

THE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HATCHET

NOVEMBER
EDITION
FREE
• 1996

The words of one Vietnam veteran illustrates some of the different forms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)...

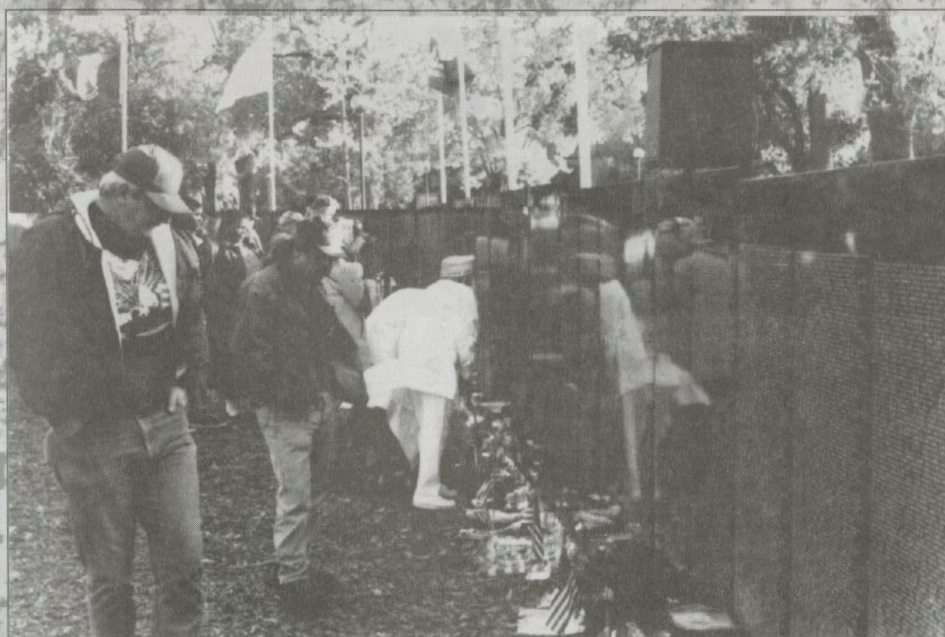


Photo courtesy of Jason Imler

The Moving Wall

MY MARRIAGE IS FALLING

apart. We just don't talk anymore... I spend most of my time at home alone in the basement. . . She's tried to tell me she cares for me, but I get real uncomfortable talking about things like that, and I get up and leave. Sometimes I get real angry over the smallest thing. I used to hit her when this would happen, but lately I just punch out a hole in the wall, or leave and go for a long drive. Sometimes I spend more time on the road just driving aimlessly than I do at home.

I really don't have any friends, and I'm pretty particular about who I want as a friend. The world is pretty much dog eat dog, and no one seems to care much for anyone else. As far as I'm concerned, I'm really not a part of this messed up society. What I'd really like to do is have a home in the mountains, somewhere far away from everyone. . .

I usually feel depressed. I've felt this way for years. There have been times I've been so depressed that I won't even leave the basement. I'll usually start drinking pretty heavily around these times. I've also thought about committing suicide when I've been depressed.

Sometimes, my head starts to replay some of my experiences in Nam. Regardless of what I'd like to think about, it comes creeping in. It's so hard to push back out again. . . When I go hiking now, I avoid green areas. . . When I walk down the street, I get real uncomfortable with people behind me that I can't see. . . Night is the hardest for me. . . I think of so many of my Nam experiences at night. . .

I don't know, this has been going on for so long; it seems to be getting gradually worse. My wife is talking about leaving. I guess it's no big deal. But I'm lonely. I really don't have anyone else. Why am I the only one like this?

-taken from "Reaching the Vietnam Vet," published by Focus on the Family

Inside This Issue:

Fine arts students venture to Indianapolis and Orlando, and the orchestra just keeps growing and growing. . .

p. 4-5

A very "moving" experience comes to South Bend's Howard Park; a minimized Vietnam Wall commemorates the deaths of soldiers killed in the war.

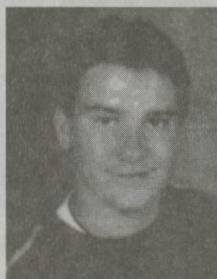
p. 8-9

Boys basketball most promising winter sport--there's a forecast for a great season.

p. 12-15

PASSING TIME

Do you think public schools should have a dress code and why?



"Not really. If everyone wears the same thing, they can't be individuals."

Jason Weisniewski-
sophomore



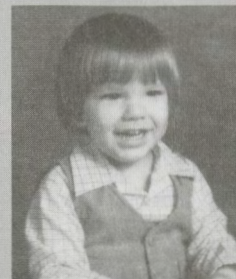
"No, because I think it would make students not want to come to school."

Miranda Bueno- junior



"People should be able to wear what they want; there shouldn't be restrictions."

Angie Blondell- junior



2 years of age

"No, I think everything's fine the way it is. Why change it?"

Todd Bella- senior



PANTHER BITES

THE BALLOTS ARE TALLIED AND
HERE'S WHAT THEY SAY...



How much freedom
do today's teens have?

Not enough: 88

Just Right: 32

Too Much: 9

Are adults today limiting the freedom of
teens too much?

Yes-99 No-27



Curfews
At Night?

69-Unfair
57-Fair

**HOW OLD SHOULD YOU HAVE
TO BE ALLOWED TO...** (as indicated by majority vote)

- ... be at the mall without a parent? **ages 12-15**
- ... smoke cigarettes? **ages 16-18**
- ... get a tatoo? **ages 16-18**
- ... get a body part pierced? **ages 16-18**
- ... use hair dye? **ages 12-15**
- ... attend a concert without an adult? **ages 16-18**
- ... stay at home unsupervised at night? **ages 12-15**



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

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

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

...

The HATCHET is a publication of Washington High School, and is printed at LaSalle High School by Mr. Frank Marconi and the Vocational Printing Class.

Letters to the Editors

To the Editor:

Changing the schedule for half days is a really bad idea. Passing periods are cut short by two minutes, which made me late twice. If someone like me was late, I'm surprised that any of the freshmen showed up at all.

In addition to this, everyone's hungry by third hour, even though it's only about nine in the morning. Of course, this throws me off for the rest of the day; I fall asleep at six and get to school at three the next morning.

Instead of having four classes on a half day, have two. The next half day, have the other two. It evens out, and no one ends up getting here before Mrs. Pat.

Sincerely,

Paul Ohnesorge

senior

Dear Editor:

I am writing in regards to this closed-lunch situation. I understand that not everyone is too fond of closed lunch, but we should make the best of what we have.

We should at least use the equipment we have properly. With a refrigerated vending machine down by the auxiliary gym, there should be a well-stocked supply of sandwiches, fruit, veggies, and milk. Why have a special vending machine for cold foods if all we keep in it are chips and candy bars?

I also think that there should be healthier foods in the vending machines. Having only high calorie and fat-filled snacks is ridiculous and totally unhealthy.

Other additions to make the senior commons more enjoyable are an aluminum can recycling bin and a napkin dispenser.

Sincerely,

Heather Deha

senior

What's your call?

Ross Perot received tax payer money to run his campaign for the presidency. Yet, Perot wasn't permitted to participate in the Presidential debates. Americans didn't get to hear his views on topics discussed by the other candidates. His presence in the debates could have affected the outcome of the election. Should he have been allowed to join the debates? What's your call?

Yes, because Ross Perot was an independent. I don't think that his taking part in an election debate would have changed many votes, but it was unfair to deny him that right.

Jason Critchlow

sophomore

Place for special students

By Erin Coleman
News Editor

MOST EVERYONE HAS SEEN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS, whether in the cafeteria, the halls, or the classroom, and probably wondered why and what they do in school.

Sue Perry teaches the severe and profound, and Jeannine Hartman teaches the moderately mentally handicapped and autistic students. Three teachers are assigned to each class for 1:1 and 1:2 student to teacher ratio for the students with slower learning processes.

Hartman said that these students attend WHS instead of a special school because in a special one, students of all ages are placed together. In public school, they can be with people of the same age and be able to work in the same, or similar routine as those around them.

During seminar when their work is finished from earlier in the morning, they will play a game like vocabulary bingo. Their activities include arts and crafts, which is like art class; leisure recreation, which is like P.E. class; and their regular classroom curriculum.

Physical education teacher and instructor for leisure recreation, Kristi Walz said, "I think they enjoy coming down here; we make sure all of the students are involved in both group and individual activities. It is important for them to do this."

The student's curriculum is based on three main components: work, leisure, and personal management. The last area covers a wide range of skills including such things as choosing appropriate clothing, personal hygiene, shopping, and crossing the street.

Functional vocabulary such as street signs and building signs/names are taught. Basic math for writing checks, managing money, and using a calculator are also taught.

Several skills listed above are taught through Community Based Education, where the students, escorted by one of their teachers, go out into the community to stores or other public buildings.

Freshman Valerie Lester said, "I like

going out in the community and looking at things and learning about them. It helps to learn prices and sales when we go to the store."

Throughout middle and high school, special ed. students learn skills for getting a job, maintaining a job, and accepting constructive criticism.

Life skills are taught so that someday students can become productive members of society. Included in these skills are the basics about nutrition, cooking, laundry, cleaning, health, and safety. These skills should be acquired by the time they graduate.



Freshman Valerie Lester and junior Jessica Zmudzinski share a moment of happiness during an intense game of kickball that the special education class plays during leisure recreation in adaptive physical education class.

Hartman said that presently 90 percent of her class will be able to get jobs after they graduate. "There will be something for all of them to do, even though it may not be a paying job. They'll still be able to contribute and that is important."

Some students have more than mental disabilities holding them back. Perry said, "Even though my students learn slowly, they can learn like everyone else. They have a lot more getting in their way of learning than most people. Most have multiple [physical] handicaps which in addition to mental handicaps, include orthopedic, vision, hearing, communication and emotional handicaps, and autism."

Certain laws require special students to come to school for the same number of years as the other students. The law also states that they have the right to a free and appropriate

education in the least restrictive environment.

"Public schools provide an education for all students. These people can learn; they may learn slower or differently from others, but they have every right to be given the opportunity," said Hartman.

The South Bend School Corporation not only provides them an education, but also has a program that helps special students find jobs.

Lester has been employed by food services. She cleans off the tables during the lunches and helps fill the juice machines.

She said, "I like the cafeteria workers; they are nice, but I don't like cleaning the really messy tables, or when other students bother me."

Before the students graduate, they can be placed in the same program that helps employ them within or outside of the school system.

Two of this year's seniors will be eligible to go to the Young Adult Program at Brown School until they turn 22. It is a program that works on similar skills but is vocationally oriented or job related. Many students will work in the community, and some will work for Logan Industries.

Others may go on to a Rehabilitation Program at Logan Center where they will work on skills to increase their level of independence in daily living.

Several regular education students have gone into the special education rooms to help out in the past, usually one or two per school year. Some students have just come in to help; others have come in as a Project Teach class from others schools. "I really enjoyed helping in the special education class; I hope others will continue to want to," said Christian Behling, a former student.

Perry said, "From my experience of being in a segregated school building, my students did not have the opportunities they do now. Over the years, many have thought people who were different should not be included with others.

"If people are given a chance to learn about each other, they find they are not so different and fear and misunderstanding break down. I would hope that more people can get to know my students better and look beyond their handicaps. They're great kids who have taught me a great deal." □

More students pulling strings

By Katharine Chan &
Kim Sparks

Co-Editor & Staff Writer

ORCHESTRA

Four, five, 10, 27... no, this isn't a weird IQ test problem but the enrollment numbers of the orchestra for the past few years. Until last year, the group had never ventured into the double digits.

With the encouragement of Sheila Kilcoyne, former Greene Elementary and Navarre Middle School orchestra teacher (presently teaching in a Connecticut music conservatory), and director Virginia Long-Cecil, head of the fine arts department, the orchestra has grown from a small chamber group into a full-size ensemble.

Junior Toya Grove said, "My first year, the orchestra was really small. With the larger size, we've gotten better; it's been more fun."

Balance of musical parts had always been a problem with the minimal numbers because of the numerous violins. This year with 32 play-

ers, the orchestra is well-balanced and also has enough players to combine with some of the band in joint symphonic pieces.

"I've had a small group of maybe four to six players in the past eight years. They were talented, but I couldn't use any full orchestra music with them. This year I've received the largest number of students, and the quality has risen as well as the number...this year is wonderful," said Long-Cecil.

More complex numbers and a wider variety of music presents a greater challenge and also the chance to excel for the orchestra members.

CHOIR

Eleven members of the concert/swing choirs were recently selected to travel to Butler University as part of an honor choir at an annual choir festival. They joined other singers from around the Midwest to perform selected movements from the Vivaldi *Gloria*.

Long-Cecil chose two quartets and several alternates to represent WHS.

The students who participated were seniors Scott Siri, Kelly Retek, Heather Deka, Jeremy Moody, and Katharine Chan; juniors Kenneth Kelly and Tina Brantley; sophomore Michael Drain; freshmen Robert Hocker and Larry Levine.

The choir left for Indianapolis in early November to rehearse for the Saturday performance and to learn new techniques to improve their singing style and ability. Levine said, "We went to learn about phrasing and how to put expression into what we sing."

The honor choir later combined with the Butler choir for a mass cho-

ral performance of *O Filii et Filiae* by Volckmar Leising.

The choir has also been invited to join with the Symphonic Chorus, along with the Riley Choraliers and the Mishawaka choir, for the South Bend Symphony's annual Christmas concert at the Morris Civic Auditorium. Two performances will be given: the evening of Dec. 7 at 8 and Dec. 8 at 3.

The program includes excerpts from the Vivaldi *Gloria*, Handel's *Messiah*, and various carols by English composer John Rutter.

BAND AND COLOR GUARD

This spring break, the marching band and color guard will be traveling to Florida to participate in several special educational workshops hosted by Walt Disney World. In addition to the workshops, the students will also be marching in Disney World along with other schools from around the nation.

Band director Ted Lilly first had ideas about this trip last fall. "We've had to do a lot of fund raising. Each student had to raise money, and the band boosters have also helped. I think this is going to be a great trip, something that the students will remember for all of their lives," said Lilly.

The band has reserved three charter buses for the 22 hour, non-stop trek to Orlando. Thirty parent chaperons will be accompanying the 90 students on this trip. Accommodations will be provided by the Disney All-Star Resort and are included in the trip price of \$460 per person.

"I can't wait! It'll be a blast," said excited senior Jeff Poe.

Other stops that are scheduled are Medieval Times, Blizzard Beach, and Pleasure Island.

Senior Scott Siri said, "I'm glad we get to take such a big trip my senior year. I'm looking forward to having a good time with all of my friends, including Eddie." □



Bryan Brunett is one of the many freshmen who is making a significant contribution to the orchestra.

PANTHERS

BY TRICIA NYIKOS

BETTER THAN CAVE PAINTING AND KAZOOS:

Art instructor Ann Hamilton guides sophomores Johnny Chapman and Matthew Thompson through the start of a new drawing project.



"Drum roll, please!" Keeping rhythm for the jazz band is senior Noel Matthews who is also a percussion player in the concert band.



Concentrating intently on his music, freshman Patrick Jacobson-Reighter practices for the upcoming band/orchestra concert.



Working outside in the courtyard helps to spark the creativity of ceramic students, juniors Tony Matthews and Sarah Wood.



Playing hard, senior Ryan Whitt practices on the stage for an upcoming performance.

Two Full Pages of Your Friends, Your School, and a Zany Cast of Millions!

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Senior Tanya DeLee and junior Kevin Griffis work on their "alternate" forms of expression in art class.



"Blow that horn!" Senior Josh Kaser gives it his all when it comes to music.



Freshman Benji Woolet "takes five" from jazz band rehearsal to gather his music.



Junior David McCray and band director Ted Lilly are just jammin' along.



Freshman Milan Carter "sings his heart out" with the encouragement from the head of the music department, Virginia Long-Cecil.



Showing his versatility, junior Luke Allen takes a break from his saxophone only to strike up some chords on the piano.

Contributing photographer Katharine Chan

Time for remembrance, time for healing

By Lindsay Maller &
Erin Wardman
Staff Writers

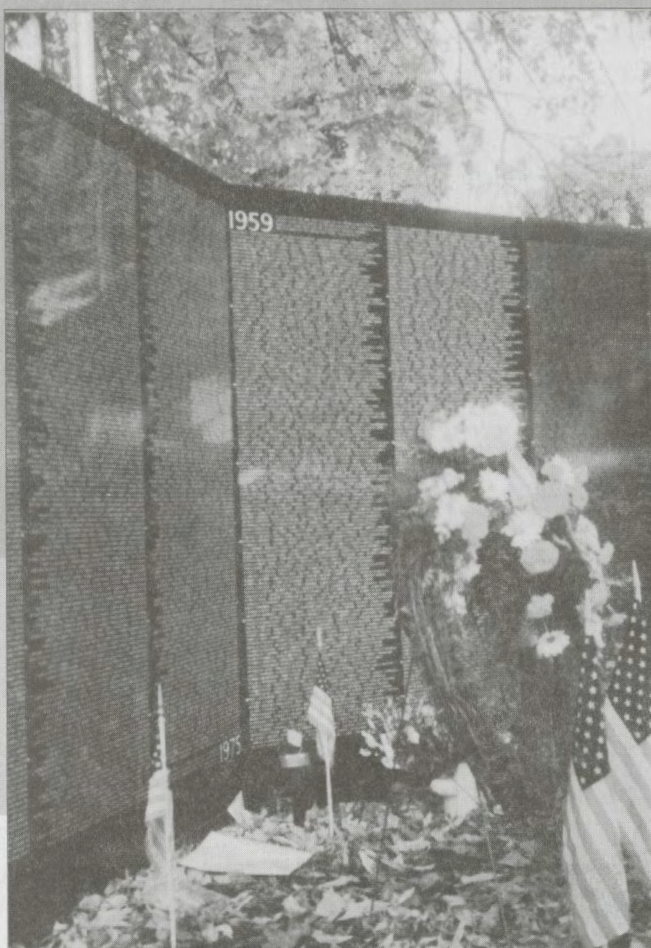
PICTURE YOURSELF...ONE DAY you're a high-school student concerned with homework, friends, and the homecoming football game, and then suddenly you're faced with the reality of machine guns and land mines. As unbelievable and frightening as this sounds, thousands of young Americans, with the average age of 18.9 years, had to make this transition during the Vietnam War.

The Vietnam War, which ended barely 20 years ago, first involved the United States when President Dwight D. Eisenhower pledged American support to South Vietnam because of communist threats from the North Vietnamese. American aid increased in the early 1960's when President John F. Kennedy sent more than 16,000 military advisors to South Vietnam, spending some 400 million dollars. American troops became fully involved under President Lyndon B. Johnson, in 1964, when U.S. Ships were attacked in the Gulf of Tonkin for carrying anti-communists from the North, to freedom in the South.

Finally, in 1975, American troops were completely removed from South Vietnam under President Gerald R. Ford. Some Americans still think this was a pointless war because the reasons for fighting were unclear, although most perceive that it was for Vietnamese

democracy.

The Vietnam War was the first televised war America had ever experienced. The gruesome images of dying Vietnamese women and children were overwhelming to a country which had never been exposed to the reality of war. As a result, the country became divided because many Americans opposed the war; some even labeled the soldiers as "baby-killers."



For each individual name among the thousands listed on the wall, there are friends and family members who still mourn the loss of their loved ones.

"We lost 55,000 plus guys for God knows what reason," said Vietnam veteran and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (JROTC) teacher, Chief Tom Lustik. He explained that in 1968, as the pictures on television became increasingly graphic, anti-war protests peaked.

Vietnam was the first "teenage" war, causing many riots among young adults. As a soldier was fighting, his family members could have been rioting against the war. Lustik said, "It was almost like brother against brother."

Despite the extensive media coverage, television broadcasts never clearly showed how some Vietnamese women and children had their own weapons of war. Vietnam veteran Milton Foster said, "I had a little boy come and drop a grenade in my gas tank." He was unwilling, however, to give further detail on the outcome.

MANY SOLDIERS WERE emotionally wounded after facing these kinds of situations. Adding to their pain was

the realization that most South Vietnamese didn't want their help. Veteran Dave Stuber said the Vietnamese often yelled in their faces, "GI, go home!"

Feeling rejected in Vietnam, soldiers looked with hope to being celebrated by their own people. Even though this was an unpopular war, the soldiers still believed that they would be treated the same as past war veterans. Vietnam soldiers received no parades and were

Photo by Kim Hanness



Photo by Kim Hanness

Recognizing the need for healing, Michiana veterans Milton Foster, Dale Hurt, and Dave Stuber helped bring the Wall to South Bend. They willingly shared their war experiences with WHS press and groups of students from local elementary schools.

not called heroes. Instead, they were spat on and dubbed "baby-killers." Returning home without recognition, their emotions were damaged further.

Worst of all, many were forced to remain silent about their horrible experiences. Family and friends simply didn't want to listen to the horror stories of war. Most Vietnam veterans were able to deal with the rejection, but a large number (800,000) still have emotional problems of depression, anger, and guilt. These are only three of the many symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.

"A lot of guys went nuts because they had to shoot kids," said Stuber. He went on to explain that one of the best medicines for the hurting veterans is the Wall.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. (the Wall) was built to remember those who died in Vietnam, as well as to help veterans overcome their feelings of rejection. Recently, there have been parades honoring the vets.

"The parades and things did a lot of good. Being applauded makes us [veterans] feel better," said Stuber.

Veteran Dale Hurt also agreed by saying, "That's the thing we want for America; we want healing."

In 1983, John Devitt, along with two other vets, conceived the idea of a moving wall to take to those unable to visit the monument in Washington. Two half-sized replicas consisting of 58,196

names each now travel all over the country, while another stands in reserve.

"The Vietnam Veterans of Michiana, Inc., requested the Moving Wall here in South Bend," said Hurt. The Wall was in South Bend for the second time, at Howard Park last October. Its first visit was in the fall of 1993.



Photo by Ms. Richardson

Contrasting with the harsh black and white wall are the flowers, pictures, and other memorabilia placed there by the friends and families of the slain Americans.

Hurt also commented that the veterans' group had a vet guarding the Wall 24 hours a day.

WHS JROTC cadets assisted the veterans in guarding the Wall. The students' main concern, however, was to help the visitors find names on the wall.

"Our kids volunteered to help people in the community with historical or emotional ties to names on the Wall. They weren't there to make a big deal about WHS JROTC; they were there to help the people," said Lustik.

"When I got to the Moving Wall, I thought it was going to be boring, but actually, it was sad. Some people didn't even know if their family or friends had died until that moment," said senior Mike Horvath and JROTC cadet.

Hurt said he realized that this was a moving experience for the young cadets, but that their understanding of the situation could only go so far. "You look and see a wall—we look and see the men."

The JROTC volunteers were not the only Panthers affected by the Wall. Some students have relatives who were directly involved. Unfortunately, all of the students contacted said that their relatives would still feel uncomfortable talking about the war experiences.

Despite all the accomplishments made toward healing, America still has a long way to go in recovering from the first and only war she ever lost. □



Limited time only

All across the country teens can hear the ominous click of turning locks as businesses and restaurants shut their doors to them. City governments are setting curfews and asking the help of law enforcement officials to patrol teens who are out after hours.

Editorial

All of this is for two reasons. Some teens cannot conduct themselves in an appropriate manner, and others should be protected from their negative actions.

In South Bend, people 16 and 17 years of age must be in by 11 on weeknights and one on weekends. Anyone under that age, must be in by 10 on weeknights and 12 on weekends.

Unfortunately, the majority will be restricted along with those who cannot control their own behavior.

Curfews have the most impact on metropolitan cities and larger shopping areas such as mall complexes. These are heavily populated teen areas. In fact, many stores are designed to attract teens, while curfews are designed to keep them away.

Many teens argue that curfews infringe upon their constitutional rights; however, these restrictions do have a positive effect on crime.

Many officers have said that already in the few places that curfews have been enacted, a significant decrease in crime and violence has been noted.

Like closed lunch and school uniforms, responsible young adults must again have their freedom restricted by their irresponsible peers.

Thumbs Up Thumbs Down

THUMBS UP

...to the entire cast and crew of *Father of the Bride*. All of you did an excellent job! The costuming and set were outstanding. We can't wait to see what the next production will be.

...to freshman Rob Siri who was the surprise star of *Father of the Bride*. Great work on memorizing those lines and avoiding falling extension cords!

...to all of those who made honor roll/honor guild and attended the breakfast. Better luck next time to those who either forgot their report cards and stamped ID's or didn't meet either qualification. Actually, take that last comment back; it just leaves more donuts and juice for the rest of us!

...to all of those parents who attended the conferences and took time out to talk with teachers and administration. It really helps when you show interest in your child's education. Who said West-Side parents don't get involved?

...to all the underclassmen who finally understand what the "senior" in senior commons stands for. Thank you all for your respect.. Don't worry, you'll have your chance soon enough.

...to the "fixin's bar" in the cafeteria. What a great addition! It gives the lunchroom more of a restaurant-like atmosphere, and it also helps to add so much more to our hamburgers.

...to Gordy Young and Tricia Sloma from WNDU Channel 16 for emceeing the Valley Aires concert to help the band raise money for their trip to Florida. Your contribution helped to "pep" up the show and brought laughter and excitement to the evening.

THUMBS DOWN

...to all of those students who talked during the play. How come our principal had to sit with you just to keep you quiet? This jeopardizes the English department's extra credit offering.

...to this awful and early "winter" weather. Instead of having an Indian Summer, it looks as though we've received an Eskimo fall.

ART Gallery

by Kimberly Harness & Mark Sniadecki



(Above) Photograph by junior
Tara Nyikos

(Top right) Linoleum print by
sophomore Aaron Scott

(Right) Linoleum print by junior
Kevin Griffis



Three-peat possible for wrestlers

Wrestling goes for three sectional titles in a row

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**
Sports Editor

The Panther wrestling team can be looked on in two different ways coming into the season.

A bright spot for the Panthers is that they are returning a lot of talent from a sectional championship team. They also had a freshman class last year that Coach Carl Evans called one of the two best classes he ever coached.

On a bad note, though, the Panthers lost four possible starters this year as well as a few more promising junior varsity wrestlers.

Sophomore Tony Krol, a semi-state qualifier last season, did not go out for the team, which left a big opening in one of the lower weight classes.

The Panthers will also be without three junior high-school city champs who decided to go out for basketball. According to Coach Evans, however, the remaining wrestlers are very dedicated and will play a key role on the team this season.

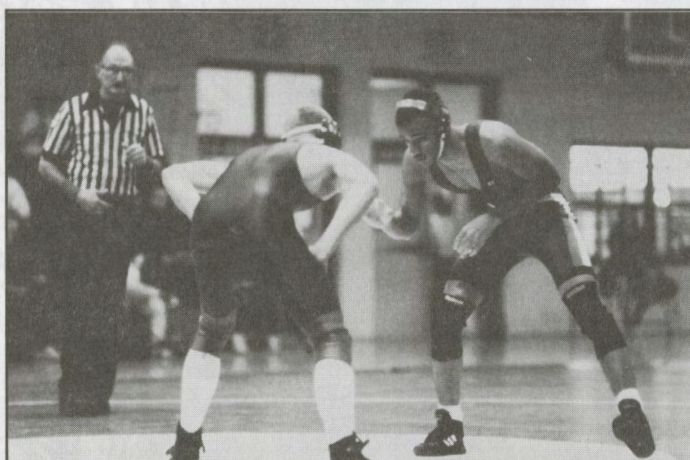
"Last year we had a good team. We had players step in and fill the holes, but did not have a lot of depth. This year is no exception. We have good starters but depth is a question. My goal is to build a dynasty here and that is impossible when you are forced to rebuild every year," said Coach Evans.

At the 103 lb. weight class there

are two freshmen, Patrick Gaska and Jeff Laskowski, who will be fighting for the position.

The 112 lb. class is a concern for Coach Evans. He has a varsity wrestler, freshman Mike McKenzie, but there is nobody else on the team in this weight class. Anyone who fits this weight and wants to wrestle is in luck because this spot is up for grabs.

At 119, sophomore Tony Heeter is the projected starter in this weight class. He saw a lot of varsity time in the 112 lb. weight class last year in the early part of the season.



Senior Isaac Evans squares off against his opponent in a tough match last season and hopes to come out on top in his matches this year.

At 125, the Panthers have a three-way battle for the varsity position. Freshman Steve Scott and sophomore Shawn Fisher are overweight at the moment, but are slimming down. Also hungry for a varsity position is sophomore Nick Johnson.

At 130 is where the Panthers begin their push toward the top of the NIC, starting with returning letterman, sophomore Vincent Minor, who is looking better and better every day according to Coach Evans.

Sophomore Shannon Althouse,

who is also a returning letter winner, will fill the gap at 135.

There is a battle for the 140 lb. weight class between sophomores Derek Hooten and Tito Rivera.

Junior Kyle Bach will wrestle 145 this year, and he is looking better and better each year and could easily make a difference for the Panthers this season.

"I feel we are an experienced team; we are very capable of three-peating as sectional champs," commented Bach.

Senior Isaac Evans will look to contend highly this season as he moves up a weight class and will wrestle 152 this season.

The 160 lb. weight class could be a problem for the Panthers unless junior John Comeau makes weight.

If he is unsuccessful in losing weight, there will be a gap at 160 and will pit two talented wrestlers, Comeau and sophomore Chris Glenn who wrestled his way to regionals last year.

At 189 is junior Phillip Evans who wrestled his way to semi-state last year and is looking forward to at least a repeat of this feat.

"My goal is not only to make it down to semi-state, but to go all the way down state; my ultimate goal is to win the whole thing," said Phillip Evans.

At 215 the Panthers must replace Tim Dyszkiewicz, a state qualifier.

As of right now, senior Javier Rocha is expected to start in this position.

Sophomore Jimmy McKinnes, who only weighs 175 lbs., is planning to gain 40 pounds to challenge this 215 lb. weight class.

Senior Eloy Alvarez rounds out the varsity positions as he is expected to have a good year in the heavyweight position.

The Panthers' first match is Tues., Dec. 3, at 7 at home against the John Glenn Falcons. □

High hopes for boys basketball

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**

Sports Editor

The boys' basketball team began this season with many goals in mind.

After being downed in the sectional championship game against Clay last year, the Panthers are looking to take hold of the N. I. C. and to possibly get a grasp on the sectional crown.

"The team really worked hard in the off-season. Everyone on the team wants to gain other teams' respect and show that we are a powerhouse in the area," said senior Todd Bella.

With only the loss of two seniors to graduation, Matt Wood and Matt Johns, the chemistry that is needed to make a championship team seems to all still be here.

As the first week of practice started, the Panthers seemed bound and determined to pick up where they left off last year. Not only the first week of practice was intense. The closer the Panthers got to the Jamboree, the harder the team worked to improve.

"I think that everyone felt that we should have won the sectionals last year, but we



Photo courtesy of Memory Lane

Junior guard Jamal Henry chalked up another of his team leading assists.

didn't.

"Most of our team is back, and we will definitely be contenders if not champions this year," said senior Edmund Kyle.

The Panthers are returning three pre-

season candidates for all-conference honors; senior Cedric Moodie for first-team, and sophomore William Avance and senior Edmund Kyle for honorable mention.

They are also bringing back two other returning lettermen. They are last year's point guard and assist leader Jamal Henry and last year's sixth man Todd Bella, who was arguably the best sixth man in the city.

"We all have a lot of experience and we all know what needs to be taken care of to win," said Moodie.

Also, newcomers sophomore Quentel Howard who saw some varsity action last year, sophomore Mike Davis at back up point guard, sophomore Demetrius Kilgore at shooting guard, junior Reggie Malone at swingman and junior Marvin Giles in the low post, the Panthers seem deep enough to go to their bench whenever needed.

Coach Milt Cooper said, "If we set out and run like we are able to do, attack the basket, rebound both offensively and defensively, and just play hard every night, it will be hard for anyone to beat us." □

Girls swimming dives into new season

By **Katie Shaumber**

Sports Writer

A change took place for the girls' swim team this year. It affected all of the schools throughout the state.

The decision was handed down last year from the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) saying that girls swimming will now be a winter sport.

"The primary reason for the switch was to help balance out the number of sports that girls could participate in during the winter season," said principal and IHSAA board member David Kaser. "There were uneven proportions of sports for the girls in the winter."

Although this new change allows the girls to letter in more sports, having practice in the evenings interferes with all of the other programs that took place during the winter months.

"We had to eliminate the winter programs to the public in the evening during the week. We no longer have the pool time to lend to the community," commented athletic director Pat Mackowiak. "All we have left to offer is 'learning to swim' on Saturdays."

Sophomore Allison Cordell said, "I was a boys' swim team manager last year, and I was able to help teach some new people how to swim. I really miss not being able to help as much because now we have the same seasons. We have to share pool time and combine practices."

Girls coach Kristi Walz was hoping to get some fall athletes to swim this winter; swimming in the winter, however, didn't have a larger turnout after all.

Walz said, "It didn't affect the team as much as I thought it would. I am disappointed that it didn't change, but it didn't hurt us either."

Returning to the team are seniors

Amber Bammerlin, Stacey Page, and Katie Shuamber; juniors Jenny Hess and Jocelyn Orlowski; sophomores Beth Chabot, Cordell, Jayme Fisher, Carly Northam, Dawn Sieczkarek, and Stephanie Wroblewski.

"THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE SWITCH [FROM A FALL SEASON TO A WINTER SEASON] WAS TO HELP BALANCE OUT THE NUMBER OF SPORTS THAT GIRLS COULD PARTICIPATE IN DURING THE WINTER SEASON," SAID PRINCIPAL AND IHSAA BOARD MEMBER DAVID KASER.

Newcomers include senior Hitomi Teria; and freshmen Jessica Christian, Monica Niemi, Sara Page, Sarah VanGoey, and Jhannin Zent.

The Panthers' next home meet is Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. □

Experience could be key factor

By **Ryan Hanyzewski**

Sports Editor

The girls' basketball team is looking forward to a great season on the hard court.

The Panthers are returning six letterwinners from last year's roster.

The returning seniors are Nicole Drabecki, Cortney Litka, Winetta Neely, and Annil Hamilton. Hamilton missed almost all of last season due to a knee injury.

Two returning juniors are Tasha Johnson and Sarah Wood.

"The returning letterwinners have to play an important role on this team. They must provide leadership to all the newcomers," commented coach Marilyn Coddens.

The seniors rotate as captains because they all play a leadership role.

The newcomers are a very talented group of athletes. They are led by juniors Tina Brantley, Alicia Ladewski, and LaTanya Johnson.

The sophomores who will see a good deal of time at the varsity level are Ryanne Litka and Serene Williams.

Freshman Kenisha Gunn will split time this year between the varsity and junior varsity teams.



Photo courtesy of Memory Lane

Junior Sarah Wood sinks a shot to boost the Panther's score in the first game of the year against Northridge.

The goals for this season are to keep a positive attitude, and keep working hard, in order to have a winning season. Obviously the main goal is to contend for the sectional championship.

The strengths of the team are definitely its depth and the fact that the team works very hard in practice. It pays off in the games.

Another strength is their experience because they returned so many letterwinners.

The Panthers' first game was against the Northridge Raiders. The Panthers fell behind early and could not come back as they fell down by double digits at halftime.

The lead was too big to overcome, but the Panthers did outscore the Raiders in the second half.

"That is something we need to do all year. When we fall down, we have to step it up a notch and never quit," said Coddens after the game.

Hamilton led the Panthers with 10 points in the game.

The Panthers' toughest opponents will probably be Clay and Mishawaka, but almost every team in the area has improved. This should be a very competitive season.

The Panthers' next game will be Wed., Dec. 7 at New Prairie. □

Hard work needed for boys swimming

By **Monica Neimi**

Sports Writer

The boys' swim team has a good deal to work on before their first meet on Dec. 3, against Elkhart Memorial.

"I HOPE TO BEAT THE SCHOOL DIVING RECORD. IT HASN'T BEEN BROKEN SINCE 1964."

-SENIOR

HARRY DENSMORE

Last year they finished the season with a 6-7 record. Unfortunately, this season they will have to make do without ten important members of the team.

Head coach Dave Woods is now

counting on six promising freshmen to step up and help Washington swim their way to victory.

Woods has several ideas on bettering his team.

"We need to do more work on our strokes; we've always been more of a freestyle team. I'm looking to see constant improvement in each swimmer."

Woods also believes that making goals and keeping a positive attitude are just as essential as swimming lots of laps. To help them work on these concepts, he has each swimmer visualize himself winning a perfect race.

There are, however, some mixed feelings over this rather new technique.

Sophomore backstroker Kyle Folk said, "I'm not quite used to it yet."

Senior Josh Northam, who wishes to break the 50 freestyle record of 23.1 seconds, likes visualizing. "It helps me relax and gives me confidence."

Several members of the team have

goals for this coming season.

Senior Scott Eichstedt hopes they can out-swim Mishawaka on Jan. 7.

Freshman Jason Critchlow's goals are to win some meets and have fun. Freshman Benji Woollet is looking forward to his first high school season. "I'm just going to keep on trying my hardest so I can swim at my best," Woollet said.

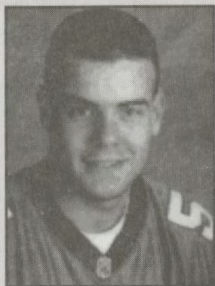
Other members, like senior diver Harry Densmore, have loftier ambitions: "I hope to beat the school diving record. It hasn't been broken since 1964."

The Panthers' toughest opponents this year will be Penn and Riley.

Woods said, "They're two of the largest teams in the area. Riley's always been a state powerhouse."

When asked if he thought the Panthers could start off the season on the right track with a win Woods commented, "I don't know, but it will be interesting."

Their first home meet will be Dec. 17. □

Sports Profile

Name: Steve Lekarczyk

Birthdate: Dec. 1, 1979

Nickname: Quazzi

Year: Junior

Sports played: Football and baseball

Awards and achievements: Second team all-conference linebacker and also honorable mention all-conference of-fensive lineman

Role model: John, Mat, and Pinski

Favorite sports teams: Bears, Bulls, White Sox, and the Michigan Wolverines

Favorite food: Mashed potatoes and gravy

What I love about school: Being with my friends

What I hate about school: Closed lunch and Gary, a.k.a. the Woodchuck

Favorite Group at School: X

Greatest athletic moment: My interception against Mishawaka

My parents were right when they told me: Work hard and you will always succeed in what you do.

Biggest fear: Concussions in football games

Wildest dream: To turn pro and play in the National Football League

What turns me off: Smoking

Person I'd like to meet: The legendary Mike Ditka

Advice to others: Work hard and don't ever give up.

Number of tattoos: None

Best advice I've ever received: Study hard and always throw em' in.

What college do you plan to attend: Probably Purdue University in West Lafayette

In 20 years I see myself: Driving my truck until it dies, having a nice family, and becoming a special education teacher in a high school

Hanyzewski's Highlights

By Ryan Hanyzewski
Sports Editor

Congratulations goes out to:

...the freshman volleyball team who finished with a 9-7 record and brought the city tournament trophy back to WHS and also for winning their final five games of the year.

...the varsity volleyball team who fought their way to the sectional final against Clay. After losing the first game, they came back to win the second game and also had a match point but came up just a little short of glory.

...senior Cortney Litka who was awarded the Burger King Player of the Week honors during the course of the volleyball season.

...the junior varsity volleyball team who finished second in the city tournament.

...senior Rosalinda Leyva who scored eight goals this season and also made second-team all-conference.

...sophomore Brooke Baumgartner who made first-team all-conference in the goalie position.

...senior Jesse Perez and junior Devin Nuner for making first team all-conference in boys' soccer.

...sophomore Carlos Huitzil for being awarded second-team all-conference honors this season.

...junior Cody Donlon for honorable mention all-conference defensively.

...junior Jamal Henry for second-team all-conference and going down state in tennis.

...the football team for their great showing of heart in the double-overtime victory against Gary Wirt.

...senior Ivan Blount for being named player of the game against Mishawaka by the crew at channel 46.

...senior Kelly Retek for receiving an honorable mention for cross country.

Sports Profile

Name: Courtney Nawrot

Birthdate: Feb. 7, 1980

Nickname: Nardvark

Year: Junior

Sports played: Volleyball and softball

Awards and achievements: Regional runner-up in softball and two-time sectional runner-up in volleyball

Role model: Karch Kiraly

Favorite sports teams: Da Bulls

Favorite food: Tacos and pizza

What I love about school: Being with my friends

What I hate about school: Tests, homework, and closed lunch

What is good about closed lunch: Nothing

Favorite Group at School: Countryside

Greatest athletic moment: Winning the sectional championship in softball

My parents were right when they told me: I can do anything I put my mind to and try hard at achieving.

Biggest fear: Not being able to succeed in what I do

Wildest dream: Playing beach volleyball in the Olympics

What turns me off: People who always have to get attention

Person I'd like to meet: Karch Kiraly

Advice to others: Always try your best

Number of tattoos: None

Best advice I've ever received: Never quit and always try your hardest.

The college I plan to attend: Indiana University

In 20 years I see myself: A successful business wife with two kids

THE USHERS

By Bob Palatino and Dennis Gdansk

Two Guys

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



DENNIS: Bob, Bob, wherefore art thou, Bob?

BOB: Just above yon computer keyboard, Dennis!

DENNIS: Huh? In modern English, por favor.

BOB: This month, we are proud to review yet ANOTHER remake of Willy Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

DENNIS: Ah yes, the timeless story of two star-crossed lovers who meet, fall in love, and are then violently torn apart by the feud between their families, the Montagues and the Capulets.

BOB: And just in case you're brain-dead, they put it on the screen for you in big, bold letters! Anyway, we're going to assume most of you know the primary parts of this classic (if you don't, where have you

been—under a rock?), so we'll have more space to harp on the pros (and cons) of this latest version.

DENNIS: Give me my longsword, ho! I have just one thing to ask. R&J in the 90's; what is this world coming to?

BOB: They don't actually ever tell us it's the 90's; it's sort of a fantasy-modern setting, with high-rise apartments intertwined with gothic cathedrals. The word "post-modern" comes to mind.

DENNIS: This movie reminds me of the *Die Hard* trilogy. There's enough loud music and explosions to shake the asbestos from the theatre ceiling. With some of the guns these guys are packing, I take it they don't have a 15 day waiting period.

BOB: I have to admit, the acting was good; before I let Dennis go on an hour-long rant about Claire Danes, I'll point out that Leo DiCaprio played an excellent Romeo. The wild Mercutio scared me at the beginning as he showed up to the costume ball in drag—it turned out he wasn't a cross-dresser, just crazy.

DENNIS: Ok, I'll only say it once. Claire's a babe. Schwinning (*Wayne's World*, 1992)! I, unlike my compadre here, was not THAT impressed with the acting. It just didn't seem to fit the setting. 12th century dia-

logue with a futuristic setting? But anyway, my favorite character was Tybalt, played by John Leguizamo. He was cool. I loved his sword...I mean gun. Where can I get me one of them?

BOB: The opening sequence of the film had me doing a double-take; I glanced uneasily two seats over at Dennis, but his eyes were waving around like the cafeteria Jell-O. It was THAT weird.

DENNIS: Oooooo. Green Jell-O. After the opening five or 10 minutes, the movie began to draaaagggg. Just as my cowboy hat was beginning to slip over my eyes, the story picked up again. I was really moved by the exchange of promises between the two lovers. It almost brought a tear to my eye when they were married. Don't laugh. I said ALMOST.

BOB: I, too, found it hard not to get caught up in the emotion, even though every ten seconds something weird happened. But anyway, we won't plug this movie as a definite go for Shakespeare fans, but we will say...

DENNIS: We must goeth. This review with is too longith. See, I told you Shakespeare doesn't work in the 90's.

BOB: Parting is such sweet sorrow!

DENNIS: Goodith...Good night, and God-speed. □

George's To-Do

Get into the spirit of the holiday season and come to two great nights of musical entertainment. On Dec. 4, the band and orchestra will polish up their instruments to perform at the winter concert; Dec. 18 is the choirs' time to shine at their annual holiday concert.

Stock up on some sweets! The Class of '97 will hold their candy sale from Dec. 2-6 and the Drama Club from Dec. 9-20.

"Music, maestro!" The concert choir will have the honor of performing with the South Bend Symphony and Symphonic Choir on Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. at the Morris Civic Auditorium. Tickets are available at the Morris Civic box office.

Are you tired of getting up for school so early? Here's your chance to catch up on some z's. On Dec. 10 classes will begin at 9:30. Students who ride buses must wait in the cafeteria until the bell rings at 9:15 to let students into the building.

For all of you college-bound juniors and seniors who have already registered for the SAT and ACT, don't forget the SAT test is Dec. 7, and the ACT is Dec. 14.

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly!" Get into the festive spirit of Christmas, and enjoy every second of the holiday. "Jingle all the way" through winter vacation, Dec. 23-Jan. 6.

Happy holidays from the HATCHET staff!

