

Four Say Farewell

By Kellie Monaghan

Imagine 207 years in education. If you add the total years the four retiring teachers have been in education, from kindergarten until the present, this is the sum you will come up with. After a lifetime in some sort of education, Roger Hanson, Tony Giannini, Kay Hovey, and Lee Rempe have made the decision to retire.



"You'd be surprised how many school lunches I've eaten," stated Hanson, about his 57 years spent in school. After 14 at West Delaware, Hanson is ready to hand on his title as principal.

After he started his career in Maxwell in 1963, Hanson taught business and physical education for twenty years at Marion before he was hired at West Delaware. After working as West Delaware's athletic director for two years, he took over the role as principal.

Since then, Hanson has been the Eastern Iowa Principal of the Year and the State of Iowa's runner up Principal of the Year.

Hanson feels education has faced several challenges over the years. "They keep adding to education yet they never take away. There seems to be more and more emphasis on programs for the upper and lower kids, yet little for average level students," states Hanson.

Hanson has enjoyed seeing many accomplishments come from the speech, music, and autos departments over the years. He has enjoyed watching the athletic departments win titles and likes to see all this is done while academics are also improving. "I want kids to say 'I went to West Delaware,' and be proud," says Hanson.

Hanson plans on doing some fishing, woodworking, gardening, and traveling during his retirement.



Giannini is another who will retire this spring. He has spent 30 years in special education and still enjoys working with the faculty and so many enjoyable students. "They keep me young," Giannini said.

Although Giannini thinks he will somehow continue with special education, he is ready for a few months off. After 19 years at West Delaware, "I have no regrets," stated

Giannini.



Hovey has served at West Delaware the longest of any of the current teachers. Thirty-two years and "I haven't been disappointed yet," stated Hovey.

In college, Hovey's first choice of a career was not teaching. Her favorite class was accounting, but when she told her advisor she was interested in accounting she was told, "Women are not accountants." She then switched to business education.

When Hovey first came to West Delaware, she taught all business classes and for four or five years she was in charge of the yearbook. During her years of teaching, Hovey also advised the Future Business Leaders in America organization for 20 years.

Although sad to leave the social atmosphere, Hovey is eager to see what the rest of the year will bring. "If you see me crying by my door on the last day, don't be surprised," says Hovey. Hovey may return to West Delaware as a substitute.



Substitute teaching is also a future possibility for Rempe. After thirty years spent in the same classroom, Rempe is ready to move on to different opportunities. "It's good to get out while I still have a positive attitude," stated Rempe.

Throughout the last thirty years, Rempe has taught all English classes and coached a variety of sports. Rempe has coached wrestling, track, and cross country.

"Cross country is like the icing on the cake," says Rempe, "Some of my best friends have come from cross country."

Rempe enjoyed his experiences throughout his years at West Delaware. "I'm having the best time of my life. I've had 30 wonderful years," said Rempe.

Rempe's plans for retirement include hunting, fishing, spending time with his grandchildren, and possibly substitute teaching.

Rempe also promised his wife he'd have breakfast ready for her until she, too, retires.

How well do we really know our classmates?

(Match these nicknames to their owners)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| ___ 1. Dart | A. Adam Pasker |
| ___ 2. Rolly | B. Michelle Wessels |
| ___ 3. Peewee | C. Angie Wessels |
| ___ 4. Tweeter | D. Brett Marbach |
| ___ 5. Millie | E. Wes Schulte |
| ___ 6. Dunlop | F. Ben Marshall |
| ___ 7. Night-train | G. Lindsey Diercksen |
| ___ 8. Fubu | H. Aaron Cole |
| ___ 9. Old Spice | I. Kalen Lenz |
| ___ 10. Buddha | J. Matt Ryan |
| ___ 11. Pipes | K. Brian Appelton |
| ___ 12. Smokey | L. Adam Wilson |
| ___ 13. Yoosh | M. Brett Bockenstedt |
| ___ 14. Pebble Crusher | N. Brock Phillips |
| ___ 15. Clarke | O. Lee Marbach |
| ___ 16. Stetson | P. Adam Ryan |
| ___ 17. Wampa | Q. Mr. Stonebreaker |
| ___ 18. Hoss | R. Phil Holtz |
| ___ 19. Perkins | S. Bret Palmer |
| ___ 20. T-bone | T. Tiffany Harbaugh |

(Answers on page 8)

Rumor Put to Rest

By Jessica Nystel

Contrary to rumors circulating the school, block scheduling is here to stay.

Registration for the 2002-2003 school year has already begun, and students are only scheduled for four periods each day, according to Principal Roger Hanson.

Open campus, another option in question, will also continue.



Pizza What?

by Zach Spittler

Favorite Manchester Pizza Places

PIZZA HUT	54.6%
CASEY'S CARRY-OUT	20.6%
BREADEAUX PIZZA	13.4%
PIZZA RANCH	11.4%

***97 WD STUDENTS POLLED**



Congratulations to the WaMaC Speech medalists

Front Row: Emily Montag, Jessica Nystel, Jessica Tekippe, Coach Darla Gaskill; Back Row: Zach Spittler, Dan Glaza, Amanda Nieman, Beth Soppe, Grant Robbins. Missing from photo: Megan Ryan, Emily Meyer, Sara Saunders, Joni Lindauer, Keeley Lewis, Blake Bergeson.

Price Increase Creates Satisfaction Decrease

Nightstorm Price Increase

By Melissa Hauschild

“The reason for the price increase in Manchester was due to more advertising. We’ve had some of our biggest turnouts there this year. We’re also finding that there are fewer fights because some guy isn’t going to drive an hour and pay eight dollars just to start a fight. We haven’t had very many problems this year. We’re getting more of the kids there that are there to dance, which is great!”

~Mike Checkalski, Nightstorm

“The first time I went to Nightstorm, my parents paid because it was my birthday. The second time I paid for myself, and it didn’t bother me, because the money goes to pay the guards who keep it relatively safe at the dance. Plus, since it’s in Manchester, nobody from our school has to drive that far, so it saves on gas money.”

~Chelsea Zumbach

I really like to go a lot, but I don’t have the money to. I hope they get the hint that not as many people are coming and lower it back to six dollars.

~Kim Meisgeier

“I don’t see how they expect us to pay eight bucks a crack to go get down with our bad selves when we can make our own Nightstorm for free.”

~Ashley Jared

“I don’t like the price increase at all. But I still go because it’s something different to do for a few months. Everyone knows there’s nothing to do around here.”

~Abby Downs

“I see no reason why they needed to raise the prices for Nightstorm. I’m making it a fact that I will not go, now that it cost eight bucks. Nothing has changed except that annoying light that is useless. Frankly, charging six bucks last year I thought was outrageous. It only goes to show that their true motivation is in making money and NOT providing a fun environment for kids.”

~Joni Lindauer

“I think that it is really stupid. There is no reason why they need to increase it to eight dollars. We could go to Cedar Falls and have a better environment for the same amount.”

~Janet Smith

“I think it was dumb to raise the prices because it’s getting too high. They need to lower it back down to six bucks. I enjoy going to hang out with my friends and it gives me something to do, but I hate to pay eight bucks.”

~Autumn Ross

“I think it’s a rip-off to have to pay eight dollars to go to Nightstorm now. But I still go because there’s nothing else to do. I think that’s part of why they raised the price because they know we have nothing to do around here.”

~Tara Kraft



Cheers or Jeers for Senior Year?

By Kylie Toomer

Senior year. The deciding point in your life when you choose the path you want to take. It's supposed to be the best time of your life - prom, pep rallies, homecoming, and football games; but what do students have to say about the academic aspect of senior year?

"Several seniors take it easier their senior year, but the number of students taking open campus are down, more and more students are taking ICN classes for college credit, and some students take a course at a college also," comments Don Lyness, guidance counselor.

"You make it as heavy or as light as you want," says Ryne Foster. "For the most part, it is very easy and you have plenty of time to do the work you have."

Shane Tieskeotter describes his senior year as

"a light load academically, but the 'real world' part is hard."

There is a lot to do your senior year. Applying for college and scholarships and graduation are just a few of the many tasks that need to be accomplished, along with keeping grades top notch.

"Seniors who take a lighter academic load their senior year find that it comes back to hurt them in college," says college freshman Scott Gaskill.

Your academic load depends on which path you are going to take after graduation. According to Lyness, "Students who take less challenging classes their senior year are missing out on important classes. Students who are going to a four year college should take classes like Introduction to Literature, College Composition, Great Ideas, and upper level math

classes. Even if you are going into a vocational field, you still need classes like speech and math. You can never take too many English classes. I have seen students who have lost a scholarship because they didn't take challenging classes their senior year."

Austin Hermsen says that, "If you're a slacker like me, you take an insubstantial amount of hard classes, and indisputably you don't get the arduous work you need."

Lyness encourages students to balance their senior year. "Some seniors take a lighter academic load their senior year so they can make more time for extracurricular activities, or they may have a job to support themselves. Other students slack off because it is senior year, but I advise students to take the most challenging classes they can handle."

Finally, comes graduation and you are off to college and on your own for the first time. "I am ready to graduate. I am ready to experience a different life outside of Manchester, meet new people, and start my own future," says Allison Bockenstedt.

Going from being a senior to a freshman is not an easy transition to make. "It's like plunging from the top of the totem pole. You leave high school thinking you are invincible," explains college freshman Jamie Smith.

"College is so much fun but it's a lot of work," says college freshman Kristy Larsen. "You can't just screw around and have fun all the time. You have to remember school does come first."

Smoking Stoppers T.A.T.U. Faces Challenge

By Adam Baumgartner

Approximately 25 students in grades 9-12 are getting involved with the new Teens Against Tobacco Use (T.A.T.U.) program. These students were trained this past fall to discuss and share what it means to be tobacco free students.

T.A.T.U. is a nationwide organization sponsored by

the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association. The program targets tobacco free high school students to be role models for middle school students.

Deb Prier, the T.A.T.U. advisor, says, "It's important for high school students to be role models

because the middle school students look up to them." The role models are split into five teams and assigned to a group of fifth graders where they demonstrate ways to say no to smoking and illustrate the effects of smoking through a homemade smoke machine.

Senior Erica Pfeiler, a T.A.T.U. role model said, "For the making of the homemade smoke machine, we use a pop bottle and put a lit cigarette in the bottom and cover the cap with a cotton ball to absorb the smoke. The cotton then will turn yellowish brown and will smell really bad."

Bouncing Back from Budget Cuts

By Ann Hahn

After having this year's budget cut by 287 thousand dollars, West Delaware has had to make some major adjustments.

Traveling is one area that has been cut from the budget this year.

Students in Clothing and Textiles I are not able to go to large fabric and clothing stores with their teacher to select and purchase fabric. Melanie Elledge said, "Without Mrs. Baumgartner there, we won't know what fabric is good and what is bad."

Students in the Child Development class were also affected. Throughout the two-term class, they had

been writing pen-pal letters back and forth to a third grade class in Waterloo. At the end of the term, they planned to visit their pen-pals in person, but due to budget cuts the trips were cancelled.

"Thank goodness they were able to come here," Cindy Baumgartner, teacher, said. The Waterloo principal allowed the third graders to come to West Delaware, but the high school students said it wasn't the same as seeing them in their own environment.

Baumgartner feels field trips are a vital part of her curriculum, and that

eliminating them "isn't ideal but we're working with it."

Rick Hilbert, superintendent, said, "We don't think field trips are bad," but he feels it is better to cut areas such as traveling rather than people.

Cutting down on paper use is another effort to save money. Hilbert said West Delaware is using over 100 more cases on average than other schools the same size. To help, teachers are encouraged to use e-mail as often as possible and to limit the number of copies they print.

Attrition is also being utilized to save money. This

is an early retirement incentive for teachers over 55 that offers benefit packages if they retire.

By replacing highly paid staff with younger staff, the school saves money.

Saving money through attrition and through not replacing retired teachers creates another problem, according to Rick Louk, teacher. He said, "Class sizes are already too large and this will only make them larger. The kids will suffer by not getting enough one-on-one time with the teachers."

☺**KC Kent**, for being Britney Spears.

☺**Katie Huether**, for plunging the toilet at Deli One.

☺**Adam Wilson**, for always saying "Hey, buddy."

☺**Tim Turnis**, for defending students at the Vinton basketball game, even though he got kicked out.

☺**Mrs. Baumgartner**, for taking clothing/textile students to get supplies at Wal-Mart.



☺**Blake Funke**, for getting Michelle Wessels' keys out of her locked car, once again.

☺**Katie Larsen**, who found the prom dresses which were about to be left behind at the district speech meet.

Congrats

to the following
Pepsi Students of the
Month for the
2001-2002 school year

September: Anne
Snitker

October: Michelle
Wessels

November: Jessi
Hoffman

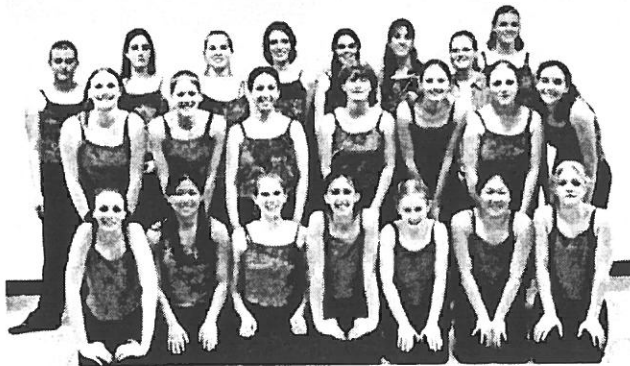
December: Brianna
Gibbs

February: Zach
Spittler



West Delaware Light Show Members

Row 1: Jasmine High, Abby Quint, Lindsey Diercksen, Lisa Diercksen, Michelle Gaffney, Kristin Larson; Row 2: Sarah Kennedy, Meghan Jones, Jessi Hoffmann, Rachael Reeder, Erica Pfeiler, Sara Saunders, Michelle Wessels; Row 3: April Brunzman, Kara Greve, Keeley Lenz, Lindy Bockenstedt, Paige Mundy-Young, Janelle Holden, Rachel Bockenstedt, Robyn Morris; Row 4: Allison Bockenstedt, Abby Lahr, Kesha Kaiser, Jill Feldmann, Laura Burkle, Jamie Kammarmeyer, Deb Durey, Katie Ryan.



West Delaware Dance Team Members

Row 1: Deirdre Ryan, Lisa Diercksen, Rachael Reeder, Amanda Baker, Jasmine High, Lindsey Diercksen, Erin Andreasen; Row 2: Teresa Feldmann, Deb Durey, Meghan Jones, Mandy Steffen, Paige Mundy-Young, Melissa Mozingo, Heather Kolka; Row 3: Sarah Flanagan, Jolene Thomas, Katy Rymer, Emily Meyer, Amanda Steines, Melinda Mossner, Harmony Helmricks, Katie Ryan.

Your Job - a Pain or a Gain?

Megan Weber

Talking on the phone, fitting shoes, playing piano, measuring men for tuxes, and sorting cattle – these are just a few of the jobs West Delaware students have. Many high school students have jobs. The question is, do they actually enjoy their job or are they just desperate for money?

Kristin Larson has been working at J & D Menswear for four months. Larson says the only thing she dislikes is that she has to park a block away “because the Chamber doesn’t want us to take up the customers’ parking spots.” Larson says one of the fun things about her job is that she’s learned “how to measure guys for tuxes and I get to help them decide what to wear in weddings.”

Rachel Bockenstedt had a seasonal job at The Night Light Supper Club in Dyersville, where she played piano during the Christmas season. She says she’s learned “people skills, creativeness, and flexibility.”

Freshman Cassandra Hiatt works at Thompson Shoes, but unlike many, she didn’t want to get a job for the money. She said, “I wanted something to occupy my time.” Hiatt likes working at Thompson’s because “it’s fun and I have good hours.”

Greene’s Telemarketing is where Dan Glaza has been working for the past two months. He really enjoys it. Glaza says, “Making \$7.50 an hour while sitting on your rump talking to people is pretty good.” Greene’s also allows employees to choose when they work.

Senior Lori Bockenstedt works at the Edgewood Livestock Sales Commission. When asked why she chose to work there, she said, “Because it’s involved with agriculture and I really like animals.” Bockenstedt has worked there for five months, and she has some advice, even for someone who’s only occasionally around cattle. “Be on your toes, even the crippled ones will kick you!”

Ideal Valentine’s Day Gifts

Kacie Klein

“A big hug...like the chocolate kind.”
-Katie Huether

“I would like a romantic dinner, cooked by him, with candles lit and the lights turned down, while our song plays lightly. When I come to the door, there would be a single red rose and chocolate kisses waiting for me.”
-Julie Philipp

“Go to Lone Star and have my wife pay, because she has the checkbook all the time anyway.”
-Teacher Corey Coates

“Subway sounds good to me.
Subway’s good anytime.”
-Mark Woods

“A love coupon book.”
-Bruce Quint

“My car covered with post-it notes with little love letters on them.”
-Tim Ryan

What's Cookin'

Life Behind the Lunch Counter

by Melissa Hauschild

Preparing over 450 meals a day requires much more than just throwing some frozen food on a pan, placing it in the oven, and setting a timer. Goals to meet and challenges to overcome arise every day.

The cooks' goals at West Delaware are to make everyone happy and to get along with each and every student, teacher and staff member. To do this they "work as a TEAM, T-E-A-M," Nancy Hough said.

Keeping everyone happy is a big job, but these seven women are prepared to take on the task, and giving out smiles is their way of making all of the students' and adults' days a little bit better.

Along with the smiles come the decorations and t-shirts. Sharon Heims and Helen Heyer do the decorating. "We spend a lot of time in here. It's nice to have decorations here, not just at home," Heims said.

Mindy Galloway (assistant) said, "We like to make the atmosphere pleasant!"

One way they demonstrate their cohesiveness is through their t-shirts. "We enjoy getting into the school spirit," Heims said. They received their orange and black WD wrestling shirts from Coach Jeff Voss, "which was very nice," Heims said. Principal Roger Hanson gave them

their Hawk Cook's shirts.

"Fridays have always been our school colors day," said Heims, and September 11 they've added a patriotic day to their wardrobe.

A lot of challenges can arise working in the kitchen. Whether it is rain, snow, sun, or hail, going to

way. It blew my prop out and the door slammed shut. I panicked and banged on the door screaming, 'Help!' I was only in there for about two minutes before two girls came and opened the door and let me out."

Giving out the wrong type of snack food is another obstacle for Hough,

Devaney. "The twins especially confuse me. I think, 'didn't I just serve you?'"

If these seven cooks could improve the ease of serving lunch and breakfast, they'd make sure everyone had their lunch tickets. "It makes things go faster. The lunch room is too loud and you don't always hear the numbers," Heims said. A bigger kitchen would also help as they're always running into each other, "But we've learned to work around it." Heims said. "We know how we each work."

Keeping smiles on their faces, wearing school t-shirts and decorating the lunch room are just some of the ways these seven women meet their goals.

“

"We work as a TEAM,
T-E-A-M,"

• Nancy Hough.

”

the freezer outside can be a challenge no one wants to face. "When the delivery truck comes in, it's hard to always find a place for everything in the freezer, but you make room," Karen Petlon said.

Knowing how much food to make for "D" lunch can also prove to be a problem, without making too little or too much. Heims said, "One of the biggest challenges would have to be for Dona Robinson (head cook) to order the right amount of pizza from Pizza Ranch."

One embarrassing and challenging moment Hough recalled was getting locked in the cooler. "It was the middle of January. I went out just to put a cooler in the freezer and the wind was blowing just the right

who works at the concession stand. "Some days I hear what they say and hand them a totally different thing," she said.

On the other hand, names always stump Tresa



Front Row: Dona Robinson, Mindy Galloway, Tresa Devaney; Back Row: Helen Heyer, Sharon Heims, Karen Petlon, and Nancy Hough.

Sweet Jazzy Molassey!

An Experienced Jazz I Ensemble Brings Optimistic Outlook for Upcoming Jazz Season

by Zach Spittler

The last time West Delaware competed in the Jazz Championships, Van Halen and The Cure were popular. That year was 1985, and the closest West Delaware has been to bringing a jazz band back since then was last year, when Jazz I only needed to place one spot higher at District Festival to qualify.

However, success is now on the horizon for the West Delaware jazz program. "This is definitely the best overall band since I've been here," said Mark Philgreen, band director.

The University of Northern Iowa will host Tallcorn Jazz Festival on February 16th, and Jazz I hopes to place as high as sixth or seventh, possibly improving West Delaware's chances for a championship wild card berth.

That may not sound like much of an accomplishment, but with the quality of the competition attending the event, it is. Sixteen bands in 3A will attend from all over the state, and two of those bands have already qualified for Jazz Championships this year. Also, seven of the 16 bands attending qualified last year.

West Delaware can improve its chances for a wild card spot for Jazz Championships at Tallcorn by either placing first in the competition or by placing higher than a band which has already qualified for the Championships. Two bands will qualify at District Festival in March, and Tallcorn is a major determining factor in determining the other three bands which will qualify through the wild card process, as well.

Jazz I is an experienced group led by six seniors, along with a great deal of young, yet experienced talent from the grades below. Ten of the 20 members have previous Jazz I experience, with fourth-year players Ryan Gaffney and Cindy Mickens; third-year participants Amanda Nieman, Kyle Griffith, and Nate Jewett; and second-year members Kim Sadewasser, Zach Spittler, Dan Scanlan, Steve Ehrig, and Emily Meyer.

Philgreen is optimistic about Jazz I's chances of making it to Jazz Championships, adding, "Our chances are as good as we want them to be."

ANSWERS

to Nicknames

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dart K | 11. Pipes E |
| 2. Roily M | 12. Smokey J |
| 3. Peewee A | 13. Yoosh I |
| 4. Tweeter N | 14. Pebble Crusher Q |
| 5. Millie B | 15. Clarke H |
| 6. Dunlop R | 16. Stetson O |
| 7. Night-train C | 17. Wampa G |
| 8. Fubu S | 18. Hoss P |
| 9. Old Spice D | 19. Perkins F |
| 10. Buddha L | 20. T-bone T |

With Food Spoiled, Lunch Workers Scrounge For Food

By Casey Luensmann

Imagine coming back from Christmas vacation and getting in line for lunch and not having any food to eat. That almost happened at West Delaware High School.

On January 3rd, after returning to West Delaware after Christmas vacation, the cooks discovered the freezer stopped working during the break, spoiling one month's worth of food intended to feed the West Delaware students.

After discovering the broken freezer, the cooks had to throw out every piece of food in the freezer—enough food to feed around 425 people per day.

"I didn't think we would have to throw away the doughnuts. I thought they would still be good, but we had to anyway," said Dona Robinson, the nutrition supervisor at the high school.

Robinson, in charge of

ordering all of the food for lunch, had to reorder another one month's worth of food.

The cooks had to come up with new menu ideas to feed the students, which is when they thought of chicken tenders, which, according to Robinson, became a hit with the students the first day they were served.

The compressor went out in the freezer and that is why it stopped working, Robinson said. The repair people came and fixed the compressor, which was all the freezer needed.

The freezer that shut down had had its small problems in the past.

According to Robinson, it would shut off from time to time but never for an extended period of time.

When asked if she is prepared for this to happen again, Robinson replied, "I hope this never happens again."

Top 10 Favorite Cartoon Characters

Megan Weber

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 10. Fred from <i>The Flintstones</i> | 5. SpongeBob from <i>SpongeBob SquarePants</i> | 2. Kenny from <i>South Park</i> |
| 9. Yogi from <i>Yogi Bear</i> | 4. Tigger from <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> | 1. Bart Simpson from <i>The Simpsons</i> |
| 8. Kermit from <i>The Muppets</i> | 3. Scooby Doo from <i>Scooby Doo</i> | |
| 7. Elmo from <i>Sesame Street</i> | | |
| 6. Chuckie from <i>Rugrats</i> | | |


*100 W D Students Surveyed


Winter Sports Update 

by Casey Luensmann

Girls Basketball


 Coach Mike Kopish:
 “The season is going pretty well. We have shown steady improvement and our prospects for a successful postseason is positive.”


 Jess Stelken:
 “I hope our season doesn’t end without a State Tournament appearance, because we have the team to do it this year.”


 Megan Fetter:
 “I think everyone has improved individually as well as a team. I am looking forward to what the rest of the season brings.”

Season Record
13-8

Boys Basketball


 Coach Tony Tjaden:
 “The players on this year’s squad have worked extremely hard on and off the court. Our success this year can be attributed to our unselfish play and ‘never say die’ attitude. Our fans have been very supportive and the students are the best student section in the conference.”


 Nolan Grimm:
 “Before the season started, we set some high standards and goals to strive for throughout the season. In each game and practice we get one step closer to a WaMaC title and the State Tournament.”


 Mark Woods:
 “As a junior, it has been nice to be a on a winning team since as juniors we have never had a winning season in organized basketball.”

Season Record
16-4

Wrestling

 Coach Jeff Voss:
 “I think the season has gone well. The guys have shown constant improvement, especially since Christmas break. At this point in the season, we want to build momentum going into Districts and the State Tournament.”

 Wes Schulte:
 “The season is going pretty well, but it’s not what I had hoped for. I just can’t wait to have all the hard work pay off.”

 Adam Baumgartner:
 “The season is going by really fast. I want to keep improving on my shots and endurance so I am ready for the State Tournament.”

Season Record
21-3

“What are we going to do tonight, Brain?”

Outside the Box

“Same thing we do every night, Pinky...”

by Ryan Hawker

I have probably heard it a million times. “Hey man, what are we going to do this weekend?” My friends must think I’m some kind of psychic. How am I supposed to know? Why do they always come to me for ideas? Anyone (even mindless, American Eagle-wearing social clones) can make weekend plans if they just follow some simple rules.

The first few things I consider when making plans are A) the persons involved, and B) the available funds of those people. Money is a key issue when making plans, although not everything costs money.

Many outdoor activities can be a great way to have fun without draining your pocketbook. These include such activities as playing frisbee, hiking, swimming, fishing, and sledding.

For those of us with some cash in our pockets, the world of outdoor fun expands. Eighteen holes of miniature golf are an excellent way to fill an afternoon, and grilling hamburgers with your buddies is one weekend activity you won’t soon forget.

Or how about camping? Some people may disagree, but I think camping is a year-round activity. For a small fee, you can rent a campsite

or a cabin (if you’re rich) overnight, cook food over a fire, add almost any of the aforementioned activities, and BOOM! - a weekend to remember.

Not satisfied? The great outdoors isn’t your bag you say? Then have a party! First, find a suitable place to hold your party. Then invite an appropriate number of friends (for best results, invite extra people to make up for no-shows), get some movies, board games (RISK is my personal favorite), and some munchies like popcorn, chips and soda, and there you go. Other aspects you can add to the party are music, video games, and Twister for hours of body-tanglin’ fun!

If none of these ideas appeal to you, there’s always the tried and true time-wasters like bowling or going to the movies, but I encourage you to get out there and do something “outside the box.” You just might enjoy it.

Top Ten Things You've Never Thought of Doing on the Weekend

10. Fly a kite, in a parking lot, at midnight, while it's snowing
9. Go obscure sight-seeing (ex. Bily Clocks Museum, Spillville)
8. Get overdressed (tuxedos, etc.) and eat at an ice cream shoppe
7. See how many restaurants you can get kicked out of in three hours
6. Organize a picket line outside the courthouse yelling “reunite Gondwanaland!”
5. Deep fat fry some peanut butter and banana sandwiches
4. Do your homework
3. Go to Radio Shack and inquire about the ‘soup du jour’
2. Dress like Mafiosos, leave a briefcase in a public area, watch from a distance
1. Rent the movie *Malone* starring Burt Reynolds



Shannon Mack

As I View It

Got Mullet?

Kentucky Waterfall, 10-90, Hockey Hair, and the Beaver Paddle- in other words-the mullet.

The mullet haircut is America's newest and oddest craze. It features long hair on the back and a short trim on the front. "Business in the front, party in the back" is a popular description of this haircut.

After doing research on where and how the mullet originated, specifically at www.mulletsgone-mad.com, I've found that, according

TOP 5 MULLET NAMES

5. 10/90
4. Hockey Hair
3. Business in front, Party in back
2. Camaro Cut
1. Kentucky Waterfall

to legend, fishmongers of Iceland created the hairstyle to keep their necks warm and dry against the North Atlantic spray. Nothing could be further from the truth!

Actually, the first mullet was an accident. A man named Earl Guntar, a barber from Alabama, messed up on a customer's haircut. The customer had asked for his hair to be a little longer in the back, but

not too much longer.

As it turned out, Earl left the long hair in the back alone and gave a buzz cut to the front of the customer's head.

After the initial shock, the customer actually liked the haircut and showed it off to his friends. His friends then went and asked Earl for the same haircut -

and he did just that. The mullet nowadays is mostly popular among residents in the Southern United States and soccer players in England.

Students can even check out the "mullet of the week" from www.mullets-galore.com, or visit <http://www.mullett.co.uk>, where they can send in a picture of themselves or anyone else they know to be "mulletted."

So whether you're watching Joe Dirt or staring at your poster of Billy Ray Cyrus in your room, the mullet haircut can be found almost anywhere.



Thumbs Down to...

by Adam Baumgartner



No school delays



Kids tripping on junior hall steps



Long lines in "A" lunch



Cars getting keyed



No 100 Grand candy bars in French trip sales



Students throwing trash in library display window



Boys getting kicked out of Vinton basketball game

Sweetheart Changes

By Sarah Willie

The West Delaware FFA has implemented changes in the selection of the Sweetheart Court.

According to Tammy Schnieders, the FFA Advisor, to be considered for the court an applicant needs to be a junior girl, to fill out an application, and to have 50% of her family's income come from an agriculture related job or to have taken two agriculture courses in high school.

Previously, after the applications were filled out, they were sent anonymously through all of the agriculture classes so each student in the class could read the application and then vote for six applicants.

This year, to add credibility to the process,

the members of the FFA Officer Team interviewed each applicant. "I thought it was a good idea. It took away the picking by popularity. Even though the applications were anonymous, you could still guess whose was whose," said Jessie Thole, Reporter for the FFA.

"The Sweetheart Queen is more of a tradition than anything," said Schnieders. "Before girls were allowed to be FFA members, the boys would pick girls to be their sweethearts for the Sweetheart Dances. When a queen was picked, she would be given a white FFA jacket and be the honorary member for the year."

This year's court



After being crowned the 2002 Sweetheart Queen, Sarah Appleton hugs last year's queen, Jenny Thole.

includes the following: Sarah Appleton, Amy Gearhart, Ashley Knipper, Kristen Krogman, Lisa Krogman, and Ashley Mensen.



2002 Sweetheart Court: Ashley Knipper, Todd Wulfekhule, Queen, Sarah Appleton, Blake Mormann, Lisa Krogman, Wade Fledmann, Kristen Krogman, Mark Woods, Amy Gearhart, Lucas Leonard, Ashley Mensen, Dan Eibey

Congratulations Poetry Winners

by Sarah Willie

First place winners in the Eastern Iowa Reading Council Poetry Contest:

- Grant Robbins with his "Devil On Your Back, Angel On Your Shoulder"
- David Karkow with his "One Sad Sleepy Summer"
- Jessica Johnson with her "Victim of the Piano"

Congratulations EIRC

Creative

Writing Winners

by Sarah Willie

- First place: Jessica Johnson's "The Edge," Gretchen Knott's "Looking Back," and Grant Robbins' "Arcadia"
- Second place: Amanda Baker's "My Family"
- Third place: Kyle Griffith's "The G.I.," and Erin Andreasen's "Scary Skiin"
- Fourth place: Deidre Ryan's "To Hail We Go!"

MAKING THE FAMILY CLOSER

by Erica Pfeiler

Poems, songs, games, cheers – does this sound like wrestling practice to you? Well, this is what freshmen wrestlers have to do: make a fool of themselves at practice in what is known as the Freshman Wrestler Extravaganza.

Each year every freshman wrestler performs an embarrassing 3-5 minute skit in front of the whole team, which must meet the approval of the seniors.

The coaches decided to do this to liven up practices, have some fun, and to bring the wrestling family closer together.

Alex Moss says, "Usually it's pretty hard to think of something, because no matter what we do we are going to feel stupid, so we just pick something and get it over with."

This year Alex Moss dressed up as a cheerleader, make-up and all. Moss danced around the whole team and did some cheers.

He chose to do this, he said, "To give the seniors a good laugh." Moss fears the video of his performance could haunt him. He said the coaches told him, "We will get you with this when you are a senior." Moss just laughed.

Freshman Grant Jenkins decided to let the seniors cut and design his hair. The next day he wore a Mohawk to school. Jenkins' dad asked him, "What

were you thinking?" His mom just laughed. Most of the wrestlers said that Jenkins' skit was the best this year.



Alex Moss performs cheers for the team as part of his Wrestling Extravaganza.

"No one could believe that he let us give him a mullet," said Ryne Foster, "and that he wore a Mohawk to school."

Freshman 103 pounder Kalen Lenz performed his version of the Weakest Dink. Lenz dressed up as

Ann Robinson, wearing a black coat and glasses. He asked the seniors and Coach Jeff Voss questions about wrestling, science, and current events. Voss said, "They ganged up

on me and voted me out right away."

Lenz enjoyed altering Ann Robinson's famous

line to, "You are the weakest dink, goodbye."

Voss said, "Kalen is lucky. That's the only way he could call me a dink and survive." Wes Schulte was the winner of that game.

A favorite skit from four years ago involved Aaron Butikofer and the 30 point buck. Coach Lenz says, "Buti was a really funny one. "Butikofer dressed up as a hunter wearing an orange vest, big boots and his homemade rifle made out of toilet paper rolls. He then sang one of his favorite songs, 'The Thirty Point Buck.'

Coach Scott Litterer remembers Rob Hatfield's skit in 1995. Hatfield made the wrestlers drag him out of the old wrestling room while he hung on to the chin-up bar. Litterer says, "He was a fighter. That's what he considered fun. Finally, about 30 of us got him out."



Front Row: Grant Robbins, Jason Rex, Lisa Diercksen, Amanda Knott, Lindsey Diercksen, Janet Smith; Second Row: Jasmine High, Meghan Jones; Back Row: Ryan Gaffney, Dan Glaza, Dan Scanlan, Jordan Schultz, Emily Montag, Emily Meyer

Congratulations to All-State Speech Qualifiers!

Solo Mime - Emily Meyer

Musical Theater - Ryan Gaffney, Jasmine High, Dan Glaza

Group Improvisation - Jasmine High, Meghan Jones, Dan Scanlan

Group Improvisation - Lindsey Diercksen, Janet Smith, Jordan Schultz

Group Improvisation - Grant Robbins, Emily Montag, Jason Rex

Ensemble Acting - Lisa Diercksen, Amanda Knott

Good Luck in Ames!

Hypnotist Brings Britney, Breakdancing, & Beaches

By Katelyn Zuck



Tim Turnis

“I felt like Superman,” says Casey Kent, who, on January 21, was hypnotized along with 30 other students and faculty.

Although Kent felt energized during and after the hypnosis, many felt far from energetic. Michelle Wessels felt lifeless. “I was more confused, more tired, and had no energy!” she said.

Brad Turner, teacher, agreed. “The benefits weren’t what he said they’d be,” Turner said. “I had a killer headache and was extremely tired.”

All agreed, however, in stating hypnotism was a fun experience they wouldn’t give up. One student is even considering the profession: “I want to hypnotize people now. I like to be in control,” says Clint Coggins. Coggins

remembers all of what happened, “It was weird. I knew what I was doing, but I couldn’t control it. It was like watching a dream.”

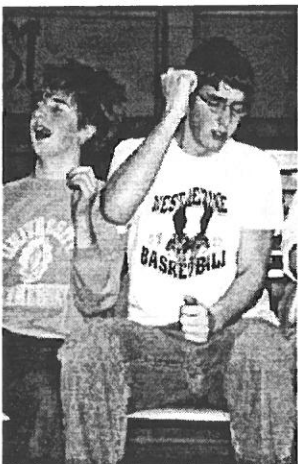
Some students didn’t remember anything. “When you’re done, you hear a bunch of funny stories about what you did,” said Brian Klaus, who, even though he doesn’t remember anything, would still do it again.

Likewise, Micky Albers says with a grin, “Yeah, I’d do it again . . . it’s not like I did anything embarrassing.”

Casey Kent, who actually believed he was Britney Spears, performed for everyone in singing one of her top hit songs, “Oops . . . I Did It Again.” Kent describes it as, “I knew everything I was doing, but I couldn’t help it.”

Turner recalls only pounding out background music in the N’ Sync’s and Britney Spears’ concerts as well as having his foot stuck in the sandy beach. “It was a strange feeling about why I couldn’t move my foot.”

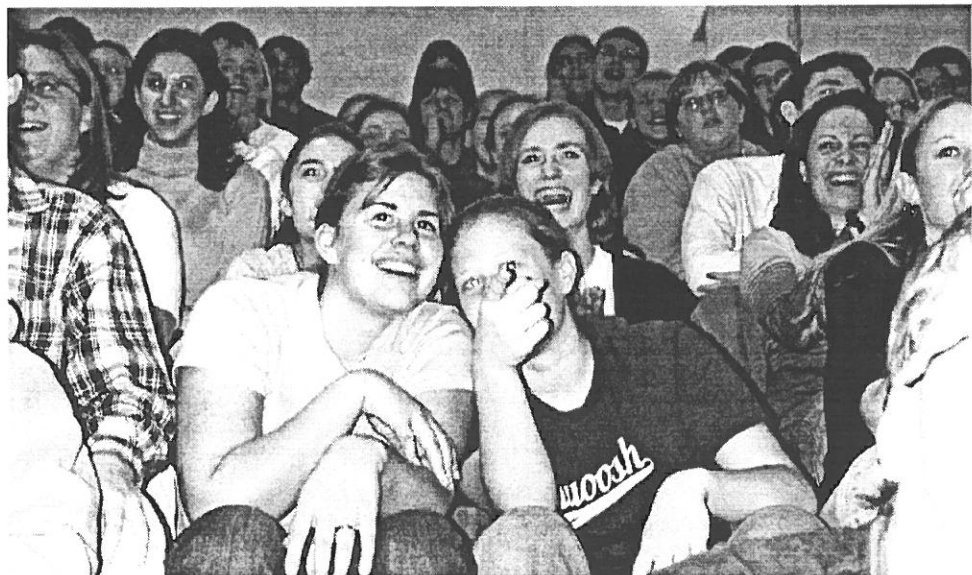
Michelle Wessels describes her memory in detail: “When we were dancing in our chairs, he told us not to get out of them, but I did, and after I got up he came over to me, grabbed my arm, and told me if I didn’t sit down I’d have to go back to the audience. After that I remember everything, but before that I didn’t. It was weird, and it felt like I came out of it a little.” Wessels also remembers feeling nervous and pressured when hypnotist (Continued on page 15)



Clint Coggins and Austin Hermesen



Duane Philgreen and Michelle Wessels



Megan Ryan, Sarah Appleton

Growth in Alternative School

By Sarah Flanagan

In its first year, between 11 and 15 students attended West Delaware's Alternative School. This year those numbers doubled. Currently, 30 students attend with eight on a waiting list.

In the first year, students had to wait one year after they dropped out of high school before they could enter the alternative school. With the 2001-2002 school year, the one year waiting period was dropped. According to Karen Buechele, alternative school teacher, students can now go from the high school to the alternative school at the beginning of a

term.

In order to attend the alternative school, students have to go through an application process. The application is reviewed by a committee, and if it is accepted, an interview takes place with the teachers at the alternative school.

According to Don Lyness, guidance counselor, the most common reason students go to the alternative school is because they don't realize that failing one or two classes is going to hurt them. Then when their senior year comes,

they realize that they aren't going to be able to graduate on time, so they turn to the alternative school for a term or two so they can catch up. That way, they are still able to graduate with their class.

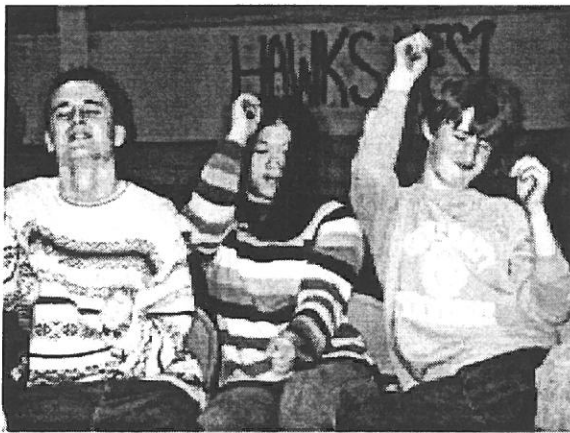
Many students who attend the alternative school have full time jobs or they have a child to care for, according to Buechele.

Luke Robinson said, "You can still work full time and complete your high school requirements because of the flexible hours."

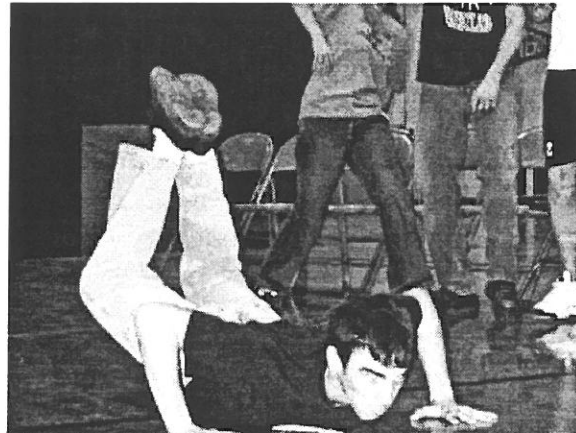
Some students think that

the alternative school is an easy way out, but students who attend the alternative school have a different opinion. "It's a challenge to work on your own. You have to make your own schedule. No one is there explaining it for you," DJ Wilhelm said.

Kim Lee said, "Every student is taking a different subject so you can't depend on the teacher or classmates to help you get through it. Here when it's really busy, you have to figure it out on your own, kind of like real life. You can't depend on your boss to do the work for you."



Michael Whitman, Lindsey Dierksen, and Clint Coggins



Scott Kirby

Hypnotist at West Delaware

(Cont. from page 14)

Jim Wand told her she would have to show off her moves while dancing stag in front of the entire crowd.

Students made sure not to forget the hilarious

occurrences. "People ask me how the pole was, and if I walk by a pole people will say, 'ooh, Klaus that pole looks hot, doesn't she!'" said Klaus

Kent says of his following day, "Nobody gave me

crap until the next day when I went into Mike Morrison's room and a kid by the name of Louie asked me for my autograph and wanted me to sign it "Britney." I refused to have anything to do with that

nonsense and wasn't going to give in, but he kept nagging me so I finally took the piece of paper and scribbled down "Britney." Louie went around the room proud to have my autograph."

Single to Mingle or Ball and Chain?

by Kacie Klein

A football player gives his jersey to a girl before the big game, a couple hold hands and talks between classes, and a special friend puts a rose in your car after a bad day—these are all scenarios taking place in high schools with young loves.

Julie Philipp feels as youth grow older and mature into young adults, they feel that it's an opportunity to take on adult tasks, such as relationships. "Teenagers already lead a busy life with school, work, athletics and family." With a relationship, they must find ways to incorporate time for that special someone in their full schedules, while balancing the time equally with their friends.

Some students, such as Kristy Palmer, believe high school students may get too absorbed in a high school relationship. "Sometimes people get too attached to their boyfriend or girlfriend and have to be with them 24-7. People may lose friends because they don't do stuff with them anymore," comments Palmer.

Ashley Schaul believes that, "In a relationship, you are given the chance to make a lifelong friend and have someone to confide in." Most high school students agree that you begin 'dating' someone because you like them and want to know more about

them.

Michelle Wessels feels relationships are opportunities for youth to figure out what they may or may not like in their significant others so they know what they are looking for in preparation for the future. "When it comes to dating, the guy I'm with has to have a sense of humor and be able to cook a good bowl of Easy Mac."

Bradley Woods enjoys high school relationships because "you can talk about things nobody else will find out about and you get that good night kiss every guy wants."

On the other hand, Nick Wessels enjoys being single. "I don't have to worry about buying gifts or anything."

Kelly Murphy also agrees. "I enjoy being single because I can keep my options open and check guys out. I get to meet new people and I always have time for my friends."

"There are positives and negatives to high school relationships," said Nolan Grimm. "It's always nice to have someone there for you, but then you may miss out on a lot of opportunities with your friends throughout your high school years. High school only comes once in your life, so you should make the most of it."



Thumbs Up to...

By Ann Hahn



Hypnotist



Cake for girls basketball team from Kopish's dad



Bargains on Sweetheart dresses



Homemade t-shirts for sporting events



Re-vote on class motto, flower and song



People bringing birthday treats



Pop in "D" lunch



Staff Box



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