

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

HATCHET

October 1994



November

3 & 4

*HALF-DAYS

End of the grading period
Parent/Teacher Conferences

5

*SAT at St. Joseph and LaSalle
High Schools

Oct. 31-Nov. 11

*Cheerleader Candy Sale

12

*Scholarship Opportunity Day
At Alverno College from 9am-12

14-25

*COE/IOL Candy Sale

17 & 18

*Fall Play
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24 & 25

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News

Junior ROTC is marching to a different drummer. 4,5

Face-off

Should Shannon Faulkner be allowed in the Citadel? 6

Panthers

Out to lunch--but for how long? 7

Feature

Are ghosts lurking around you? 8,9

Editorial

Career decisions are difficult choices for young women. 10

Art Gallery

Old page, new name: students show off their work. 11

Sports

Fall season draws to a close. 12-15

Backpage

Arriving at the "far side" of humor. 16

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to comment on the hall decorating events during homecoming week. It disappoints me to see the hostility, anger, revenge and "spying" going on. I'm not concerned with who was disqualified for what, but I am concerned that homecoming has lost its meaning.

Homecoming is not about a huge competition; it's supposed to be about having fun. Sure, part of the fun is a little competition, but not as much as what was shown by all four classes.

I'm sure that some juniors and most seniors can remember what homecoming used to be like. I just hope that as juniors and seniors we can have a great basketball homecoming to show the underclassmen how homecoming is supposed to be.

Selfishly, I also hope that as seniors, our last homecoming can be the best ever.

Jessica L. Mejer
Senior

Editorial Policy

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 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 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.



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On the cover: Boo!

Cover by Eric Siebenaler

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Jr. ROTC teaches

By Jessica Wasmer
News Editor

Recognizing that students today need self-reliance, self-discipline, citizenship, and leadership, WHS recently instituted the Air Force Jr. ROTC (Reserves Officer Training Corps.). This program also offers career opportunities for both military and civilian life.

The program initially originated in Montana in 1910 as an Army program. Since then it has spread across the United States. "The program has expanded greatly over the past few years due partly because of requests from school districts and parents," said Major Phil Livingston, program instructor.

Each school in the South Bend Community School Corporation had the opportunity to select which branch of the service they wanted to institute for their program. Adams and Clay also chose the Air Force.

During the summer, courses were held at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama for instructors.

The Jr. ROTC is funded by the United States Air Force. Only basic necessities, like any other class, are funded by the school. Uniforms, insignia, and ROTC textbooks are free to all individuals enrolled.

Currently enrolled at WHS are 30 cadets. "Our goal is to get 100 percent participation," said Major Livingston.

To be eligible for enrollment, one must be at least 14 years of age, a U.S. citizen, and physically fit. The objective is not to recruit.

In first-year courses, cadets are introduced to the heritage of flight, the development of airpower, and military aerospace policies. "I enjoy the first year of the program because I like learning about the history the most," said sophomore Sergio Navarro.

"We have also learned how long it takes to prepare for flight,

the gravitational pull, and outerspace," said senior Josh Johnson.

In the second year, cadets will examine the environment in which aircraft and spacecraft operate. Learning the principle of flight and navigation as well as the requirements for human flight will be included also.

The third year concentrates on the study of rocketry, propulsion systems, and space vehicles.

The fourth year focuses on the application of leadership skills, aviation ground school, or aerospace topics.

Each year the purpose is to teach leadership through laboratory and classroom work. Classes concentrate on military customs and courtesies, flag etiquette, instruction in drill, and ceremonies. Basic work skills such as financial, stress, and personnel management are also taught.

Jr. ROTC cadets are not limited to just classroom work. Cadets are invited to dances and



"I don't know if I want to join any of the forces, but I feel it is a good way to be a leader to other citizens," said freshman Brayline Powel.



"I talked to Mrs. Katona last year, and I decided it would be good for me to join since I wanted to join the Air Force," said sophomore D'andre Barr.



"I like the program because I'm probably going to go into the Air Force. In fact, we need to get more people to join ROTC because it will help them get through college," said senior Josh Johnson.

cadets to be leaders

military balls sponsored by the Air Force Junior ROTC unit. Cadets are allowed to take part in athletic events as a member of the color guard or drill team. They will also join in on activities and field trips planned by aerospace science instructors.

Classes may visit Air Force bases, airports, Federal Aviation Administration units, weather service offices and aerospace industries, and even fly in an Air Force aircraft.

Although being a member of the program does not require one to proceed into any of the armed forces after high school, cadets are eligible to join a one year, two year, or four year program in college. "I plan to go into the Air Force after college," said Johnson.

Scholarships are reserved for thousands of cadets. The scholarships pay for three or four years of tuition, books, and fees at hundreds of universities and colleges. These scholarships allow cadets to pursue studies in engineering, science, or

nursing. Receiving a scholarship requires the individual to serve the Air Force as an officer.

Another advantage to being in the program is that it may help students without a particular direction in mind decide what to do after high school.

"If the program helps students in planning for their future, then I am behind it," said science teacher Kim Bergeron.

Cadets start and end their day with the raising and lowering of the flag. "Raising and lowering the flag daily makes me feel more patriotic about my country, but I'm not quite sure how," said sophomore Josh Northam.

Cadets meet for one hour a day. Cadets are graded on uniform wear, tests, class participation, and homework.

Students are addressed with respect, and at the same time, are expected to address the instructor with respect. For instance, the cadets address Major Livingston as "Sir" or "Major."

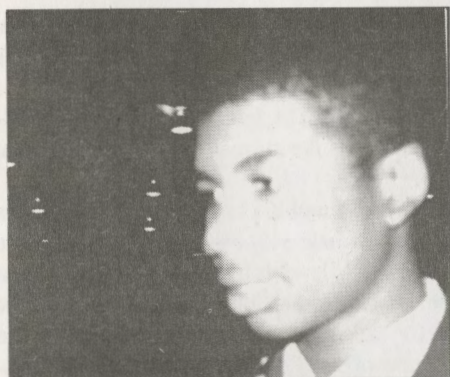
"The way we are addressed by Major Livingston and the way he addresses us crosses over in modern-day life. I have naturally started calling other teachers 'Ma'am' or 'sir'," said Johnson.

One difference, however, is the dress code. On Thursdays, all cadets are required to wear the U.S. Air Force regulation uniform, as if the cadets were on active duty. Uniforms include shirts, pants, jackets, socks, shoes, and hats. "I think students are wearing their uniforms with pride, and they should because I think they look very professional," said Major Livingston.

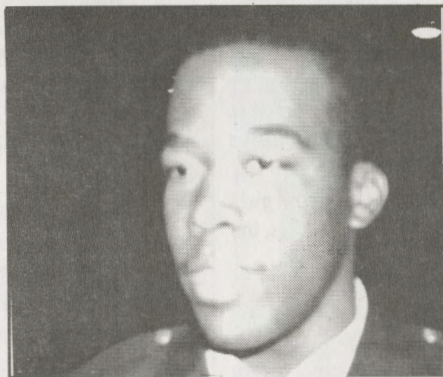
"I love wearing the uniforms because students and staff salute me and I feel privileged," said sophomore Parish Dockery.

Students who are not willing to wear the required uniforms identifying them with the program will not be allowed to be a part of the program.

The cadets will be performing with the Color Guard at the basketball sectionals. □



"I think this program is very educational because it gives me a lot of information about the Air Force. This program will also give me the required discipline necessary for ROTC in college and the Air Force in my future," said sophomore Parish Dockery.



"I feel that this program is an outstanding program that will bring new life to WHS because it teaches discipline and leadership skills, and it also gives a good outlook on the military. I think that Major Livingston is doing a great job as our leader," said senior Denoris Beatty.



"I thought the program would be good to learn to be a leader; I also want to join the Air Force," said sophomore Josh Northam.



Katharine Chan

FACE-OFF

The Issue: Should women be allowed in all-male schools?



Kim Starzynski

This page is designed to present two opposing viewpoints on topical issues. The arguments are strong to create thought, controversy, and interest. If you have any comments, differing opinions, or questions, please write a letter to the editors, Katharine Chan or Kim Starzynski.

Imagine being in a building with no communications to the outside world and nothing to do but work. Add workouts where the only way to take a break is to faint from exhaustion. Constant inspections and orders from peers is part of everyday life. This is the experience of a first-year male cadet at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI). These grueling tasks cause 10% of the male freshman cadets to drop out within the first few weeks. But what would happen if women were allowed to attend these all-male schools?

The VMI and the Citadel (another military school) welcome all eligible men, but shut the door to women, and with good reason.

Allowing women into these customary all-male schools would disrupt decades of traditional policy.

Shannon Faulkner, a recent high-school graduate, planned on attending the Citadel, until the school discovered that Faulkner was a woman.

In her application, Faulkner left out any indication of her gender, since she knew women weren't allowed into the all-male military school.

She claims that she is not interested in any other female equivalent of the Citadel and was only attracted to the Citadel because of its strict discipline.

Although some may argue sexism, Faulkner and other women just want something they can't have. Mary Sue Terry, the attorney general of Virginia, agrees. She argues that many other military schools, available to women, can give them a military education.

The 84 all-women colleges in the U.S. defend their programs by saying that they are needed to overcome stereotypes and allow women to learn in a single-sex environment. These colleges also state that in a single-sex college, the absence of the other sex allows students to concentrate more on academics instead of relationships or dating. If this is true for women's colleges, then why not also for the VMI or Citadel?

Also, having women at all-male military schools would break the bond between male cadets. "There's a feeling of brotherhood...women would drive a wedge of division between us," said Citadel senior Chris Schrimsher.

According to the president of the Citadel, Claudius E. Watts III, "We are trying to preserve an educational environment that molds young men into adults of good character, honor, and integrity. It is part of a single-gender educational system that has proved successful throughout history."

Most importantly, allowing women into all-male military schools would take away the uniqueness of such military schools--being able to provide students with an alternative to coeducational schools.

A VMI graduate and engineering teacher said, "It may give the girls something they seem to want, but it does so at the expense of others, the men."

If women were given the privilege to attend these all-male military schools, the schools would have to change many things. Certain programs would have to be altered to fit both sexes, and new facilities might have to be built to accommodate the women. Decades of tradition would be shattered, feelings of brotherhood would be lost, and a special uniqueness would be taken away just to make a few people happy.

As for Faulkner, she is still fighting for admittance into the Citadel. A recent court order prevented her from joining the other freshman cadets in shaving their heads and accepting any verbal abuse from upperclassmen. But Faulkner is as determined as ever, although it could be well over a year before she may be allowed into the confines of the Citadel.

It is considered a great honor to be a part of the military. Excellent schools everywhere train our nation's boys to be men. Up every morning at 5 am and lights out at 9 pm can be a hard adjustment. Climbing 200-foot walls, running mile upon endless mile, and jumping from tire to tire are just some of the obstacle courses that will turn a boy into a man.

But what about turning a girl into a woman? Many females in this country would like to protect this land if the need arises. Females can attend military schools, but shouldn't they be able to attend prestigious schools such as the Citadel or the Virginia Military Institute (VMI)?

Many girls think it is unfair that the Citadel and VMI only allow male applicants to be accepted. Shannon Faulkner is one such female. Some people may remember this courageous female. She submitted her application to the Citadel.

The acceptance board looked over her application, thinking that Shannon was a male. Shannon met all of the requirements that the male applicants are required to meet. The acceptance board sent her a letter of approval and then denied her entrance when they discovered they had accepted a female. She fought the board's decision in court and won a preliminary hearing which allowed her to attend day classes that began last August (facts from Time August 22, 1994).

Females have not always had the same rights as men. Women did not have the right to vote until the 1900's. Many women thought this was unfair, so they fought to change this law and succeeded. Men were first in space, first to have jobs, and first to fight. Women today can now participate in those fields, but are not always given first-class training.

One reason the all-male schools give for not accepting female applicants is that females would cause the male soldiers' morale to decrease. Morale could be increased, however, by the additional competition; that is, unless they are afraid that the females will be better.

The Citadel, VMI, and other military academies have been all-male since the day they were instituted. This has been a tradition, but it is also an infringement of female rights.

In the same respect, a male should not be denied acceptance to an all-female school as long as he meets the normal requirements for that school.

Some people say that females shouldn't be allowed in the schools because the drill instructors in male schools are tougher than the female drill instructors. In fact, VMI cadets live in a four-story fortress with no telephones, no television sets, no locks, and no curtains. The Citadel puts their cadets (or "knobs") through relentless mental and physical assault. Every minute of every day is supervised. Upperclassmen conduct "sweat parties" forcing knobs to exercise until they drop from exhaustion. The grueling systems at each school are meant to strip away the students' sense of individuality and test his (her) ability to function under almost constant stress (facts from Newsweek March 26, 1990).

If a female thinks that she is capable of taking on the tougher responsibilities, then more power to her. After all, no one said that the military is all fun and games.

Panthers

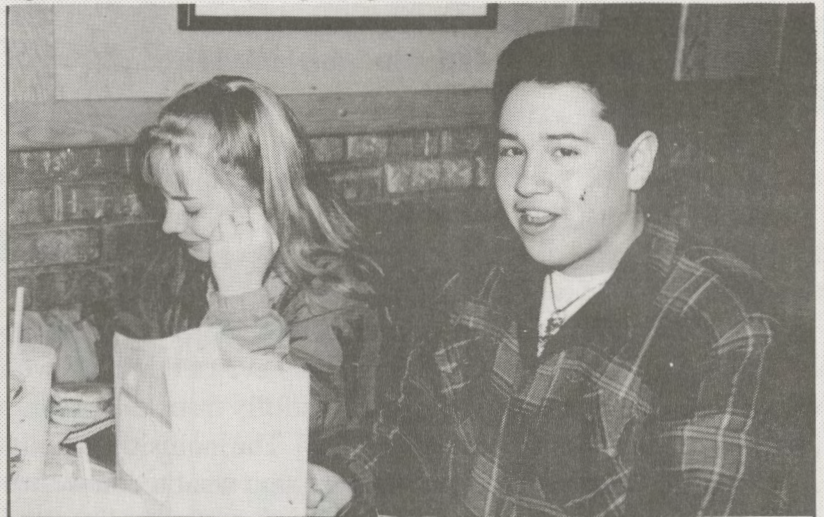
By Christina Fidler, Jaime Kurzhal,
and Suzanne Myers

Take a good look, Panthers. Soon open lunch could be just a memory.

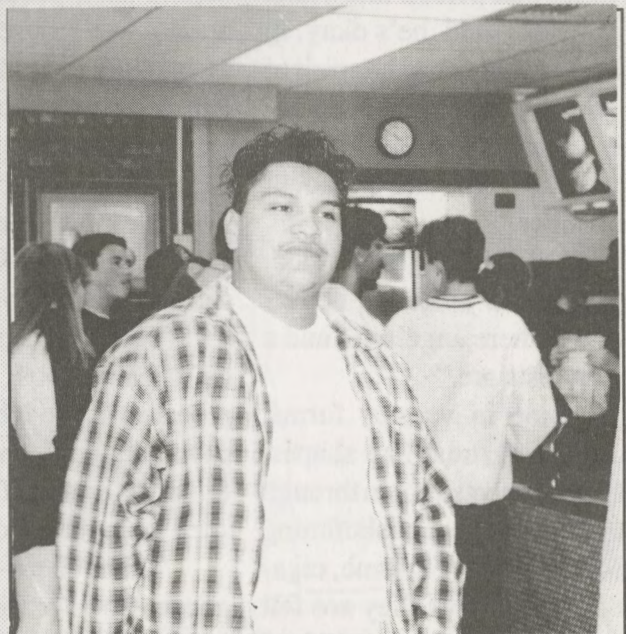
Awww - poor sophomore **Joe Bucher** is all alone with his french fries. Cheer up, Joe. Maybe when lunch is closed, you'll be surrounded by friends.



During open lunch, junior **Kelly Lister** and senior **Marcos Cano** can spend time together and talk without yelling through the noise of a crowded cafeteria.



He's got the eyes, he's got the nose; does sophomore **Steve Naragon** want to be the future floppy-footed king of Big Macs? Just die the hair and throw on some stripes, we're sure you'll get the job!



Senior **Joe Gallegos** takes a moment to breathe in all those great smells that he just can't find in the cafeteria at WHS.

Journey through haun

by Stacey Kaufman and Stephanie Kaufman
Feature Editors

Amid the crisp, cool air and the smell of fall, past the desolate marsh and the wild woods, lies a realm that haunts. This realm exists in many places: some houses, some souls, and some minds. With this haunting image, one question comes to mind: do GHOSTS truly exist?

Parapsychologists (one who studies telepathy) and others affiliated with the supernatural insist that ghosts are real. Experts believe "ghosts are the lost souls of people who died violently by suicide, murder, or a freak accident." They also believe that most spirits cause no harm; they can even be helpful. George Anderson, a psychic in New York, said, "The specter [ghost] may want to let that person know that even though he has died, he's okay. In other instances, the ghost is the spirit of a stranger who lived long ago and appears either because it needs help or feels compelled to warn someone about a potential danger."

Freshman Carrie Engstrom said, "I believe if there is a heaven above, there is a place where angels are and a place where ghosts are."

Ghosts come in various forms. Some are indistinct, mist-like shapes. Others make themselves known through just a sound (footsteps, a slamming door, a voice) or scent (perfume, cigarette smoke). Sometimes they are felt as a cold spot in a room or a drift of some sort.

Sherry Baker told *Omni* magazine of a tale that originated in South Carolina. A heart-broken young belle realized her sea-captain beau was unfaithful. Upon realizing this, she ended her life when she drank an exotic, poisonous Oriental perfume that he had given her. It is said that on summer nights with the moon full and bright, guests claim peculiar aromas linger about the house. Sometimes even a luminous woman appears wistfully from an upstairs window.

The inquisitive minds of researchers who want to know the real reasons behind such peculiarities have developed a way to use scientific tools and techniques to study ghosts. The problem is, in order to understand ghosts, scientists must develop an even more sophisticated instrument than the ones they use now. Electronic sensing devices and computers may be able to show if the phenomenon is real.

Yet, some scientists are still critical because most experiments can be repeated in the laboratory. With parapsychology, no one has ever been able to verify a case. Thus, the question of such a phenomenon is arguable.

This modern-day exploration with ghosts, however, is not new. Even Romans believed in the possibility of spirits coming back to haunt the living. The

first known official club for "ghostbusters" was organized in Britain in 1665. Several known people met at a place called Ragley Hall, including physicist Sir Robert Boyle and Reverend Joseph Glanvill, to study reports of ghosts.

In 1987 a poll taken at Epcot Center revealed 13 percent of Americans claim to have seen a

ghost, and one third of those surveyed said they actually do believe in ghosts. On a national level, the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center found 42% of Americans said they have been in contact with someone who has died.

Amongst this group, the widows' and widowers' rate of contact rises to nearly two thirds. It is evident that something truly does exist. Some may think the only thing that exists is a lot of preconceptions pulled together into percents and ratios. Nevertheless, researchers who specialize in the field of supernatural and human psyche are hoping to spread more light on the subject.

A WHS poll revealed 49% of students did believe in ghosts. Some of those who believe in ghosts told of their experiences with ghosts.

"I have moved out of three houses because they were haunted," revealed

"I HAVE MOVED OUT OF THREE HOUSES BECAUSE THEY WERE HAUNTED."

-SENIOR ADAM MELLER

nting phenomena

Senior Adam Meller.

Meller's experiences began at age seven. He was playing in a field when he saw people walking across it. When his mother walked up to the them, they disappeared. Other instances include lights flickering, footsteps coming from locked upper level in the house, and candles blowing out and relighting.

In Meller's opinion his most frightful and haunting experiences occurred in his third house. One day his mother was home alone in bed. She had a shelf in her room with a lot of knickknacks on it. All of a sudden, the shelf came off the wall and the temperature in the room dropped. The items on the shelf spun around it; then everything fell to the floor.

The next incident happened when Meller was moving boxes to the upstairs storage rooms. As he was ascending the stairs, he heard noises that sounded as though something was flying about one

of the rooms. When he looked in the room, he saw a ghost-like image in the corner. The ghostly figure took a step toward him. Meller quickly found a wooden bat from the box he had carried with him and threw it at the image.

The bat didn't hit the wall, but, instead, made a thump in midair as if something was there; and fell to the ground. Meller rushed down the stairs and told his step-father. Later, when his step-father investigated the room, he found the bat cracked in half with claw-like marks engraved in it.

Terence Hines, professor of psychology at New York's Pace University, said, "Ghosts are usually spotted at night by someone who has just retired. After going to bed, people fall into a sort of in-between state, where they are neither fully awake nor fully asleep. During this period, what's known as the hypnagogic hallucination which may be auditory or visual in nature, is quite common. These hallucinations are

distinct from dreams in that they may seem to the individual to be real. A similar type of hallucination can occur upon waking up as well." He added that hallucinations are responsible for many re-

ports on ghosts.

Junior Steve Rosetto claimed that the house at 1715 Ontario is haunted. He explained that a hundred years ago, a man named Youhoss lived in this house. He was a bank robber. Suppos-

edly, he was shot down in the top right bedroom without revealing where he hid the stolen money. It is believed that the money still remains in the house while the robber's ghost guards it. . .

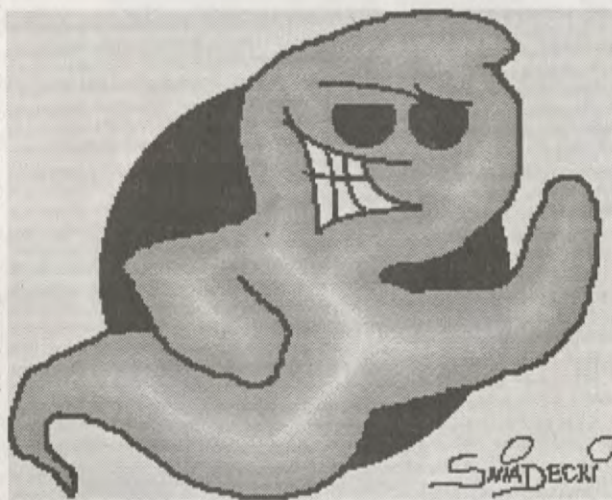
1715 Ontario has now become the home of Rosetto's grandparents. "I never really believed in ghosts or 'the legend' until one night."

Rosetto had tired himself from a long day of work, so he went to bed. In the middle of the night, he awoke to find his blanket hovering above him. "But, this wasn't the only time I encountered the ghost!"

Last Christmas Eve Rosetto's grandparents left him alone in the house while they attended a business party. He stayed to help his grandmother bake cookies and decorate for Christmas. He had just finished putting a set of lights in the window and decided he was thirsty. He went to get a drink and sat down. As soon as he did, the decorations fell, the electricity flickered, the doors shuttered, and he heard footsteps upstairs. "I was the only one in the house that night, or the only one alive!"

Rosetto added, "I think the ghost in my grandparents' house is a nice ghost, but a bored one. I mean, what would you do if you were stuck in a house for more than a hundred years?"

Whether ghosts truly exist or not, is an arguable subject. Although the people who have told their stories, are quite sure they do. So, before you make up your mind too quickly, beware! One may come to haunt you. □



Girls today face many career choices

A young girl walks into the counselor's office at school. Her mouth drops open as her gaze falls upon the long list of people waiting to see the counselor. She adds her name to the end of the list and continues to class. After an anxious wait, she is finally called down to talk to her counselor about her future. She is shocked to find that she has to make so many decisions before she even leaves high school. She begins to think she should have started making some of these decisions in kindergarten, but she does not even know the answers to them now. What's a girl to do?

Editorial

High school in the 90's is a trying time for young women. Not only are teenage girls today expected to do their best in academics, in athletics, and in extracurricular activities, they are also expected to begin preparing for a career they will sustain for the rest of their lives. Not only do they have to make responsible career choices, they also have to prepare themselves to compete in a work force that has traditionally been dominated by males.

For my mother and her generation, the decision was easy. Most women were homemakers, and those who weren't, decided amongst the occupations of teacher, nurse, or secretary. Now, when a young woman receives a list of careers she may want to know more about, she has over 328 from which to choose. After making a suitable choice, she still has to think about balancing this career with a home and a family.

In a projection for the 20 fastest-growing occupations of the year 2000, the top 5 were listed as home-health aide, paralegal, systems analyst and computer scientist, physical therapist, and medical assistant. To obtain even one of these jobs, extensive college and other training is needed, not to mention a lot of money.

Time and time again teenagers are confronted with statistics encouraging them to stay in school and get a higher education. According to the 1990 census, the high-school drop-out is now earning \$.46 for every dollar that a high-school graduate earns. With a four-year college diploma, workers can earn almost two times as much as the high-school graduate. These figures make it obvious that additional education is a must.

According to Indiana's CORE 40, high school offers a number of courses needed to succeed in college. In order to graduate from high school, a student must earn a minimum of 38 credits. To succeed in college, one needs 8 credits in language arts; 6 in science; 6 in social studies; 1 in physical ed; 1 in health/safety; and 8 total in foreign languages, arts, computers and career area.

The decision is not whether women of the 90's should further their education, but where and when. The decision, therefore, becomes whether to go to a four-year college, a two-year college, or a technical school. After this is decided, only a few more choices are left to make before moving on to life after high school, like whether or not to go away to school, where to live, what kind of schools to apply to, what colleges to visit, and then being able to find the money to pay for all of this.

If young women don't make responsible choices, the world could be missing out on a scientist who finds the cure for cancer or a world leader responsible for keeping peace.

Whatever her decision, its importance is realized. Despite advances in male sensitivity, young women still have to be prepared to accomplish most of the housework and contend with gender inequity in the work force. After absorbing all of this, the reason high school gets so frustrating for many teenage girls is understandable: they realize the decisions they make today will not only affect them tomorrow, but quite possibly will affect the entire world. □



Thumbs Up
Thumbs Down



THUMBS UP-

...to the football team for finishing their regular season 5-3. The team played very well this year and all the time they spent practicing really shows.

...to the wrestling squad for their community service of picking up trash around the school. Your consideration not only for the environment, but also for our school, shows the maturity level of teenagers today has not totally declined.

...to all of the fall sports teams. The seasons are coming to a close and the entire school is very proud of all your hard work and dedication.

...to the band. The Washington/Penn game was the first time a visiting school brought its band to a Penn game. The staff, students and players appreciate the motivation you provide. Thank-you for taking time out of your busy schedules to volunteer to play at the game.

...to the custodians. Our hallways have been exceptionally clean so far this year. The students and staff really appreciate our school looking so nice. Our school spirit is enhanced by your efforts. Keep up the good work!

...to the teachers. You have successfully dealt with the students who had "back-to-school blues" at the beginning of the year and those who have the "is-it-over yet" fever now. Your patience is greatly appreciated. As for the seniors—it's too early for senioritis.

...to the beautiful fall weather we have been experiencing so far this year. We can only hope the winter months will be just as kind to us.

THUMBS DOWN-

...to the students at the Washington/Penn game who felt it necessary to throw cans, food, etc. at the students, the band members, and the others in the crowd. It was not only dangerous, it showed the immaturity of some of those in our student body. All we can say is, "Grow up!"

...to those teachers who do not enforce the code of conduct for dress. It makes it difficult, if not impossible, for those teachers who do try to enforce the rules. Students are frustrated by the lack of consistency.

Art Gallery

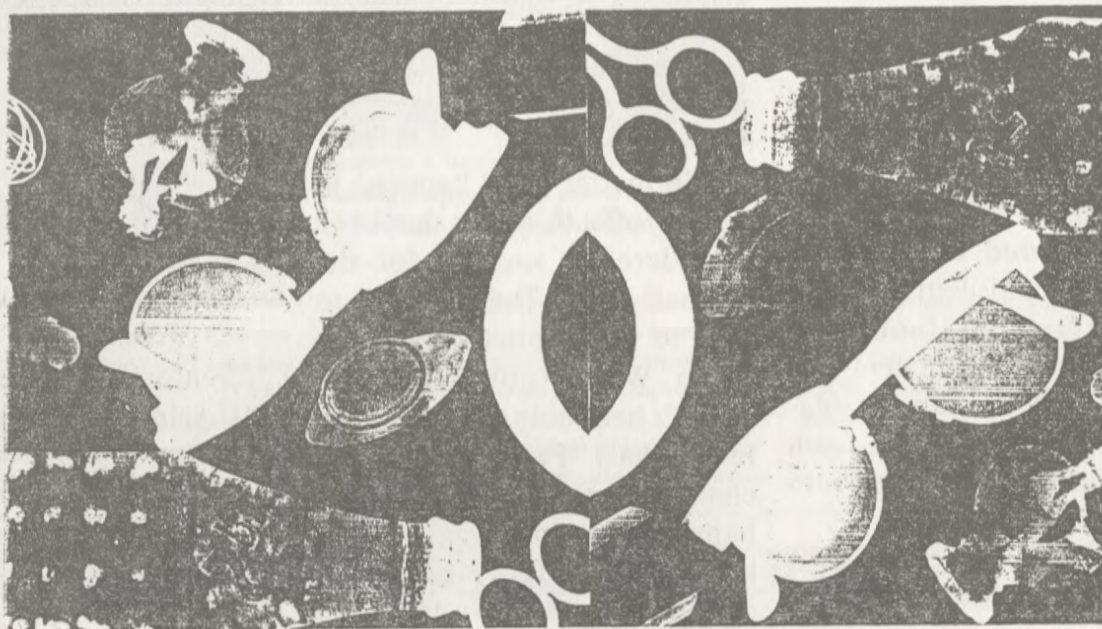


Photo by George Kukla



Linoleum Print by Ruben Baucelos



Ink Drawing by Jermaine Reeves

Panthers just keep on rolling

By Greg Bovenkerk
Sports Writer

The Panther football team began the year on a roll. Now that the season is over and the sectionals are here, the Panthers are still rolling.

The team's regular season record ended at 5-3 and finished fifth in one of the toughest conferences in the state, the Northern Indiana Conference. The Panthers entered the playoffs feeling very confident.

Junior inside linebacker Adam Hooten said, "I feel that the success of our regular season has made the whole team very confident about going into the tournament."

The team's number one goal is to win the state champion-

ship. The road to Indianapolis will be a tough one, though. First, they must travel to Clay Field to take on the Colonials.

Other teams that are in the Panther's sectional include Concord, Goshen, Gary, LaSalle, Michigan City Elston, and Hobart, who has never lost a sectional game in the history of the school.

No matter what happens in the playoffs, this year should be considered a success for the football team. They have been able to accomplish goals that often WHS football teams haven't been able to accomplish in the past. Panthers are city champs, something that hasn't happened in four years. They have also won five regular season games, which is the most

since 1990.



Senior Jeremy Johnston sticks junior Steve Booher during practice.

Senior co-captain Matthew Huff said, "I feel our team has improved both offensively and defensively, compared to years past; I feel that due to that improvement, we should do well in the post-season." □

Sophomores on the rise, but season still disappointing

By Andrew Zima
Sports Writer

The JV football season proved to be a disappointing one as they ended the season with the record of 2-5. They started out by beating LaSalle and Elston, and losing only to Mishawaka.

But from there, the Panthers dropped four straight to Elkhart Central, Elkhart Memorial, Riley, and Penn.

Sophomore Drew Jeffrey said, "Even though we did win more games, the season was still disappointing."

But on the other hand, sophomore Joe Parker said, "This was our best season ever, and I'm happy that we won two games."

The JV's were highlighted when several sophomores started on the varsity team. Eloy Alvarez started on defense as well as kickoff return, Ivan Blount was on kickoff and Jeffrey and Tim Balasa also started on varsity kickoff return.

WHS was destroyed by Elkhart Central by the score of 21-6. The score didn't indicate how the game went, because the Panthers were never

really in it from the beginning of the game.

It was the same story at Elkhart Memorial as the Panthers were defeated 43-12. They started out scoring a touchdown on their first possession of the game. After they scored, they onside kicked it, recovered, and a three plays later, Memorial went down to score another touchdown.

But at that point, it all seemed to be an uphill battle. Every time the Panthers would score, Memorial came right back to answer the score. The two scores came on runs from Jeffrey.

In the second-to-last game of the season, the Panthers were shut out by Riley 17-0. The Panther offense was shut down in the loss to the Wildcats. Every time the Panther offense would start to move the ball, the tough Riley defense would hold them.

Against Penn, the Panthers were murdered by the score of 43-0. Once again, the Panther offense was shut down, and the defense couldn't seem to hold the Kingsmen.

Still, it was this team's (the sophomores) best season ever. This team has only won one

game since seventh grade, and they won two games this year alone. The team is virtually the same as they were two years ago, but with fewer people.



Sophomore Jeremy Moody stampedes over junior Brian Fulnecky in the tackling drills.

They lost some players to soccer, like Javier Rocha and Justin Shonkwiler. Others were lost like Nic Booher and Kris Flores because WHS could not fit them under the salary cap. □

Girls finish with winning season

By **Sandy Osowski**
Sports Writer

The volleyball team finished the season as winners, with the record of 14-8. Coach Tressie Jurgonski said that the team worked hard, and that they improved their record in the conference. Their record in the Northern Indiana Conference is 5-4.

To achieve this record, the Lady Panthers practiced hard. Some of the girls played all winter long. Senior Amy Wimberly said, "Kathy Borysiak and I played on the same winter volleyball team, and our practices were on the weekends that we didn't have tournaments. Our practices were tough. We had male coaches, and when they would get mad about our play, they knew how to make us pay. We did push-ups and sit-ups every time we missed a serve or messed up."

Jurgonski said, "This is one of the greatest teams that WHS has had as far as I can remember."

Seniors Borysiak, Wimberly, Charlena Vandevire, and Mary Lukaszewski were key players in the Panthers' offense.

Mishawaka was one of their toughest opponents. The Panthers suffered a tough loss with the score of 6-15, 8-15. "Mishawaka was tough

because of their strong outside hitters and strong servers. We had trouble returning serves and spikes," commented Vandevire.

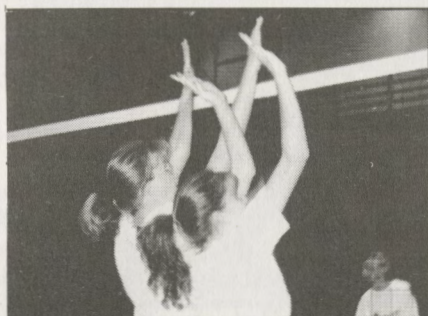


Photo by Eric Basline

Seniors Charlena Vandevire and Sabrina Opaczewski reach to block a spike from the opposing team during practice.

Jurgonski said that the girls wanted to win the sectionals because they had the team to do it. Before the sectionals, Jurgonski commented, "If we pull together and play as a team, we can win the sectional."

For the most part, the girls played as a team, but some dissension at times affected their focus,

which contributed to the 14-8 record. Vandevire said, "We had are disagreements at times, but overall we got along pretty well." They hope to have an even better season next year.

The Panthers are losing eight seniors: Borysiak, Wimberly, Vandevire, Lukaszewski, Sabrina Opaczewski, Liz Shear, Karen Calbetzor, and Dominique Bai.

They will still have juniors Jamie Alt and Erin Maenhout and sophomore Corti Pitka.

The Panthers finished the season playing Memorial 15-9, 15-12; Marian 15-11, 9-15; then lost to Mishawaka 6-15, 8-15; Penn 15-4, 15-10. They were defeated in the last game of the season by Elston with the score of 15-9, and 4-15.

The freshman team is the city tournament champions. Freshman Alicia Ladewski commented, "We worked as a team more during the tournament than we did during the season." To get to the championship game, they had to beat LaSalle and Adams. They then went on to play St. Joseph in the championship game and won 16-14, 14-16, 15-10. (Sophomore Malinda Holloway and Jenny Brenner were inadvertently left off the team roster last issue.)

Another rough season comes to close

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**
Sports Writer

Both the boys' and girls' cross country teams had a tough time competing this year, but it was not because of a lack of talent. They had a hard time competing because they were outnumbered almost 2:1 by the opposition every time they ran.

With even lower numbers than the boys' team, the girls, however, did manage to win four meets. They dominated fellow West Side rival LaSalle.

The girls met up with LaSalle three times this year and defeated them easily each time.

"Low numbers were not our only problem. Adapting to a new coach and his new style our senior year was also tough for us to do," said senior Leigh Ann Nawrot.

The girls' team was led by seniors Melanie Whiteman, Liz Muia, and Leticia Bessera.

Unfortunately, the girls' team will face an even tougher problem next year, as they will be losing all seven of its

runners.

Next year the boys' team will also face a similar numbers problem. They will be losing all but three runners for next season.



Photo by Christina Fidler

Senior Leigh Ann Nawrot pushes herself to the limit, conditioning for sectionals.

Cross country rules state that a team must have five runners at the varsity level in order to compete in the events.

The boys, however, do have something to look forward to for next year. They will be

returning three talented runners: juniors Kevin Keppler and Dean Burkus, along with freshman Andrew Nalepinski.

The boys finished the season with an overall record of 9-13.

The standouts for the boys' team were senior Mario Bessera and Keppler.

"We ran pretty well this season," was a great learning experience for us," said senior Jeremy Breden.

When asked about the goals of the team in the preseason, Coach D.J. Hantke said, "Our overall goal for this season is to qualify to run in the regionals."

A team must finish in the top three in sectionals in order to qualify for regionals.

The Panthers, both boys and girls, came up short in qualifying this year. In order to receive awards in sectionals, a team must place in the top five of all the teams running.

The boys' team finished sixth, missing the awards.

The girls', on the other hand, were not as close to the awards, finishing eighth out of ten teams.

Boys soccer ends on positive note

By Mike Whitlock
Sports Editor

The boys' soccer team ended the year with two victories. The team rebounded from a rough mid-season to end the year on a positive note.

The boys showed teamwork as they defeated Mishawaka and LaSalle. This is a plus as they return 17 boys to next year's team.

Head coach Doug Knowlton said, "We ended on the positive side with our young men working as a team. We will only lose five seniors, so our team will be experienced for next year's season."

The mid-season drought started when the Panthers battled Penn. The Kingsmen frustrated WHS with solid play and good goalkeeping to win the game 0-4.

The Panthers found themselves in a familiar hole against Northern Indiana Conference opponent Riley. The Wildcats knocked off WHS 0-4.

The Panthers knew they had their backs against the wall when they played Elkhart Central. The Blue Blazers blazed right past WHS, while the Panthers could only watch Central stomp them 8-0.

The drought was in full effect as the Panthers took on Clay and Elkhart Memorial. The Colonials showed that they were a state power by defeating WHS 1-8. Memorial did not look back, as they beat the Panthers 2-7.

Sophomore Zach Smith said, "We had some tough games, but I think we can turn the season around with good teamwork."

WHS suffered a severe loss when they were upset by to Community Baptist 1-2.

WHS turned positive when the Panthers defeated Mishawaka 4-3. The Panthers then came back to crush the Lions 6-0.



Junior Thomas Hathaway attempts to steal from senior Marco Garcia during Practice.

WHS unfortunately drew Adams in the first round of sectionals. The Eagles soared past the Panthers 5-0.

The Panthers have high hopes for next year, because of the large number of returning players.

Junior Peter Bandera said, "I am looking to next year because of the talent we are returning. We ended positively by winning two games and, hopefully, next year we can have a winning season."

Sectionals: Smashing Tennis

By Mike Makowski
Sports Writer

After a very disappointing season, the boys' tennis team moved into the sectionals. The team finished 0-13 in the regular season.



Senior Mike Whitlock hits a winner against his opponent.

When the pairings were announced, the Panthers were hoping for a bye to be in the semifinals of the sectionals. With no such luck on their side for drawing the bye, they drew cross-town rival, Clay.

They went in believing they could win, but they were overwhelmed by the talent of Clay.

No. 1 singles, freshman Jamal Henry, lost by the scores of 3-6, 6-3, and 0-6. In spite of losing his match, Henry was upbeat and is looking forward to next season.

"This year was a learning experience for me. All of the people I played this year were really good. I'll take everything I learned this year and use it for next year."

No. 2 singles, senior Chris Vargo, lost his match by the scores of 0-6 and 1-6. "This year I was trying to help out the younger players on the team, since next year they will be trying to rebuild a team. Overall, I feel we did a pretty good job."

No. 3 singles, freshman Brian Schoonaert, was unable to play his match due to the lack of communication on when the team was leaving to go to Loeper Park. Because of this, No. 1 alternate and first-year player senior Mike Whitlock, sprang into action.

Even though Whitlock lost 2-6 and 1-6, he said, "I joined halfway through the season because they needed a couple of extra players. When I was playing, I was trying to have a good time and have fun, which I think I did."

No. 1 doubles, senior Andy Miller and junior Kevin Dixon, also lost their match by the scores of 1-6 and 0-6. Dixon said, "This year I played doubles which taught me that sometimes you need people to help you out. Next year I'll be a senior and try to lead the team as best I can."

No. 2 doubles, freshman Paul Czajkowski and junior Joe Tiseo, were blanked by the scores of 0-6 and 0-6. Czajkowski said, "It was hard at first getting used to playing so many talented players a couple of times a week, but I got used to it. I think Joe and I handled ourselves pretty well considering our experience."

Coach Kim Glick commented on this year's season: "It was tough, but we had four new players that came out this year. They got better as the year went on, which should help them in the coming years."

Looking forward to next year, the team will only lose their No. 2 singles, Vargo, and half of their No. 1 doubles' team, Miller.

Girls soccer see the light

By Mike Whitlock
Sports Editor

The 1994 girls' soccer team found themselves in a deep tunnel as they finished the year 0-14. They, however, see a light at the end of this tunnel because the team will return 18 girls to next year's team.

The fact of the matter is the girls' inexperience held them back all year. WHS had 14 newcomers, some who had never touched a soccer ball before in their lives.

Senior Michele Hickey said, "Despite the many newcomers we had this year, we tried our best against each opponent."

The girls battled West Side rival LaSalle in the regular season finale. WHS fell short in a hard-battled game, 0-3. They left the field knowing they could get revenge in their sectional contest.

The Panthers drew the mighty northern Indiana state power Adams in the first round of the South Bend sectionals. The Panthers lost to the Eagles earlier in the year. The girls, however, knew they could be competitive if they controlled the ball with strong offensive play.

Before the game, head coach Ron Zielinski said, "The girls have to frustrate Adams by having possession of the ball throughout the game. We have to make Adams play defense because you can't score while you're on defense."

WHS went to School Field to slow down the Eagles' attack, but they could not stop pure speed. Adams scored early and often to defeat the Panthers, 8-2. Adams outshot WHS, 45-8.

The Panthers have the potential to be an established team next year. In the sectional game, their defense showed life by only allowing one goal in the second half. WHS also showed offensive potential with the two goals coming from junior Becky Wilfing and sophomore Rosalinda Leyva. Both girls will be back for next year's team.

Junior Kisha Perry, who made second team all-conference, said, "I feel that our losses were based on the team's inexperience compared to other teams, but through practicing hard during the summer, next year we are going to get the job done and come home with some victories."

Macleod, Irish try to recruit talented basketball players

By **Isaiah Dockery**
Sports Writer

Every year around this time basketball coaches are trying their hardest to land a "fab-five" recruiting class. So far, the Irish couldn't be in a better position. At the end of the recruiting season last year, Notre Dame received an early verbal commitment from Illinois junior (present senior) Gary Bell.

Bell, a 6'5" small forward, is considered the No. 1 recruit out of Illinois (top 25 in the country). During his junior campaign, Bell averaged 23.9 points and 9.9 rebounds; His performance led Joliet High to an impressive 30-1 record. He placed 3rd in Mr. Basketball voting behind senior all-Americans Jerry Gee (Illinois) and Antoine Walker (Kentucky).

"I just felt it was the right time to do it," Bell said of his early commitment to Notre Dame. "The situation at Notre Dame was the best one I had seen as far as how I'd fit in." They were looking for a small forward who could rebound, shoot, play defense and have a killer mentality. Basically, that's me."

Irish Coach John Macleod, and assistant Coach Jimmy Black, entertained a few recruits the weekend of the Notre Dame football game against Michigan. Three of those recruits, Matt Gottlieb, Antoni Wyche, and Phil Hickey gave verbal commitments to play for the Irish in the 1995-'96 season. Gottlieb, a 6'1" point guard is regarded as

one of the best guards in the nation. He came to Notre Dame under the condition that they don't recruit any point guards in his class; nor the next. Being Jewish, he had a few worries about coming to N.D. To make him feel more comfortable, Macleod let him talk to Irish freshman quarterback Gus Ornstein, who is also Jewish. Gottlieb said he already felt like Notre Dame was where he belonged, he just wanted to talk to Ornstein for insurance. As a junior, Gottlieb led Tustin High to a 22-8 mark. He ran their offense averaging 18 points and 8 rebounds.

Gottlieb is happy to be teaming up with another great guard, 6-5 off-guard Antoni Wyche. Wyche has not put up eye-popping numbers, averaging 17.6 points, 7-rebounds, and 6-assists as a junior, but his Coach (Herb Crossman) claims their offensive system is based on teamwork. "Maybe it's like Coach (Dean) Smith—I'm the only one who can hold him under 20 (points)," Crossman said "But Antoni is the type of player who can give you huge numbers."

"People will find out just how good he is because he's what I consider a Scottie Pippin prototype. He can jump well enough to rebound, his outside shot is good enough that he can be a shooting guard (he shot better than 50 percent from 3-point range last year) and he's an excellent ball-handler and passer. Last year he played off-guard, but he will probably be used exclusively as a point guard this year."

"He's a really great athlete," Gottlieb said referring to future teammate Wyche. "We'll go good together. He can shoot, and one thing I do real well is get the ball to shooters. I'm not a lights-out shooter like Ryan Hoover, but I can help the team."

The final commitment came from probably the most massive recruit to ever decide to play sports for any one of Notre Dames teams, Phil Hickey. Hickey, a 6-11 290-pounder will be a good candidate for the ever struggling center position (not to upset any Ross twin fan). He led Wellsboro High to a 26-3 mark while averaging 25.5 points, 14.6 rebounds, and 4.6 blocked shots per game.

Try not to be fooled by Hickey's size and numbers. He is yet to face any real competition. His hometown, Wellsboro, population is around 4,000 people. The refs are hard on him, because of his size advantage. He will definitely undergo a major educational experience once he gets to college. He's yet to play aggressive, or try to post someone his own size.

Each one of these recruits will see extensive playing time as a freshman. Unless Lou Holtz gets ahold of him, Hickey could become one of the more familiar faces on the basketball roster. Macleod has another scholarship he could give out this year, but will probably keep it due to a shortage of scholarships for the next recruiting class (it would leave the Irish with only one scholarship to be distributed). □

Walz concludes 25th season as swim coach

By **Kathryn Shaumber**
Sports Writer

Although swim seasons come and go, one thing remains constant—Coach Kristi Walz's philosophy: "Get the best out of each swimmer, and get her to perform to her best."

As Walz's 25th season as coach of the girls' swim team draws to a close, she remembers some of her key swimmers over the years. In the late 1970's, many swimmers set records: Ann Litka, Karen Gustafson, Katie Lynch, and Olympia Chevez all set and continue to hold the 200 medley relay record.

Eight or nine years later, more talented swimmers joined the team: Linda Laney, Sue Barczykoski, Lea Shetler, and Linda Symzack are holders of the 400 free relay record.

What Walz enjoys the most about coaching are the people who never miss practice, the competition, and the setting of goals. A challenge for Walz is a girl who tries out for the team with no experience at all. "It is very rewarding to me when I see a swimmer improve over the four years

of her high-school career."

Walz attended Logansport High School in Logansport, Indiana, where she swam all four years. Upon graduation, she went to Ball State University. At that time very few athletic opportunities for women were available. Walz could not swim until her senior year as Ball State had no team before then.

When Walz came to WHS in 1970, the job was open for the girls' swimming coach. Walz had the background and was qualified for the job. Walz also coached the girls' tennis and boys' swimming at WHS.

Coaching has changed over the years. Walz said, "Work ethics have changed; life is more complex. More things are going on during the season, such as work and other after-school activities."

Walz added, "We used to get in between 7,000 and 8,000 yards per practice." Today the girls get in between 3,000 and 4,000 yards a practice.

Walz's philosophy on coaching, "I don't like to lose, but I have come to accept it." This season's record was 0-11-1.

For Walz, the highlights of this season

were the vast improvements of sophomore Amber Bammerlin, in her determination and hard work at practice. Senior Sara Nemes also made great improvements.

Another highlight was the tie with Bremen. Even though the loss to Rochester by one point was disappointing, it was still a highlight of this season.

Walz would like to see more records broken.

Senior Kathy Zurawski said that a highlight for her was coaching freshmen Theresa Pace and Jocelyn Orlowski in diving. "I liked watching them improve and knowing I had something to do with that."

Senior Rebecca Kelsey said of Walz "Coach Walz has a lot of dedication for the team. She works hard and spends many hours with us, sometimes sacrificing time with her family. Her coaching is not the reason for our lack of a winning season; sometimes our team didn't work as a team. Our small numbers, lack of experience, and dedication also hurt our record. Coach Walz has been encouraging us more to accomplish our goals. Since her 25th year didn't see a win, I hope her 26th will." □

RIP

15

HATCHET • October 1994 • Sports

If lunches are closed, what would you like served in the cafeteria?



"We should have some restaurants like KFC and McDonald's come to our school, like they do for Penn."

Sophomore
Felicia Moodie



"It would be great if they brought in fast-food chains."

Junior
Brian Fulnecky



"I would like to see restaurants bring in booths."

Senior
Monica Estrada



"I would like to have more veggies and more variety."

Art Teacher
Mrs. Hamilton

Profile: Gary Larson, cartoonist

By Mark Sniadecki
Guest Writer

In 1980, a music store clerk by the name of Gary Larson came to the conclusion that, frankly, his job stunk. He took a few days off from work, went home, and began to debate his "other" career options (there weren't many). Eventually he began to doodle, and soon he had six extremely mediocre cartoons in front of him, each bearing the title *Nature's Way*.

He took these few to the editor of a small weekly magazine, and got an equally small three bucks for each one. Once the excitement of publication had worn off, though, Larson began to reconsider cartooning as a career (considering the small salary).

But then the *Seattle Times* contacted him, and he was up to 15 dollars a panel. Later he would show his work to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, who would not only accept his work, but top his previous salary and have it syndicated under its now legendary name, *The Far Side*.

That was 15 years ago. After syndication, *The Far Side* was picked up by several papers around the country, and has since generated a following unparalleled in terms of die fans who

Laws of *The Far Side*

- Cows are the definitive humorous animal and can be inserted into any situation without fear of being taken seriously.
- Dachshunds are not dachshunds; they are wiener dogs and should be used accordingly.
- Amoebas and other microbes have mouths and clothing—we just can't see them with any of our current technology.
- Humans don't necessarily need mouths, or eyes, for that matter.
- A beehive hairdo is never out of style.
- A deserted island must not have a diameter of more than 12 feet.
- There are two places you can spend your afterlife, and neither of them make any sense.

would, say, gladly donate half of their brain if Gary needed it (I know I would). To understand why, you have to understand Larson's humor.

In his one small panel, he illustrates a world in which everything is taken literally, and everyday situations are taken to extremes. He inserts animals into human dilemmas, which not only exaggerates the situation, but also proves just how stupid the situations really are. He'll take an ordinary phenomenon, such as potato salad going bad, and turn it into a ridiculous life-or-death drama.

But that's not all. He does the opposite, too, giving animal

characteristics to humans. In his world, when two ornithologists are mutually attracted, they proceed in a courtship display of head bobbing and flapping as their profession suggests (just in case you haven't figured it out, ornithologists are scientists who study birds).

That brings up another subject. Some of Larson's greatest cartoons are those in which he uses real scientific facts and concepts in absurd situations, thus providing an almost (and I really hate to say this) educational message hidden in the riotous cloud of humor. The fields of science that he has

highlighted include biology (all areas of it), paleontology, and anthropology. For this, Gary Larson has gained acceptance into a very discriminating scientific community.

And after all this, what does the great Gary Larson have to say? Retirement, apparently. This coming January will mark the 15th anniversary of *The Far Side*, and as of the first, he's calling it quits. His millions of loyal fans will not mourn; instead, we shall hold our heads high and recall every gut we busted as we read those insane captions and gazed upon those bizarre pictures that were *The Far Side*. The Larson dynasty has ruled for a decade and half, and will not be forg