

WEST WORD

November 18, 2013

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Oscar Soto/Greeley West Lampodian

Junior Nate Gorsline (left) warms up for Tough Guy Volleyball. The senior team (above) celebrates one of their points.

Prom costs lots of money

Powder Puff Football and Tough Guy Volleyball, which are played between the seniors and the juniors, are two huge fundraisers for prom. This year the Powder Puff football game had the largest turn out West has seen in years, raising a total of \$1,400. This is approximately \$500 dollars more than the usual amount made.

Prom generally costs between three and five thousand dollars for the venue and decorations. The venue has not yet been decided but the junior class representatives are working hard to find a place.

Additional money for prom is raised at Mr. GWHS and also through ticket sales. The date for prom has not yet been determined.

- Tonya Schiestel

Seniors dominate tough guy

By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

The annual Tough Guy volleyball game was played last Tuesday night, at Greeley West High School gymnasium. The senior class boys, coached by Audri Hernandez, Abbie Polland, Sara Lance and Sirena Barker dominated the junior class boys.

They played four matches, and the seniors only fell short in one match. The first and second matches were both wins for the seniors, 15-4 and 15-5.

The third game the seniors were unable to come out on top due to cheating by the juniors. They had all of their players on the court at one time, barely coming out with a 25-23 win.

Senior Walker Brown complained that McAdams gave the juniors that set, and made bad calls, such as giving the juniors extra points because the senior's shorts were too short.

"Tough guy volleyball is really fun and I wish we had weekly competitions, I really like wearing those shorts," said Brown.

Big give evolves into food drive

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

Due to the recent floods in Colorado, the annual Big Give food drive was not held this year. In its place, there is a different food drive currently being held that is directed towards the Colorado flood victims. All of the food donated will be given straight to the Weld County Food Bank and inevitably brought back to the flood victims themselves.

The food drive started on Monday, November 11th and will continue until Friday, November 22nd. Although it was Interact who put the whole drive together, many other clubs, teachers, and even athletic teams are doing their part as well. Every club and teacher, at the beginning of the drive, was able to "adopt" a food item to be responsible for

Continued
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Seniors find new test to be better

By Alie Olivas
Staff Writer

There were a lot of unhappy seniors roaming the halls this week. When they found out they were being forced to take a standardized test, most of the responses were negative. Everyone thought that standardized tests were left long behind them and many students even talked about not showing up on test day.

"I feel like it is a waste of time and it's not going to benefit me in any way because I'm going off to college in less than a year," says senior Samantha Augustino.

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FFA drives cross-country for national competition

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

The Greeley West FFA club went to the national competition for FFA clubs from many different cities. Nationals were held on November 3 in Louisville, Kentucky. To be part of the national competition, the FFA club had to be one of the top five chapters (clubs) from the state to participate.



Longacre

The club placed within the top 200 of the all the chapters in the nation.

"6000 kids were there and our chapter stood out, dressed professionally and proved that they all knew how to do the works shops they were assigned too," Longacre proudly stated.



Adams

Although most students participated in workshops and planting, some did not. Titus Adams is a student at Greeley West who participates in FFA, and was assigned a different task at nationals.

Adams' task was to write out what the chapter presents and explain it. They present these to a board and then are interviewed. "It's a lot of pressure but it's a once in a life time chance and I would never have missed it," stated Adams.

FFA left to go to nationals on October 27th. "Driving to Kentucky takes a really long time, so we used this chance to have these kids learn something," said Longacre.

On their way to nationals, the club visited a John Deer Factory, the Field of Dreams, a race track in Kentucky that use to hold the Kentucky Derby, and many more.

This trip was very successful for the club and they look forward for the next to come.



Addison Vergara/West Word

Caitie Lutz is lifted during the cheerleader performance at the first annual Front Range League spirit competition (left). The Poms get ready for their runner-up routine that same night.

Spirited competition

Cheers, Poms host first-ever Front Range Invite

By Addison Vergara
Staff Writer

Two teams that are spitting images of Greeley West spirit had the opportunity to showcase their talent this past Wednesday. Both the Greeley West Cheer team and the Pom team competed in the first annual Front Range Spirit Challenge. Many schools were represented in this competition, including Horizon, Rocky Mountain, Loveland, Fossil Ridge, Monarch, and Fairview.

The stands were packed and the anticipation was high. Despite all the pressure, both teams seemed confident. Senior Pom Kylee Jackson said, "We are excited, and we know that

everything will fall into place." Similar emotions were displayed among the cheer squad. "I think the team is coming together really well, and I know the girls will make me proud," said senior cheer captain Caitie Lutz.



Lutz

Varsity cheer teams kicked off the competition, followed by Junior Varsity cheer. West's team performed a dazzling routine that featured high speed acrobatics and a variety of spirited chants.

After the cheer teams had competed, Junior Varsity Pom teams danced, and

**Continued
Spirit, Page 16**

Parent teacher conferences

By America Monje
Staff Writer

Last week's parent-teacher conferences were the best attended in recent years, with many teachers sticking around past 8 p.m. to conference with parents who were still in line.

Parent teacher conferences come four times a year or twice a semester. Usually, not as many people that could come attend conferences, so what is it that teachers do when they're not in conferences?

Truth is, teachers catch up on their grading and make lesson plans. Some like to review grades to get a rough idea of where their students are standing. "I like to goof around and try to talk to as many parents as I can," math teacher Dennis Johnson said.



Johnson

This year, teachers spent most of the night in conferences with parents - most averaged 25 parents during the four-hour session.

To increase attendance this year, the counseling office offered prizes to students whose parents visited with at least five different teachers over the course of the night.

Parent teacher conferences are a time when teachers can really focus on a student and talk to their parents so that they could receive as much help as they need to finish off the semester strong. Parent teacher conferences are very beneficial to attend and should be taken advantage of.

Teachers wear new ID badges for added security

By America Monje
Staff Writer

School is a place where people send their kids to be educated and schools should be safe environments because they hold tomorrow's future.

A few years ago, Greeley West students were expected to have their ID's displayed at all times; administration actually would not allow students in the school without an ID. This was solely placed

for everyone's protection.

Now the teacher's know the feeling. Greeley West staff has gone from "fabs," which are gray plastic keys they use to enter the school, to ID badges that they can just scan and then enter their code.

This new system is used to comply with the new district safety standard. All teachers were expected to take new pictures for their ID badges, and the "fabs" used to enter the school now will be

expiring on December 20th.

This is a big change to the current system the school has now, but all teachers are now expected to have their ID badges on their person at all times for identification purposes. Not only is this new ID badge system handy, but it also serves the purpose of being able to identify staff members one may not know. Almost every student knows there is always that one teacher whose name you don't know. This will help to help identify new staff members.

Spartan teacher Laura Light-Kovac leads students and staff through a pose at Yoga Club last Wednesday.

Alex Garcia /West Word



Yoga club bends all the rules

By Alex Garcia
Staff Writer

Greeley West has clubs for every student there is out there. You can find a club for just about anything you want to do or like to do. There are always new clubs at the school as well. One recently started club is the yoga club. The club was started by social studies teacher Ms. Light-Kovac. She invites all student to come and enjoy performing yoga to relax the body and mind.

The yoga club meets every Wednesday after school in room 312. The meeting usually lasts around an hour. They usually perform different yoga stances in the dimmed light. The club usually

sees about 10 students every meeting along with a few staff members.

The yoga is also taught to most of the football players on Friday by Light-Kovac during the day. For the sports and management class that some of the players have, Ms. Light Kovac performs and teaches the proper techniques for yoga.

As of right now, the club does not do any fundraising within the club. It is generally just an opportunity for those who enjoy yoga to have a place and the chance to do so with others. Junior Xavier Velasques is one of the members of the yoga club. "It helps with my flexibility for football," said Velasques.

Former teacher wins board spot

By Merall Sherif
Staff Writer

The general election Weld County voted in was November 5th. Colorado Proposition AA was supported with a 65% support. Weld County said no to Colorado splitting into a new state by a 57% vote. The Funding for Public Schools Amendment 66 was voted down by an unfortunate 65% vote.

For the school board election, John Haefeli had a 16.8% vote, Steve Hall with 15.2%, Rhonda Solis with 14.2% and Roger Allen DeWitt with 13.7% all were elected for a 4 year term against their counterparts Donna Downey with 12.4%, Logan Mahan with 10.7%, Ron Brecheisen with 8.6%, and Paleri Mann with a 8.5% vote.

All percentages were calculated from a total of 70,037 votes.

Weld County is home to some of the most underfunded schools in Colorado, having a bond which is funding to build school facilities and obtain equipment, like computers;

This county is considered "the donut" because Weld county is the only county of its surrounding school districts to have no Mill Levey, meaning there is not a program set up to fund the essential softer aspects of education, such as the programs to run computers.

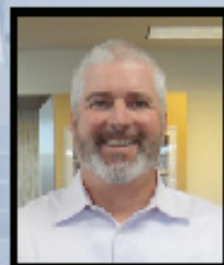
Greeley West will not be receiving any sufficient funding because of the change in legislature, but will have a modified school board for the next 4 year term.

GREELEY



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Crowds trickle in to watch thespians *Run*

By Chris Campbell
Staff Writer

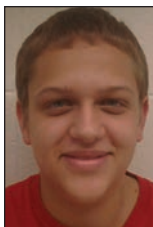
Over the weekend, the Greeley West theater troupe performed their fall play, a British farce, called *See How They Run*.

The play was a comedy that is full of mismatched identities, comic punch lines, and even a Russian convict.

The students had been practicing the play since late September, and hoped that their efforts produced a great show. By the crowd's response Friday night, it appeared they had.



Mellin



Catalano

When the Vicar's wife, Penelope, has her old acting-friend-turned-army-man come to her house for a visit, the two of them decide to go see a play that they ironically both performed in. The couple run into trouble when Clive informs Penelope that he is not allowed into the town that the play is being performed in because of his military restrictions.

Penelope decides to dress up Clive in one of her husband's parson suits and they go off to see the play. While this is happening, Penelope's bishop uncle decides to stop in for a visit, and confuses Clive for Penelope's husband.

Stacked on this is a drunken deacon, Ms. Skillon, who causes much trouble for the guests. While these events alone are enough to cause pandemonium, it's not enough for this hilarious play. It is filled with Russian convicts, too many



Aaron Lyman and Rebekah Dunn rehearse one of the hilarious scenes in *See How They Run* last week before the weekend shows. The shows ran for one weekend and were received by happy audiences.

Chris Campbell/West Word

vicars, and laughs aplenty.

The appearances this weekend marked the first major performance for four Spartan thespians. Fortunately, these newcomers felt supported.

"Learning the ropes and coming in as a new person and trying to live up to the expectation about people before me has been really challenging, but

it's been a great experience," said junior Kathryn Mellin.

Although developing the play had many struggles, the biggest struggle for those in the play was the set. The set was two stories tall, and had to withstand banging doors.

Dutchmanning, the technique where developers

attempt to eliminate seams in the set with cloth strips and glue, proved to be an enormous challenge.

"The most challenging part of set building was the dutchmanning. There's been a time crunch in building it. The set looked great, but it was stressful to get it all done," said junior Kyle Catalano.

Senior pics due NOW

Many seniors have not turned in their senior pictures for the yearbook. This is an inconvenience for the yearbook staff and Mr. Greg McAdams, who have been making announcements for the past month and a half.

The staff has almost 200 senior pictures so far, and encourages students to still turn their picture in.

The yearbook will still be accepting senior pictures, but they need to be turned in as soon as possible.

-- Eric Seeley

FCA club makes return with new sponsor

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

Greeley West has put in a club that has been here in years past but wasn't here last year. That club is FCA or the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets every Wednesday during lunch in room 201. Ms. Cindy Stump, a new teacher at West, is the sponsor for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

This club is just beginning again so it is trying to regain its footing and is "starting new" with a new

sponsor and a new student body.

"We're just beginning. We're evolving as we go," said Stump.

The vision of Stump for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes is to increase the faith of students in Jesus Christ. Stump wants young people to, through relationships, encourage each other in Christ and walk in His ways.

If you are planning on attending the club you can expect to have devotionals on Christ and the Christianity gospel topics. There will also be activities that are based on those same topics.

These club acts will go with what Stump wants the club to do.

This club is targeting athletes (as it says in the name, Fellowship of Christian Athletes), but membership in the club doesn't require you to be an athlete. Stump won't turn away anyone from being in the club.



Stump

WANTED: FACIAL-HAIRED FELLAS



Mr. Kelly Longacre



Walker Brown



Mr. Brandon Torrez



Mr. Travis Krause



Alex DeLaCroix

Bearded Spartans keep West shaggy for No-Shave November

By Sirena Barker
Staff Writer

Greeley West has gained a lot of beards, mustaches, and general hair this month thanks to No-Shave-November. Many of the students and teachers in the school have participated this month in "Noshember". So why do students do this? The original intent of No-Shave-November was to raise awareness for prostate cancer, but several people at West have different, less noble excuses.

"It's an excuse to be lazy and it adds a protective layer to your face for the harsh winter air," Senior

Brian Halsey said.

Some students even see their beards as nothing more than a badge of honor.

"It's going to be no-shave-2013 for me," Said senior Walker Brown. "I'm proud of my beard, and especially proud of the fact that I am able to grow a beard."

Even faculty members are behind No-Shave-November. Most of the male teachers in the school have taken it upon themselves to grow out their own beards for the month. Brandon Torrez, Kelly Longacre, and Travis Krause are some of the many male teachers that have been sporting

their facial hair throughout the month.

Even girls have gotten behind No-Shave-November. Many girls have given up shaving their arms or their legs to celebrate this month, though the option is much less popular among the females, and even less popular among male students with girlfriends.

But whether or not students and faculty are not shaving for the right reasons, students can be assured that for the rest of November, there will be a lot of spotty beards, a lot of wispy mustaches, and a great load of men and women who will be scratching their itchy hair throughout the month.

Letters of Rec vital for college

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

It's about that time of the year when teachers are doing the seniors the big favor of writing letters of recommendation. These letters are important to receive because they aid seniors in getting accepted to universities and earning as many scholarships as possible before graduation.

On most applications, colleges or scholarship programs require two or three letters in order to be eligible or be considered for acceptance. Due to the specifications students choose two or three teachers that they have good relationships with to write them a good letter. The letters are used to evaluate the applicant from someone else's perspective which could potentially make or break the acceptance.

Students are able to ask people outside of school for the letters such as employers or mentors depending on their relationships. These are a pretty big priority for students who are looking to get into a four year school and can really help them out in the process.

The best way to get this obligation done is too do it ahead of time and ask your selected writers in advance. That way the people who are writing the letters have plenty of time to write a good letter considering they might have others to write.

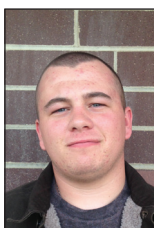
Many underclassmen wonder why seniors are stressing about these letters at this time of the year, but they will soon find out why they are so important.



Public safety day a hit

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

On November 7th Greeley West held a public safety career day which was held in the auxiliary gym. There were many different agencies at this fun and exciting event. There were EMT's, firefighters and the Greeley Police department, but there was also something more interesting. A flight for life helicopter landed on the practice field, and a SWAT truck came. The students were allowed to get in both and look around. There was also a bomb squad technician who brought one of the robots that are used to investigate a suspicious package without hurting anyone.



Bloom

crowd included kids from Greeley West, Greeley Central, Northridge, Roosevelt, and Jefferson High School.

"We had a better turn out than I thought we would," said Brody Bloom, a member of the Police Education class. The event was created by Steve Gallamore, the AIMS teacher of the Police Ed. Class. "We had three agencies not show up which is a bummer, but I understand it's hard on a weekday," said Gallamore.

There were around two hundred kids at this event and all of them were very interactive with the agencies.

"I had tons of fun and my favorite part was the SWAT truck, it really shows how big of an impact and how important it is to them to protect our society and most of all it was just AWESOME!" said Sergio Felix, a senior at Greeley West.



Felix



Greeley West's criminal justice class stands in front of a SWAT truck.

Garrett Hays/West Word

Students take college classes as seniors

By Riley Mincic
Staff Writer

Many senior students at Greeley West are trying to get ahead of their peers in college. Many of them are going to Aims Community College and taking college level classes to try and get college credit.

Taking the classes during their senior year means that students will not have to take the class when they enroll in a university. This helps students save money when they go to college.

The difference in cost can be at least \$4000 that can be saved when taking a concurrent enrollment

class. Many of the courses they take are general education classes which include College Algebra, science classes, English, and literature.

Russell Fink and Mikaela Lehnert are taking these classes during high school to help with the cost of college. It costs less to take a class for credit now than it would to take the class at a college.



Fink

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Fort Collins is nice home for Ram fan and West graduate

By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

Sydney Brown graduated from Greeley West in 2012. Throughout her years as being a Spartan, Sydney was a three sport athlete, playing softball, basketball, and soccer. She was a part of National Honors Society, and she helped coach Special Olympics.

After graduation, Sydney went on to become a Ram at Colorado State University. Sydney's

freshman year, she lived in the dorms, but now lives in an apartment right next to campus called Ram's Village. Sydney is studying health and exercise, with a concentration in sports medicine. While studying at Colorado State, Sydney is also working at Cache Bank and Trust as a bank teller.

"My favorite part about college is having

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Sydney Brown

freedom and getting the opportunity to meet different kinds of people because it teaches you more about

yourself," said Brown.

Sydney misses her friends from high school, and she misses playing sports, even though inter murals are fun for her in college.

When Sydney isn't studying or working, she's

enjoying her time in the beautiful city of Fort Collins. She loves Fort Collins' community, and she appreciates how pretty the campus is, since the mountains are so close. During Sydney's free time she goes camping, hiking, and swing dancing.

Brown comes home to Greeley at least 2-3 times a month, and for holidays to spend time with her family, and old friends.

Sydney has also been back to West to visit old teachers a few times since she's graduated.

SPARTAN STAR

Throughout the 2013-14 school year, West Word will be recognizing outstanding students at Greeley West.

Nate Gorsline Junior



Throughout his productive high school career, Nate Gorsline has worked extremely hard, and has continued to keep himself focused and positive on a consistent basis, in order to meet his goals.

Among many other academic accomplishments such as winning the Diamond Award for TCAP, Gorsline currently has an exemplary 4.29 GPA. This puts him on the right track to meeting one of his main goals which is to attend a good college and to have a family of his own.

As far as after college, Gorsline is not sure of his mission yet, but is going to leave it in the hands of God. Taking everything into account Gorsline says "Whatever happens... happens,"

Gorsline not only excels in academics but in athletics as well. He has performed in state for swimming both of the years he has competed for the Greeley West High School boys swimming team. Gorsline is especially proud of making the Boom Team.

-Isaiah Maes

Teacher lays down the Hammer

By Addison Vergara
Staff Writer

There seems to be an unnoticed pattern here at Greeley West: teachers growing up in small, farm-towns. Rachel Hammer fits this trend to a tee. Hammer grew up on a farm in a small, close-knit community called Jewell, Iowa, with only 1200 residents. However, Hammer's small-town roots did not stop her from big-time accomplishments.

Hammer attended South Hamilton High School, where her involvement was superb. She was Student Council Vice President, Senior Class Vice President, and played softball, basketball, and ran track. She was also involved in choir, in which she was All-State, and in the marching band. Her interest in teaching first started at South Hamilton. "I had amazing high school teachers that were funny, insightful, and inspirational," Hammer explained.

After high school, Hammer attended a variety of schools. She received an Associate's degree in liberal arts at Waldorf College, a Bachelor's degree in secondary English education at Luther College, and finished her education with various graduate courses at Northern Colorado.

When Hammer came to teach at West, her inclination to be highly involved continued. She not only teaches at West, but she has been a forensics coach as well as a coach for "Tough Guy Volleyball", and she is the sponsor for the Interact Club, which inspired her to create and head the annual "Big Give."

Hammer has a husband, Erik, who is a bank executive, and three sons: Chris, Jon, and Jake. Chris attends UNC, where he pitches for the Bears baseball team. Jon is a senior at Colorado State, and Jake attends Severance Middle School.

Hammer enjoys spending time with her family when she's not busy, and also enjoys reading and working out. In fact, she has actually participated in a few triathlons.



Addison Vergara/West Word

Greeley West English teacher Rachel Hammer has a really intense conversation with a student in her class.

Students should be thankful

|||||
Jake Firkins
Editorial



As thanksgiving approaches, let's start being thankful for the things we have. One thing in particular is

the Thanksgiving break.

The Thanksgiving break, which starts on

November 27th, is a much needed break for students and staff alike. Students, of course, like the break because it's days off of school. Teachers enjoy the break as well. They get to be home for a few days to spend time with their families and get away from their students for a few days.

Some students and staff look forward to this break because it also means that there is good food to eat and football to watch. Thanksgiving is on the 28th of this month and features 3 NFL games that will be played. The Packers will play the Lions, Cowboys will play the Raiders, and the

Steelers will play the Ravens on that day.

Thanksgiving is also a time to eat good food and lots of it. From turkey or ham to mashed potatoes and yams, rolls and butter to corn and green beans, there are many kinds of food being eaten on tables all over the country.

Lastly, and most importantly, it is a time for students to get a break from school. We get to take a break from all of the school work and homework. Students get to take a few days off to relax and do things that teenagers do these days like playing video games and hanging out.

What's Thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving day is one of the most anticipated times of the year for most people. It is a great time to take a break from school and work to enjoy time with family and friends. When I think of Thanksgiving Day I think of food, family, football, and laughter. But most of all, I think about food.

Thanksgiving, for me is about getting all my

f a m i l y
r e l a t i v e s
t o g e t h e r,
o n e s I

Michael Caro
Editorial
haven't seen in month. We have a great day telling jokes, sharing

s t o r i e s ,
and arguing about the football game. It's a day to be especially thankful for your loved ones. These people are the ones that have been with me throughout the whole year. The whole point of Thanksgiving Day is to create meaningful moments and lasting memories. Nothing is better than when the whole family is gathered around the table chowing down on a homemade Thanksgiving dinner.

It seems like Thanksgiving isn't about family or food anymore. Thanksgiving today is all about waiting for Black Friday, or spending your night waiting in line to get the next best thing on sale. Nobody seems to sit down and appreciate what they have anymore. It's all about the stuff, the wants, the give-me's.

Continued
Thanksgiving, Page 9

Black Friday not fun

The day we've all come to know as "Black Friday" is just around the corner. The chaotic event will be on November 28th this year.

|||||
Alie Olivas
Editorial



Some of the stores that will be open are; K-Mart, K o h l ' s , Target, Wal-Mart, and

Staples. These shops will be opening at 8 PM on Thanksgiving evening, and closing at 10 AM on Friday morning.

This Black Friday schedule is new this year, and has made many people upset. It takes the fun out of spending time with your family on Thanksgiving.

Last year, shoppers could enjoy their night until around 2:30 am, however, this year, the doors will be open at 8 PM. Extreme shoppers spend two or three hours waiting in line, so that means people

will leave their dinners around 4:30.

In my opinion, Black Friday has taken over Thanksgiving. People are so concerned about being in the front of these lines that they blow off quality time that is important. Thanksgiving is supposed to be about enjoying a day with your family members and making memories. Now it's all about hurrying and eating just to get in the front of the lines.

It is a sad thing to see people choosing shopping over family time, but I do agree that the sales are excellent. The problem is not the people shopping, it's the store manufacturers who are causing the problem. They know people will go shopping for great deals just a month before Christmas, and their plan has successfully worked.

Even though Black Friday has saved people money on Christmas presents, it still distracts and ruins the point of Thanksgiving.

The point of Thanksgiving is to be with your family and to be thankful for everything you have, not worrying about staying up late and scoring the best deal.

SWEET TWEETS

Joel Marion @marion_joel_13
@GWWestWord good work! Especially the crossword pages.. #nocred #needmorelines ;)

Rizo @Giselle_44
@GWWestWord @Kenlee_frank and I actually enjoy these "Fun N' Games!"

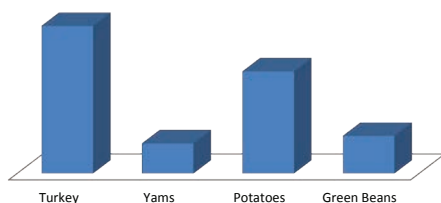


Suzanne Miller @suzanneemillerr
@GWWestWord @Kenlee_frank That's what my Grandma does #oldfarts

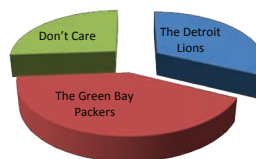
Rizo @Giselle_44
@GWWestWord Well honestly class was kinda boring so we had nothing else to do.

Spartan Pulse

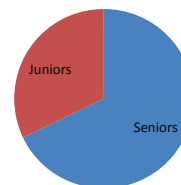
What is your favorite Thanksgiving Day food?



Who will win the Thanksgiving Day NFL game?



Pregame prediction: Who is going to win the Tough Guy game this year?



Girls' bathroom worse than a horror movie

|||||
Jenea
Padilla
Editorial
|||||



The girl's bathroom is one of the most horrifying places on West campus. There is nothing

exciting about having to use the restroom during school hours. In fact it's actually a nightmare. Therefore, many girls choose to wait to use the restroom until they get home because of how awful it smells and how crowded it is.

Girls leave the bathroom gagging, with watery eyes, in disgust. The stalls are always occupied, the mirrors are always being used to fix make-up, and girls even use the restroom to talk on the phone.

The restroom is supposed to be a place where girls actually use the restroom!

We are in high school. We should know what the purpose of a bathroom is. Instead of campus monitors, West needs a bathroom monitor to keep the bathroom in line, and make sure that people are using the bathroom for the right purpose. It might sound ridiculous, but the fact that some people don't know how to get in, get your business done,

and get out, is even more ridiculous.

For girls that really do use their bathroom pass to actually go to the bathroom, it is unfair that we only have the one restroom open and available. We should open the bathrooms by the gym so that there are two places for people to use the restroom. West is too big of a school to only have one restroom available.

From
Thanksgiving, Page 8

Wouldn't it be great if everyone were to actually celebrate Thanksgiving? Sit around with their families and talk about their lives, talk about what they're thankful for. Thanksgiving Day is something I wouldn't trade for in the world, and it would be nice if everyone else thought the same thing. So, this Thanksgiving, why not forget about the sales and Christmas and your worries for a while? Why not get together with your family, carve the turkey, and appreciate life?

**Exercise your
free speech by
contributing to
West Word. Submit
editorials to room
306.**



david d. richter, dds, ms

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Booster club hopes blankets make lots of money

By Chris Campbell
Staff Writer

Greeley West High School administrators, along with known Greeley West fan Mike Crawford, have come up with a new fundraising technique this month. The school is selling Greeley West themed blankets to the student body in an effort to

raise money for the school.

To buy the blankets, students must simply go on to the sponsored website, *HighSchoolBlanket.com*, register, and order their blankets. For every fifty students that register on the site, the price of each blanket goes down. The price of the blankets right now is \$55, but administrators hope that enough

students will register soon enough and the price will decrease. While on the website, students can vote on one of four designs for the blankets.

A strong supporter of buying the blankets has been secretary Sasha Cohoon. She keeps a sample of the blanket on her desk and shows it to every single student she can.

"Showing the sample to students is how we've sold most of the blankets; once the students touch them, they want one. The blankets are really soft,

and they're queen-sized, so they're huge too!," said Cohoon.

Athletic director Jeff Cranson has high hopes for the blankets. "They would make an awesome Christmas gift," he said.

Some of the students of Greeley West think that the blankets are a great idea. "I haven't bought a blanket yet, but I think they would be awesome to take to a cold game," said junior Connor Chapman.

From CMAS, Page 1

However, the experience proved to be much different than anyone expected. The "test of the future" was given to all seniors as a trial run for future CMAS testing. Because the test was in an experimental phase, and the seniors were basically guinea pigs, the results don't count for anything.

The computerized test was very interactive, as test takers got to perform the science experiments and watch simulations on things, such as ecosystems

and biological processes.

"I felt like I got a better understanding on how the experiment actually worked because we could carry out our own experiments," says senior Chris Villalobos.

The test also included multiple tools such as a highlighter, a pad to take notes on, a ruler, a feature that allows you to eliminate potential wrong answers, and even a periodic table of elements.

"I liked how it was more interactive and simple to use all of the tools they offered," said senior Brittany Corrales.



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FASHION TRENDS: Sweater Weather

The weather is becoming more and more frightful as this year comes to a close, and sweaters are making

their way into the halls of Greeley West.

For both guys and girls, sweaters

are a plush and stylish, yet warm and comfortable garment to wear during the cold season. Soft, cotton sweaters are perfect for cold days when you want to look nice, but still be comfortable. For guys, sweaters can be perfectly paired with a pair of jeans and some stylish (READ: NOT SNEAKERS) shoes. For girls, sweaters can be worn a little more casually, either with leggings and boots or even with jeans and a skirt. Cardigans, the cuter brother of the sweater, are also a great style to wear in the cold weather for both guys and girls.

Lauren Miller
Fashion Expert



Lauren Miller/West Word

Sophomore Nick Trujillo shows off his fall fashion sense, minus the sneakers.

Hanks stars in best movie of year

Tom Hanks has acted in many great movies through his career. Which include *Saving Private Ryan*, *Cast Away*, *Forrest Gump*, and *The Terminal*.

He has won many awards for Best Actor, and there is no doubt that he will win another for his performance in *Captain Phillips*.

The movie is based off of a true story that takes place off the coast of Somalia. Pirates board his ship and take the captain prisoner.

This movie does a great job of making you understand and feel what it is like to be held hostage. Hanks does an amazing job of making you feel like you are him

going through every scene.

Action takes off quick as within the first 20 minutes of the movie. The Somali pirates make their attempts to hijack the American Cargo Ship.

With no military presence on the ship, there is no way to protect it from the attack. It is only in the worst case, when captain gets taken hostage, when the Navy Seals get involved.

The movie utilizes a diverse cast of non-actors who actually come from Somalia. They do a nice job of portraying the real-life terrorists who abducted Captain Phillips.



Riley Mincic
Movie Review

Pick your distraction: New Xbox or Playstation?

By Mason Barnes
Staff Writer

One of the hottest topics of the holiday season is the new next Gen consoles being released for video gameplay. The Xbox One and the PS4 are not only the greatest things to happen to gamers but also for non-gamers.

Both consoles have Blu-Ray players, but with the Xbox One you can hook it up to your satellite

provider and it can become a TV receiver.

The Xbox One comes with the Kinect so you can get more out of your gaming experience. It also comes with voice control so you never have to leave the couch if you never want to.

The Xbox One also has a much better designed controller for the gaming world making it easier on gamers.

The PS4 has most of the things the Xbox One has

This great action packed movie thriller is just another great movie that I have reviewed. It just might be the best one yet that I have seen. The story is so accurate to news reports that it pulls you into the action.

Captain Phillips compares to *Gravity* in the type of feeling you get after the movie. The feelings of hope and courage are both showed by Tom Hanks and Sandra Bullock.

Captain Phillips is a must see movie for anyone and everyone. It truly fascinated me with how accurate they made the movie to the actual occurrence.

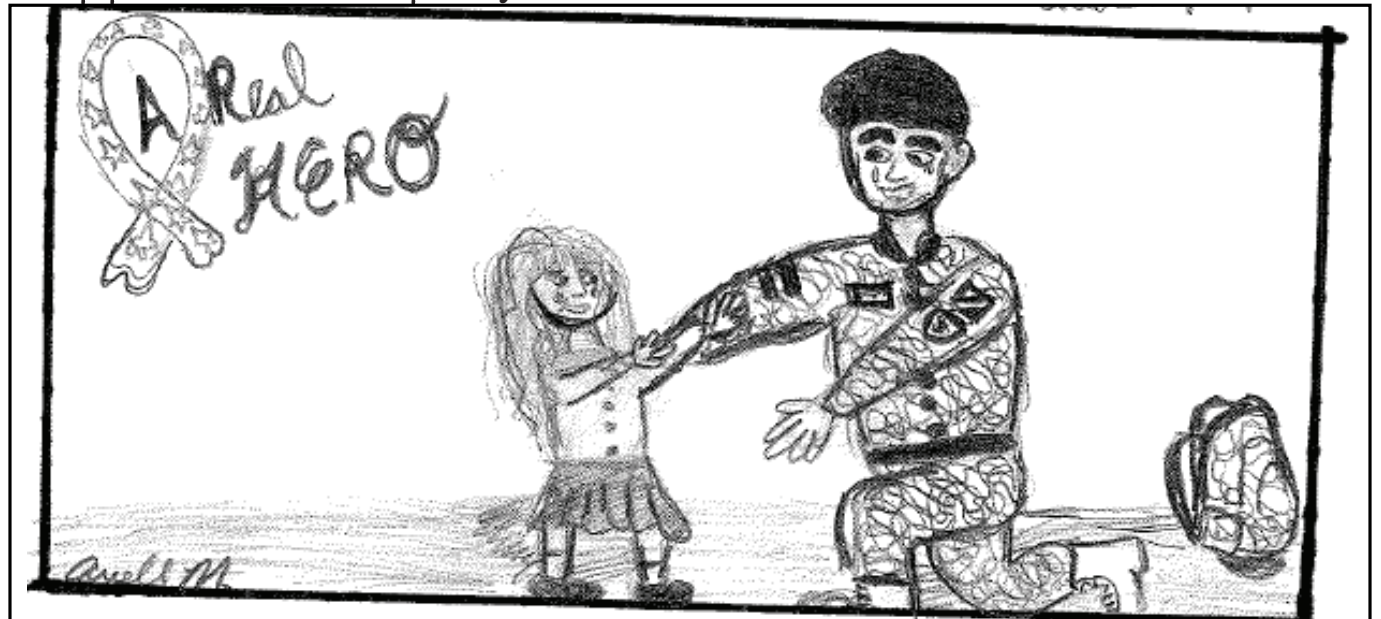
I give this movie a 10 out of 10 Spartan Heads as it is the best movie I have reviewed thus far.

but one of the pros for the PS4 unlike the Xbox One is that you don't have to download every game to the hard drive to play the game.

You can also download apps to your phones or tablets and control the console from second screens.

The only big reason the PS4 might be more popular is because the PS4 is \$400 and the Xbox One is \$500.

Support Our Troops by Ariell Martinez



Turkey Day

Thanksgiving tradition as shared by West students

By Mason Barnes
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving traditions range from eating turkey, to watching the Macy's day parade, to watching football, to bull riding. Depending on family's background, thanksgiving can have a great amount of different activities.

Some families will all get together and have a big game of family football before watching the NFL games, while others will spend their days lounging around doing nothing more than eating, sleeping, and playing video games all day.

Senior Connor Young and his family have a Canadian thanksgiving along with their normal thanksgiving. "A Canadian thanksgiving is just like a normal Thanksgiving, except that it's Canadian. It's a little earlier in the month," said Young.

Another common tradition is to get the whole family together and head down to the extended family's house.

Oftentimes, heading over to see the extended family involves nothing more than pigging out on the traditional Thanksgiving turkey.

So what's there to do once all the food is eaten? One of the big traditions during Thanksgiving is breaking off the Turkey's wishbone.

Traditionally, whoever breaks off the biggest piece of the bone gets the "lucky break" which is one wish.

When it's time for dessert, the first dish to usually come to the family table is the pie.

What most often comes to the table first is usually a pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream. In a poll of most popular Thanksgiving food, pumpkin pie would be ranked as about the third favorite Thanksgiving foods, right under cranberry sauce and right above dinner rolls.

Every family usually has a crazy dish that their whole family loves, but the whole family has eaten every year for Thanksgiving.

Whether or not families have unusual traditions for Thanksgiving, the most enduring and most common tradition is spending time with the family.

Thanksgiving is a day where every student will hopefully forget their worries, eat a delicious meal, and be thankful for their lives.



Young

Big plans for Thanksgiving

By Chris Campbell & Lauren Miller
Staff Writer

November 27th through the 29th is this year's Thanksgiving break and many of the students inside Greeley West plan to spend their break in very different ways.

Most commonly, students are spending time with their families during the break. Some students are going out of town to see their loved ones, while others are preparing their houses to host their families coming to them. Most students plan to stay in Greeley during the break, because traveling around Thanksgiving has been rated as one of the most stressful things to do.

Dianna Rowe is the exception, as she is traveling to Pensacola, Florida for her break. She has many adventures planned for this break, and she hopes

that it will be full of new experiences. She and her brother have plans to go shark hunting. Rowe has never caught a shark before, but is excited for the possibility of catching her first one.

Some of the students of Greeley West have decided not to spend time with their families this break. Many are taking time off just to sleep and play video games, while others are catching up on their college applications. Many of the students have found ways to be productive during the break.

"This thanksgiving break I'm going to get swole," said junior Zach Lish.

Whether or not students will be doing anything that others would deem interesting during the break, it can be sure that a great amount of the student body will do nothing more than eat turkey, rolls, pie, and an assortment of other foods.



Rowe



Lish

The door leading into the office has been decorated festively for Thanksgiving and fall.



Lauren Miller/
West Word

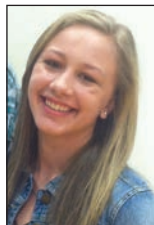
Muchas Gracias

Gratitude is in the air for staff and students alike

By Lauren Miller
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching and that doesn't just mean a break from school, but a joining together of friends and family to give thanks. There are a variety of things students are thankful for this year, which include anywhere from the privilege to live in the U.S., to friends and family.

Ellery Sedlacek is very thankful for several things. "I am so thankful for God giving me so many new opportunities this year and bringing me several new friendships that I will cherish forever," Sedlacek shares. She plans to have over



Sedlacek

fifteen people joining her in giving thanks this Thanksgiving. They plan to cook a feast together and enjoy eating it afterwards. The past couple months she has been recovering from a back injury, and has just been able to return to the water recently. "I am so thankful for the talent God has blessed me with and for healing my injuries." She hopes to regain her spot in the 200 Individual Medley this swim season and make up for her lost practice time due to her injury.

Other students at Greeley West have a variety of things they are thankful for. "I am thankful for my family helping me through high school," shares senior Torrie Rockwell. Simone Morales is excited to start her thanksgiving off by "turkey trotting" with her family, and enjoying a feast prepared by a famous chef she calls "mom." "I am thankful for the love and good health of the people I hold close to my heart."

year should be in helping those affected by the flooding," said teacher and Interact club sponsor Rachel Hammer.

The Weld County Food Bank was very active after all of the floods and gave away much of their food supply to people in need. This year's food drive is planned to only be a one year thing. "As of now, we plan to return to doing the Big Give in future years," said Hammer.

From
Food Drive, Page 1

collecting. Even if you aren't in a club that is participating in the food drive, you can always donate to any club that you would like.

For the past five years, the Big Give has provided thanksgiving meals for many families in need. "Although the Big Give is a great event, the Interact Club officers and I all decided that the priority this



Mason Barnes/West Word

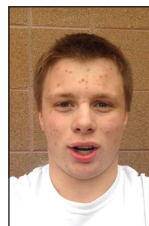
Greeley West basketball hopefuls play some shirts and skins at open gym last week. The coaching staff held tryouts last week.

Winter sports coming

By Micheal Caro
Staff Writer

This year's winter sports at Greeley West include wrestling, boys and girls basketball, and girls swimming.

The head coach for girls swimming is Colin Shaha. Shaha has been coaching girls swimming and diving for 13 years at Greeley West. Shaha is looking forward to be coaching a great group of girls this season. "I'm really looking forward to the girls having fun through hard work and team work," Shaha said. Shaha has one assistant coach: Amy Sands.



Trzeciak

Mark Jarnot is looking forward to his first year as head coach for the girls' basketball team. Last year, Jarnot was an assistant coach for the girls' team. For the past few years, girls' basketball hasn't been so popular at Greeley West, and Jarnot is going to try to change the team's image.

"I think people are going to be surprised at the

level of competitiveness we are going to bring compared to previous years," Mark Jarnot said. The girl's tryouts were held last week. There were about 50-60 girls trying out for this year's girls basketball team.

The Greeley West wrestling head coach Jim Martinez is preparing for a long and exciting season. Martinez has been coaching at West for over ten years, and he thinks his wrestlers are ready to take on the challenges laid ahead of them. Logan Trzeciak has been on the varsity wrestling team for three years and is taking this season very serious. "I think that we are going to have a solid line up this year,"



Marion

Trzecka said.

The boys basketball team is looking forward to starting this season where they left off last year. The head coach this year is Tory Hanson who has been the head coach for three years for the boys.

The boy's record last year was 10-14. "This year will be a lot different from last year," Preston Marion said.

Chris Blazer: Greeley West's very own trainer that trains

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

Greeley West is lucky enough to have its very own athletic trainer. This trainers name is Chris Blazer.

He has been here at West for four years. He went to Oregon State and got a degree in Exercise and Sport Science. His job is to handle the athletic training here at West.

Being an athletic trainer requires many things.

He does rehab for those athletes that need it as well as the concussion recovery program. He also does tape and braces for athletes before practices and games. Along with dealing with the athletes at West, he does game day and practice coverage for all of the sports here at West.

He has seen somewhere between twenty to thirty broken bones since coming here. The worst injury he has seen however was a dislocated ankle from one of the girls' soccer goalies.

He could've gone anywhere to be a trainer but chose West. He chose to be a high school athletic trainer because he likes high school age kids. He really enjoys it here at West. He enjoys the coaches as well as the students.

Another reason he chose to be an athletic trainer for a high school is because it allows him the time to have a family outside of the "family" that is created by being an athletic trainer.

He doesn't have plans as to what he would do

after his time here at West. He just likes it here and plans on being here for a while. "I don't know. I'm happy being at West," said Blazer.

Last year, Blazer taught a PE class while Ms. Marianna Polling was on maternity leave. This is another aspect of the job Blazer enjoys.



Blazer

Physical Ed Students of the Month



Mr. Hanson
Erick Quintanilla Orantes
Alyssa Nava
Mr. Stieb
Logan Dion
Meghan Hoesch
Ms. Abbott
Darias Tiger
Jessica Lieser
Ms. Polling
Darias Tiger
Cheyenne Fitzsimons



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What?

Directions: Match each Spartan pictured with their row of answers to find out who said **WHAT**.

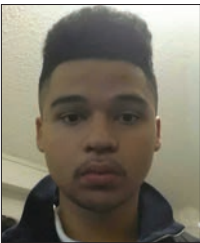
- WHAT is your favorite food to eat?
- WHAT is the best part of Greeley West?
- WHAT is your dream vacation location?
- WHAT is your dream college?
- WHAT is your most embarrassing moment?
- WHAT celebrity do you want to meet?



Emily Smith

A

- Popeyes
- People
- Bahamas
- University of Texas
- Flipped out of my chair while I was trying to grab a pencil
- Dez Bryant



Marcus Mejia

B

- P.F. Changs
- Sports
- Greece
- University of Nebraska
- Walked into the boys' lockerroom at Work Out West
- Eric Decker



Abdirahman "Abdi" Idris

C

- Subway
- Assemblies
- Paris
- University of Northern Colorado
- Tried to eat soup with a fork
- Lana Del Rey



Aylah Tovar

D

- McDonalds
- Teachers
- South Africa
- University of Northern Colorado
- Fell out of my chair in class
- Chris Brown

11.18.13

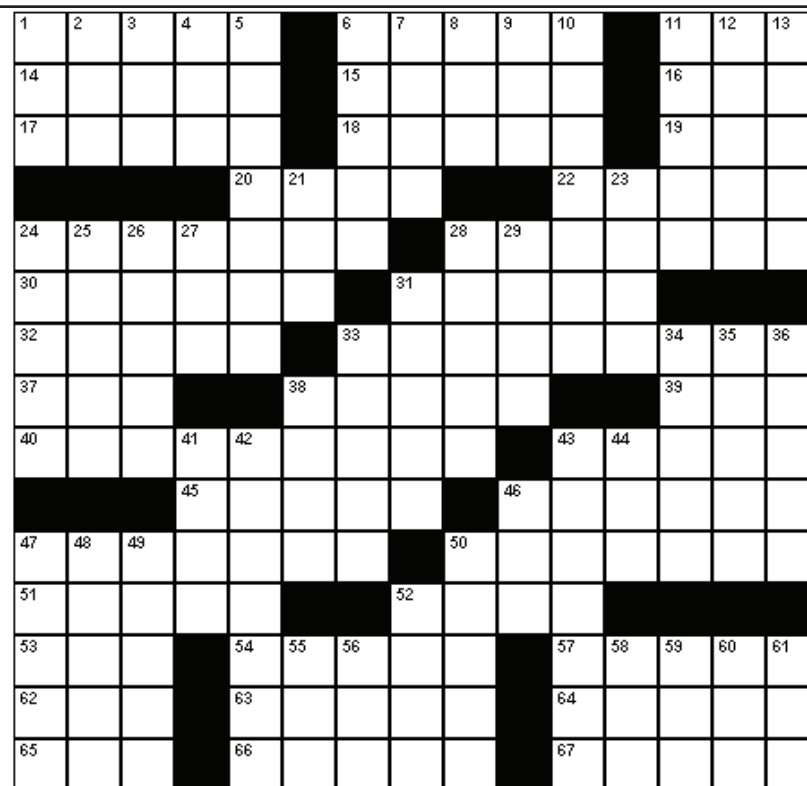
- 1- Pale purple
- 6- Stationed
- 11- PC program
- 14- "A Passage to India" heroine
- 15- Elude; 16- Actor Gulager
- 17- Lace mat
- 18- Doctor's replacement
- 19- Roadster
- 20- "___ Brockovich"
- 22- Uncanny
- 24- Failure to attend
- 28- Arranged in order
- 30- Ivanhoe's love
- 31- Stigma
- 32- Sheer fabric
- 33- Abbreviated
- 37- T.G.I.F. part
- 38- Bobbin
- 39- Turkish title
- 40- Indispensable
- 43- Disdain
- 45- Bit of wisdom
- 46- Appeared
- 47- Scorn
- 50- Triad
- 51- Dadaist Max
- 52- Informal test
- 53- "The Simpsons" bartender

54- Pertaining to people
57- Russian range
62- Form of poem, often used to
praise something
63- Form of lyrical poem
64- Actress Taylor
65- Sun. talk
66- Swift
67- Singer John

Down

- 1- Boy
- 2- Altar words
- 3- Wreath of flowers
- 4- Nothing but
- 5- Hot biting condiment
- 6- Contradict
- 7- Bard's river
- 8- Animal pouch
- 9- Web address ending
- 10- Mark given for offense
- 11- Capital on the Gulf of Guinea
- 12- Braid
- 13- Blender setting
- 21- Nipper's co.
- 23- ___ kleine Nachtmusik
- 24- Bandleader Shaw
- 25- Heavy footwear
- 26- From Bern, say

27- Electric fish
28- Simple seat
29- British nobleman
31- Sand bar
33- Steeple
34- Model Campbell
35- Everglades bird
36- Fop
38- RR stops
41- Actor Omar
42- Nor's partner
43- An instance of seizing
44- 100 yrs.
46- Hindu title
47- Band's sample tapes
48- Wear down
49- Villain's look
50- Adjusted pitch
52- Muslim judge
55- Put ____ fight
56- Cleaning implement
58- Fam. reunion attendee
59- Hill insect
60- Composer Delibes
61- DC bigwig



*"Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com
(<http://www.bestcrosswords.com>). Used with permission."*

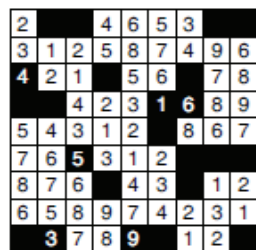
No. 83

Tough



You can find more help, tips and hints at www.str8ts.com

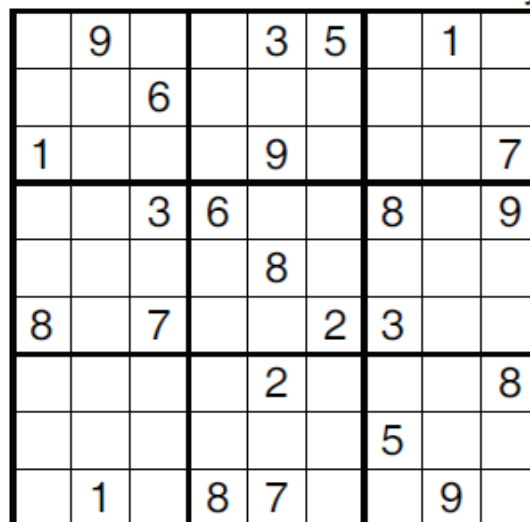
Previous solution - Medium



How to beat Str8ts –
Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how 'straights' are formed.

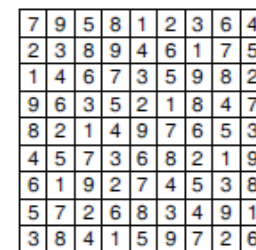
No. 83

Easy



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Very Hard



To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org

If you like Str8ts check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store.

**From
Spirit, Page 2**

Greeley West's Poms impressed the judges as usual, performing a hip-hop routine that showcased some break dancing skills.

After all the routines were completed, it was up to the judges.

Despite an impressive showing from the cheer squad, they were not given any awards. However, the Pom team walked away with a second place

prize, falling to Horizon by just a single point. "Although we always want to finish first, I was still excited with the results," Jackson explained after the competition. "Plus, we still have other competitions to look forward to."

The Poms still have much competing to do. They will perform at the UDA (Universal Dance Association) Regionals, UDA Exhibition, UDA State in Denver, and the UDA nationals in Florida. Cheer also has more competitions to conquer.

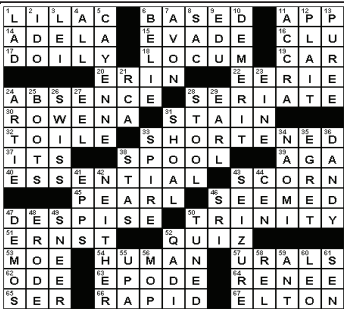
They look to repeat the success they had two

weeks ago at Legacy High School, where they took home the first place trophy, at this Saturday's Winter Blast competition.

This Saturday's competition is among the largest in the state, and is a big publicity and revenue booster for athletics at Greeley West.

Students are already looking forward to it.

"I found the competition on Wednesday to be entertaining, so I plan on coming to support on Saturday as well", junior Kevin Zimmerman explained.





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(No class Thanksgiving Weekend)			
St. John's Church, Greeley	M, TH-SAT	Dec. 23, Dec. 26-Dec. 28	8:00AM-4:00 PM
St. John's Church, Greeley	M, TH-SAT	Dec. 30, Jan. 2-Jan. 4	8:00AM-4:00 PM

Check out our complete schedule at: www.anshordriving.com