

THE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

# HATCHET

OCTOBER 1995

## Happy Halloween



RETEK KELLY  
907 COOMES



## What do you like or not like about Block-8?



"I like Block-8 because having a class every other day makes it easier to get homework done."

Freshman  
Amanda Rotruck



"I like that some teachers add more activities to keep the time interesting."

Sophomore  
Lucy Trujillo



"It gives me a chance to take more classes and learn more. It feels as if I am in college."

Junior  
Eishau Allen



"It's pretty cool having class every other day. I don't like when classes drag on, though."

Senior  
Paul Koch



Panthers, are you still full from all the candy sales in October? Well, save room for the sweets to come in November. **IOL/DE** will be sponsoring a sale from **Nov. 6-Nov. 13**. The wrestling team will take a break from the mats to pin a sale on **Nov. 27-Dec. 4**.

The drama club will present *Barefoot in the Park* on **Nov. 9-10**. Wild passionate love scenes. Heated arguments. Divorce. If these aspects appeal to you, come see the drama club's production of Neil Simon's romantic comedy. Show times are 7 p.m. both nights.

College representatives will be here to help juniors and seniors with college choices. **Vincennes University** will be visiting on **Nov. 2 at 9:30**. The **DePaul University** representative will be here on **Nov. 7 at 9:30**. Go, Boilermakers! The **Purdue University** representative will arrive at **9:45** on **Nov. 6**.

Hey, Panthers! Are you ready for a break? **Nov. 23-24** is **Thanksgiving Break**, so eat your hearts out during the days off. But watch out, don't eat too much. You want to be able to cheer for our basketball team, not be used as a model for the ball.

The participants of the **fall sports** will be attending a feast dedicated in their honor **Nov. 8**. Bring your appetites and applause for those receiving awards at this prestigious banquet. This is a great chance to score a great meal; don't miss it!

For those of you who missed it the first time around, the **SAT** will be offered on **Nov. 4** at **LaSalle** and **Dec. 2** at **Riley** and **St. Joseph**. The deadlines for registration were **Oct. 11** and **Oct. 27**, respectively.



Artist: Eric Seibenaler

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**Thumbs up to datebooks**

Dear Editor,

I noticed in the last HATCHET that whoever wrote the "thumbs down" section didn't like the little green notebooks (WHS datebooks) very much. I would just like to say that I do like them and use mine often. Most people who are organized, and get their homework done on time, buy these anyway. WHS just saved us \$2.00.

I know for a fact that many people use the passes in the back and have found them very useful. I like the way they have all the important dates in them. My mom is always asking me when things are. Now I can find out easily. I'm also glad that they are small and easy to carry around. Would you rather go back to those "Paul Bunyan-sized" binders?

*Kelly Jo Retek*  
junior

Editorial Policy

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

The HATCHET has been established as a forum for student expression and as a voice in the uninhibited, free and open discussion of issues. Editorials represent the opinion of the editorial board but not necessarily those of the administration, staff, or student body. The HATCHET will not print 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: *Whose tomb stone is that, anyway?* Cover by Mark Sniadecki

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**HATCHET AWARDS**

- 1995 Women's Press Club Award  
Mark Sniadecki
- 1995 Michigan City Scholastic Press Award  
Mark Sniadecki
- 94-95 ASPA First Place with Special Merit
- 1994 ASPA Best Editorial - Marcy Ross
- 93-94 ASPA First Place
- 91-92 ASPA First Place

# Panthers

By Tim Hecklinski

## Panther Spirit Lives



◁Senior Megan Nungesser stands by while Mr. Krueger practices on the handy overhead projector lasso!

▽ Somewhere underneath the layers of rayon and polyester, you might just see senior Jeff Kaser doing his best Mike Brady imitation.



▷Senior Matt Andrzejewski must have dug deep into dad's closet for those slacks!



▽ Juniors Kelly Retek, Heather Deka, and sophomore Angie Retek find that being nerds is easier than they thought.



◁Yes, that is Mr. Kreuger if you can't tell. Any further comments on this picture could hurt his reputation as a nice guy!



Derek Dabrowiak

# FACE-OFF

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 editor.



Kim Harness

## The Issue: Marijuana legalization

Since the early 1900s, the use, distribution, or possession of certain narcotics has been prohibited by law. This list of illegal substances includes cocaine, LSD, and marijuana. Scientifically known as *cannabis marijuana*, it is more commonly known as hemp, weed, Mary Jane, dope, or pot.

For a number of years, certain groups have been advocating for the legalization of marijuana and other such drugs. The federal government, however, has remained steadfast in its position not to legalize marijuana. When pushing for legislation, people look only at the positive things which might result from a decision to legalize narcotics, such as the reduction in drug-related crime and the freeing up of jail space.

Stronger reasons exist, however, as to why the government should not legalize marijuana. The latest research conducted on marijuana concluded that it is one of the most addictive illegal drugs available (*The National Review*, April 1, 1990).

Marijuana was found to have severely harmed the lives of its millions of adolescent users. Frequent use has shown a decrease in mental capacity and has also been linked to poor school attendance for both junior high and high school students. Legalizing marijuana would only cause an even larger increase in use by adolescents (*The National Review*, April 1, 1990).

The study also stated that in 1990, one quarter of all American teenagers had smoked dope in the past year. Although this number was about half of what the number was 10 years earlier, it still shows that legalizing marijuana would undermine the very arguments which have been winning the battle: prohibition and education on the dangers and consequences of its use.

Commonly held beliefs by those who favor legalization are disputed by Dr. Mark S. Gold. "We might as well legalize; nothing else seems to work," is incorrect. A study conducted found that in 1978 only 35 percent of high school seniors believed that marijuana posed a serious health risk. A decade later, that figure rose by 120% to 77%. In the same period, use by seniors fell from 10.7% to 2.7%. The main difference here was education (*The National Review*, April 1, 1990).

Another claim is, "legalization won't increase the number of addicts." This assumption, Gold said, was both naive and dangerous. The most effective deterrent of drug use is fear. If the federal sanctions were lifted, the fear element would exist no longer, and the number of new addicts would greatly increase.

The third point, "alcohol and tobacco are legal, so other forms of narcotics should be." Right now illicit drugs cause approximately 6,000 deaths per year. Studies have shown that total would soar under legalization (*The National Review* April 1, 1990).

The most persuasive argument against the legalization of marijuana is to look at the past attempts to legalize certain drugs and the consequences which resulted. Both England and Switzerland tried decriminalization/legalization and paid a dear price. Use increased by multiples, as did crime rates and health consequences/costs for the adventure (*Researcher*, Jan 6, 1995).

Drugs incapacitate addicts (thereupon supported by taxpayers through welfare), lead to irresponsible behavior, destroy families, and demoralize communities (*The National Review*, April 1, 1990).

Suggestions have arisen to punish not only the dealer but also the buyer. Sellers don't make anyone buy. They don't even have to advertise. Studies have shown that most users are still just casual users and have not yet become addicted. These people are hardly ever punished. Detering buyers by punishment is the only hope. When casual drug use is stopped, the use of these illegal substances can be cut in half. This is the only way to win the war on drugs. It has finally come down to just eliminating the root of the problem, the buyers (*The National Review*, April 1, 1990).

The most effective method of keeping illegal drugs out of the hands of teenagers of America, is not to legalize them, but rather to keep up the most effective methods so far: enforcement of the laws and furthering education about the dangers which drugs pose. □

As the war on drugs continues to rage onward with little success, one tends to question the validity by which these so called "harmful substances" remain illegal. What makes a substance acquire such a label? The benefits that legalizing hemp would provide for Americans greatly outweighs any advantages that maintaining its illegality might have.

Hemp is one of the most useful plants known to man. Over 60 chemicals in hemp are being researched for medicinal properties. But it is difficult to take advantage of these properties as long as hemp remains illegal. Currently, marijuana is best known for its ability to control vomiting and nausea. This allows patients with cancer or AIDS who are being treated with chemotherapy, AZT, or Foscavir to continue eating, which can determine the difference between life and death (*High Times*, Dec, 1994). Marijuana also can control the otherwise uncontrollable eye pressure that causes blindness in glaucoma patients.

Another use would be the ability of marijuana has in preventing spasms caused by multiple sclerosis and its ability to keep the disorder from getting worse. If hemp were legalized, it would allow persons suffering from these ailments to gain and maintain easy access to this helpful substance. It is not justifiable for the government to control someone's right to treat themselves for a disease.

Chris Pressey, a researcher/writer for the archive CETHA, said that doctors are not responsible for stopping violent crimes. The police and prosecutors should not be responsible for which herbal therapies persons use to treat themselves.

Not only can marijuana be used for medicinal purposes, but also as a textile, food, and a source from which to create paper. Hemp is softer, warmer, much more water absorbent, and is many times more durable than cotton. Also, the fact that growing hemp requires little or no chemicals and has few weed or insect enemies makes it more environmentally friendly than cotton, which requires 50 percent of the chemicals used for American agriculture (*The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, 1992).

Hemp seeds also contain effective proteins and essential fatty acids, which, considering their high nutritional value and short cultivation cycle, could become a major alternative food source as the current sources continue to diminish (*The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, 1992).

In addition to these, producing paper from hemp would alleviate the responsibility of forests to continuously supply wood for paper. Hemp can not only produce more paper per crop area, but it can also be harvested more often than trees again due to the shorter cultivation cycle.

Even after proving how useful marijuana is to the environment and its inhabitants, some persons refuse to approve of its legalization on the grounds that when used for recreation, relaxation, or entertainment, it is harmful and dangerous. The majority of studies done on the effects of marijuana prove the opposite.

Medical history does not record anyone ever dying from an overdose of marijuana. Marijuana users also have the same or lower incidence of murders, highway deaths, and driving accidents than the general, non-marijuana-using population, according to Pressey. In comparison to other recreational intoxicants, marijuana use has acquired the least number of American deaths. The death toll of other intoxicants are as follows:

- Tobacco 340,000-425,000
- Alcohol 150,000+ (not including drunk driving deaths)
- Caffeine 1,000-10,000
- Legal Drug Overdose 14,000-27,000
- Illicit Drug Overdose 3,800-5,200
- Marijuana 0 (*The Emperor Wears No Clothes*, 1992)

Most every U.S. Commission or federal judge who has studied the evidence has agreed that marijuana is one of the safest drugs known.

Despite all the previous facts stated above, marijuana remains illegal for the majority of the U.S. population. Organizations advocating the legalization of marijuana are everywhere and always open to new supporters. A few of these include n.o.r.m.l., the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, the *High Times* magazine and staff, the *Hemp Quarterly* magazine and staff, and MAPS (*Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies*).

It is through these organizations that persons seeking hempal knowledge can find valuable information. The fight to legalize marijuana continues, and with each new supporter of the cause, the victory over legalization comes closer. □

# Plight of farmers described

The United States is perceived as a solely industrial society. What most do not realize, however, is that many of the people who are responsible for the food and health of the nation are being severely neglected.

Sadly, many in today's society believe that a myriad of items—produce, meat, baked goods, canned and boxed goods—miraculously grow in supermarket store-rooms. They do not realize that the hard work of many farmers allows our cities to receive their "daily bread." Without farms, people could not enjoy fresh lettuce, special cut ribeye steaks, and fresh baked cookies and donuts.

Unbeknownst to many, approximately 2.3 million farmers are active agricultural participants in the United States today. Over 200,000 of these families have been forced out of business or are waist deep in financial troubles (*Scholastic Update*, May 2, 1986).

## Editorial

The reason for this number is that the average farmer's net income nearly doubled from \$6,821 in 1972 to \$12,192 in 1973. The U.S. Agriculture Secretary urged farmers to "plant from fence row to fence row." Many farmers took this advice and bought more land with loans. In 1980, then President Jimmy Carter refused to let the Soviet Union buy U.S. grain in a protest of the Soviet's invasion of Afghanistan. Corn prices plummeted to \$1.89 a bushel—\$1.36 a bushel less than growing costs (*Scholastic Update*, May 2, 1986).

Another factor in the bankruptcy of farmers was that the U.S. government drove up interest rates in order to cut inflation; in 1981, the rate reached 21 percent. The final blow to the agriculture industry was that land values plunged severely. An acre of land that cost \$1,200 at one time was now worth only \$600. The more farmers farm their land, the more money it costs them for rent, machinery, chemicals, etc. Thus, since they will never be totally out of the debt they are currently drowning in, their bills will continue to mount.

In 1985, 46 farm banks failed. Experts believe that \$25 billion of the \$200 billion that farmers currently owe, will never be repaid, because of multiplying costs. This may be part of the reason farmers today feel they are being given the short end of the

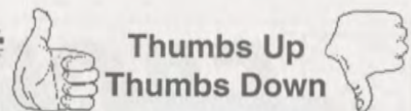
stick in governmental matters (*Scholastic Update*, May 2, 1986).

Some believe that the major reason for the loss of farms is actually the government's fault, not the bigger and better methods of farming. In Missouri, a farmer named Wayne Cryts kept his grain in an elevator until prices rose, so he could yield a bigger income from the crop. The elevator went bankrupt and creditors and a federal bankrupt judge impounded Cryts' grain. When Cryts tried to regain his lost grain, he was told to wait in line with the other creditors involved with the elevator company. In the meantime, his bills piled up, and he was driven slowly into debt (*People Weekly*, April 21, 1986). The government, which is supposed to be run by the people, for the people, was directly responsible for the ruin of another human being's life.

This is just one example of the way members of the agricultural community have been neglected. Between 1935 and 1989, the number of farms dropped from 6.8 million to 2.2 million. The main cause for this decline was the basic changes in technology—more mechanization, better seeds, and more fertilizer—that reduced the need for farm labor and prompted bigger farms (*Scholastic Update*, May 2, 1986).

Because of this, new farm bills are currently running through Congress. The legislation, however, will cost taxpayers an estimated \$50 to \$60 billion between 1990 and 1995. Only about two fifths of farm products receive substantial subsidies. Among these are major feed grains, dairy products, peanuts, rice, and sugar (*Newsweek*, Aug. 6, 1990).

Because of governmental subsidies, farmers have been forced to fight for relief after environmental disasters and poor crop yields. Because of this, farmers have been given the reputation of trouble makers and fighters. Many great agriculturists have been overlooked because of these facts. In fact, very few people were aware that the late Orville Redenbacher and his partner Charlie Bowman achieved their great breakthrough in 1965. In contrast to garden-variety popcorn, whose kernels expand to only 20 times their original size when popped, the Redenbacher-Bowman "snowflake" variety expands as much as 40 times, producing a lighter, fluffier product (*South Bend Tribune*, Sept. 20, 1995). Even with this new and improved product, most people looked at the popcorn genius as only "that popcorn guy."



### THUMBS UP

-to the recent success of Block-8 scheduling. So far, so good! Not only do we have fewer classes a day, but they seem to go by just as fast as last year's 55-minute periods.

-to the lack of problems occurring over the lunch periods. Sorry, guys, but we should have set this example two years ago. Maybe then we would still have open lunch.

-to the few, but enthusiastic spirit week participants. Good job! Through the efforts of all the spirited students, homecoming was a success. Congratulations to homecoming queen Kisha Perry.

-to the Spell Bowl team who took first place in their class at the regional competition. Great job.

-to the paper recycling bins. Another great idea from the Class of '97 and Miss Ciuksza.

-last, but certainly not least, to the boys' soccer team who made it to the sectional championships, proving themselves a true force to be reckoned with.

### THUMBS DOWN

-to the class officers who didn't dress for spirit week and to the lack of spirit week participants in general, excluding the junior class. Come on, guys! It's not hard to show just a little spirit during this one, lonesome week of October!

-to the extinction of the late bell. Not only have we made the tardy policy stricter, but now students haven't got a clue as to when the bell is going to ring. The bell was helpful and wasn't a hassle.

# ART Gallery

by Tim Hecklinski



Pen drawing by junior Mike Szymarek ▷

◁ Colored pencil design  
by junior Todd Szucs



◁ Painting by senior  
Shilo Thomas





## Suddenly Dominant Panther football team reels off four straight wins

By Eric Bastine  
Sports Editor

Everyone thought they were down. Everyone thought they were out. Everyone said they were not living up to the high expectations that were set for the team, or that the season was going to go up in smoke.

Everyone was wrong.

After a sub-par first half of the season, the Panther football team went on a tear, winning their last four games to head into the sectionals with unbelievable momentum.

Head coach Scott Bovenkerk said, "I think the difference between the first half and the second half of the season is our health. We have players coming back, and now we are winning games."

"The defense is playing very well. They played a very good game against Central, and they are finally playing like we expected them to," Bovenkerk added.

The Panthers started their streak over a month ago when they slammed West-side rival LaSalle, 28-6, and junior running back Ivan Blount stole the show. Blount scored three touchdowns with runs of 12 and five yards. His third touchdown came at the end of the first half on a spectacular 33-yard touchdown catch from senior quarterback Matt Wood.

"Matt did a very good job seeing that I was open and getting me the ball. It was a great throw," said Blount.

Wood added the other score with a one-yard scamper in the second half. In an outstanding defensive effort, Gang Green shut down LaSalle, whose only touchdown came when the opening kickoff was returned for a touchdown. Wood also picked off two LaSalle passes in the contest, setting a school record for most career interceptions with 16. When the final gun eventually sounded, the victorious Panthers claimed West side pride for the second consecutive year.

"The fullbacks and the offensive line did a great job blocking for me in the game. We just went out and played a good all-around game against them," Blount said.

And suddenly, they are again dominant.

The next week the Panthers faced Indianapolis Arlington, who came into the game with a 5-0 record, and an honorable mention ranking in the state poll. Arlington was big and fast, but the Panthers were smarter. Arlington lost seven turnovers to the Panther defense, who allowed no yards passing in the game. Wood had two

touchdown passes. The first was a seven-yarder to sure-handed senior tight end Adam Hooten and the second was a 15-yard strike to senior wide receiver Ryan Evans. The touchdown was Evans' team-leading third touchdown reception of the season.

Senior defensive back Matt Andrejewski scored his second defensive touchdown of the season by returning an Arlington fumble 32 yards for the score. Senior Randy Shelton scored the final touchdown on 3-yard run to cap off a drive in which he rushed eight times for a total of 44 yards. Nonetheless, Arlington took a 5-1 record with them on their long ride home.

"It felt real good to beat a 5A, undefeated team. It gave us confidence and let us know that we could play with the best of them," commented Evans.

And suddenly, they are again dominant.

minutes to play. Wood responded by driving his team down the field and running the ball in for his second touchdown, thus giving the Panthers a 17-10 lead as Andrejewski kicked the extra point.

The Blazers were stuffed by the Panther defense in the last two minutes of the game. Senior Brian Fulnecky led the charge with two quarterback sacks on Central's last drive of the game.

Senior Steve Booher busted through and blocked a crucial extra point in the fourth quarter to give the Panthers some momentum.

"The defense has really been playing well. We fuel the offense, and they help us out by scoring. This win gives us a lot of confidence. We will go out and play well next week," commented senior Mark Pickens.

And suddenly, they are again dominant.

Elkhart Memorial was next on the schedule, and with a much better team than in years past, promised to give the Panthers a good game.

When it came to the fourth quarter, the Panthers had to come from behind twice to beat the Chargers in dramatic fashion.

After coming back in the first half to take a 14-14 deadlock into the locker room, the Panthers fell behind when Memorial put the ball in the endzone with a little over seven minutes to play. The critical extra point, however, was blocked by junior defensive tackle Eloy Alvarez, thus giving the Panthers life and tons of momentum.

Wood guided his Panthers down the field, converting two fourth down conversions on the way. The first was at mid-field on a pass to Evans to keep the drive alive. The second was for the game-winning touchdown with just over 60 seconds to play. Wood sneaked around the left corner after a fake to Shelton and was left wide open for the score. Wood also scored on a run in the first half. Shelton scored right before halftime to knot the score at 14.

Sometimes it is mind-boggling how a team can improve over the course of a season. This Panther football team never gave up. They never let all those injuries get to them. They hung together as a team, and now they can call themselves winners.

They're not done yet, either. The Panthers traveled to Gary Westside for the opening round of the sectionals and, with a win, met the winner of the Clay-LaSalle contest last Friday. With the spirit and motivation that this team possesses, these could be two big wins for the Panthers.

They never accepted their fate.

And, suddenly, they are again dominant. □



Photo by Eric Bastine

The defense stands tall in practice.

No WHS football team had won a game against powerful Elkhart Central since 1977. Every year it is one of the most anticipated games of the season, but not until this year has WHS been able to knock them off.

Wood, having an off day passing the football, rushed for 88 yards while scoring on touchdown runs of 19 and 18 yards. Andrejewski added the other points for WHS when he booted a 22-yard field goal through the uprights in the first half.

The Panthers had the game in control in the fourth quarter until the Blazers scored a touchdown to take a 13-10 lead with a little less than four



## Plaza Styling

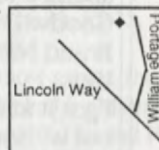
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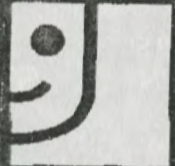
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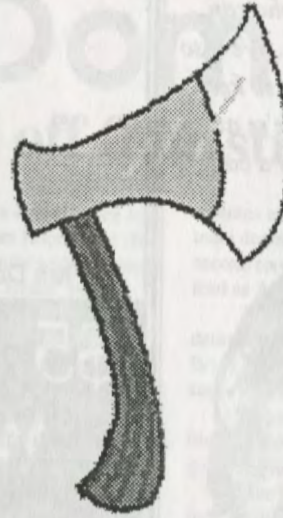
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WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS

**"Barefoot in the Park"**

*A Romantic Comedy by Neil Simon*



**NOVEMBER 9 & 10, 1995**

**IN THE WHS AUDITORIUM**

**AT 7:00 P.M.**

**\$4.00 Adults**

**\$3.00 Students**

*Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.*

# Volleyball team riding roller coaster

**By Ryan Hanyzewski**  
Sports Writer

The volleyball team has had so many ups and downs on the win-loss roller coaster this year they should win a free trip to Cedar Point.

After winning the preseason tournament and being at a terrific high, the Panthers have not been able to keep the momentum in their favor all year long.

Through the course of the whole year, the Panthers have not been able to put more than two consecutive wins in a year, but on the other hand, have not lost more than two consecutive games in a row during the course of the season.

"Some games we play as a team, and when we do, we are a very good team; but some games we make careless mistakes and we become very vulnerable," commented Coach Tressie Jurgonski.

The team struggles in some areas, experience for example. Freshman Ryanne Litka and sophomores Alicia Ladewski and Sarah Wood, all see quality time at the varsity level.

"Ryanne is a very good player and is

very easy to coach. She has made some freshman mistakes but definitely makes up for them with great plays," said Jurgonski on Litka.

Despite having a young team, the Panthers will be losing their nucleus to graduation. The leadership this year has come from the two seniors on the team, Jamie Infalt and Erin Maenhout.

After starting off the season with a four and four record, the Panthers tried to step it up a notch as they traveled to Goshen for a four-team tournament.

The Panthers split by winning the first game against Lakeland, but fell in the championship to host school Goshen, and let the roller coaster ride begin. Next, WHS welcomed the Colonials of Clay for a Northern Indiana Conference (NIC) battle.

The Panthers looked very impressive in the first game, and did not have a letdown in the second game, as they dominated the Colonials by the scores of 15-3 in both games.

After defeating Clay, the girls suffered two straight losses in a row to fellow NIC teams, Riley and Elkhart Central.

To no one's surprise, the Panthers

rebounded with two straight victories over Adams and cross-town rival LaSalle.

The Panthers split the remainder of their games by going 3-3 for the final couple weeks of their regular season. Their three wins came over Elkhart Memorial (1-15, 15-10, 15-6); New Prairie (6-15, 15-12, 15-6); and Culver (15-2, 15-9).

But in the other three games, the Panthers were overmatched by Marian (6-15, 5-15); Mishawaka (1-15, 7-15); and Penn (0-15, 9-15).

Despite finishing just under .500 with a 10-11 record, the Panthers have high hopes going into sectionals.

"If we stay together and do not get down on ourselves, we have a very good chance to win our sectional," said Infalt.

One fact that is on the Panthers' side is that for the past two seasons whoever has won the preseason tournament has gone on to win the sectional.

"I believe we can win the sectional because we defeated those two teams in the preseason and we have only gotten better, so there is no reason that we cannot win the sectional," said junior Jenny Brenner. □

## Panthers win first sectional game in seven years

**By Drew Griffis**  
Sports Writer

The boys' soccer team won a sectional game for only the second time in school history and the first time since 1988.

When current head coach Doug Knowlton was a senior, WHS recorded its first sectional victory. He hit a penalty kick in the closing minutes to defeat Clay. Assistant coaches Bob Reynard and Cruz Gallegos also played on the team who had the same record as this year's Panthers.

"We have been there before, and we realize how the boys are feeling at this point," said Knowlton on behalf of all the coaches. "This team resembles '88's team in many ways, but I feel this team has a much better chance of being sectional champs."

In sectionals WHS took the first step forward to being champs by defeating Riley. The Panthers took the early lead with two quick goals from sophomore Devin Nuner. Senior tri-captain Peter Bandera added another and extended the lead to 3-0 by halftime.

Riley played tough in the second half scoring a goal midway through. The Wildcats added another score with two minutes left in the game; it was too late, and the Panthers were victorious.

"The win over Riley was probably the most important victory in school history. We proved to ourselves that we can beat anyone," said freshman

sensation Carlos Huitzel.

The sectional championship pitted WHS against St. Joe. St. Joe, ranked ninth in the state, defeated fifth-ranked Clay and tenth-ranked Adams on their way to the final. WHS became one of the few teams to advance to the finals of the South Bend Sectional with a losing record. They defeated unranked Riley to make it to the finals and play the Indians.

On a cold, wet, and miserable Saturday night, the two teams clashed.

The Panthers knew what was at stake, and they were ready for the impossible task they had in front of them. The game was scoreless for 30 minutes until St. Joe scored on a header off a corner kick and took a 1-0 lead into the halftime.

The Panthers were pumped at the beginning of the second half, but so were the Indians as they scored two goals in five minutes, taking a commanding lead. WHS was now down, but not out. Bandera scored a goal with 10 minutes left in the game. It was not enough though; as the game was coming to an end, so were the hopes of a sectional championship for the Panthers.

"We have nothing to be ashamed of. We played a great game and proved something to those who have doubted our ability to compete with the better teams," said junior Jesse Perez.

Before sectionals the Panthers lost their bite, losing five games in a row. All but one of these teams, however, was not ranked in the top 10 state-

wide. The Panthers played every team tough, defeated by only one or two goals in each contest.

"We have lost a few tough games as of late, but will get back on track by the end of the season when it's time for sectionals," said sophomore Ryan "Pickle" Kring.

The team finally got back on track defeating Mishawaka 2-0. Bandera and Huitzel each netted one goal. Sophomore Scott Weber and senior John Blumhart combined for the shutout in the net. The junior varsity played much of the game and did very well.

Next up was West-side rival LaSalle. The Panthers were almost intimidated by how good of a game the Lions could talk. Soon after the game started, however, the team learned that's all LaSalle is, talk. The mighty Panthers were way too much for the Lions as they brutalized and destroyed LaSalle 6-2. Devin Nuner and senior tri-captain Phil Egierski each scored twice. The two other tri-captains, Colin Nuner and Bandera, both hit the back of the net once.

The Panthers won their third straight contest in the last regular season game against LaVille, 5-3. Junior Zach Smith led the team with two goals. Bandera, Huitzel, and Devin Nuner each scored one goal to put away the Lancers.

"We should be proud of the way we played this season. No longer will a team look at us and think of an automatic victory; we can play with the best of teams," said Knowlton. □

# Panthers play St. Joe in sectionals

By **Brian Schoonaert**  
Sports Writer

After an extremely disappointing season of 0-15, the Panthers were trying hard to get motivated for the sectional.

The team got a bye in the first round; that was the good news. The bad news was that the Panthers were now going to have to play the talented St. Joe team.

Before the match Coach Darryl Boykins gathered the team together and said, "Guys, now this is it, our last match of the season is this Saturday, and it is our last chance at a victory this year. I can't help you any more, this one is about how badly you want to win. I know that St. Joe is one of the best teams out there right now, but I still think that we can make a good showing of ourselves. This last one is going to be a simple matter of pride."

With those words the Panthers put in a long hard two-and-a-half hour practice. The practice was so intense that sophomores Jamal Henry and Brian Schoonaert both broke strings on their rackets. "I guess we both kind of got into it," said Henry as he switched rackets. "But, hey, this is our last shot, and we're going to make it count." And with that, the Panthers left for sectionals with two broken rackets and a goal of victory.

Unfortunately, the only thing that could stop the Indians was a tank. But despite being

outplayed by St. Joe the team played its best game of the season. Senior Dan Kocpzyński was the standout of the team on this day. He was playing against a more experienced player who should have beaten him easily. Only the St. Joe player didn't know that Kocpzyński was at full intensity. He took the first two games and had his opponent reeling.

"I just decided that I was going to go all out and take a victory for the team," said an intense Kocpzyński. The St. Joe player fought back and evened it all up at two games a piece. Senior Kocpzyński fought back and took the next two, making it 4-2. But Kocpzyński's fire couldn't match the experience of St. Joe, and he lost a heart breaking set 6-4.

By this time the rest of the Panthers had been trashed by the Indians and were pressed against the fence watching and cheering on their only hope of a victory. "K" ran over to coach Boykins and asked for advice. "You're doing fine, Dan; just move him around and put a little more top-spin on your shots." Kocpzyński said that he couldn't really hear the coach because the rest of the team was shouting encouragements to him. The second set was almost identical to the first with Kocpzyński winning the first two games behind the cheers of his teammates.

"I was really excited for Dan," said senior Kevin Dixon. "This was only his first year on the team, and he was beating one on St. Joe's best players."

But the good times didn't last for the Panthers as Kocpzyński lost the next four games. It was clear that he was starting to run out of gas. The next game went in favor of St. Joe making the score 5-2, but Kocpzyński would not go down without a fight.

With his team behind him, he battled back with three devastating over-head smashes and took the next two games from a frustrated opponent. The winning would stop there, however, for the Panthers as they watched their last hope of a victory fall by a score of 6-4.

"I gave it my all and I fell just a little short, but I'm very proud of myself and our team. We played our hearts out today and that can only mean good things for next season," said Kocpzyński.

Unfortunately, Kocpzyński won't have another season with the Panthers.

He along with Kevin Dixon, Joe Tiseo, and Demetrius Minor will graduate this year. All have good memories about the team.

"I'm really going to miss the team. We had a lot of good times together, and I really can't picture myself playing tennis with out a WHS T-shirt on," said Dixon. I wish next year's team all the luck in the world and hope that they'll have a winning season."

The Panthers will have to go next year minus four players but they have gained a lot of experience. □

## Record best in five years

By **Katie Shuamber**  
Staff Writer

The girls' swim record was more successful this year than it has been in the past five years. The season began with the wins against Rochester High School and West-side rival LaSalle.

This season's success is due to more people going out for the team, working harder in practice, and placing better in the meets. This gave the Panthers the attitude they needed to go into every meet feeling like winners.

"Not going into every meet thinking we're going to lose has bettered our motivational skills," said Coach Kristi Walz. "It's knowing we have the chance to win that gives us the winning attitude."

"I think that the team did great. We went out into the season with a positive attitude. We worked better as a team than in the four years I've been swimming," said senior Jill Wall. "I feel that everyone had a part in leading the team."

Walz said that the team's success will build for next season by having swimmers returning and by more people trying out for the team. The change in the season time will also have an impact on how many more new people come out for the team. The season is scheduled to start two months later next year.

Although the Panthers have lost to

powerhouses like Clay, Memorial, and Central by more than 50, points it's the closer meets that makes the Panthers more competitive swimmers.

The Panthers have also been defeated by New Prairie, Knox, and Marian, but the margin of points has been less this year than in the past. More swimmers placed second, third, and fourth in close meets.

The Panthers came back to beat North Judson, a new team added to the Panthers' roster, at the end of their season.

"I feel that were more competitive this year because of the larger numbers coming out for the team. This makes us more able to compete with our opponents rather than giving up," said Walz.

At the city meet, the Panthers came in sixth place, falling only four points behind LaSalle, which would have put the Panthers in fifth place for the first time in five years.

The hardest team for the Panthers to swim and prepare for was Penn High School. "It's because Penn doesn't let up," commented Walz. "Swimming Penn deflates our ego quickly because we know we don't have a chance."

Walz thinks that the easiest meet for the Panthers was the season opener against Rochester, who had only nine swimmers.

The Panthers' record stands at 3 and 11.

The assistant coach for the Panthers was Dave Woods. □

## Keppler grabs All-Conference honors

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**  
Sports Writer

Before the season began, the Panther cross country team had two major goals in mind: One was to improve their times as the year went on, and the other was to defeat their West-side rival, LaSalle.

The Panthers accomplished both of these goals this season.

Senior Kevin Keppler was the standout in the city meet, placing a very impressive third place.

Keppler, however, fell short in the sectionals, finishing 26th. Only the top 15 individuals advance to regionals.

Despite not qualifying for the regionals, Keppler was awarded second-team all-conference honors.

Four of the five runners from this year will be returning.

The team selected sophomores Andy Nalepinski and Tim Pehlke as next year's captains.

"Next year will probably be a rebuilding year. But in two years, look out for the Panthers," commented Keen. □

# Departing seniors help team end losing streak

By **Nicole Woods**  
Sports Writer

The girls soccer team ended with a much improved season.

Their first success was the team's tie against Trinity, where the score was 1-1. Next up was Plymouth where the team won 2-0. Senior Kisha Perry scored both goals. The first was off an assist from junior Rosalinda Leyva, and the second was off an assist from senior co-captain Stephanie Schwander. The girls fought a hard battle to bring home their first win in two years.

The Lady Panthers' second win of the season was when they beat their West-side rivals, the LaSalle Lions, 3-1. That night was senior night. The team, half of whom are seniors, was in good spirits and ready to win for West-side pride.

"The LaSalle game was a very emotional game. The seniors, especially, played up to their potential," said Coach Ron Zielinski.

The seniors demonstrated great leadership on the field. All goals scored in this game were by senior co-captain Becky Wilfing. The first goal was off an assist from Perry. The next goal was off a free kick, and the Panthers' final goal, scored in the second half, was off a penalty shot. Because of strong defense, the Lions only scored one goal in the game.

"We were all hyped and ready to win against LaSalle," said senior Stacy Lentych.

The Panthers next went up against Culver Community High School. The team scored fast and held Culver through halftime with a 2-0 lead. Lentych scored off an assist by sophomore Melissa Hagedorn, and Perry scored off an assist by Wilfing. Unfortunately, Culver came back to score three goals in the middle of the second half. With less than 10 minutes to go, the Panthers were unable to score again, and Culver won 3-2.

"I think our competitive level, compared to last year, has greatly improved. We lost four games by only one goal," said Zielinski.

Next up for the Panther was sectionals. The team was hoping to win their first sectional game and move on up in the tournament. In the Panthers' way of this

first win was Mishawaka. The Cavemen scored early, and the Panthers couldn't come back. The game was lost, 1-0.

"The record and scores of the game hardly ever reflected how we really played," said Lentych.

"We started off slowly this year, but we improved more towards the end of the season," said sophomore Bobbi Densmore.

"We definitely played more aggressively towards the end of the season," agreed Lentych.

The Panthers have shown steady improvement. With a more experienced team than last year, the girls have a better knowledge of what to expect out on the field.

"Our overall knowledge of the game has obviously improved over last year. We carried forward the knowledge from last year and improved it this year," said Zielinski.

Freshman Sarah Muia said, "I would like to see us improve our record and win a sectional game."

The team will miss the seniors next year, but they will move on.

"We'll just have to work harder without the seniors there," said Densmore.

"We just had a lot of seniors this year, and a lot of the seniors got the majority of the playing time," said Zielinski. "Losing six senior starters means a lot of underclassmen, who didn't play much this year, will have better chances of playing next year."



Senior Rhonda Montgomery battles a defender for the ball against Riley at Jackson Field.

## Sports Profile



**Name:** Kisha Perry  
**Birthdate:** November 11, 1977  
**Year:** Senior  
**Nickname:** Ke-Ke  
**Sports Played:** Basketball, soccer  
**Awards and Achievements:** Second-team All-Conference in soccer, prom court, football homecoming queen  
**Role Model:** My mother  
**Hobbies:** Writing music and spending time with family and friends.  
**Favorite food:** Pizza and corn bread  
**Favorite TV show:** *Living Single*  
**Favorite Musician:** Mary J. Bliage  
**Favorite Sports Teams:** The Chicago Bulls and Michigan  
**Did you ever have a Care Bear when you were young?** Yes, Sunshine Bear  
**What I love about school:** Being with my friends and playing sports  
**What I hate about school:** It starts too early.  
**Greatest athletic moment:** Scoring two goals in a win against Plymouth  
**My parents were right when they told me:** My faith is in my own hands  
**Prized Possession:** A picture of my friend Shanna McCollough and I  
**Most embarrassing moment:** Asking a guy out on a date and having him turn me down  
**If I won the lottery, I'd:** Take care of my family and give to the homeless  
**Biggest Fear:** Never seeing myself succeed  
**Wildest Dream:** To be able to fly an airplane  
**Pre-game rituals:** Pep talks  
**What turns me off:** People who get in other people's business instead of their own  
**Person I'd like to meet:** Tupac Shukur  
**Best advice I ever received:** Never give up, because you'll never know what you could have had.  
**Advice to others:** Never let anyone bring you down, and keep your faith in God  
**In 20 years I see myself:** being very successful in the music industry

# MONTHLY MUSIC REPORT



It was the spring of 1994. Outside of a few people, myself included, no one knew who Green Day was. The only material to be found was their two minor label releases, *Kerplunk* and *1,039 Smoothed Out Slappy Hours*, which at the time was difficult to find.

Then it happened. As the underground punk scene began to expand, many major label record companies including Atlantic and Warner Brothers set out to find the group that would take punk rock to radio and MTV. Of course, who would fit this glamorous role better than Green Day. And they did.

Green Day's major label debut, *Dookie*, was released in February of 1994. Following this was their first video on MTV, *Longview*. After



months of touring, two more videos, dozens of appearances on MTV, and hours of air play, I'd have to say that a lot of people are just plain sick of them. And it shows.

Green Day's new album *Insomniac* didn't even break Billboard's Top 10 in its first week, unlike

*Dookie*, which sat atop the charts for weeks and weeks. This is very unusual, since *Dookie* sold so many albums. Maybe people are tired of hearing them, after realizing that every Green Day song sounds identical.

Many people feel that Green Day has exploited punk rock to its fullest extent. The sales of their new album show this. Ask anyone who listens to this type of music if they've ever liked Green Day. If they tell you "no," they're probably not telling you the truth, figuring that it might hurt their reputation. Then ask them if they still like Green Day, and most will truthfully tell you no. -T.H.

## 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 Gary are real humans, though any attempt to uncover their identities may lead to severe head trauma, inflicted by a large hired thug named Knuckles.

By Bob Palatino and Gary Zapf  
Two Guys



HALLOWEEN 6: The Curse of Wayne

The following is a transcript of Bob and Gary's after-movie conversation.

BOB: Gary...Wake up, Gary.

GARY: Oh, is the movie over?

BOB: Yeah, at long last. You passed out about 15 minutes into it, but definitely not from fright.

GARY: You mean to tell me that I missed seeing Elizabeth Berkeley?

BOB: Wrong movie, Gary. We went to see *Halloween 6: The Curse of Michael Myers*. You know, that heart-wrenching story about the homicidal maniac who wears a cheap mask to hide his acne scars; they say he's human, but no one

ever seems to be able to kill him.

GARY: Now I remember. He's been burnt, buried, and comatose. What happened this time?

BOB: It was a little fuzzy, but I think his old arch-nemesis, Dr. Bald-Guy (no disrespect or anything), removed his mask (or his head...it was too dark for me to tell).

GARY: Just to make sure that we don't confuse anyone, let's take a look back on the previous *Halloween* movies. Part 1 is a classic. It's the story of a young boy named Michael Myers, who kills his sister and turns out to be a maniac. Parts 2, 3, 4, and 5 all deal with Myers hacking, slicing, and chopping his victims only to be killed at the end of the movie—your basic "Hallow the 13th on Elm Street" film. As Part 5 sunk deep into disaster nearly 6 years ago, *The Curse of Michael Myers* tries to take a new twist by eliminating the part-number and adding a corny subtitle. It can't, however, make up for the redundant stories that each episode contains.

BOB: Nice recall, Gary! Man, you sure know your Michael Myers. In fact, you reminded me of something. Not once in that movie do they refer to that guy as anything but Michael Myers. Not Mike, not Mr. Myers, not even "that guy who pureed my dog." It's always Michael Myers, Michael Myers, Michael Myers! It's like a broken record! AAAAH!

GARY: Well, Bob seems to be losing it. This wraps up our review for this month. I'm sorry to say that this movie is not as outstanding as the preview may seem.

If you've seen one, you've seen them all! I suggest saving your six dollars for something better, or possibly go rent Parts 1 to 5 and see the movie for a cheaper price!

### Bob & Gary's Top 10 1970's Movies

1. *Animal House*
2. *Star Wars*
3. *American Graffiti*
4. *Jaws*
5. *Airplane*
6. *Rambo: First Blood*
7. *A Clockwork Orange*
8. *The Blues Brothers*
9. *Stripes*
10. *Grease*

This Top 10 is dedicated to the late John Belushi, who starred in both *Animal House* and *The Blues Brothers*.