think the adult community wants closed lunch for their schools, including parents, the business community, and neighbors around the schools. With the amount of time and money put into closed lunch, I think it indicates that it's a concept that they'll have in South Bend schools for many, many years."

Not all parents are supportive of closed lunch, though. Debbie Peterson, mother of sophomore Andy Peterson, said, "I think the lunches are better open, because then the kids can get out and exercise and use up energy." Peterson also said that she never was worried about her son's safety when he went out for lunch.

One of the major criticisms that students have about closed lunch is the cafeteria food. Senior Ivan Blount said, "We don't get a good selection of food. It's similar to prison; it's bad enough our time is short [to eat], but not being to go outside or choose what we want to



Seniors Eloy Alvarez and Jesse Perez enjoy a well-balanced lunch in the Panthers' Den.

entire day can also keep them out of trouble. Closed lunch doesn't give students an opportunity to leave school during lunch and cause trouble.

Litter on surrounding neighborhood lawns has practically disappeared and neighbors have been noticing. Calvin has received many phone calls from community members that have applauded closed lunch. A reduction in noise pollution was also a positive comment commonly expressed.

Students and administrators can rest a little easier when it comes to strangers entering the building or cars cruising the campus during lunch hours. It is easier to monitor who goes in and

Photo courtesy of Kimberly Hurness

# doors for new possibilities

eat is inhumane."

But cafeteria workers are doing their best to provide students with what they want. "We are here to serve the kids...everything will work out with the equipment in place," said Panthers' Den worker Barb Landuit.

Some of the new equipment that should be arriving soon includes refrigerators for salads and heat lamps to keep hot foods hot.

Suggestions for improvements and students' comments are welcome at the cafeteria office. The cafeteria is looking for ways to make students happy and accommodate them to the best of their abilities. Landuit adds, "If we get enough interest in something, we will provide it."

With a dramatically increased population of students during each lunch hour, five to ten security guards from a private company were added to each high school. Their primary job is to oversee the lunch periods while monitoring student activity and controlling the flow of students from the cafeteria to other dining areas. Exits are carefully guarded at the beginning and ends of lunch periods in order to keep students from sneaking out.

Even with the extra guards, junior Mark Wagner is skeptical of the effect it will have on discouraging students from skipping classes. "I guess the [security] is needed, but it isn't working because I saw two kids leave during lunch (out the side doors) and they were definitely not in co-op. On one hand, people who skip by deciding not to come back [from lunch] will not anymore, but people who really want to skip will just skip the entire day."

The senior commons is a room des-

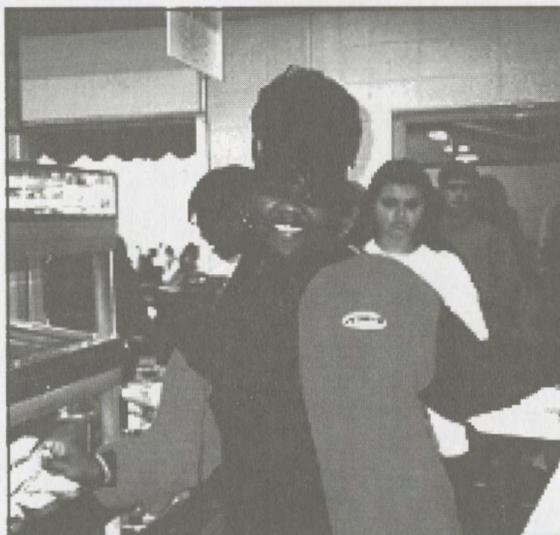
ignated especially for seniors. It gives seniors a place to socialize with members of their own class and avoid under-



Freshman Toshia Downhour and senior Nicole Zenhender still know how to have a good time at lunch.

classmen. Kaser is taking suggestions for improvements to make the senior commons more of a "pleasant" area.

A microwave is something that seniors can look forward to in their lunch hour. Senior Heather Deka donated the



See...waiting in the lunch line doesn't have to be a drag, as sophomore Candace Lindsay chooses what to eat.

microwave and said, "I like the senior commons, except for the heating/cooling problem in there. We have an extra microwave at home, so I thought it would be nice for seniors to be able to warm up food from home at lunch."

The B-split lunch was another new concept that came with closed lunches. For some teachers and students, this meant getting use to attending class for about 42 minutes, taking a 35-minute lunch break, and then resuming class for an additional 43 minutes. Special planning was made to be sure no science classes were assigned B lunch to avoid cutting into lab time.

Chief Thom Lustick, JROTC instructor, has mixed opinions about having B lunch. "...in one way, I kind of like having that break in the middle of my class. On the other hand, if I'm really getting into a lecture, it seems like the lunch bell cuts into my time so abruptly, and it's real tough to pick right back up with the same enthusiasm again after lunch."

A myth that surfaced among students when closed lunch was passed was that businesses would "go under" without the daily flow of students. But businesses that once had students flocking to them for two to four hours a day are now catering to many more adult customers.

Theresa Bernacki-Nawghton, manager of Long John Silver's on Western Avenue, commented, "We think closed lunch has been more successful for us; we've had twice as many adults come in than students. We've made more money [during school lunch hours] than in the past three years. Our employees also like closed lunches. They don't have to put up with all the rudeness of the students."

All of the restaurant workers who were interviewed agreed that with the absence of a large student crowd, more adults have prompted to dine at their establishments. □

Contributing Writers: Erin Coleman, Derek Dabrowiak, Crystal Harden and Prudence White

# Panther spirit shines in

## Krueger volunteers

By **Nikki Kaufman**

Feature Editor

This summer the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games were held in Atlanta, Georgia, a great honor for all Americans. The United States ended the games with 149 medals, the most received by any country during the two-week duration. This was the highest attended Olympics in history, with Atlanta hosting 197 countries.

It has also been said that the number of fans at the games this year was equal to the amount at both the Los Angeles and Barcelona games put together. WHS's own foreign language teacher, Joel Krueger, had the chance of a lifetime to volunteer for the games this summer.



Sporting an official Olympic uniform is Spanish teacher, Joel Krueger, and his new volunteer friends.

Krueger said, "Being a foreign

language teacher, I've always been really into the Olympics; it allows people to share cultures and comradity through sports."

A friend of Krueger's who lives in Atlanta sent him an application last year. He filled it out and sent it last winter. In the spring, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games called, asking him if he was still interested in volunteering. They wanted to use him at Hartsfield International Airport as a "greeter."

Krueger worked for two weeks previous to the events (July 7-July 20) at Hartsfield and met athletes, judges, officials, people of the press, and Olympic committee members when they arrived at the airport. He escorted them through baggage claim and to their transportation.

Krueger got to meet Alison Wagner, an American silver medalist in swimming who also swims for the University of Florida.

He also said that he brought the entire Yugoslavian mens' volleyball team through the airport; they later went on to win the bronze medal, a game that Krueger watched once he was back in South Bend.

"One neat group that I got to meet was the North Korean team, because these were the first games they had participated in since the 1980 Moscow games. It was exciting because there were about 50 press people there from Korea to

meet the team also, and when we were escorting them down the runway the TV cameras and photographers were walking backwards in



Photo Courtesy of Joel Krueger

The vastness and beauty of the Olympic Stadium future home of the Atlanta Braves.

front of us the whole way getting footage," said Krueger.

Although he left before the events got started, he did get the chance to see the final dress rehearsal for the opening ceremonies with Celine Dion and Gladys Knight performing their numbers.

"It was very impressive," Krueger said. "It was just like what you saw on television only all the athletes weren't there representing their countries because it was only the rehearsal."

Krueger said with pride that he felt honored to participate in the Olympics the way that he did because he got the chance to be one of the first impressions of America for the foreign athletes.

The next summer games are four years away, and it looks as though Spanish-speaking volunteers will be high in demand. With a little luck, Krueger may be spreading both Panther Pride and American spirit in Sydney, Australia. □

# n Atlanta, Georgia

## Nawrot sees gold

By **Lindsay Maller and Erin Wardman**  
 Feature Writers

The crowd was wild with excitement. Thousands of people jumped to their feet as the U.S. women's softball team won the gold. Among these delighted fans was junior Courtney Nawrot.

Nawrot and her family had been planning this moment since the Barcelona games in 1992.

"It was during the Barcelona games and they had something flashing on T.V. A number you could call for information about the tickets," she said.

After signing up for the events they wanted to see at a nearby



Standing in front of Nike Park, junior Courtney Nawrot is holding one of the torches used in the opening ceremonies.

After three years of waiting, the lucky family received tickets for beach volleyball pre-

liminaries, indoor volleyball, women's basketball, men's basketball, and the women's softball gold medalist round.

The tickets cost anywhere from \$15 general admission for beach volleyball, to \$80 for gymnastics. Gold medal rounds cost about \$30 more than a regular ticket. A ticket for the opening ceremonies was \$600.

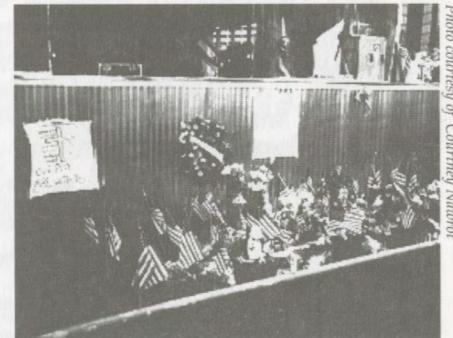
The Nawrots saved money on their trip by driving to Atlanta instead of flying. They also avoided hotel expenses by staying with an aunt who lives an hour away from the games.

In fact, Nawrot was at her aunt's house when she heard of the bombing in Centennial Park. She, her parents, and older sister had left the park only a half hour before the explosion.

"The park was even more crowded after the bombing. There was tighter security and

frequent bag checks," she said.

Beach volleyball was Nawrot's favorite event. She saw Karch Kiraly and his partner play a preliminary match while on the way to winning a gold medal. Other famous people spotted were the Dream team, Al Gore, Jimmy Carter, and President Bill Clinton with his daughter Chelsea in their limousine.

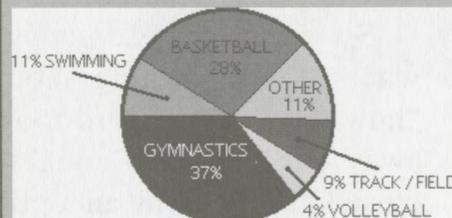


Patriotic flags and other memorabilia honor those injured or killed during a bomb explosion in Centennial Park during the Olympics.

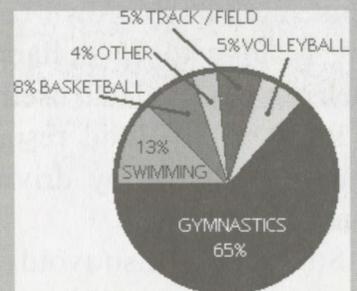
So was the hassle and expense of a trip to the Olympics worth it? Nawrot smiled and readily responded, "I would definitely go again." □

Photo courtesy of Courtney Nawrot  
 store, the Nawrots waited hopefully while a computer randomly selected their tickets.

### What Panthers watched



Guys



Gals

## Mature standpoint of closed lunch

"Man, closed lunch stinks! Why did the schools go to closed lunch anyway? Putting everyone together is only going to cause trouble and start fights in the cafeteria." These and many other common phrases were among the complaints students had at the beginning of this school year.

### Editorial

Yes, closed lunch is here, and it is here to stay, so deal with it. To all of those students who are negatively looking at the closed lunch situation with a closed mind, take three steps backwards and notice that with careful analyzation, closed lunch really isn't that bad. In fact, many advantages come with closed lunch.

Money is often a common problem for most teenagers. Spending too much and working too little often cause teens to find themselves in a financial slump. But by eating in, teens can take advantage of free or reduced lunch (when applicable), or by brown-bagging it. Five to 15 dollars a week can be saved that used to be spent at fast-food restaurants and on gas by driving from place to place.

Students can also avoid extreme weather conditions by staying inside the entire school

day. The risk of students becoming ill from chilling snow and winter winds is lowered. Or maybe if a breath of fresh air is needed, dining in the courtyard is another option for students, weather permitting.

The senior commons is a designated place that upperclassmen can dine in, and something underclassmen can look forward to when they become a senior. A television with cable hookup, and particularly a microwave, are special perks of being a senior. It is also nice to just socialize and be around teens of a similar age and grade level in order to avoid immature behavior that may be common in the cafeteria.

Intramural sports and open gym are physical activities that can be taken advantage of during lunch hours. The auxiliary gym is open for basketball and sometimes volleyball. The upper level track is also open for runners. For students who aren't hungry, exercise is a great way to burn up extra time and calories.

So to all of these people who are still whining about "how the school board took away our freedom," look at closed lunch from an optimistic point-of-view. A few personal benefits may even be discovered. □

### Thumbs Up

#### Thumbs Down

##### THUMBS UP

... to Mr. Krueger for leading some teachers in the Macarena at the pep assembly—you showed everyone that teachers know how to have fun and keep up with the latest dance craze, too. Maybe next time you'll be "ridin' the train?"

... to seniors Janice Koch, Heather Deka, and all of the other "green-faced" Liberties at the first pep assembly. If you didn't notice, all of the other classes were green faced also—with envy.

... to the new lunch-hour security guards. You're doing a great job at keeping students in line while not being too strict. Now about those yellow shirts...

... to the entire Class of 1997; another spirit stick to add to the record breaking showcase! Finally, some seniors with spirit. It's your last year, so make it one to remember!

... to the band. Your enthusiasm always fires up the students body! In the words of senior Josh Kaser, "You kick brass!"

... to those students who have adjusted so well to closed lunch. See, it isn't that bad.

... to Sarah Mesaros and her cafeteria staff for the quick service through the lunch lines. You've been moving the lines in record-breaking time—if this were the Olympics, you would all be part of a gold-medal team.

... to Mrs. Pat for giving WHS a great 40 years of your life. As a former cheerleader, no one was better qualified than you, to show the new teachers how the school song goes. You are an example for showing what "Panther Pride" truly means.

##### THUMBS DOWN

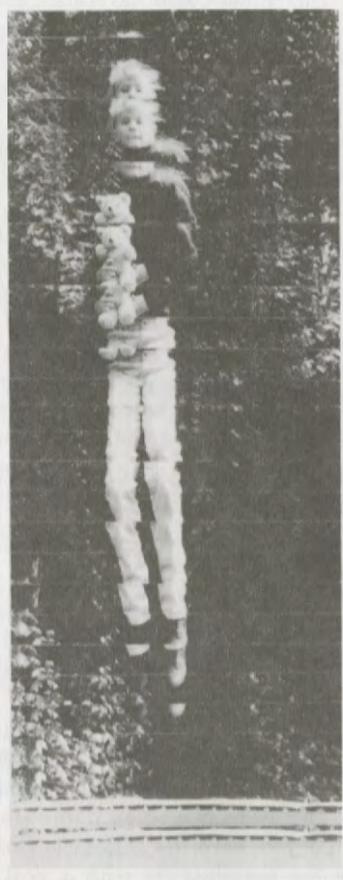
... to all of the new and "old" teachers who still don't understand that Fridays are days that you honor WHS by wearing green. As a punishment, all of those teachers who don't wear green next time will be doing the "hokey pokey" on Channel One.

... to the heating/cooling system. By the time the air conditioning is fixed, it will be time to turn on the heaters.

... to those students who don't know how to maneuver in the 600 hall. Passing period is not a code for "social gathering," people—keep moving!

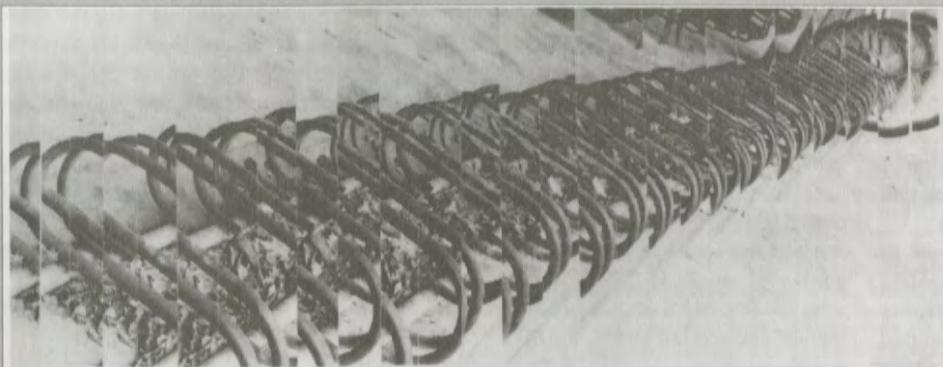
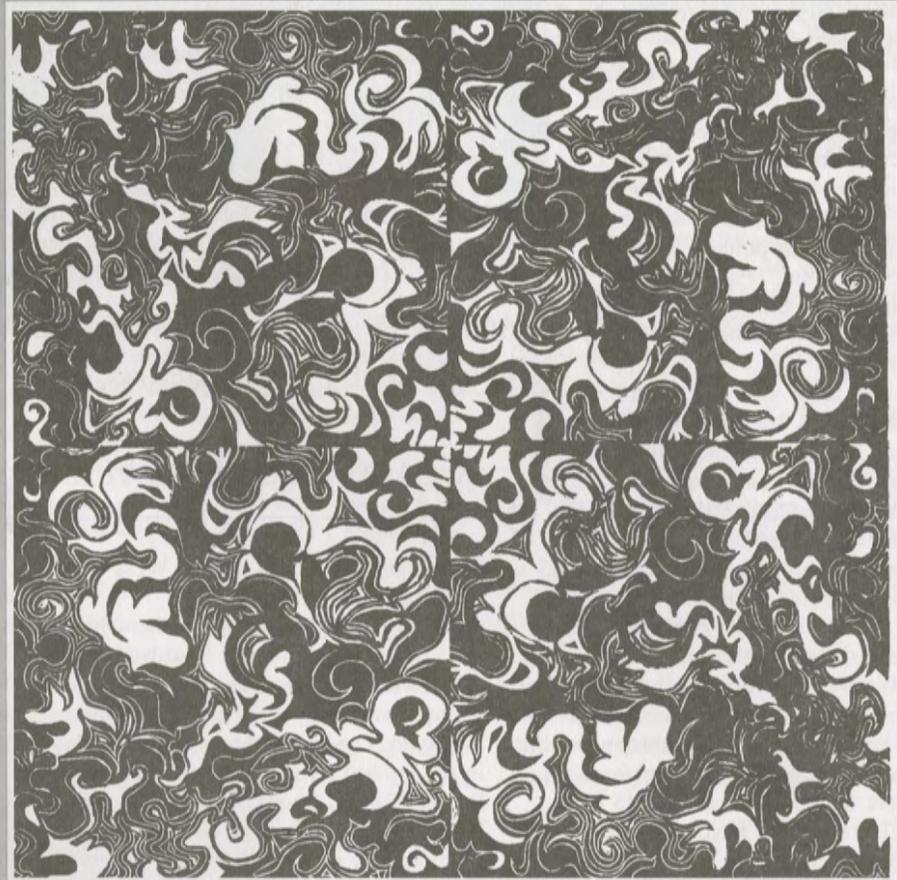
# ART Gallery

by Mark Sniadecki & Kimberly Harness



*Splicing by senior  
Stacey Page*

*Linoleum print by junior Kimberlia Harness*



*Splicing by  
junior Kevin  
Marek*

# Soccer kicks into action

By Drew Griffis  
Sports Writer

## Boys soccer hanging with best around

The boys' soccer team is looking forward to a terrific year. They hope to improve on last year's 8-9 record and make it to the sectional finals for the second straight year.

"I feel the team has a good chance of doing well this season. We got a lot of experience as well as new talent on this year's squad," commented Coach Doug Knowlton.

The team is anchored by a strong returning defence led by seniors Jesse Perez, Justin Shonkwiler, and juniors Cody Donlon, Scott Weber, and Drew Griffis.

The team also has a prolific scoring attack led by junior Devin Nuner. He looks to break his own record of goals in a season (16), which he accomplished his sophomore year. Nuner only needs a few more goals this season to become WHS's all-time leading scorer.

Senior co-captain Zack Smith, sophomore Carlos Huitzil, and senior Harold Alwine are also looking to hit the back of the net several times this season.

With nine returning lettermen from last year's team, the '96 soccer team hopes to have the best season in WHS history.

The Panthers' first game was against the Marian Knights. This game means a lot because no one on the team has ever beaten the Knights, and this season was their chance.

The boys played Marian tough in the first half. They took twice as many shots on goal as the Knights, but still found themselves down 1-0 at halftime. The second half was controlled by the opposition as they put two more goals away and went on to win 3-0.

The next game the Panthers tried to rebound off their previous loss against Trinity. Once again, however, the offense was not able to score and the game ended in a 0-0 tie. Griffis had three saves and the

shutout. The opponents had no true scoring chances and were dominated by the Panthers in this contest.

The Panthers finally got back on the right track defeating Northwood 7-2 in their next game. Nuner had two goals, and Perez, Shonkwiler, Alwine, Huitzil, and sophomore Shannon Althouse each hit the back of the net once. The Panthers found their scoring touch just in time,

*THE TEAM IS PLAYING 100 PERCENT BETTER THAN THEY WERE IN THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR, AND THEIR PERFORMANCE AGAINST A HIGHLY-RANKED TEAM LIKE CLAY PROVES IT.*

*-COACH DOUG KNOWLTON*

Their next match was against West-side rival LaSalle.

The Lions played the Panthers' junior varsity tough in the first half; the game was tied 0-0 at halftime. LaSalle did not have a prayer once WHS got their varsity in. The Panthers scored five goals in the second half securing the victory. Perez, Alwine, Shonkwiler, Nuner, and Huitzil each had a goal. Griffis had six saves and the shutout. The team's record was now 2-1-1 after the 5-0 victory.

"If I continue to get a good share of playing time, the goals will come," said junior Ryan Kring, who had two shots on goal against LaSalle. Kring added that he plans on scoring more goals for WHS than he scores for their opponents, unlike last season.

Next up for the Panthers was undefeated Edwardsburg (6-0). The Eddies jumped out to a quick start, scoring two goals early in the first half. The Panthers struck back when Nuner hit the back of the net one second before halftime. Midway through the second half, Perez scored

the equalizer on a header off a corner kick. Unfortunately, the Eddies scored again off a free kick with less than 30 seconds left in the game. They went on to win 3-2.

"This game could have gone either way; we know we can play the good teams tough," said Perez. "We're just a few steps from being a very good team ourselves."

The Panthers would need to play another good team tough, as their next game was against eighth-ranked Elkhart Central.

The Panthers struck first; Huitzil knocked in a perfectly placed shot off a free kick. WHS led all the first half and most of the second half until Central scored with 20 minutes left. The Blazers scored again this time with only five minutes left in the game. The Panthers lost the game 2-1, but they now knew they were good enough to play competitively with anybody.

"I look for us to be one of the top 10 teams in the area as the season progresses. We're no longer a team that can be overlooked by the conference power-house teams," said Huitzil.

The Panthers were once again matched up with a ranked team in their next game. This time it was 18th ranked Clay. The teams played even throughout the first half until the Colonials finally broke the scoreless tie with a goal 15 minutes before halftime. WHS came out of the half ready to play. They had many shots on goal, but nothing to show for it. Nuner finally delivered for the Panthers with 20 minutes left in the game. Nuner hit a perfectly placed shot past the outstretched hands of Clay's all-state senior keeper "P.W." Krempec. This time the Panthers held on in the end thanks to good defensive play by Weber, Donlon, Perez, and by Griffis in goal.

"The team is playing 100 percent better than they were in the beginning of the year, and their performance against a highly-ranked team like Clay proves it," commented Knowlton after the tie in the Clay game.

The Panthers' next game is Wed., Oct. 2 at School Field. □

# New coach, new results

**By Lindsay Maller**

Sports Writer

The cross-country team is experiencing its best season in 10 years. A new coach, different training techniques, and careful dieting have all contributed to their growing success.

Coach Joel Beckman, a teacher at Marshall Elementary, formerly coached their boys/girls' track and cross country for the past six years. His dream, however, has been to coach at a high-school level.

When asked about his past success at Marshall, he said, "We've taken the Riley District Division, and last year we took the South Bend City Championship--that's the first time Marshall's ever taken the City Championship."

He added, "Any athlete who performs his best is a champion no matter where he places. Just do your best; everything else will take care of itself."

The new training techniques include weight lifting, with a revolutionary breath-

ing style, and racing up Panther Hill, the biggest hill in the area and located in Lasalle Park. Beckman is concerned about his runners' eating habits, but he strictly enforces



**Warm-ups are an essential part of practice. Coach Joel Beckman participates in jumping jacks with senior Kelly Retek.**

drinking large quantities of water. He is also very convinced that extensive stretching plays a key role in the speed of his runners. Beckman has read several good books strongly supporting these ideas.

Top runner senior Kelly Retek said, "He's very supportive and encouraging. He always says that he's proud of us, no matter how we do." The girls' cross-country team hasn't qualified in years because of their low numbers. This year, however, they have six runners, one more than they need to qualify.

Strengthening the boys' cross-country team is a major increase in numbers and speed. Their team of 15 has only three returning players--junior Jeremy Maller and sophomores Tim Pehlke and Kevin Keene. While these are some of the team's best, freshman Brady Maller has placed first for the team in every meet except for one, which Pehlke was first for the Panthers.

The rest of the runners include junior Luke Allen; sophomores Mike Orlovski, Mike Borlik, and Dayshawn Kimmons; and freshmen Kory Keene, Jeremy Glenn, Matt Markiewicz, Shannon Duckwall, Larry Lavine, James Drain, and Carl Carr.

Coming up, on Oct. 10 is the varsity city meet and the JV meet is on Oct. 11. □

## Girls soccer races out of gate to start season

**By Ryan Hanyzewski**

Sports Editor

If you looked in the paper two weeks into the season, you may have had to take a double take as you looked under girls soccer.

Yes, that is correct; the girls saw themselves on top of the conference with two wins in their first three games.

"Our goals are to just keep improving and to be competitive," said senior captain Rosalinda Leyva.

For the past nine years, the girls' soccer team has been known for losing seasons. The Lady Panthers, however, burst into the new season with their heads filled with high expectations.

Last year WHS celebrated its first win in five years, but this year they are atop the conference for the first time in history.

The Panthers are anchored by seniors Wendy Mitchell and Leyva, jun-

iors Bobbi Densmore, and Suzie Myers, as well as sophomore goalie Brooke Baumgartner.

The roles of these players are to pick up the slack for Becky Wilfing, Kisha Perry, Tricia Ort, Carol DeGeeter, and Melissa Hagedorn, who were all key players last year but were lost to either graduation or the transfer to another school.

"Melissa would really help our team this year, but she went to Clay and is starting over there, so we all have to pick it up a notch," commented Myers.

The Panthers began their season with a 3-0 shut-out loss to the Goshen Redskins, and it appeared they were in store for another long season.

That was not the case, however, for this girls' soccer team. The Panthers rebounded to defeat the Trinity Knights by the score of 1-0. Leyva scored the game-winning goal.

The Panthers started their confer-

ence games with their cross-town rivals, the LaSalle Lions.

Picking up where she left off the game before, Leyva scored two goals and Densmore and freshman Lindsay Althouse added the final goal as the Panthers defeated the Lions by the score of 4-1.

The Panthers then faced Edwardsburg and were overwhelmed by the score of 6-0.

Claiming respect is what these girls plan on doing. With every new season comes new hopes and expectations. This season the Lady Panthers have been successful in filling these hopes and expectations to the best of their ability.

The girls' soccer team is determined to make this a season to remember.

The next game for the Panthers is Thurs., Oct. 3, at 7 at School Field against the Adams Eagles. □

# Many new faces wearing pads

## Football team to replace 17 starters

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**  
Sports Editor

The Panther football team has a lot of holes to fill as they need to replace 17 starters from last year's team.

Despite all the new faces, the Panthers have the same goals every year as they step onto the field.

"Our number-one goal is always to win the state championship, but our first goal is to play as a team and win the city as well as the sectional," said senior Drew Jeffrey.

The Panthers started their bumpy road of rebuilding at Concord against the Minutemen. It was not an impressive first outing for WHS as Concord rolled over the Panthers 20-0.

Concord passed for 203 yards and two touchdowns against the Panthers' secondary.

"We got to their quarterback at times and put pressure at times, but for the most part, he showed a lot of poise back there," commented Coach Scott Bovenkerk.

The Panther defense gave up 331 yards in the loss, but perhaps the worst part of it was that the offense only gained 82 yards in the entire game, and only nine yards in the air.

The Panthers then traveled to School Field to take on the Adams Eagles in a must-win game.

WHS unleashed the offensive attack and hard-hitting defense they are capable of on the Eagles.

After only 73 yards rushing in the entire game the week before, the Panthers shocked the Eagles when senior Sam Burris went 77 yards on an end

around.

Adams quickly struck back to even things up at seven, only to watch senior co-captain Ivan Blount sprint for a 59-yard touchdown on the very next possession.

"That is one of my favorite plays; I just follow (junior Steve) Lekarczyk and when he broke, I broke and saw nothing but the end zone," said Blount.

Adams again scored a touchdown to even the score at 14, but with three minutes to go in the first half, the Panthers erupted for two touchdowns.



**Heisman candidate, senior Dan Hersom, puts on a punting exhibition during practice.**

Photo courtesy of Ryan Hanyzewski

The first was on a 24-yard pass from Jeffrey to Kyle (Karl) Bach.

Adams got the ball back but came to a swift stop when senior Ed Kelsey pounced on a fumble to give the Panthers the ball deep in Eagle territory.

Jeffrey connected with Bach again, this time for a seven-yard strike to put the Panthers up by two touchdowns at the break.

In the second half, the Panther defense took over and allowed no points, as junior Mat Willoughby added two sacks, and senior co-captain Eloy Alvarez added three tackles for losses.

The Panther secondary was strong as well as Bach and senior

Zeb Gathright both added interceptions. Alvarez finished off the Eagles with his touchdown plunge from two yards out to put the Panthers up 35-14.

If someone read the article in the *South Bend Tribune*, "How Do You Replace a Legend," about how the Panthers would fill the quarterback position without Matt Wood, Jeffrey answered every question and put the Wood topic to rest as he was 9-10 for 133 yards and two touchdowns.

"We are a running, sweeping type of team; we did it well against Adams, but Jeffrey played well when we needed him to," said Bovenkerk.

The Panthers did most of the damage on the ground as they rushed for 261 yards, more than tripling their total against the Concord Minutemen.

The Panthers then played host to the Clay Colonials and were out to avenge their loss in last year's sectional game.

WHS looked impressive early as Blount broke tackles all the way down the field for what looked to be an early lead, but a clip brought it back and the Panthers failed to score on the drive.

The defense picked it up as they held the Colonials to three and out.

The next possession saw a little bit of trickery by the Panthers; Jeffrey pitched the ball to Blount and he proceeded to throw the ball deep down the right sideline to a wide open Bach for the Panthers' first and what would be their only touchdown of the night.

Clay went on to put 27 points on the board and defeated the Panthers by the final score of 27-6.

The Panthers' next game is Fri, Oct. 4 at School Field against the Marian Knights. □

# Hard work gets volleyball off to good start

By **Katie Shuamber**

Sports Writer

While most students were sleeping in and lounging on the beach this summer, the volleyball team was hard at work perfecting their skills for the upcoming season.

Since practices couldn't officially begin until Aug. 5, the girls lifted weights, ran, and played volleyball for a couple of hours each day during open gym.

Once practice began, head coach Tressie Jurgonski arranged a new schedule: "I feel that we lose out with having two-a-days, so we switched to practicing three hours in the morning, and once in a while coming back in the evenings for a couple of hours," commented Jurgonski.

The Panthers defeated Riley 15-4, 15-10 and LaSalle 14-16, 15-4, 15-11 at the SBCSC jamboree. The Panthers, however, were defeated by Adams 4-15 and 11-15.

"The jamboree was just a start. If we play as a team and work hard, I think that we can go all the way this season," said senior captain Jessica Babbitt.

The first game of the season was matched with John Glenn. The Panthers were unable to bring home a win. The final of the season opener was 13-15 and 12-15.

Next, it was time to take on St. Joe.

Senior Cortney Litka had eight kill assists and three kills, while junior Courtney Nawrot had nine digs, 12 passes and five kills. The rest of the team's serves, kills and digs helped knock St. Joe right off the floor beating them 15-7 and 15-10.



Photo courtesy of Kim Harness

**Junior Sarah Wood sets for fellow junior teammate Courtney Nawrot in a game against LaVille.**

Continuing on their winning streak, the Panthers were able to knock off Jimtown by the scores of 15-9, 13-15, 15-13.

As the Panthers took on Michigan City Marquette, sophomore Ryanne Litka had 20 passes, eight digs, 13 serves and two saves. Junior Alicia Ladewski had 15 serves, 16 passes and five kills; however, this was not enough to help the Panthers

win. They were defeated 14-16, 15-9, and 13-15.

Getting back on the winning streak, Culver was the next team to be defeated by the scores of 15-8, 12-15, and 15-12.

Junior Sarah Wood had six kills and five digs; Babbitt had 10 kills and 100 percent serves; and R. Litka had 15 serves and four aces.

"I want the team to go farther than last year," commented Jurgonski. "We went all the way to the championship game last year. One of the goals I set for the this year is to win sectionals. We are working hard this season, and I have a good group to work with. I feel that we can do it this year."

The varsity team members include seniors C. Litka, Babbitt; juniors Sara Ewing, Ladewski, Melissa Litka, Jill Meert, Nawrot, Angie Retek, Wood, and sophomore R. Litka.

The JV team members are juniors Chrissy Borokowski, Kim Harness, Melissa Litka, Angie Retek; sophomores Lindsey Chrzan, Angie Ludwig, Amanda Malijan, Danielle Verleye, Erin Wardman, Crysten Willis; and freshmen Casey Krause and Melissa Sosinski.

The varsity record is 6-3; the JV record is 4-3; and the freshman record is 2-3.

The next match for the varsity team is Oct. 3 at WHS against Adams. □

# Youth leads tennis team

By **Ryan Hanyzewski &**

**Jamal Henry**

Sports Editor & Sports Writer

The boys' tennis team's record last year was 0-11. They are having another tough season.

The Panthers are led by a group of three junior captains: Jamal Henry, Brian Schoonaert, and Kevin Marek.

"It's my third year on the team and I'm glad we have a lot of new freshmen; they've improved a lot and I hope we have a good season," said Schoonaert.

The Panthers are looking to replace some key players who were lost to graduation, such as Demetrius Minor and Kevin Dixon.

So far, they have not been very successful, as Henry has had four victories while the other players struggle to gain a victory.

The Panthers looked to contend coming into the season, but were overwhelmed by the St. Joseph Indians (5-0).

The Panthers next travelled to Michigan City to take on the Wolves.

Early on, it looked as if the Panthers would win their first match in four years as everyone jumped out to an early lead.

The leads slowly slipped away but Henry was a bright spot for the team winning his match 6-3, 6-3 with his fellow teammates gaining experience with every match.

The Panthers' next match was against Mishawaka and again Henry had the only victory, winning 6-1, 6-2.

Another bright spot for the Panthers was freshman Rod Kirkland who lost a tough match 6-4, 6-2, but showed signs of improvement with every passing shot.

"Competition this year is much harder than I expected in the number-two

and three positions on the varsity," said Kirkland.

Henry then went on to score victories against Elkhart Memorial and Clay.

"Our goals this season are to continue to improve, to win a match, and possibly pull off the upset in sectionals," said Coach Daryl Boykins.

This year's team is athletic and works very hard to be competitive. Another strength for the Panthers is that they have very good chemistry and they all have fun.

But with strengths, there are always weaknesses. They have a lack of experience as well as a lack of strategy and skills.

The Panthers still hope to win a match. This is their overall goal, and this could be the year to achieve this goal.

The Panthers' next match is Sectionals, Fri. Oct. 4. □

# THE USHERS

The opinions voiced in this column are not necessarily those of the HATCHET staff. We'd also like to stress that Bob and Dennis are real humans, though any attempt to uncover their identities will result in an "unpleasant" visitation from a large hired thug named Knuckles.

By Bob Palatino and Dennis Gdansk  
Two Guys

BOB: Well, folks, we're back. Or, I'm back. Reviewing with me this year is my close personal buddy, Dennis Gdansk.

DENNIS: I hope that I can just be as great a reviewer as Gary was. Although it may have been sweltering outside this summer, my friend and I remained cool in the air-conditioned comfort of the theatre.

BOB: ...until the air-conditioner broke. Refund city, man.

DENNIS: With personal fan in hand, we begin our gigantic SUMMER MOVIE REVIEW!!

## INDEPENDENCE DAY (ID4)

BOB: I would like to begin by saying, yes, I saw it coming. Ever since my abduction...

DENNIS: Please leave your sicko fantasies out of this. In my expert opinion, this sci-fi flick was the most *awesomest* of the summer.

BOB: Thank you, illiterate boy. *Independence Day*, starring Will Smith, Jeff Goldblum, and Bill Pullman as the president (who flies jet fighters and makes Bill Clinton look like a push-cart flower child), is the enchanting tale of ALIEN DOMINATION.

DENNIS: The special effects were great enough to make even Steven Spielberg wet his pants.

BOB: Amen, Den. This movie, however, is not solely about intergalactic combat. It is a picture of the human race, and there are many examples in the movie that point out the nuances and details that make humanity great.

DENNIS: Nuances?

BOB: We laughed at the antics of the drunken Russel (played by Randy Quaid); we cried at the death of the President's beloved wife; and we rejoiced when Smith "whooped E.T.'s"...um...hiney. The triumph of the species is felt by everyone in the audience.

PAUSE FOR READER TO GET TISSUE

DENNIS: In my opinion, *ID4* was THE movie of the summer.

## DRAGONHEART

BOB: It's about time somebody used the incredible effects used in *Jurassic Park* and *Terminator 2* for something as fun and fantastic as this movie.

DENNIS: Although I didn't see this movie myself, I have listened for hours upon hours as Bob raved on about it. In fact, I completely missed both *Eddie* and *Kazaam*, which was no big loss.

BOB: *Dragonheart* stars Sean Connery as the voice of Draco, a computer-generated dragon, along with Dennis Quaid. The story is about Quaid and the young prince he is teaching. The boy's father is a ruthless ruler, and it is Quaid's hope that he won't grow up the same.

Then the prince is wounded in battle, and they take him to Draco (concealed in shadows for the first part of the show). The dragon gives him half his heart (it's fantasy, okay?) to heal him, but makes the lad promise to be a kind and forgiving ruler.

DENNIS: If you were dying, wouldn't you promise, too?

BOB: The boy, of course, grows up to be Saddam Hussein, and there is a great battle and, well, this review is getting too long. Just go rent it when it comes out on video! I guarantee you won't be disappointed.



## TWISTER

DENNIS: Mr. Spielberg's brainchild was a special-effects extravaganza complete with flying people, houses, cars, and cows.

BOB: Actually, it was the same cow both times.

DENNIS: Thank you for clarifying that.

BOB: Can I say something? Helen Hunt is a babe.

DENNIS: You ain't kidding. When she had that skin-tight white T-shirt on...but back to the review. The plot centers around two groups of storm chasers. One group (the heroes) is led by Hunt who is joined by her engaged-almost-ex-husband.

BOB: The other group is a team of "professional" storm chasers, led by a real weenie who stole the heroes' idea: a device that sends little tiny sensors that resemble panty-hose eggs up into the twister. It's a race to see who can get them up first.

DENNIS: Who actually finishes first, the heroes or the weenies?

BOB: How many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop?

DENNIS: Enough fooling around. If you're in the mood for a thrill-packed ride, this is your show.

## ESCAPE FROM L.A.

DENNIS: On a lighter side, Kurt Russell's

action-packed sequel to *Escape from New York* burst into theatres with about as much hype as the Olympics.

BOB: Call me Snake.

DENNIS: Please forgive my friend. He gets into the movies he watches wayyyy too much. BOB: The story is almost identical to the first movie: it's the future, and America is run by a fanatical President who goes to the extreme to purge immorality from the country. And the newly-formed island of Los Angeles is used as a penal colony.

DENNIS: This is where Jake "Snake" Plisskin (Russell) comes in.

BOB: Snake is an infamous moral offender, and finally, he gets caught.

DENNIS: He is injected with a deadly virus while at the exportation center. He is then told that the only way to get the antidote is to recover a top-secret activation device for a state-of-the-art weapon which was stolen by the President's psycho daughter who is consorting with an even crazier terrorist in the Happy Kingdom. Confused? So am I.

DENNIS: Although not as great as *ID4*...

BOB: Get off the *ID4* kick!!!

DENNIS: Mike Hammer fans, Stacey Keach is back!

## "THEATRE HOPPING"

Cinema 1: *The Rock*

BOB: I didn't see it.

DENNIS: Sean Connery at his best. One of the greats.

Cinema 2: *Mission Impossible*

DENNIS: Tom Cruise brings one of T.V.'s best to the silver screen.

BOB: I like the theme song.

Cinema 3: *The Cable Guy*

BOB: I'm sorry—I liked it! It was a good character change for Jim.

DENNIS: Didn't waste my money on another Carey movie.

Cinema 4: *Striptease*

DENNIS: Oh, Demi...! Take it off again.

BOB: I missed it... I may go blind.

Cinema 5: *Eraser*

DENNIS: A classic Schwarznegger action movie!

BOB: If it isn't Stallone, it has to be good.

Cinema 6: *A Time To Kill*

DENNIS: What I wouldn't give to be Matthew McConaghey and work with Sandra Bullock!

BOB: On a serious note, all the people I heard laughing during this movie should be drug out into the street and shot.

DENNIS: Well, that's all we have time and space for this month. We hope you've enjoyed our summer movie extravaganza.

BOB: See you next month, folks! □