

# WEST WORD

April 21, 2014

www.greeleyschools.org/westword

Volume XLVI No. 13

## Juniors prepared to ACT up for college entrance exam

By Michael Caro  
Staff Writer

The ACT is a standardized test that most colleges will use to determine whether high school students should be admitted or not.

This year at Greeley West, 375 junior students will take the ACT test. The ACT test will be held Wednesday in West's main gym. Other students will not be allowed in the gym during testing.

The ACT will focus on four core areas: English, reading, mathematics and science.

The test is over what the students have learned in the last three years of high school, and predicts future aptitude for college.

Junior Kelsey Taylor has been preparing for the ACT since last school semester.

"I've been preparing for the ACT a lot in my AVID class. We've been taking pre-tests and I've also got

some reviews from my trigonometry teacher," said Taylor.

Counselor David Cowan believes that this year the juniors will score higher than students in the past. "The students at Greeley West have been scoring better every year on the ACT, TCAP and the PLAN Test," said Cowan.

Many students are under-prepared for the test but can get prepared by using the many reliable

resources given to them.

"The juniors can go to the ACT website to take practice tests and find good tips for test taking," said Cowan.

Taylor is confident she is well prepared and will score well on the ACT test.

"I'm prepared to take the ACT because I've studied all the material that will possibly be on the test," said Taylor.

## Line up

### New fast food joint 'Fils' up fast

By Lauren Miller  
Staff Writer

As many students are aware, Chick-Fil-A is now in Greeley.

Shortly after Panera Bread was built, a new construction began in the Centerplace area and everyone was extremely anxious to see what would go in. When they found out what it was, almost everyone was very excited and has been awaiting the opening since mid-fall.

Previously, if anyone in Greeley wanted to get a hold of Chick-Fil-A's famous chicken, they had to go all the way to Loveland.

The restaurant opened March 27, 2014 and is still accepting applications for employees. The restaurant offers a variety of different food items, most of them containing chicken.

They are known for their fried chicken fingers and chicken sandwiches.

Although the menu may seem boring with so many chicken items, it is quite the opposite.



Senior Gavin Paczosa waits eagerly in line for a chance at his Chick-Fil-A meal. Lines have been long, but it has not stopped students from spending lunch there.

Lauren Miller  
/West Word

Many people say this restaurant is their favorite and they love the creative ways they use chicken in a variety of ways.

For a full 24 hours, people could camp out on opening day in order to win Free Chick-Fil-A once a week for a year.

"It was extremely cold so I ended up sleeping in my car with a bucket of KFC waiting to get

my free food," shared junior Ambur Wilson, who participated in the opening-day events. "Despite the cold, it was still fun and I would definitely do it again."

Since Chick-Fil-A opened, traffic in the area has increased almost ten fold. During West's lunch, cars line up around the restaurant waiting to get a hold of the food joint's fast food.

## Booster Club looks forward to sponsoring TANE

By Lauren Miller  
Staff Writer

For several years, Greeley West has offered an "after prom" also known as TANE, following the dance. In the past it has been held at the school as well as the Funplex for a couple years. This year it will be at Chipper Lanes Bowling Alley.

Last year this location seemed to be successful so the Booster Club decided to try this location again in hopes of an even better turn out than the already impressive attendance last year. "The booster club's goal is to create a safe environment for students to have fun after the dance," administrator Jeff Cranson shares.

The Booster Club has decided to allow prom tickets to also get students into TANE for free in hopes of increasing attendance. Underclassmen tickets are just five dollars. Local businesses and generous donations have provided the cash to hold



Cranson

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## Inside

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## History comes alive in Greeley

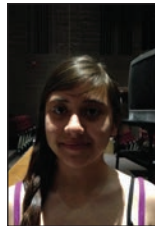
By Jenea Padilla  
Staff Writer

Three students from Greeley West High school, junior Hector Rosales, freshman Marleen Plascencia, and freshman Juliet Cha, performed their Young Chautauqua act on Wednesday, April 9. They performed in the Hall House located in Centennial Village at Island Grove.

Plascencia has participated in Young Chautauqua for four years now. The person that she chose to be was Dr. Mary Edwards Walker.

"I chose to be Dr. Mary Edwards Walker because she was a strong woman who believed in women's rights and who believed it was important for women to stand up for themselves," said Plascencia.

Plascencia believed that her performance went very well. She participates in Young Chautauqua because she thinks it's a fun way to learn about history and to get the opportunity to be someone you're not for a day.



Plascencia

Juliet Cha also participated in Young Chautauqua this year for her second time. She chose to be Queen Nefertiti. She chose to be her because she was a strong woman and she thought it was cool that Queen Nefertiti had the same power as her husband, the emperor. The couple had a huge impact on Egyptian history.

Cha also believed that her performance went well. She wasn't nervous at all thanks to her past performances. "I participate in Young Chautauqua just for the fun of it," said Cha.

After performing at Centennial Village, the students either have a chance to get chosen to perform at the Big Tent, or they could be offered the opportunity to perform their acts for other schools and get paid for them. It is unknown when and if they will make it to the Big Tent, or whether or not they'll get chosen to perform at other schools.

Students interested in participating in Young Chautauqua next year can contact the sponsors Ms. Susan Eastin and Ms. Carla Chavez.

they think they are fit for the honor. The award is the highest honor that a Greeley West senior can get.

Since the founding days of West, this award has been given to the top 2% of the graduating class. Teachers, administration, and staff members



Jenea Padilla/West Word

Students Hector Rosales, Juliet Cha and Marleen Plascencia pose following their performance last week.

## Did you make it to school on the snow day?

By Tara Trevino  
Staff Writer

The snow day make up took place the day that was supposed start the week of spring break. The expectancy of attendance wasn't very high; administration knew that many of the students would be a no show on Friday April 28.

"Not only were many students gone but many teachers were gone as well because of plans already made," Jeff Cranson explained. Many of the students saw the make-up day as a waste of time. Teachers planned to give extra credit to the students who showed up to class that Friday.

A lot of students were gone for vacation such as the varsity baseball team who left for California on Thursday April 27 for a tournament. The make-up day made no difference in student's vacations.

## West seniors apply, nominated for prestigious Honor Crest award

By Alie Olivas  
Staff Writer

The Greeley West administration, faculty, and staff are currently in the process of picking the perfect candidates for the Spartan Honor Crest Award. Students can also nominate themselves if

nominate students who they consider to be top-notch students. Students are then notified and have to submit a current picture of themselves and a resume.

This honor is awarded to students who demonstrate extracurricular excellence,

commitment, and tradition of being a true Spartan. Once the committee gets together, they narrow the list down to about 4% of the class. From there, the committee makes some tough decisions and picks the finalists. The recipients are honored at the awards night in May.

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# Seniors have little motivation to finish school year

**By Tonya Schiestel**  
Staff Writer

Senioritis seems to be a common theme here at West, especially as we approach the end of the school year.

Most seniors cannot wait to get out and start the rest of their lives somewhere else.

For many of them this "somewhere else" is the college they will be attending next fall.

With all the excitement that comes with the end of the school year and graduation, many seniors are beginning to experience senioritis. This includes

laziness, lack of motivation, not doing homework or studying for tests, excessive wear of athletic clothes and continually not showing up for class.

A majority of seniors have already been accepted into the college of their choice, making it even easier to want to slack off and not do their work.

They figure that since they've already been accepted, colleges won't look at their grades anymore so they can get by with a few low scores. Other seniors are trying to fight their senioritis and finish the year off strong so that they will be prepared for college.

Some seniors are not aware that most colleges also look at the final transcript of their senior year and could rescind their acceptance into college.

If a senior sends in their transcript from their last semester and have horrible grades, it could spell disaster for their future on the collegiate level.

Pollard

"I absolutely have senioritis

but I just keep telling myself that once I've graduated it will all be worth it. The thought of college and trying to prepare also helps motivate me to attend class and get my work done," said senior Abbie Pollard.

Although she feels some of the symptoms of senioritis, she has not let it drastically affect her attendance or work ethic.

This is true for many seniors as they continue to fight against their primal urge to sit on the couch and eat Cheetos until the end of the year.

## Yearbook promises to provide great memory for students

**By Dave Falter**  
Staff Writer

With only a few weeks left in the school year, the yearbook is in their final push to finish all of their documentations of the 2013-2014 year. They are putting the final touches on the book before their April 24 dead line for printing.

There was an order already placed for 500 copies, and only 150 left for sale. The yearbook staff has been hard at work putting in hours of effort on computer programs, doing online work from home, going to events, photographing school happenings, and even staying after school to make sure all deadlines are met.

Their approximately 150 page issue is now undergoing its final edits and receiving its final

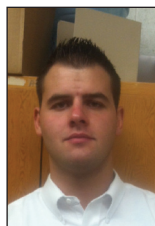
spring stories and pages for its final submission. This year the focus has been for the entire staff to make an effort to improve the captions, quotes, and recaps inserted alongside pictures as an interesting

description to keep things fun.

"We have worked really hard collectively, all growing as a yearbook family. This year was so efficient and fun that I know next year is going to be fabulous and I really recommend the experience, it's one of my favorite parts of the day," commented editor Junior Nikki Harris.

"Students should buy a yearbook because it's a great memory and something to look back on and you will regret it if you don't,"

yearbook sponsor Greg McAdams said.



McAdams

## Spartans plan on sticking around

**By Eric Seeley**  
Staff Writer

Seniors are in high anticipation of graduating and moving onto college. Seniors have been applying for colleges for the past couple of months.

Many students are choosing to stay in Colorado for college. Students have plenty of variety of colleges when deciding to stay in Colorado. There is Colorado State University, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado School of Mines, Northeastern Junior College, University of Northern Colorado, and plenty others. So far there are plenty of students who are deciding not only to stay in Colorado, but in Greeley where they

graduated. So far, 53 of the 289 students have been accepted into the University of Northern Colorado. While other students are going to go with a less expensive route while still staying at home and choosing to go to Aims Community College.

Some other students are going across the United States to attend their college of choice. Senior Brian Halsey will be attending the University of Wyoming. He is glad to get out of the house and be on his own. His plan is to have a graduate with a double major in History and

**Continued**  
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## Students honored for community service

Three Greeley West students were given an award by the Greeley City Council and Mayor Tom Norton last week.

Pu Meh, K'Tray Mu, and Mariana Pena Cano received the National Youth Service Day Award for their active community service in the Greeley area.

National Youth Service day is a set aside each year to reinforce to young Americans the importance and excitement of helping others.

-Staff Reports



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Two un-identifiable Greeley West students publicly embrace one another in the 100 hallway last Friday. Really awkward moments like the one pictured are commonplace between each class period.

Eric Seeley/  
West Word

## Make-out session

Health teacher discourages ‘scary’ public displays

**By Merall Sherif**  
Staff Writer

Among the many controversial happenings inside Greeley West, one of the most prominent and constant is the display of teen public displays of affection, or PDA.

PDA happens in the halls, classrooms, in front of peers and staff alike. The young Spartan couples show their affection and relationship status not only by holding hands or hugging, something deemed mild and socially acceptable, but also by intense make out sessions and sexualized touching that is deemed inappropriate and offensive by everyone.

The school policy states that distasteful displays of affection can be reprimanded by school counseling, community service, or even suspension.

“PDA is not allowed, it’s just plain disgusting and disrespectful. It shows a lack of respects for the staff, fellow students, the school atmosphere, and most of all a lack of respect for themselves. It’s really sad that these kids feel like they have to behave in order to stay in a relationship,” health teacher Marianna Polling said.

“The sexualization of the public affection is very blunt and its scary to consider that if that’s okay to them, worse and later consequences won’t be considered until it’s too late,” Polling continued.

“As a staff, we want sexual health among teens, and this means not having a tolerance for these displays because it can lead to negatives that aren’t for teens,” Poling said.

## 4/20 is still an illegal celebration

**By Alex Garcia**  
Staff Writer

Yesterday was April 20, or what has become better known simply as 4/20. This year, coincidentally, the day falls on Easter. But that’s not what makes it news-worthy this year.

The day is known and celebrated around the world by pot smokers - and has been for years. Despite the drug being illegal in most states, everyone thinks that it’s okay to smoke marijuana from kids in their teens to old folks, particularly on this day.

It appears that the “legalize it” crew is winning the battle for cultural acceptance. The drug was approved for medical use with a valid permit which is prescribed by a medical doctor in many states. But there are cases in which a license was assigned to individual who don’t necessarily need it but were still able to obtain it for recreational use. The drug was not meant to be used for recreational uses but often was. This became a problem in most

states.

Even more recently the drug was legalized in the states of Colorado and Washington for adults over the age of 21. Although it was passed by state law, the drug is still illegal on a federal scale. Most individuals using the drug misinterpret the rules and guidelines behind the law.

Only adults over 21 may use the drug yet you often observe individuals way under the required age using. Also the law states that the drug must be used in private in one’s own property and may not be brought out in public. You can see it in high school and colleges and just about everywhere else you go on that day.

Yes, the legalization has brought it much profit from the taxing of the drug in the dispensaries, but it has also encouraged the use of it by all as a whole.

Marijuana is still an illegal drug and the consequences will still be enforced by the federal law.

## ‘College Friday’ shows off collegiate past of faculty

**By Brandon Holmes**  
Staff Writer

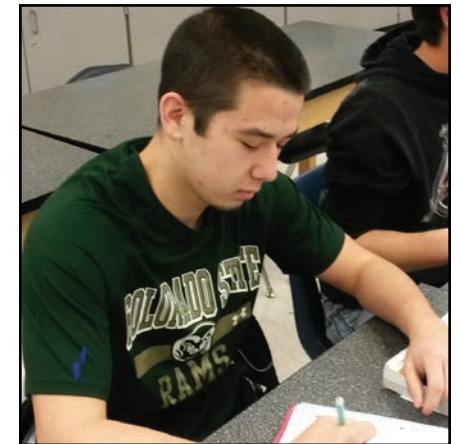
On Friday April 11, all Greeley schools teamed up with the College in Colorado Foundation and put on the annual event called College Friday. College Friday is a statewide event that encourages everyone to wear their local college gear and support all of the college students in Colorado. To get involved with this event, all you had to do was throw on your college gear and show off your school pride.

The goal behind College Friday was to show the youth community in Colorado how many successful people have attended universities and college-training programs. Along with wearing their college gear, people were encouraged to talk about the benefits of attending school to receive a higher education with the young people around them and prove that there is a successful life ahead of them if they choose to go that route.

This is not the first year that College Friday has been put on. For the last several years, everyone from elementary school students to high school students within Greeley schools have gotten involved the College in Colorado event.

Although there was a small turn-out of College Friday gear throughout the high school, there were

a few students and teachers who chose to support. Greeley West High School senior Justin Miller was one of the few students who chose to show off his school pride. “I like to represent the school I will be attending next year,” said Miller.



Brandon Holmes/West Word

Senior Justin Miller does homework in his CSU shirt last week.



Photo Courtesy of Fitzsimons Family

Cheyenne Fitzsimons practices her solo for competitions.

## West senior finds success in dancing

By Malia Long  
Staff Writer

Cheyenne Fitzsimons, a senior here at Greeley West High School, has been an active dancer almost all her life. She dances many different styles such as Hip Hop, Jazz, Ballet, Point, Tap, Lyrical, and contemporary making her quite the diverse dancer.

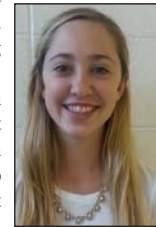
Fitzsimons has attended six competition conventions and one competition that does not have a convention. She has been instructed and taken classes from the top choreographers in the "dance world." Just this year she has worked with Loftus, Shanique and Lezet, Andy Pellick, and Travis Wall, a former winner of the famous show *So You Think You Can Dance*. The conventions she has attended have provided her to work with many other top artists.

Fitzsimons also goes to LA to visit her older sister who is also a dancer. They take classes together at the famous studio "The Edge."

She has been dancing for 15 years and has been competing for 8 years. Fitzsimons is on the Greeley West Poms Team, and she has been going to Artistic Fusion Dance Academy for the past 3 years. She drives an hour away almost every day of the week to take classes there and work on her competition team.

"I love when you can do a dance that lets the audience feel something," said Fitzsimons.

She has been to Las Vegas already this year and is competing in New York at Nationals for the competition convention New York City Dance Alliance. She has attended this national's competition for the past 3 years.



Fitzsimons

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# Student opinions vary wildly on the best phone

By Riley Mincic  
Staff Writer

As time has come and gone, there have been many new inventions that have gotten popular. There has been none more popular than the iPhone. Many other companies have done their best to come up with other phones that have many other features to be able to beat out the iPhone in sales.

Some of the other companies that rival Apple are Samsung, HTC, and Blackberry. Samsung and

HTC have made the biggest strides in the attempt to win the battle of the smartphones. Samsung's big product is the Galaxy HTC, and Blackberry has the Z30.

Some of the characteristics that are liked by iPhone users are that it is simple to use and doesn't have many glitches in it. The thing that makes it so basic to use is that when you unlock the phone all the apps you have are right in front of you. Also, it has many short cuts such as the control center. It's

available all of the time from any app or even from the lock screen. What is available on the control center is the ability to turn on and off airplane mode, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, do not disturb mode, and portrait orientation lock. Other things that are able to be accessed are brightness, music control, flashlight, timer, calculator, and the camera.

A little survey that was taken showed results that the iPhone is the most popular phone in the school.

Over 60% of the students surveyed chose the iPhone over the other three phones. "The iPhone is very user friendly and makes the process easier of getting to what I want to quicker," said Sophomore Alyssa Nava.

As time goes on there will be many more phones that come out that will challenge the iPhone, but for right now the clear front runner is the iPhone.

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Mr. Curt Miller helps Diego Martinez with a math problem during class last week. Miller has taught at Greeley West for two years.

Brandon Holmes/  
West Word

## Gear-head educator

Miller spends free time drag racing, working on cars

By Brandon Holmes  
Staff Writer

Curt Miller, a math major from the University of Northern Colorado, teaches mathematics at Greeley West High School.

Teaching Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and AP Calculus to his students at Greeley West, Miller keeps very busy.

Although school keeps him very busy, he still finds time to involve himself with his hobbies outside of teaching, he is not just an educator, and he enjoys many of his passions outside of the high school.

Miller grew up in northern Wyoming in a town by the name of Recluse.

After living in Wyoming for many years, he then moved to Fort Morgan and attended Fort Morgan High School.

With the limited amount of things to do and people to visit within these small communities, Miller attained an interest in working with cars and to this day, he still thoroughly enjoys taking his 1982 Camaro drag racing every once in a while. Miller, although coming across as just the usual math genius, is also very good with machines and has his certificate in Auto Mechanics.

In his free time, along with drag racing, he enjoys working on his cars; taking apart and rebuilding the engines himself.

Before transferring to Greeley West High School a few years back, Miller taught mathematics at Brush High School for 15 years.

"Although it was a pretty big change, I really like the staff members and all of the diverse students here at West," said Miller.

## Former athlete spends time running family business

By Jake Firkins  
Staff Writer

Candice Krammer was a phenomenal tennis player here at West. She also played basketball while she was here. She graduated in 2010.

Krammer played tennis for her entire high school career. She made honorable mention in the all class 4A 2010 team as a senior. She had 10 wins as a senior and was the second singles player. Her team as a senior was 10-0. She also made it to the finals in state her junior year but lost in the third set. She was included on Rocky Mountain News's top players list as a sophomore in 2009.

Krammer played basketball for all four years



Krammer

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

#### Candice Krammer

as well. Her senior year she scored a total of 58 points according to VarVee.com. She made 11 free throws on 21 attempts for a free throw percentage of 52.38. She played in 23 games. Her team went 14-11 overall, 10-7 in their league and 4-4 in non-league games. At home they were 9-3 and away they were 5-8.

Since graduating she has mainly been spending her time working. She works at her family business, Café Mexicali.

She is a manager and helped start up their newest restaurant in Boulder. She lives there now making sure everything is running smoothly as the newest member of their chain gets up and running.



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## Cheaters seem to be prospering

It seems that school isn't so much about learning anymore but instead it's all about what's the best way to cheat? I've realized that as the school year continues, I tend to see more and more kids cheating their way through.

This could be anything from copying homework to looking up answers during a test to even getting all of the test answers from someone else before they take it. I believe that if students put as much effort into studying and preparing themselves for a test as they put into thinking of new, sneaky ways to cheat, they would do just as well.

But many students doubt themselves and what they are capable of learning. They'd rather take the easy way out and cheat their way through instead of applying themselves. Maybe one of the main reasons for this is the pressure that kids feel to get good grades. We're told from the very beginning that if you don't get a good GPA, you won't be accepted into a good college. If you don't attend a good college, you won't get a good job; and if you don't get a good job, you're not going to be successful, thus struggling for the rest of your life.

With so much pressure to get good grades, kids don't care about actually learning the context anymore. All they care about is how they can ace all of their tests. If they know that they can cheat their way into getting good grades, then what's the point of even understanding what they're "learning?"

|||||  
**Tonya Schiestel**  
Editorial  
|||||



It takes a lot of money to run machines like this. So yeah, Disney is expensive. But look how fun it could be!

Riley Mincic/  
West Word

## Earth's 'Happy Place'

### Disneyland might be expensive, but it's worth it

Although Disneyland seems to be magical and wonderful, it's also a huge gaping money pit. So is it an unforgettable experience that you want to do all over again or is it an experience that is mediocre and expensive that is definitely a once in a lifetime thing?

Well although some may argue that it is so wonderful, and you have to go more than once, others say it "wasn't that great, and super expensive." It's Disneyland.

I understand it could cost an arm and a leg

for even two people and that some people that go should strongly reconsider what they wear around small children, and there are rude people there too.

But I also think it's something everyone should get to do even once, whether you go every year or just once it's one of those things that shouldn't be missed by anyone. It doesn't matter whether you're two or 80, Disneyland has something

for everyone and can put a smile on anyone's face. It really is the happiest place on earth.

|||||  
**America Monje**  
Editorial  
|||||



## Spring season brings all sorts of excitement

It's official! The spring season has started, and everyone is very excited to welcome the new season, along with warmer weather. The past week it has been mostly in the 70's and everyone is starting to shop for new summer clothes, and are starting to have barbecues, and of course, getting ready for the beginning of the MLB (Major Baseball League).

Opening Day was on Friday, April 4 and all you heard about was the excitement going around about the new season starting, and everyone getting their Rockies' gear and showing their fan spirit! Also, the new warm season gives a kick off to a taste of summer, with everyone getting more tan, people traveling, and hiking, going to bonfires, and relaxing.

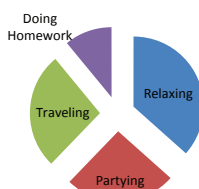
With all of these exciting things happening, everyone is starting to get a mild case of Spring Fever. We all are ready for it to finally be summer! The recent spring break was a little bit of a tease for summer, and now it is all we can think about! With only six more weeks of school, students and teachers are ready for the school year to be over! We are almost to the end of the year, and as soon as we know it, we will be in the summer season as well!

|||||  
**Hailey Alberts**  
Editorial  
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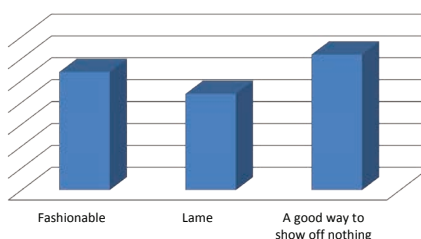


## Spartan Pulse

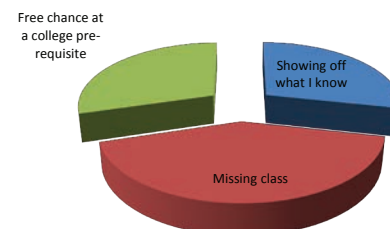
### What best described your Spring Break?



### Bro Tanks are...



### The best part of the ACT is...





# Movie-goers flock to movies based on Bible

Recently hitting the box office are several religious movies. There has been a lot of controversy about all of these movies and the morals behind it and

|||||||  
**Lauren  
Miller  
Editorial**  
|||||||



are both based off of stories in the bible and have a great amount of religious reference. There also

is the movie

“God’s not Dead” along with “Heaven is for Real” which comes out on Easter. Both “God’s not Dead” and “Noah”

have stolen 2nd and 3rd spots at the box office after their premiers.

Many religious believers think it’s great that the filmmaking business has started being more open to religious viewpoints and stories. All of these

“These new religious movies prove a certain level of acceptance through the American culture and maybe a change in this generation.”

movies represent this acceptance and many of them are produced by a variety of different movie

represented on the “big screen.” These new religious movies prove a certain level of acceptance through the American Culture and maybe a change in this generations’ values. Those opposed to these films may believe that religious viewpoints are meant to be private and these films are meaning to persuade viewers to believe a certain way. The stories represented in these films are in fact true stories and are not trying to persuade anyone’s beliefs, but instead tell interesting true stories.

If someone is not religious, it doesn’t mean they can’t still watch these movies. Although these movies have religious backgrounds, they are still not much different than any other movie based on a true story.

producers. They are telling true stories from the bible as well as real-life personal experiences in the Christian faith.

In previous years, religious views seemed to be hidden and very rarely talked about; let alone

## Tablet use at West could be beneficial if students weren’t so easily distracted

Many kids are now getting so use to using technology that some are now converting to taking notes on Ipad’s or other tablets. Some think it is quicker to get notes down and to organize them better. This can be a positive and negative to using technology for notes.

There are many distractions that come with owning a tablet. Games, music, and internet are the main distractions that can come with using a tablet. This can take away from the learning you are supposed to be doing while in class.

I would say if you are a student who can control yourself and stay on task that you should go for it and use a tablet to take notes. If you are someone

who is constantly finding themselves getting distracted, that you should stick to the old way with pencil and paper.



|||||||  
**Riley  
Mincic  
Editorial**  
|||||||

I personally think everyone should stick to pencil and paper to take notes. It is more conventional and there are no distractions other than what you are taking notes on, and that is a good thing to be distracted on.

It’s all a personal preference of what is used. What is most important is to do what is most beneficial to yourself. Technology is making its way into every aspect of our lives and we have to be willing to accept that and start using it to our advantages.

## Social skills are not learned at home

Anyone who has ever watched TV has seen the commercials for students to have an alternate way of learning, and that is taking online class. Online classes have many benefits, but the consequences greatly outweigh the benefits of taking classes online for high school.

Online courses are becoming more and more popular in this day in age with the advancement in technology growing rapidly. By staying at home, students lose a lot of potential things that they just can’t receive when they are at home and not in a classroom. Students are constantly learning social skills at school because they have to communicate with other students. It may be in a group project or just walking to class. Students meet so many new people and make

many new friends while at high school.

Students at regular schools, have an advantage when going off to college. Students who are home schooled aren’t used to a classroom environment and have to adjust to it. Students who have attended school with a traditional classroom have already experienced the feel of working with others, and asking other students and the teacher for help. Of course it will also be a

change for students who attended a traditional high school, but it won’t be as drastic as for students who take online schooling.

Students should really consider the consequences when they decide to start taking online school and how it will cause harm to them in the future.

|||||||  
**Eric  
Seely  
Editorial**  
|||||||



## WEST WORD Editorial Policy

### Letters To The Editor

All submissions are subject to editing to conform to *West Word* style. Limit one letter to every issue (every two weeks). Typically, letters will be published in the order they are received, space allowing. Please specify if the letter includes time-sensitive material. *West Word* will not publish letters that are vague, are dominated by secondary sources, or are personal attacks on any individual. You must include facts not commonly known; originality is required. Provide your full name, grade, and phone number which will be used for verification purposes only. *Letters may not be anonymous.* Please bring letters to Dave Falter in room 306.

### Guest Editorials

Occasionally, members of the Greeley West community (students, faculty, parents and volunteers) will be asked by the *West Word* to write a guest editorial or column for the paper on a topic chosen by the editorialist and approved by the *West Word*. These articles will be edited only for spelling, semantics, and grammatical errors. *West Word* will notify the author of these changes prior to the editorial or column appearing in print.

### @GWWestword Twitter

Students, staff, and the Greeley West community can tweet

their comments, opinions, and ideas to the official Twitter page for inclusion in the *West Word*. Tweets must follow the same guidelines as the more traditional letter to the editor. Follow the *West Word* at @GWWestWord on Twitter for links to current issues, retweets about the West community, and hashtag topics throughout the year.

### Legal Disclaimer

Opinions expressed on the Viewpoints page are those of the editorialist and are not those of the *West Word*, Greeley West High School, District 6, or its faculty and staff.

# Prom-season is upon us

By America Monje  
Staff Writer

Prom to some is the biggest and most important dance that happens all year. Most underclassmen can't wait to go and some seniors and juniors don't even go, but for those who do, what does their preparation look like?

Well for girls it's shopping around for dresses, shoes, and accessories. Looking for hair and makeup looks, and pre-ordering a boutonniere. It's also safe to say Wanelo and Pinterest are huge in finding the right look.

It's hard to think what prom was like before those two because that means people actually had

to leave the comfort of their smart phone to find the perfect look.

Guys, on the other hand is a different story, their preparation looks like saving up, planning a way to ask a girl, renting or buying a tux, pre-ordering a corsage and waiting around for their date to find a dress to be able to buy a matching tie,

"I'm making sure my grades are the best they can be, so I can go. I've already got the perfect dress and the perfect date, and an amazing group of friends to go with," said junior Kenzie Starkey. Starkey is very excited for prom and knows she will have a great night filled with smiles, laughter, and memories with her date junior Dalton Rhoades.

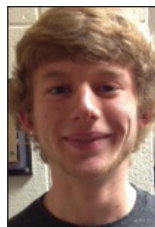
# Students look ahead to graduation

By Edgar Lopez  
Staff Writer

As graduation approaches seniors have to make their decisions of who they want to hand them their diplomas. This is a privilege that seniors get during the graduation ceremony which was started with last year's senior class.

Many students know exactly who they want to pick, others have a few choices, and some haven't put a thought into it. For most students this is a pretty big deal and for the other half it is just another decision to make. The teacher or administrator that the students chooses to hand their diploma is usually their favorite or preferred staff

member. It is a great way to make the ceremony a memorable experience for the seniors, a good way to end their high school experience. Seniors like



Drury

Nick Drury and Jarek Jenzel-Scott know exactly who they want to hand them their diplomas which is Mr. Zac Armstrong. Other seniors like Brandon Shevela have no preference and just want their diploma while Gavin Paczosa and Connor Young want the popular Mr. Don Wagner. "He's just been the best teacher to relate to and have great respect for at the same time," said Paczosa about Wagner. All in all it's a great way to let the seniors truly enjoy their last steps as high school students and have that memory forever.



Garrett Hays/West Word

Mrs. Jessica Cooney works with Himmer Izaguirre and Jesus Casas Ramirez during class last week.

# Cooney wins honor

By Alie Olivas  
Staff Writer

Mrs. Jessica Cooney has recently received the honor of the Language Culture and Equity Teacher of the Year from the Colorado Department of Education. She was nominated by the school district English-language coordinator.

Cooney received this award because of her dedication and passion for teaching her students. She demonstrates kindness and respect with all of the great things she does for Greeley West.

Every year she helps put on Ethnic Fest at West, which showcases the different foods, clothing, and cultures from the students West has from all over the world. Cooney is also the sponsor of the LULAC club which stands for the League of Latin American Citizens. Cooney clearly loves the kids she works with and doesn't consider what she does a job.

"It is a big honor because I love my job and it's special to be honored for doing something that I love," said Cooney.





## FASHION TRENDS: Spring Fashion

For most states spring styles may consist of shorts, tank tops and sandals but Colorado spring weather seems to change on an hourly basis making it near impossible to find the perfect outfit for a given day. It is essential to have a basic, neutral light-weight jacket for those chilly mornings that can be paired with any outfit.

Trench-coat style jackets with many pockets and assets for decoration are extremely popular. Three/ quarter length sleeves are perfect for the 50 and 60 degree weather we see frequently during the spring months. Capris or rolled up jeans are perfect for the Colorado spring weather as well. Sandals are great for the warmer days, but flats, boat shoes or Vans are perfect for those cooler days.

Lauren  
Miller  
Fashion Expert



Lauren Miller/West Word

Junior Tiffany Howell shows off a fun spring top and jeans that is perfect for the confusing Colorado spring weather.

## Biblical depiction of *Noah* is action-packed

Recently there have been a few movies that have been about the Bible and its stories. One of the most recent movies to come out is *Noah* and the story of the Ark. This has been one of the most well known stories throughout history. This movie has very similar plot to that of the actual story.

There are many positives to this movie and many negatives as well. The positives are that the director Darren Aronofsky told a great story that

is worth watching. The story isn't accurate, which is the downfall to the movie. It takes away from the movie a lot but don't let that be the only reason you don't go to see this movie.



Riley  
Mincic  
Movie Review

When I was watching the movie it left me wondering why they put certain things in it. For example, the guardians that were used to protect Noah, while he was building the ark. I just wanted to know the significance of them and what they stood for.

## West artists show off work at Cache Bank & Trust

By America Monje  
Staff Writer

The district art show opened on March 11<sup>th</sup> and closed Friday March 21<sup>st</sup>. It turned out to be fairly successful and was held at the Cache Bank & Trust. It included amazing pieces of art from students all over District 6. Greeley West alone had 25 artists represented.

"I feel like it's a good opportunity to show case all of our students' talent. We're not an art school but we have strong talent in all art forms," art teacher Travis Krause said.



Krause

The art show itself had multiple examples from all art forms including ceramics, painting, sculpture, scratch board, etc. The majority of the art from the show was made in class, and was some of the best around and it really showed what students in Greeley can do.

Krause is very proud of his students because they are

If you are in the mood to go out of your comfort zone then this is the movie for you. I think it is a movie with a great story and action that you might not expect from it.

The message I got from the movie that I believe everyone probably got from it as well is that everyone deserves a second chance even humanity itself. The movie is a good one and deserves a watch if you are feeling something new. I give *Noah* a 6 out of 10 Spartan Heads.

a wide variety of kids that are all different and created exquisite art pieces considering the limited teachers, supplies and space Greeley West has to offer.

Many of the students were very excited to get their art showcased and thought it was a great opportunity to get their names out to the community as artists. The show showed to be very popular and is refreshing to have so many new young artists among Greeley; it demonstrates that although people graduate there is always fresh talent coming in.

## Prom Season by Ariell Martinez





Mason Barnes/West Word

Olivia DeNovellis gets ready to serve the ball to her opponents,

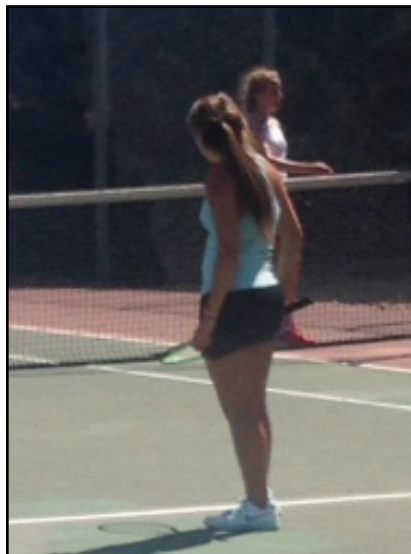
## Tennis tourney

### Spartans finish second

By Mason Barnes  
Staff Writer

The girls' tennis team Co-hosted the Greeley Invitational along with Eaton High School Friday April, 11. A total of ten teams attended the tournament. The Spartans' head coach Ryan Pace put on a great event. Half of the teams were at West and the other half were at Centennial and lasted the whole day. Out of the ten teams the Spartans were the runner-up behind Fossil Ridge who won the tournament.

**Continued**  
**Tennis, Page 16**



Mason Barnes/West Word

Olivia DeNovellis waits for her match to start last Friday.

## Seniors lead swimming squad

By Anna Eisenberg  
Staff Writer

This year at Greeley West High School, boys' swimming seems to be doing exceptionally well. "We have done really well this year and a lot of our swimmers have improved since last season," coach Colin Shaha says. More swimmers are dropping time and also qualifying for state. On Friday the 11, Greeley West boy's swimming team won the meet against Mountain Range High School. The swimming team is 4-3 this year with all meet.

Two of the team's seniors, Mason Sedlacek and Nate Gorsline, stood out with their times above all the rest. These two seem to have gotten their times down enough to have a chance to qualify them for state this year. One of the team's younger

**Continued**  
**Swimming, Page 16**

## Track's toughness shows at meet

By Haley Alberts  
Staff Writer

Greeley West's track team had their 6<sup>th</sup> meet, the 'Max Marr Spartan Classic' in Berthoud on Saturday, April 12 from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. where around 20-30 schools competed and were involved in the meet.

West did well, sticking in there with all the many schools that were present at the meet.

Senior Simone Morales is a 400 leg sprint medley (800m). "We worked our hardest," said Morales. "There were a lot of different schools there, with a

lot of tough competition, but we stuck in there and did our best." She later stated.

She also stated that Senior Cadi Green was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the meet in 5A State with a jump of 16-8.

She also got 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Long Jump. Green is a 4<sup>th</sup> year runner for the Greeley West track team, along with Morales. Senior Brian Halsey got 6<sup>th</sup> in the Men's Shot Put with a throw of 41-7.

Also, Freshman Brittini Rivera got 5<sup>th</sup> place in the 3,200 Meter Run, along with the Men's 4x100 Meter Relay with 6<sup>th</sup> place, with a time of 46.03.



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## Baseball team survives quake during spring break trip

By Jake Firkins  
Staff Writer

This spring break was a welcomed release from school for students to relax, catch up in school or even play some baseball for a select few. The Greeley West varsity baseball team along with a couple of the junior varsity players went to California to play baseball over spring break.

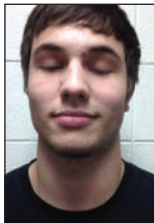
This group of players went to Anaheim, California to participate in a tournament with teams from California. They left March 27 and were there for seven days. They finished the tournament with two wins and three losses. One of those losses they got beat 19-0.

While they were in California they got to spend some time doing other things besides playing baseball. One of the things they did was go to the beach and enjoy the sun and sand. They also went to Disneyland and had a blast riding the many rides and talking to Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

Another thing they did was go to the season opener of the Anaheim Angels game. The Angels played the Seattle Mariners but lost 8-3. The Angels tried to rally back in the eighth inning but fell short with only one run scored.

The players also ate lots of good food. Some of the places they frequented while they were in California was Tommy's Burger and In N Out Burger. Alex DeLaCroix ate three triple chili cheese burgers at Tommy's Burger.

West returned to action in the 5A Front Range league upon their return. After losing their first two games, West won two in a row to even their league record at 2-2. The Spartans played host to Fossil Ridge on Thursday and first-place Fairview last week, but results were unavailable at press time.



D. DeLaCroix



A. DeLaCroix

## Soccer team is kicking into gear

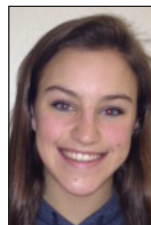
By Zeke Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

Friday, April 11 Greeley West girls' soccer hosted Fossil Ridge who ranked 4th in the state. It was a tight contested battle that went into two separate over times but only ended up in a stalemate 2-2. Each teams fought hard, but each team also had key players out for the same occasion due to a tournament in California.

Fossil Ridge drew first blood taking an early 1-0 lead but the Spartans answered back with a goal before the first half ended making it 1-1 at the end of the first half. Fossil took the lead with a late

goal around the last two minutes of the game. But Greeley West lady Spartans made a comeback with a goal in less than a minute left in the game.

This resolved in an overtime. Both teams had a chance at a goal but great defense forced a second over time. The second overtime had very little offense on both parts, and defense was a big focus. In the state playoffs if there was a game that went



Rowe

through two over times it would go to a shoot out but since it was just a conference game it results in a tie.

With a group of young and extremely talented sophomores for this season their skills showed with both goals coming from Dianna Rowe and Kiley Cropper, who are both sophomores at Greeley West. With the young talent seen in the game on Friday, Greeley West fans are excited to see what the future has in store for them.

West played Fairview last week, but lost in overtime, 2-1. The Spartans' record sits at 6-2-3.



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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?**



Fabian Chayrez  
Class of 2014

A

Texas Roadhouse

Sports

Caribbean

Louisiana State University

Destroyed the toilet after eating three triple chili burgers from Tommy Burger while in California

Patrick Willis



Alex DeLaCroix  
Class of 2015

B

Cinzetti's

The vending machines

Disney World

University of Colorado at Boulder

Wore my underwear over the top of my shorts

Kevin Hart



Clarissa Roman  
Class of 2016

C

Golden Corral

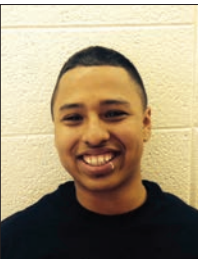
My homeboys

Chili

Duke

Got confused as a midget at the DMV

Jimmy Graham



Jason Serrano  
Class of 2017

D

Mexican food

The teachers

Paris, France

University of Colorado at Boulder

Fell down the bleachers in the gym

Marilyn Monroe

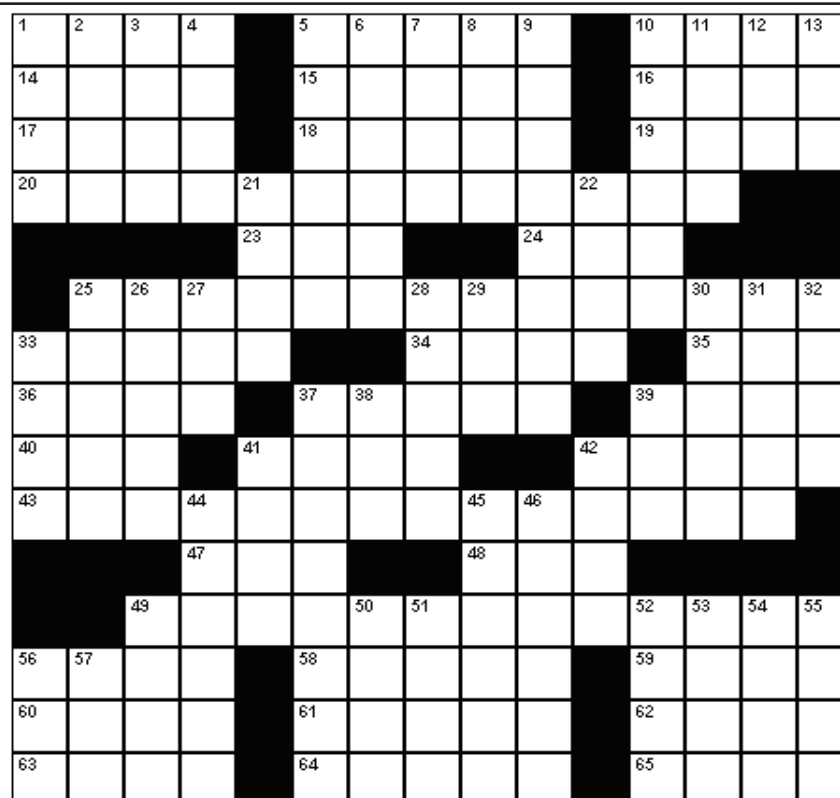


Across  
1- \_\_\_\_ best friend  
5- Indian term of respect  
10- Problem with L.A.  
14- Iridescent gemstone  
15- Parisian pupil  
16- Central part  
17- Andean country  
18- Fine fiddle  
19- Peter Fonda role  
20- Objectionable  
23- Religious sch.  
24- Microwave  
25- Process of capitalizing  
33- Met highlights  
34- Auditorium  
35- Batman and Robin, e.g.  
36- Sweeney \_\_\_\_  
37- Foolish  
39- Musical Horne  
40- Digit of the foot  
41- Blame  
42- Carriage  
43- Comprehensible  
47- Actress Peeples  
48- That's gotta hurt!  
49- North indicated by a magnetic compass  
56- Did the butterfly  
58- Beethoven dedicatee

59- Actress Petty  
60- After the bell  
61- Fabric woven from flax yarns  
62- North Carolina university  
63- Like Nash's lama  
64- Brewer's need  
65- Lady's escort

Down  
1- Sulk  
2- Vertex  
3- DEA agent  
4- Swing around  
5- Stanza of six lines  
6- Nissan model  
7- Illustrious warrior  
8- Lendl of tennis  
9- Impress forcefully  
10- Carve  
11- Yard tunneler  
12- Source of iron  
13- "Fancy that!"  
21- Pitchfork-shaped letters  
22- Ancient Semitic for "Lord"  
25- Sing like Bing  
26- Assisted  
27- Cushion  
28- Potala Palace site  
29- Author Fleming

30- Perfect, something to aspire to  
31- Prevention dose  
32- Ark builder  
33- Westernmost of the Aleutians  
37- Madly  
38- Crackpot  
39- High hit  
41- Not a dup.  
42- "All the Way" lyricist Sammy  
44- Tooth covering  
45- Sounds  
46- University lecturer  
49- Spouse  
50- Writer Wiesel  
51- Ike's ex  
52- Designer Cassini  
53- Portrayal by an actor  
54- 1982 Disney film  
55- Clue  
56- \_\_\_\_-mo  
57- Pale



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

## STR8TS

No. 93

Easy



You can find more help, tips and hints at [www.str8ts.com](http://www.str8ts.com)

Previous solution - Medium

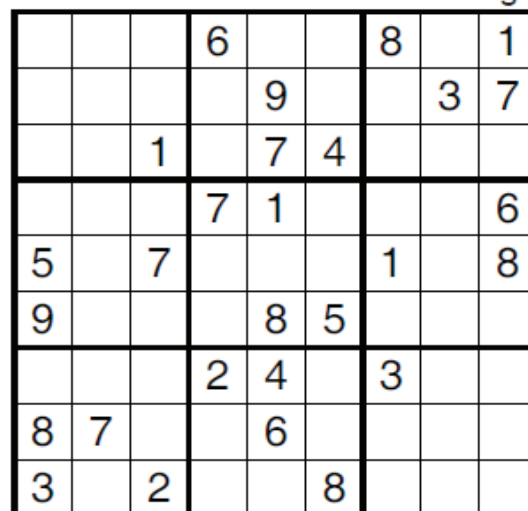


How to beat Str8ts –  
Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5]. 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.

## SUDOKU

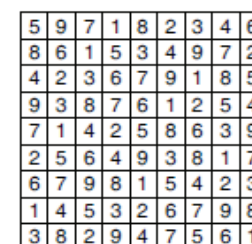
No. 93

Tough



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Medium



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](http://www.sudokuwiki.org)

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

### From Swimming, Page 12

swimmers has shown capability to be one of the better swimmers for his later high school career.

Alejandro Sandoval is a freshman at Greeley West and is one of the strongest on the team. "As long as he keeps coming to practices and keep trying to get better and better like he has, then he will probably be able to drop times lowing than Mason's or Nate's," Shaha admits. "I have been swimming competitively since sixth grade and I



feel like if I keep up on my health and trying to get faster, I will be a great swimmer," Sandoval says.

The boy's swimming team for the future looks promising for Greeley West. "As long as the future swimmer's keep going to practice and keep trying to get faster and faster, then they should be one of the best swimmers we've had," Shaha states.



Shaha

### From Tennis, Page 12

Greeley West had its entire 11 varsity players compete.

West put on a great effort but couldn't get past Fossil Ridge for their first second place finish this season.

Crews won all of her matches during the tournament and is still unbeaten all year. Another great performance was put on by Cropper also winning all four of her matches helping seal second place for the Spartans.

West is 5-5 overall and 2-4 in league play.

### From TANE, Page 1

TANE at the bowling alley with the help of the Greeley West Booster Club. The bowling alley also cleans up the mess when it's over, which saves a lot of time and money that has been a burden at past locations. There will be a variety of prizes given away as well. These prizes include gifts cards to local businesses and restaurants along with bigger prizes like Beats headphones and even 500 dollars cash. There will be pizza and drinks offered for students to enjoy while they bowl.

Many efforts have been made by administration and members of the booster club to make this event a success and to encourage students to attend. Tane will be from 11-12 on May 3, immediately following Prom.

### From College, Page 3

Political science with a pre-law emphasis in the honors program. He received a three quarter academic scholarship. He has the chance to be on the track or football team, but it depends on his preexisting knee injury that he obtained during his football career. "I love to argue which drove me to become a lawyer. Hopefully, one day I will take over my uncle's law firm," said Halsey.

Joining Halsey will be Senior Sarah Lance. She will be traveling further across the U.S., she will be attending Texas A&M. Texas A&M was a simple choice for Lance because it is in the top ten for engineering. It is about half the price compared to the other prestigious engineering schools. Her goal is to graduate with a degree in aerospace engineering. "I really enjoy airplanes, and that is what my science fair project is on. After I graduate I plan on building jet engines."

Greeley West seniors will be scattered throughout the nation next year at college. Students who are planning on attending the University of Northern Colorado, will see some familiar faces while walking around the campus.

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