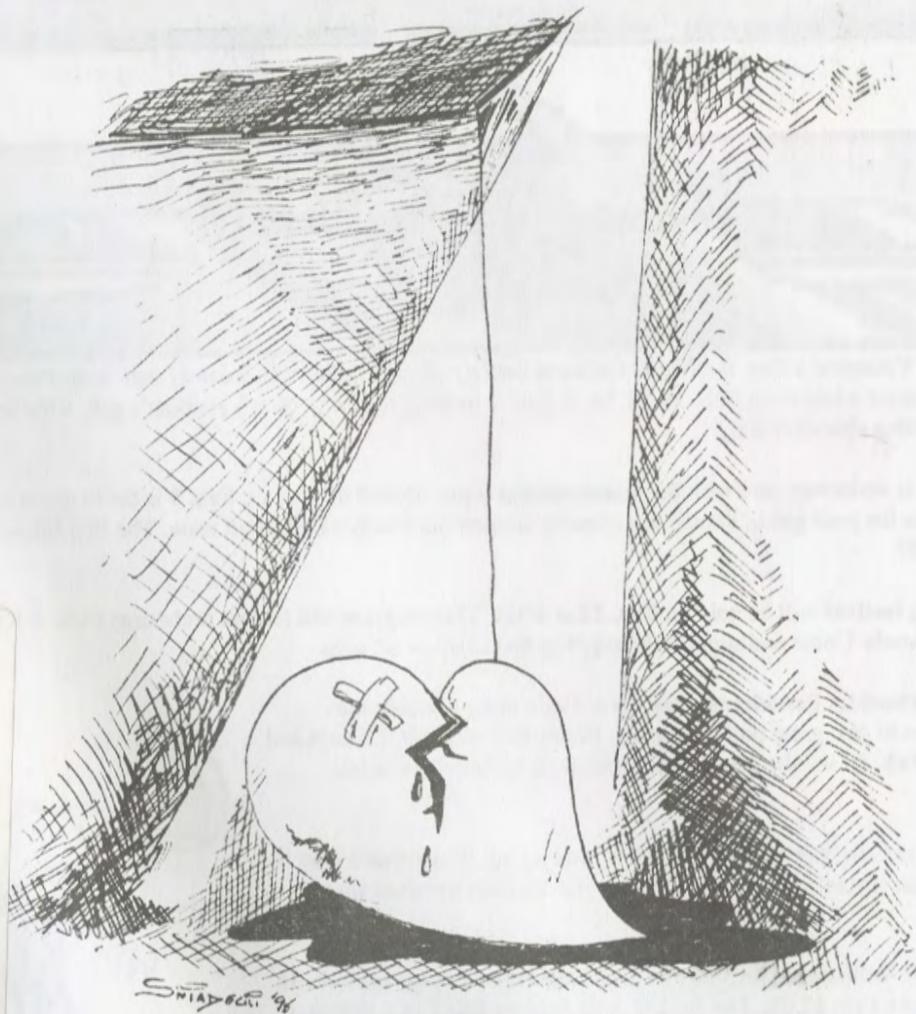


THE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

HATCHET

JANUARY 1996

Abusive Relationships: a true bleeding-heart story



RETEK KELLY
907

see the feature article, pages
8 & 9



What is your New Year's Resolution?



My New Year's resolution is to try and listen to my parents more.

Freshman
Erin Wardman



My New Year's resolution is to stop making resolutions that I can't keep.

Sophomore
Jenny Stoneburner



My New Year's resolution is to get better grades and to eat more cheese because it is good for me.

Junior
Erik Kolacz



This year I decided that my New Year's resolution is to spend some quality time with my uncle Jack.

Senior
Matt Dixon



In preparation for Valentine's Day, the **Multi-Cultural Society** will be sponsoring a **candy sale** from **Feb. 5-16**. The **yearbook** will sponsor a sale from **Feb. 19-26**. So, if you're looking for the perfect Valentine's gift, what better way to say "Be mine" than with a chocolate bar?

Basketball season is underway, and with this **homecoming** is just around the corner. **Feb. 9** is the magical day for one young lady, so vote for your girl of choice and come to support our Panther basketball team. The first **basketball sectional** will be held **Feb. 27**.

The **district string festival** will be held on **Feb. 22** at WHS. This program will feature orchestras from WHS, Navarre and all other feeder schools. Come and support the aspiring musicians of all ages.

There will be **no school** on **Presidents' Day, Feb. 19**, in order to honor the combined birthdays of two great past presidents. Happy birthday, Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Washington! **Feb. 15** will be a **half day** for students because of teacher meetings.

Do you have your sweetie's gift bought? Time is running out. **Valentine's Day** is **Feb. 14**, so grab that special someone and plan to give him/her the most special day of his/her life.

Once again the **SAT** will be held on **Mar. 23**. The **registration dates** are **Feb. 16** and the **late dates** are **Feb. 17-28**. The **ACT** will be held on **Feb. 3**; the registration dates have already passed, but those for the next test to be held on April 13 are March 15 and 29.



Artist: Eric Seibenaler

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Dear Editor,

I was ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Kmart on the morning of December 20, 1995. At approximately 11:00 some students came into the store for lunch. Each and every one of them put what change they had into my bucket and told me to keep warm, etc. and all wished me a Merry Christmas! These were great kids and a great reflection on you and your school.

Robert Foster
South Bend Engineering

To Whom It May Concern:

It's ok to have an opinion. We are all entitled to one, but that doesn't mean we are always right. There are people who criticize college football for being involved in too many financial dealings. They bicker, complain, and cry over just about anything they can find wrong with the sport. It is true that there are some learning institutions that put more emphasis on developing athletes than others, but schools earn personality. Whether it's a bunch of highly-regarded recruits or a group of rag-tag kids who found a way to win, people rally their support behind contributions and merchandise.

A school doesn't go out and market its football team to sell tickets; some don't have to. When you present yourself as a winner, people respond. If they are going to respond by buying merchandise, the money might as well go back to the school where it can be used for educational purposes (and, yes, football is an educational experience in life).

Don't let people tell you all the revenue goes to building national powers; it doesn't. Building national powers comes in recruiting, coaching, and determination. No one team has any better equipment than another because they have more money. I guarantee that Notre Dame's helmets and pads are just as good as Ball State's; and when is the last time Ball State won a national championship?

As for agents, schools must combat this for themselves, but once again, no school will invite an agent to campus to check out a few prospects. Players and coaches realize that agents aren't looking out for the players, but for themselves. If an agent wants to make money, he has to beat other agents to the punch, even if a student is in college. Remember, the more a college prospect makes in the pros, the more an agent makes.

Finally, let me say that the people who cry and whine probably don't even understand the game of football. They don't realize how much good it can do for a team, school, or community. They probably have never even played football, or any sport for that matter; therefore, they have no right to talk.

Just because these people's liberal-feminist agenda is upset because not many people go to squash matches or soccer games, doesn't mean they can knock the great American institution of college football.

Nick Kocis
 senior

Editorial Policy

The HATCHET is a monthly newspaper written and designed by the publications staff at Washington High School. It is a school news magazine which upholds all the 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.

Open lunch soon

By **Katharine Chan**
News Editor

McDonald's, Arby's, Subway, Wendy's... these are just a few of the names that will become lunch-time memories starting next year.

Beginning next school year, all SBCSC high schools will be closing their doors to open lunch. Administrators made this announcement last year and have since been confirming their decision.

Seventy-one percent of students polled presently go out to lunch. Whether students are eating at a restaurant, at home, or at a friend's or relative's house, they treasure their 40 minutes of freedom.

Most of the student body already has its mind set against closed lunch for many various reasons.

Junior Carrie Jastrzebski said, "It's the only time of the day that we are free. We aren't going to be able to think right in class if we don't get out of school for lunch. It would get too monotonous sitting in school all day long."

Kelly Retek, a junior, agreed with Jastrzebski and added, "Lunch is the only time I can be with some of my friends, and we can all have fun."

Even some teachers don't like idea of closed lunches.

Health teacher Michael Otolski said, "I think closed lunch is a terrible

idea because we only had a few isolated incidents [that caused closed lunch] and I think that bringing everyone together will bring more problems."

Virginia Long-Cecil, the chior and orchestra director, agreed with Otolski: "Closed lunch scares me... if I'm assigned supervision down there."

No matter how or why students or teachers object to closed lunch, the school board is standing fully behind its verdict. Violence and a concern for students' safety are the main factors in the board's ruling.

Superintendent Dr. Virginia Calvin said, "I think that with closed lunch we will have safer schools for young people. We've listened to the community, and we feel that it will provide a healthier learning environment."

Principal David Kaser stated, "We don't want closed lunch to be seen as a punishment for inappropriate behavior from all students. The majority would never have a problem."

But the small number of students who cause problems could be a threat to the "innocent" students. "We just want to look out for the safety of all students and we feel this will come with closed lunch," continued Kaser.

Freshman Jeff Oltmanns disapproves of closed lunch, though; "Not all people abuse open lunch. We should punish all of the 'abusers' and allow

the good people to enjoy it. The 'abusers' should lose their privileges."

Nevertheless, some students do understand the SBCSC's concerns.

Junior Michelle Bovenkerk commented that when students go out for lunch, they have to watch out for all the crazy drivers and the weather that sometimes makes driving hazardous. She also said that students won't have to spend as much money if they eat in the cafeteria.

And although sophomore Stacey Kuharic disagrees with closed lunch, she said that "the advantage of closed lunch will be that there will be less trash and litter outside."

WHS secretary Pat Czarnecki remembers when WHS had closed lunch. "We had such things as music playing in the cafeteria, and all the students stayed there the whole period. There were about 2200 students and five lunch periods at that time."

Not only will students be affected by this change in the lunch hour, but so will some area businesses.

Dave Sparks, the owner of various McDonald's restaurants in the South Bend/Mishawaka area, including the Western Avenue location, said, "I love the students who come to us for lunch. Regardless whether lunch is open or closed, we have a fairly good relationship; and they usually aren't a big problem, and McDonald's welcomes students. But, unfortunately, the stu-



Serene Williams: "I don't approve of it, because of the seemingly long days, and we're not going to be able to get any fresh air."



Juniors Janice Koch and Kelly Ford contemplate value meal choices during the soon-to-be-eliminated open lunch hour.

to be a memory

dents' lunch hour scares away some of the family business. I also have to pay for security and provide supervision for the kids. So, in fact, I will make more money with closed lunch, but I do enjoy working with WHS students."

Many additions and adjustments to the cafeteria and its menu will also have to be made. A wider selection of lunches and more vending machines are certain. Kaser said that the school board and individual high schools have been looking into bringing in outside fast-food restaurants to offer their services. He also said that some local businesses have also indicated that they are interested.

Chris Urbanski, the food and nutrition director of the SBCSC, is most concerned with students' nutritional intake. "Closed lunch is going to open up many more doors for students. It doesn't have to be miserable."

Urbanski talked to various high school principals about alternate sites to sell lunches and to dine. WHS is looking into purchasing picnic tables for the courtyard. The auxiliary gym may also be an option for a different dining area, in addition to the conventional cafeteria.

The expansion of the dining areas also means the menu will be varied. Urbanski has been researching what type of vendors the schools will be allowed to hire. "[The SBCSC] is on a tight budget and some businesses are

asking for \$10,000 franchise fees." Fajitas and tacos are foods that Urbanski sees as "possible menu options" that students will be able to afford. Either of those food products would cost under \$2.

Pizza vendors such as Domino's and Pizza Hut are also under consideration, but one slice of pizza may cost up to \$2.50.

"The whole concept of closed lunch may be hard for kids to understand... they should forget about the time before. I think after the initial getting use to, things will be okay. I would be happy to meet with or speak to students who want to give me input," said Urbanski.

Urbanski added that closed lunch could be a positive financial venture. While the menu grows, so will the workers needed to distribute the food-stuff. Urbanski said, "I will be looking for students who are willing to help distribute food and do various other jobs relating to the new food services. The tasks will pay at least minimum wage, and maybe it will be a type of work-study program."

New kitchen equipment will also have to be purchased in order to accommodate the increased number of students eating from the cafeteria.

In order to receive the greatest amount of student input, Kaser has selected a student committee that discusses options closed lunch can bring.

"We're trying to make it as good a situation as we possibly can."

Providing students with an opportunity to work off their "excess energy" is a concern. Possible boredom and restlessness during the lunch hours are also problems that might have to be solved. A solution proposed is to give students an area where they can play basketball, cards, board games, or study.

With closed lunch, three lunch periods, instead of the usual two at WHS, will have to be served. The middle lunch will most likely split a class and some of the lunches may overlap.

Some students are still reluctant to accept closed lunch; they have their own concerns and grievances. Senior Dean Burkus said, "There will be overcrowding that will cause a big disaster in the lunch room. That also brings the level of safety down." Burkus, along with other students, said that closed lunch will cause an increased number of suspensions from school since more students might be tempted to skip class in order to go out for lunch.

"I think there will be more fights if everyone is together. And least with open lunch, you can go away from people you don't want to be near," said sophomore Alicia Howard.

Freshman Amanda Litteral said, "With open lunch, students might feel as though they can be trusted and they can have more freedom. With closed lunch, we don't have that." □



Mori Van Bruaene: "There's going to be too many lunches... we might have to eat lunch at breakfast time."



Erik Kolacz: "Why does the corporation feel the urge to hide us from the outside world...?"



Felicia Moodie: "It doesn't bother me."

Prison: A look from the inside

Tony Chapman
Guest Writer

Editor's Note:

The following article was written by an inmate at the federal prison in Atlanta, Ga. His purpose in writing is to warn young people of the pitfalls of using drugs and carrying guns. He is embarking on a crusade to reach students across the nation with his message. The article graphically and accurately depicts what life is like in a federal prison.

My name is Tony Chapman. I'm 33 years old. I'm serving 18 years without parole in a federal prison in Atlanta for bank robbery. I was 27 when I was arrested. The least I have to serve is 15 years, 4 months if I gain all available good-behavior time.

Don't misunderstand me. I'm not crying about the plight of being a federal inmate. I am beyond that. I'll tell you about the reality of prison. But first, I'm sending a message about laws that are extremely severe and very few teenagers know or care they exist. I am seeing more and more of you come in here everyday, fresh out of high school, a legal eighteen, with no prior juvenile record. These laws are taking you by surprise.

MYTH: A federal arrest for drug and/or gun possession, even as a first offense, will guarantee probation. (After all, you're basically a good kid, right? The judge will have a heart.)

FACT: The Federal Mandatory Minimum Sentencing Laws do not allow probation for drug or gun possession. A non-licensed gun will get you a five year mandatory sentence with no parole. As little as 10 grams of crack cocaine will get you ten years without parole. It does not matter who you are, how rich or poor, your background, how good or bad your grades in high school, or how remorseful you appear before the judge. He will pronounce sentence from a guideline manual that does not allow personal discretion. These sentences are mandatory, with no possibility of making early parole.

State prisons are currently being encouraged with federal money to follow suit—longer sentences with no parole. Several states have already adopted this measure,

and more are sure to follow. It will not matter that you are a first-time youthful offender and weren't aware of the penalties. You will find no sympathy in today's judicial system. You will do the time.

I met two 18 year old, both with no prior record; nice young men by any standard, well-mannered, good looking, didn't curse with every breath, came from good families. They were offered five thousand dollars to go pick up a package from Fed Ex. The package contained cocaine. Who could resist an easy opportunity like that, right? Each received 12 years—no parole. With good time, they'll both be 29 when they're released. What a place to grow into adulthood. Was five grand worth that? And when all is said and done, and you find yourself here...what is it really like?

You're forced to leave possessions, friends, and family behind. You're given a bed with a thin mattress in an 8'x12' cell that you'll share with a total stranger who may be a murderer, rapist, ect. He may well have a life sentence. You will abide by his cell rules. If you're young, whether heterosexual or homosexual, you will be noticed by all the homosexual inmates. And you will most likely be approached. That's a tough situation to handle.

You'll be given an issue of drab, prison clothing. No more favorite jeans or shirts or shoes. No blow dryers, colognes, or jewelry. You're given a mandatory job, and you will work. Some of the jobs include food service, laundry, plumbing, painting, electrical, and the prison factory. The prison does pay. Here, prison wages begin at 12¢ an hour.

You'll learn to like unsavory prison food prepared by inmates, because there won't be anything else to eat. No Big Macs, Subway, or Domino's Pizzas. But the TV commercials will be a constant reminder. The TV rooms are noisy and smoke-filled, and sometimes they're so crowded you have to stand up. You'll only watch a movie if everybody else wants to see it too.

You'll no longer play favorite cassettes or CD's. And of course, no video games or cyberspace either. Normally private things like bathing using the restrooms, or simply being alone will become things of the past. Most prisons

have group showers. Your toilet is 3 ft. from yours and your cellmate's beds. And there's no where you can go inside a prison to be alone. You will eventually lose your concept of what privacy meant to you.

Your mail will be censored, incoming and outgoing. Your friends will graduate stop writing anyway, because their lives will progress, while yours stands still. Your phone calls will be limited in length and quantity. And every time you have an outside visitor, you must submit to a strip search before re-entering the prison population.

Going outside at night will be just a memory. The yard is closed by 8:30 p.m. Imagine having an 8:30 curfew every night of the week—for years. Waiting in noisy crowds will become a way of life as the years pass, and you'll impatiently stand in long lines for everything—you meals, the prison store, medical care, to use the phone, ect. And line breakers will continually challenge you.

Everyday inmates go into protective custody (PC) because they're being preyed on sexually or their lives are in danger. Protective custody is a cell where you're isolated from the prison population. It's the same as being in solitary confinement; more commonly known as the hole. Checking into PC means you can never return to the prison population, because you will always be regarded as a snitch after that. It's a sad reality many younger inmates find themselves in.

Do yourself a favor, don't walk head-on into disaster. You're much more wise to stay free. To disregard the consequences because someone else is doing it is to be a follower. We in here know that you out there have many, many options against it. Even being broke is better than this. Life does not end with your teens. You will still be you when you're 20, and when you're 30, and when you're 40, and beyond. You will always enjoy life as long as you're healthy and free. Don't wait till you find yourself waling through the gates of a state of federal prison to realize how precious your freedom and opportunity was. Once in prison, the harsh reality hits: it's wasted time out of your life. □

Panthers

By Gary Zapf

HATCHET Sighting at Ponderosa!



◁ Junior Santa, Derek Dabrowiak and his elf, senior Laura Borlik, conduct business as usual.

On Dec. 21, the HATCHET staff took its usual Ponderosa lunch break. Strange how the lack of school atmosphere can alter a person's mind!



▷ The ever emotional sophomore, Jenny Hess, tries to get sophomore Drew Griffis to snap into reality.



△ Here's senior Tim Hecklinski and his sophomore girlfriend, Kimberly Harness. What more can we say?

▽ Senior co-editor Kelly Wyant poses along side juniors Mark Sniadecki, Derek Dabrowiak, and Brad Pianstki.



◁ The HATCHET newcomers of the school year: sophomores Angie Retek, Amy Bastine, Nikki Kaufman, and Erin Coleman.



Teenagers need to find way

by **Nikki Kaufman and
Erin Coleman**
News Writers

The following is a portion of an interview between the authors and *Kaitlynn, an alumna of WHS.

"Almost from the beginning, something was wrong. Like, being really possessive. An example is I couldn't or shouldn't go out with my friends, because I had him; but he could go out. At first it was just mental abuse; then after about two years of going steady, he hit me for the first time.

I'll never forget that day. He swore he would never do it again. He even cried. Ha! What a lie. If it ever happens just once, it'll happen again. I promise you.

One of my biggest mistakes was thinking I could change him. Wrong! The more I tried to do for him, the more he took control of me.

The closer I got to him, the more depressed I got. It's so hard to explain. I felt really trapped. I felt like I just couldn't live without him. Still, in the back of my mind, I knew that he really wasn't doing anything good for me. He had complete control of me.

Every move was for him, and he was ungrateful. After awhile I got to where I hated him. I knew that I had the potential to be something more in this world besides his slave, and he wouldn't allow me to be anything but that. I was even naive enough to think that having his children would make him respect me and treat me like a real human. Wrong again.

Ironic as this sounds, it was my

children who gave me the guts to get out of the relationship. I knew that if I didn't get up and leave, I couldn't really be a good mom. If my girls saw me getting beat up, how would it affect their relationship with men in the future? If they were coming to me tense and afraid of their dad, how could they fully respect me in their teens?

The thing I want to really stress is that although teens learn and mature through dating, they can also get caught up in something that can ruin their entire lives. Dating is meant to give you fulfillment. If you, at any time, feel unsure about the situation, get advice from an adult or just get out and play it safe. The worst part of the relationship was all the time I wasted trying to change someone who wasn't even worth changing."

In the time it takes someone to read this paragraph, one woman will be battered by her husband or boyfriend. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence says that a woman is battered by her husband or boyfriend every 15 seconds, making domestic violence America's most common, yet least-reported crime.

The abuser can inflict either one or a combination of psychological, emotional, verbal, sexual, and physical abuse. Any one of these can be used as a weapon either towards the body or mind and spirit.

A dating couple said, "We feel this whole topic of abuse affects us, by making us feel more cautious of signs of abuse in our relationship."

Two recent studies reported the following: "Sixty percent of married battered women stated that the violence began while they were dating their future husbands. Moreover, one third of all women under 20 experience violence in their dating relationships."

An anonymous freshman girl

At first it was just mental abuse; then after about two years of going steady, he hit me for the first time. I'll never forget that day. He swore he would never do it again. He even cried. Ha! What a lie. If it ever happens just once, it'll happen again. I promise you.

****Kaitlynn, an alumna of WHS***

said, "I feel that people my age don't know enough about it. We need to be educated, because some of the signs of abuse are mistaken for signs of love which causes us to get mixed up in the situation."

An important method of preventing abuse is to recognize the signs of

out of abusive relationships

abuse.

"An abusive person commonly displays extreme jealousy and possessiveness, switches from charm to anger without warning, blames others for their actions, attempts to control their partner's behavior, withdraws love, money, or approval as punishment, undermines their partner's feelings or accomplishments, isolates their partners from friends and family" (*USA Today Dec. 1994*). It is important to know that batterers are found in all classes and types of people, whether they are rich, poor, professional, unemployed, male, female, urban, rural, or any race.

*Kaitlynn had her first child at the age of 16; she had two others before she couldn't stand her situation any more. She left her boyfriend, only to go back to him less than a month later. Soon, she was again pregnant. That next summer she took her children with her to a Women's Shelter. Not long after, she went back to him, and they were married. A year later, she had a restraining order against him, and she left him with plans for divorce. She still is on her own; her life is happier, but it is still hard.

Victims often stay in the relationship because they have nowhere to go, physically or psychologically. Unfortunately, only 5% of the 1200 shelters for battered women accept those with children. In contrast, the U.S. has 3,800 shelters for homeless animals.

More than one in 10 teenagers experiences physical violence in their dating relationships.

Not only are women abused in

the relationships, situations exist in which the male is the victim. "When I was in an abusive relationship, I felt trapped. I thought there was no way out. It was really hard to leave, but I knew that I deserved better. Before I got out, I had been hit and bit. I even had to get stitches. But then my girlfriend made me feel like it was all my fault," said an anonymous freshman guy.

"Nearly a quarter of the high-school students surveyed said that they had at least one experience with dating violence. Fifty percent of those girls reported that their partner had pushed, grabbed or shoved them. Twenty-five percent had been slapped. Nineteen percent said that they had been kicked, bitten or hit with a fist, and a small number (4%) had been threatened with a gun or knife.

Amazingly enough, the boys who were questioned attributed their behavior not only to anger and confusion, but to feelings of love!" (*Teen April, 1990*).

An anonymous freshman girl commented, "He became really possessive, literally controlling me. He always had to know where I was at, or where I had been. He physically abused me in his own way, pushing me excessively.

"He would take a joke too far like he was deliberately trying to hurt me. He even publicly humiliated me at the mall. And when I would get mad at him for doing this stuff, he would get mad. Then I would have to win back his affection." □

*denotes name change for privacy.

The following are questions to consider if you think you might be in an abusive relationship:

- 1) Does your boyfriend/girlfriend tell you what to wear or how to style your hair?
- 2) Does he/she become angry when you talk to friends, especially those of the opposite sex?
- 3) Has he/she physically restrained you or shoved you in an angry manner?
- 4) Do you find yourself spending less time with your friends because your boyfriend/girlfriend doesn't like them?
- 5) Does he/she always correct you or put down your ideas?
- 6) Are you often afraid that you will do or say something that will make him/her mad?
- 7) Does your boyfriend/girlfriend say hurtful and humiliating things to you or about you in public?
- 8) Do you find yourself trying to make others think your relationship is better than it actually is?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, please consider calling the YWCA Women's Shelter (232-9558) to get in contact with someone who can give you more information. If you know you are in an abusive relationship, please do yourself a favor and get out.

Negative stereotypes of teenagers

If the game show Jeopardy had a Negative Stereotype category, then a possible answer would be the following: This segment of society generally displays rude, obnoxious, disrespectful, trend-following, and dangerous behavior while travelling in large groups. The corresponding question would then have to be: Who are teenagers?

Editorial

This "stereotype" is obviously not true of all teens. This description is, as the very least, grossly overstated. Most teens, like most people, do not display this type of antisocial behavior every minute or even everyday. It is true, however, that everyone is capable of such conduct at times. This is with the exception of clergymen, Mr. Rogers, Kermit the Frog, and numerous other kind souls.

Just because this behavior cannot be attributed solely to teens does not justify it. It does, however, make it necessary for adults to recognize this as fact.

What can and should be done about such behavior varies too greatly to go into details. What should not be done about this behavior, however, is clear. This behavior should not be accepted, and it should not be deemed "teenage behavior."

Rudeness and obnoxiousness are not teenage traits, but they are traits of rude and obnoxious people. During teenage years, people grow and mature mentally; and in this process, they may be more likely to go through different phases of the aforementioned behavior. They are, however, phases. While this may seem to defeat the argument that not all teens are disrespectful, it does not defeat the fact that some adults are disrespectful to all teens. While some adults realize that teenagers are young adults, some believe that we are either young children or young miscreants.

This attitude is unacceptable. What is worse than this attitude is that many in society accept it. Proof of this can be found in two newly acquainted adults, both parents, standing around in the neighborhood supermarket or hardware store discussing home life.

Parent 1: "So, how are things at home?"

Parent 2: "Well, we have two teenagers in the house."

Parent 1: "Ha! Ha! Enough said."

Nearly as bad is when teens let adults think poorly of them just because they do not feel like dealing with adults.

The apathy of certain adults who have life experience versus the apathy of certain teens who are gaining life experience is not comparable.

To those adults who believe that teens are all counterproductive, please take the following to heart.

Five pieces of advice to adults who would rather not deal with the under-age 20 category of society:

1. Amazingly, everyone was once a teenager. If you do not recall being a teenager, then perhaps your memory is lapsing.

2. Teenagers, like coffee, come in different flavors. We can be as conservative as black coffee with no sugar, and as liberal as a French vanilla cappuccino with hazel nut creme.

3. If the sight of a teenager walking by causes visions of crazed, juvenile, delinquent Ricki Lake guests to prance through your head, then maybe you are overreacting.

4. If you notice a teen coming your way ready to attack you, then by all means run for it, press charges, and do something about it.

5. If you notice a wild turkey coming your way ready to attack, then by all means run for it, press charges, and do something about it.

This list is not meant to come down hard on adults, since that would be "disrespectful." This list is meant to point out some of the more amusing ideas that adults have about teenagers. The list may also cause adults to wonder if teenagers really believe that adults think this way.

Parents, teachers, and law enforcement are among those who may think harshly of teenage behavior. Whether or not they think this way, teenagers are likely to believe they do. In fact, according to a recent survey of Indiana high school students, 70 percent of them believed that adults thought poorly of them because all teenagers supposedly behave disrespectfully.

It has also been proven that it is not what adults really think of a teen that matters, but it is how that teen perceives the adult's opinion of him or her. Teenagers should not automatically assume that adults are looking down on them, just as adults should not automatically assume that teenagers are all disrespectful. □



Thumbs Up
Thumbs Down



THUMBS UP

...to the end of mid-terms. Many students worked very hard in order to pass their exams with flying colors. Let's keep up the good work so that finals will also be a success. Congratulations to seniors, you only have one more; sorry freshmen, there are seven more in store for you.

...to Mr. Gates' seminar, which showed superior effort in collecting cans for the First United Methodist Church soup kitchen and pantry. His seminar collected a total of 45 cans, adding the most of the total of 657 cans collected. Hopefully, others will take this initiative and help those in need, not only during the holidays, but all through the year.

...to the 50° weather we experienced in the middle of the week of Jan. 14. Mother Nature was definitely kind by giving us a winter break of her own. Maybe we can convince her to do so again in a few weeks. Now, about those heavy spring rains...

...to all members of the HATCHET staff. Even with winter break cutting short our work time for December's paper, we pulled it off without a hitch (yeah, right). We also missed one week and a few miscellaneous days in January, but this paper looks great also. Keep up the good work, only four more to go!

...to the students who were so kind to the Salvation Army bell ringer (see the letter to the editor). These actions give an insight to others in the community that not all teenagers are troublemakers. Keep up the good work, and maybe others will follow.

THUMBS DOWN

...to those of you who do fit the "troublemaker" image, grow up! One day all of today's "thrills" will be lackluster in comparison to the way they are perceived today. Do what's important, not what's popular!

...to the up and down temperatures this winter. Sure the warm temps are great, but don't spoil us only to punish us with below-zero temperatures again in a few days. What did we do to deserve this?

...to students who feel it necessary to open classroom doors, close them, and knock on them only to run away, etc. Every door in this building is not your own personal gateway to manipulate. If you would stay where you are supposed to be, this issue would not even exist. Go to school to get an education, not to be a doorman.

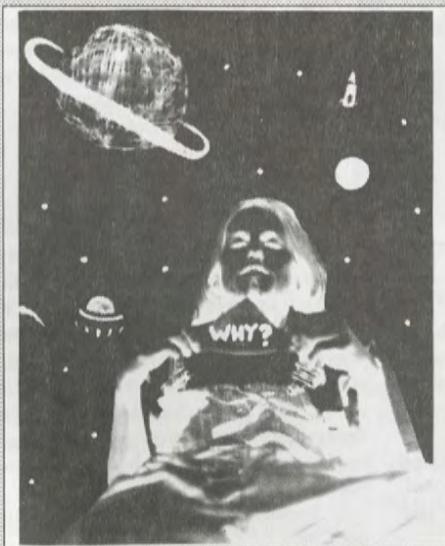
ART Gallery

by Tim Hecklinski

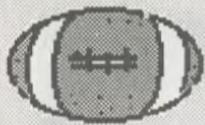


◁ Photograph
by sophomore
Kimberly
Harness.

▽ Photograph
by junior Jackie
Leliaert.



△ Photograph by freshman
Peris Agnew.



Big challenges lie ahead for team

By Eric Bastine
Sports Editor

Many struggles and accomplishments have been the story for this year's boy's basketball team.

With a record of 6-6, some may consider it a success, yet others say that the record could be much better. The others are correct in this situation. The Panthers have been so close to wins over No. 7 Clay and No. 20 LaSalle, but the respect this team deserves has eluded them thus far.

"We have improved tremendously over the last month," said head coach Milt Cooper. "There are still so many things we have to work on."

The Panthers began the month with a 4-1 record after a road win over Adams and a 107-58 thrashing of Westville. They took their surprising record into the Warsaw Holiday Tournament to challenge then-No. 2 Clay. Unfortunately, the Panthers were unable to buy a basket in a terrible first quarter and the Colonials blitzed WHS for an easy win.

The loss forced the Panthers to play a revenge-minded Riley team that lost to WHS at the Great Western Forum just two weeks beforehand. Down late in the contest, a proud Panther team rallied, only to be defeated in the last few minutes of the game.

The Panthers then traveled to Elkhart's North Side Gym to play a red-hot Elkhart Memorial squad. In the first quarter, poor shooting and foul trouble made it seem like the Clay game all over again as WHS fell into a huge hole. To begin the second half, they still found some way to fall deeper into the pit and with just over a minute to go in the third quarter, they trailed by a seemingly insurmountable score of 56-30. Then all of the sudden the tide turned and the Panthers got hot. They used a 21-4 run to start the second period and were right back in the game. But the closest they got was a two-point, 70-68 deficit with :38 seconds left in the game. Memorial held off the final effort and walked away with a 76-70 victory.

"Ever since the second half of the game against Memorial, the whole team has played much harder and much better together. We just need to play smarter and we'll surprise some people," commented Cooper.

Michigan City was next on the schedule and traveled to WHS to take on the hungry Panthers.

The Panthers used a 16-3 run to start the fourth quarter to pull away from a stubborn Wolves team and win by the score of 79-53. Junior Cedric Moodie led the charge with 23 points and 11 rebounds while tossing in six three-pointers. Senior Matt Wood added 18 in the win.

A win for the Panthers in their next game would give them some long overdue respect. LaSalle High

School's gymnasium was packed to capacity as the Panthers battled their west-side rival.

A poor first quarter of shooting put the Panthers in yet another hole, and it was an upward struggle the rest of the game. Senior Matt Johns had the game of his life as he scored a team-high 19 points. Johns played tremendous defense and hit many clutch shots that enabled the Panthers to stay close throughout the contest.

With a strong all-around second quarter, WHS was able to tie the game at 39-39 just before halftime.

After trailing by as many as twelve in the first quarter and never by more than five in the second

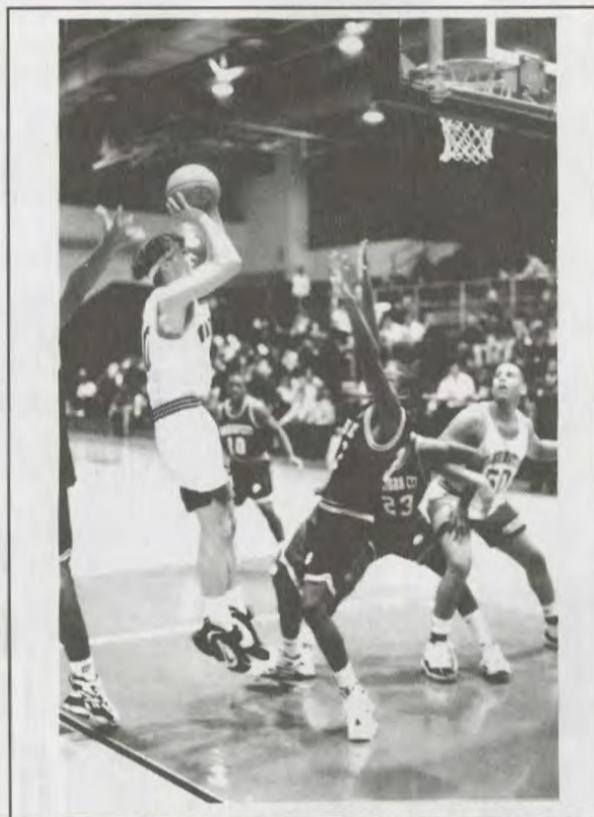


Photo courtesy of Memory Lane

Senior Matt Johns puts up a shot against Michigan City. The Panthers won easily by the score of 79-53.

half, the Panthers closed the gap to 67-69 with just 4:28 to go in the game. This, however, is as close as they would get as the Lions made numerous clutch plays to hold off the Panthers and win by the score of 82-75.

"Cedric is a great scorer, but on any given night, we have guys that can put points on the board. We have six guys who are near double figures," said Cooper.

As the Panthers and LaSalle lived up to the hype involved in their west-side clash,

WHS had no time to rest as they hosted No. 7 Clay the next Friday, with revenge on their minds.

Clay came into the game with lots of confidence and tons of experience. What they didn't know was that this was not Warsaw. This was Washington High School and the Colonials weren't going to walk all over these Panthers. They were ready. They were prepared, and they were gaining experience every week.

The team played the best first quarter they've played all year while jumping out to an early lead.

The Panthers played great all-around ball throughout the first half, carried it into the third quarter and led by as many as 14 points. But the Colonials made a strong run late in the third and regained control of the contest.

As the fourth quarter went back and forth, the Panther's eventual downfall, however, was from the hands of the opponent. Clay's Mr. Basketball candidate and Purdue-bound star, Jaraan Cornell, scored a career-high 36 points and single-handedly dismantled WHS in the last few minutes of the contest.

Somehow, even after Cornell's barrage of three-pointers the Panthers emerged from the heap and had a chance to tie the game in the closing seconds. Junior James Scott's desperation three-pointer, however, bounced off the back of the iron, and Clay escaped with a hard-earned win.

Moodie again led the charge with 24 points. Wood and Johns each added 14, and Junior Edmund Kyle had eight points and five rebounds.

"I tell the guys to give their best every time they step on the court," said Cooper. "They always have, and now they are doing it as a team."

The Panthers thrashed Buchanan by 29 points the next night to rebound from the loss to Clay. Wood was the star for WHS this time. He scored 24 points and made 10 of the 11 shots he took from the field. Sophomore Jamal Henry had a career night as he dished out 12 assists without a single turnover. Moodie had

16 and a dazzling dunk to end the first half. Junior Wayne Avance and Kyle had 17 added 14 points, respectively, in the victory.

Playing great ball as of late, the Panthers will be a force to be reckoned with come sectional time. Which will be played in their house, at home, in the Great Western Forum.

Someone should warn the competition (or just ask Clay).

The Panthers will play a make-up game at St. Joe on Feb. 2.

Swim team back on winning track

By **Brian Schoonaert**
Sports Writer

The swim team started the season with a series of victories, but as of late, they have fallen into a slump. The team lost four out of its last five meets. Their last victory was in December, when they defeated LaSalle by a score of 113-72.

The slump began with the team getting blown out by Clay, 66-119. The streak continued as they lost a three-way meet to Bremen/Tippy Valley. Losing by scores of 29-73 and 47-54. The Panthers then lost to a talented St. Joe team by a disappointing score of 81-103.

Coach Dave Woods said, "One of the reasons for our slump is that it seems hard for the team to maintain its level of effort over Christmas break. Christmas vacation is not really a break, but a time that we have to continue to put forth a lot of effort, and we sometimes tend to take things a little easier through this period. Also, I do not feel that the slump is as bad as our record would indicate. We have had a good share

of swimmers continue to swim personal best times. Other teams just swam a little better."

At Elkhart Memorial, the team fell short of victory once again. They did, however, manage to capture several 1st and 2nd-place finishes. In the 400-relay Matt and Kevin Dixon, along with Adam Hooten and Brad Langhofer, captured the 2nd-place spot.

Other 2nd-place finishes included Kyle Folk, Eric Bastine, Colin Nuner, and David Lute in the 200-medley relay and Matt Dixon in the 200-free. The Dixons struck again with Kevin winning the 100-fly and Matt winning the 100-free. Lute, Hooten, and Nuner teamed with Matt Dixon to win the 200-free relay.

"I think the team really looked good today, and if there is such a thing as a positive loss, this was it," said freshman Jason Gorbitz after the meet. With the momentum gained from the Memorial meet, the team was ready for a home meet with Knox. The Panthers looked like the team of a month ago, as they

soundly defeated Knox by a score of 110-68. The team was so pumped that they captured both the 1st or 2nd-place spots in eight events.

The Dixons blew away the competition once again. First, Matt placed second in the 200-free. The very next event, the 200-IM, was won by Kevin who went on to win the 100-butterfly. Matt teamed with Lute, Hooten, and freshman Brian Ziolkowski for a first in 200-free relay.

Senior Tom Hathaway took second, scoring 6.5 out of a possible 10 on several dives. Nuner once again added to the team total by easily winning the 100-breast. Fittingly enough, the meet ended with the Dixons, who teamed with Nuner and Lute, to destroy the competition and win the 400-free relay.

With this victory under their belts, Kevin Dixon summed up the teams' feelings with five simple words: "The swim team is back."

The team's next meet is Feb. 1 when they travel to Adams. □

Girls enjoying success

By **Drew Griffis**
Sports Writer

The girls' basketball team could not get enough of a good thing and reeled off seven straight victories. They began their winning streak early in December.

The streak started with a win over St. Joe; then they defeated Riley. They won their third straight game with a victory over rival Adams.

The streaking Panthers then went to LaSalle to play in the Holiday Tournament. The tourney consisted of four teams: Adams, LaSalle, LaVille, and WHS. In the first round, the Panthers played LaVille, and LaSalle squared off against Adams.

The Lady Panthers destroyed LaVille in the first game. The Lancers were made to look helpless at times in the second half, holding them to only four points on route to a 58-21 victory.

Junior Winneta Neely led all scores with 14; senior co-captain Jodi Jurkowski pitched in another 12; sophomore Sarah Wood scored 10, while junior Cortney Litka and sophomore Tasha Johnson each added eight more.

In the championship game of the tournament, the Panthers played Adams, who had de-

feated LaSalle in the opening round. The team overcame an early deficit to win convincingly over the Eagles 51-38 in the championship game. Jurkowski led the way with 14 points, junior Nicole Drabecki added 12, and Neely dumped in another nine.

"I was very pleased with how well the team played; we dominated both games in the tourney," said Coach Marilyn Coddens.

The team's most thrilling game yet was against Marian. It was close the whole way through. Neither team could take control of the game, but the Panthers slipped by the Knights for their sixth straight victory. Johnson led the team with 11, Jurkowski added 10, senior co-captain Kisha Perry and Cortney Litka each scored six.

The next game pitted the Panthers against Elkhart Memorial who also had a streak going of their own, 11 straight losses. It was no contest; the girls outplayed helpless Memorial in every aspect of the game. They went on to destroy the Chargers 56-42.

Jurkowski led all scores with 17, Neely shot in 11, Drabecki stepped up with nine, and Johnson scored eight of her own.

"We've been playing well as a team. All five starting players have been playing

good all-around basketball. I think that was the key to our success," said Drabecki who is averaging nine points, and leads the team in assists.

The girls now had won seven straight and were 8-4 overall, but they were also one of five teams at the top of the Northern Indiana Conference with only a single conference loss. Coddens attributes her team's success to better hustle and rebounding.

Unfortunately, however all good things must come to an end. The girls' winning streak was snapped by the Blue Blazers 53-43. Neely and Drabecki each scored 10; Jurkowski added another eight in the loss.

The Panthers then went to Jimtown to play the Jimmies. Jurkowski had a huge game with 21 points, but that was not enough though, as the Jimmies were victorious 67-52. Drabecki added another nine for the 9-6 Panthers.

"I am not surprised about the team's success," said Coddens. "Our goal is to be sectional champs, and I feel the girls are quite capable of stepping up and winning the sectional."

The girls' sectional begins January 30 at LaVille, the championship game is Feb. 4. □

Dyszkiewicz and Andrzezewski chosen to lead the Panthers

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**

Sports Writer

The wrestling team does not select captains before the season because they base it on performance and leadership.

The two best individuals for that job were seniors Matt Andrzezewski and Tim Dyszkiewicz.

"We base it mostly on leadership, and the team voted for these two: I would definitely agree," commented Coach Carl Evans.

Continuing on a winning note, the Panthers hosted their first dual match of the season against the Clay Colonials.

It is a match the seniors have never won.

"We have beaten Clay in sectionals, but never in a dual meet," said Andrzezewski.

Freshman Tony Krol started the Panthers off on the right foot by pinning his opponent in the second period.

Freshman Tony Heeter continued on the winning track with a dramatic victory in the final seconds. Up 10-9 and on top, he was reversed and fell behind 10-11 with just 10 seconds to go in the match, but just before the horn sounded, he reversed his opponent back and won the match 12-11 and put the Panthers ahead 9-0.

Freshmen Vincent Minor and Shannon Althouse both lost by decisions and just that quickly the score was 9-8.

Next up for the Panthers was Nate Reeder. In a tough match and the score even at 3-3 and Reeder escaped to claim victory 4-3.

Sophomore Kyle Bach won by a pin only 24 seconds into the second round, and, like Reeder, an escape late in the final period allowed Andrzezewski to win by a 10-9 decision.

This put the Panthers up by the score of 21-8.

Following two straight losses by decision, the Panthers allowed Clay right back in, and suddenly it was one pin away from being tied up.

This was as close as Clay would get all night as sophomore John Comeau dominated the final two rounds of the match to win an 8-1 decision.

Next up for the Panthers was sophomore Phillip Evans. Clay's Chuma Udongo was in control early, and led by the score of 8-2 at the midway point of the to overcome second period, but the strength of Evans was tough to overcome, as Udongo soon found out.

Evans reversed him onto his back and pinned him to not only win the match, but to put

a nail in Clay's coffin.

After freshman Chris Glenn lost a 6-3 decision, the score was 30-18 and Clay had a glimpse of hope; two pins would tie it for the Colonials.

The only problem was Dyszkiewicz and junior heavyweight Eloy Alvarez are two very large obstacles.

Dyszkiewicz ran his record to 13-0 with a victory by pin just 39 seconds into the match, and Alvarez won a 14-4 decision.

The final score was 40-18, and the Panthers were 9-0.

The Panthers then travelled to St. Joseph High School for a four-team match that the

"I knew going in to the tournament that Redman would be in between me and the title. A lot of people doubted me, but I shut them all up."

-Senior Tim
Dyszkiewicz

Panthers easily won.

LaSalle was the first victim of the tournament for the Panthers, followed by Marian, and St. Joe.

The Panthers produced five individual champions, Krol, Minor, Andrzezewski, Dyszkiewicz, and Alvarez.

Dyszkiewicz was named the Most Valuable Wrestler of the tournament as he won all three of his matches by pinning his opponents in the first round. He also ran his record to a perfect 16-0.

Next up for the Panthers was the ever-difficult Mishawaka Invitational over Christmas vacation.

The Panthers came in with high hopes of sending a few wrestlers into the second day of competition.

The Panthers sent three wrestlers into the second day of competition: Focosi, in his first match back; Phillip Evans; and undefeated Tim

Dyszkiewicz.

Dyszkiewicz and Evans were still in the winners' bracket with a shot at winning the tournament with two more wins on the second day.

In order to advance to the second day, Evans was forced to defeat a difficult opponent from Belmont. He won by a pin in the second round and was set to face Derrick Snyder from Mishawaka, the number-one wrestler in the state.

Dyszkiewicz had a tough match right off the bat with Beau Sands of Penn.

Down 2-3 with just four seconds remaining, he escaped to force overtime and after a scoreless overtime, he escaped and advanced into the semifinals.

Focosi was winless the second day and was awarded the eighth-place medal.

Evans was defeated by Snyder and then fell again to finish fourth overall.

Dyszkiewicz was a different story, as he won his semifinal match with ease and advanced to face then number-one ranked Craig Redman of Mishawaka.

Redman took the early lead with a takedown, but Dyszkiewicz escaped to cut the lead to 1-2. In the second period, Redman tried to throw him, but that did not work. Redman ended up on his back and determined to win, but Dyszkiewicz leaped on top and that was it.

He upset the number-one wrestler in the state and won the Mishawaka tournament at the same time.

"I knew going into the tournament that Redman would be in between me and the title. A lot of people doubted me, but I shut them all up."

The Panthers then had an invitational at Lake Station, and Phillip Evans was the only Panther to claim the title.

After defeating Riley, the Panthers cruised into the Northern Indiana Conference championships. They went 3-2 as a team, defeating Wawasee, LaSalle, and St. Joe. They lost to Penn and Elkhart Memorial.

The Panthers' next match was against the seventh-ranked Mishawaka Cavemen. WHS lost by the score of 50-12. The only two victories for the Panthers were Reeder and Alvarez, who both were victorious by pin.

Reeder won by slapping on the "Nate-wrench," and Alvarez just overpowered his opponent.

Despite losing four matches lately, Dyszkiewicz has a record of 29-4.

The Panthers' next match is the regionals on Feb. 3. □

The Chicago Bulls and their spectacular record

By **Eric Bastine**
Sports Editor

With a recent victory over the Detroit Pistons, the Chicago Bulls raised their record thus far into the 1995-96 season to 34-3. This was the Bulls' 11th straight victory, and their 13th straight over the Pistons, their bitter NBA rival. With this sudden dominance over the rest of the league, the Bulls and their fans are looking to be the first team in NBA history to win 70 games in one season. The record is currently held by the 1972-73 Los Angeles Lakers, who finished with a seemingly untouched 69-13 record—until now.

I have not been such an avid fan of the Chicago Bulls for very long. In fact, when the Bulls began their string of three straight NBA titles, I was still a die hard fan of the Pistons, a team that I grew up loving. Having never been a person who likes teams only when they were winning games and league championships, I did not follow the Bulls until the retirement of Michael Jordan in October of 1993.

At this point, not too many people gave the Bulls much of a chance to win a fourth title. I decided to give them a chance. The Bulls went deep into the playoffs that year only to lose to the New York Knicks, a team the Bulls had stepped on each of the last three years on their way to the NBA Finals.

This is now a different season. Michael Jordan decided to take over the NBA for the second time in his illustrious career, and is currently in the best shape of his life. The Bulls acquired Dennis Rodman, the best rebounding forward in the history of the league to bolster their front line. Guard Ron Harper is having the best season of his career and Chicago has a bench that All-Star forward Scottie Pippen calls "the toughest team we've played all year long." Add up all these components and you will have a team that will win the NBA title this season, and who knows how many more.

Jordan made his situation very clear:

"If Scottie and (head coach) Phil Jackson are here, I'll be here for at least three more years."

With 34 wins in just 37 games, I really don't think that the Bulls' management will be eager to split up this league powerhouse.

These Bulls have confidence. They know they can win. Everyone should be rooting for these guys.

You just might be telling your grandchildren that you saw the best team in the NBA history. □

Sports Calendar

Boys Basketball

Fri. Feb. 2 at St. Joe
Sat. Feb. 3 at Brandywine
Tue. Feb. 6 Christian Center
Fri. Feb. 9 Elkhart Central
Homecoming
Sat. Feb. 10 CMA
Fri. Feb. 16 Penn.
Tue. Feb. 27 Sectionals

Girls Basketball

Fri. Feb. 2 Sectional Finals
at Laville
Sat. Feb. 10 Regionals
Sat. Feb. 17 Semi-State
Sat. Feb. 24 State Finals

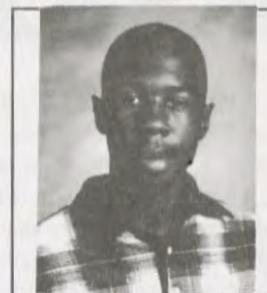
Boys Swimming

Thurs. Feb. 1 at Adams
Thurs. Feb. 15 Sectionals
at Mishawaka
Sat. Feb. 17 Sectional Finals
at Mishawaka
Sat. Feb. 24 State Finals

Wrestling

Sat. Feb. 3 Regionals
Sat. Feb. 10 Semi-State
Sat. Feb. 17 State Finals

Sports Profile



Name: Jamal Henry
Birthdate: July 22, 1980
Year: Sophomore
Height: 5' 5"
Nickname: Mal
Sports played: Tennis, basketball, baseball
Awards and achievements: 2nd team all-conference for tennis, three-sport letter winner
Sports role model: Michael Jordan
Non-Sports role model: My mother
Hobbies: Playing sports
Favorite food: Pizza
Favorite musician: Tupac Shakur
Favorite sports teams: Bulls, Seattle Mariners, North Carolina
What I love about school: Lunch
What I hate about school: Getting up and going
My parents were right when they told me: You can do anything if you put your mind to it.
Most embarrassing moment: When I tripped running out of the batter's box during a baseball game against John Glenn.
Pre-game rituals: Eat a Snickers.
What turns me off: People who smoke
Person I'd like to meet: Martin Luther King, Jr.
In 20 years I see myself: As a successful business man.
What makes playing sports at WHS special? The rivalries with other schools.

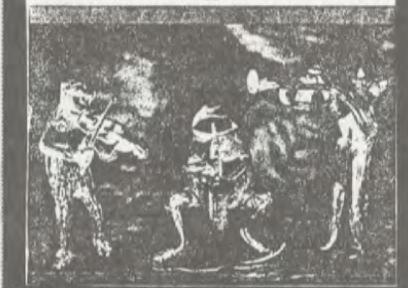
TRACK 16

You won't find Lincoln on the drums, or Washington plucking a guitar. Kennedy does not sing back-up, and Eisenhower won't be doing any crowd surfing. But the self-titled debut album from the Presidents of the United States is anything but normal.

They are a small band, three members strong with a total of five strings among them: Chris Bellew, two-string basitar; Dave Dederer, three string guitbass; and Jason Finn, drums. A guest appearance on this album is made by Kim Thayil, lead guitarist for Soundgarden.

The Presidents are in an odd class of their own; feature songs on the new album include *Kitty* (complete with

The Presidents
of The United States
of America



meowing band members); *Peaches* (the fuzzy fruit, not an innuendo); and *Boll Weevil* (featured on the *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls* soundtrack). One of the most original numbers on the disk is entitled *We Are Not Going To Make It*, a song wherein the band sings about their



own
imminent
failure.

Their first single, *Lump*, is probably their best-known song (there has already been a truly tasteless parody made from it), and it's one of those tunes where nobody is exactly sure what it's about, although theories abound. All we know for sure is, "she's Lump."

Over all, the album is—if not a classic release—a fun one, and deserving of a place in your CD collection. -M.S.

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 will result in an "unpleasant" visitation from a large hired thug named Knuckles.

By Bob Palatino and Gary Zapf
Two Guys



Grasp a hold on reality.

GARY: Imagine throwing a movie together using theories and techniques of *Back to the Future* and *Total Recall*. Better yet, imagine yourself as a young boy, witnessing the death of another man, only to find out that man was you! Sound strange? Yes, well, we're here to bring you *12 Monkeys*, so far this year's best and strangest movie.

BOB: We should probably warn you: if you were confused by any of the *Back to the Future* movies, this one

isn't for you.

GARY: Well, now that Bob has turned away half the audience, I'll continue. In the year 1996 a deadly, man-made virus escapes into the earth killing nearly 5 billion people (including Bob).

BOB: Hey!

GARY: Only one percent of the population survives and takes shelter underground, where they are safe from the virus. The animals, once again, rule the earth.

BOB: Bruce Willis (James) is one of those survivors. He is sent back in time to locate the source of the virus and gather information on how to destroy it. The only clue is that a group of people known as the "Army of the 12 Monkeys" seem to have started this plague.

GARY: The movie shoots back and forth in time, and unless you follow closely, you will get lost.

BOB: Even if you follow closely, you'll get lost. Just try your best, and—by gosh—you may just get it!

GARY: Bob should have been a peer mediator.

BOB: Thank you Gary.

GARY: The acting was great. Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt take a turn from their usual roles. Instead of Pitt playing a cunning vampire or a cowboy of some kind, he plays a schizophrenic weirdo who turns out to be the leader of.....

BOB: Uh, the Army of the 12 Monkeys?

GARY: Correct! Well, if you like what you've heard we strongly encourage this movie. Not only does it keep your eyes fixed on the screen, it lets you do the thinking.

BOB: Thumbs up!

Bob & Gary's Top 5 Street and Jail Movies

1. The Shawshank Redemption
2. Blood In, Blood Out
3. Boys in the Hood
4. Colors
5. Menace to Society