

# WEST WORD

May 5th, 2014

[www.greeleyschools.org/westword](http://www.greeleyschools.org/westword)

Volume XLVI No. 15

## King, queen unveiled at Prom

By Brandon Holmes & Michael Caro  
Staff Writer

The Greeley West Prom was held Saturday at Zoe's Café in downtown Greeley. Over 200 hundred West students attended the dance this year. The theme for this year's prom was the Great Gatsby.

Much work and preparation was put into this year's prom. The Greeley West student council has been preparing and fundraising for prom since the beginning of the year. This year the student council wanted to make a few changes. This includes a new DJ, food menu and a "soda bar".

Greeley West juniors and seniors were allowed to vote and nominate upperclassmen for Prom King and Queen.

This year's king nominees included seniors Edgar Lopez, Jonathan Jeffers and Ori Bitton. This year's queen nominees included seniors Ali Olivas, Erin Brunswick and Katie Lyons.

Greeley West prom king and queen winner were announced about midway through the Prom. The winners were Jonathan Jeffers and Katie Lyons. "It is a true honor to win Prom Queen for my senior year. Prom was a great way to finish off my senior year at West."



Michael Caro/West Word

Jonathan Jeffers and Katie Lyons just after being crowned royalty.

## Having a field day at Northridge

### West students shine

By America Monje  
Staff Writer

Special Olympics of Northern Colorado held its biggest event of the year on April 24 at Northridge High School: the track and field competition.

Students competed in dozens of events including walking, running, relay races, standing long jump, running long jump, softball toss, and tennis ball toss. Students were supported and helped by volunteers who spent the whole day making sure everything went as planned.

Senior Bernie Contreras and junior Kylie Patchel, were two participants who were very pleased with their performances. Patchel competed in the running long jump, where she received third place. She also participated in the softball toss, where she received second place, and the relay race where she received first.

Contreras competed in the running long jump and she received second place, the relay race, where she received second place and the softball toss, where she received fifth.

Megan McDonald, a freshman, did very well by receiving three first place medals.

There were elementary, middle school, and high school students from all over Greeley who participated. The track meet seemed to be very successful especially for Greeley West competitors. "I really liked how there were a lot of people there to cheer us on," said junior Isaiah Acosta.



Brandon Holmes/West Word

Nic Sedam crosses the finish line during a race last week at the Special Olympics track and field meet.



Michael Caro/West Word

Lexie Dominguez-Puga walks into the Opening Ceremony last week.

## IB/AP classes capped with weeks worth of testing

By Michael Caro  
Staff Writer

As the school year comes to an end, many Greeley West students prepare to take AP and IB exams. The AP and IB testing will begin on today.

The AP exams will begin with Chemistry and Environmental Science and end with

Microeconomics. The AP exams will be taken in the 4H building at Island Grove. A total of 212 Greeley West students will be taking AP exams this year. AP exams consist more of multiple choice questions and have few essay questions. AP testing will end on May 16. AP exams are scored on a scale from one to five. A score of one or two is not considered to be

proficient and a score of three or higher is considered proficient. Make-up testing for all students will be May 21-23.

Many West students are preparing and hoping to

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## Dodging for great cause

By Eric Seeley  
Staff Writer

An unusual sporting event occurred the other day; it wasn't like your average football, soccer, baseball, or basketball game. Instead Greeley West faced off against Greeley Central and Northridge in a dodge ball tournament.



Nava

The tournament was to raise money for Katelyn Brand who has been diagnosed with stage four Glioblastoma. She has a large brain tumor on the frontal lobe of her brain. It cost \$30 per team to enter into the tournament, but it was for a good cause. To qualify for the all city tournament you had to be in the top two teams of your school. Teams consisted of a maximum of eight players, two of which had to be girls.

"It was fun to compete against classmates and other schools, and helping Katelyn who needs everyone's support," said sophomore Alyssa Nava.

The team who won the West tournament consisted of mainly basketball and baseball players along with the two girls. This team ended up taking third overall, while the other Greeley West team took second place. The champion was Greeley Central.

## Mission impossible: Earth Day

Consumer chemistry  
class collects trash

By Kennedy Spittler  
Staff Writer

Another Earth Day has passed without recognition from most teenagers. It is common for students to not do anything on this day because it is a day that not many people stress over. The physics teacher here at Greeley West, Mr. Zach Armstrong, has made his attempt at bringing attention to this issue.

This year for Earth Day, Armstrong created a project with his consumer chemistry class. The class took all the trash from Monday at lunch and put it on display in the commons area. After receiving all 143 pounds of trash, they proceeded to sort the trash by category. The categories were food waste, trash from the school, and trash from outside of the school (DQ, Intajucose, etc.).

Once categorized, they brought the tubs to a place where all students would see them as they moved



A Greeley West student's attention is drawn to the display in the commons last week showing one day's worth of trash.

Kennedy Spittler/West Word

through the halls on Earth Day.

This idea was inspired by the "Care for Our Water Shed Project," as students compete with others on who can create the best idea on how to improve your water shed. The hope is that this will provide inspiration for other kids to make a difference not only on Earth Day but any time they can.

"My goal was to have students find a solution to a problem that we have to deal with every day," stated Armstrong.

After this project, Armstrong said it would be most beneficial to have the agriculture classes invest in school-owned pigs.

This would minimize waste as most of the wasted food could be used as food for the animals.

As our school tries to make a difference on our globe, it is time for teenagers to be aware of the issue of waste and take positive action.

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# Interacting with Hick

By Edgar Lopez  
Staff Writer

The Interact Club has done some pretty cool stuff this year, but just recently they got to meet the governor of Colorado. The Rotary Club, which funds Interact Clubs, hosted Governor John Hickenlooper, who has been a Rotarian for 25 years, at the Country Club on Thursday, April 17 where the Greeley West Interact Club was invited.

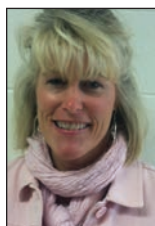
The Interact Club had a meeting with the Rotarians on February 20 where they presented all of their projects involving the community. The purpose of the meeting was not only to display their good deeds but to show the Rotarians that they deserve the funding necessary.

After a good presentation at the February meeting, the Greeley West Interact Club was invited back to meet the Governor. The Rotary Club had invited Governor Hickenlooper previous times but he had never been able to make it.

He finally found time from his busy schedule to come down to Greeley for a lunch with the Rotarians and Interact members.



Badial



Hammer

After a short lunch Hickenlooper gave a speech at the ceremony where he did not get into too much detail about politics but had a very good sense of humor.

"He had some funny jokes and make the audience laugh", said Interact President Alexis Badial.

After the speech, the eight total Interact members that attended took a group picture with Hickenlooper and Mrs. Hammer had the pleasure to take a selfie with him.

It was an overall great experience for the Greeley West Interact Club and a meaningful event for those members.



Trevor Dieck/West Word

Interact members pose with Governor John Hickenlooper during their Rotary Club meeting last Thursday

## West hosts District 6 5K race

By Malia Long  
Staff Writer

"Sprint Into Summer" was a 5k run that happened on May 3. The new location of the run was held here at Greeley West High School for the first time. Kids ages ten and under were able to run a "Fun Run" which was half of a mile. The registration fees were five dollars an individual and three more dollars for any additional family members. The run was to raise awareness for a healthy living. Many healthy recipes are posted on the Wellness run website with links to healthy living videos and a healthy living blog.

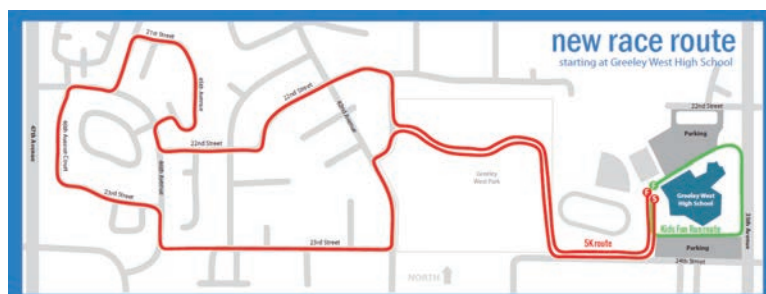
Dianna Rowe, a sophomore here at Greeley West High School ran the 5 kilometer. "Running the race was a blast. It was awesome to see all of the

students, parents and staff that participated. I love running in the morning because I feel refreshed throughout the entire day. It was a warm-up for my extreme dance moves at prom!" Rowe said.

Rowe is currently on the Greeley West High School Soccer team, but she also runs cross country and swims. Running is a huge part of her life and a major passion of hers.

"Here's the thing about running; your greatest runs are rarely measured by racing success. They are moments in time when running allows you to see how wonderful life truly is," said Rowe.

The "Sprint Into Summer" run was a real success and an awesome opportunity to have it hosted here at Greeley West High School.



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# Spartans share plans for honoring mothers

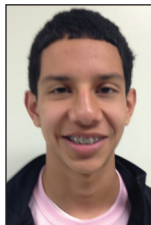
By Alie Olivas  
Staff Writer

Mother's Day is coming up, that does not mean, however that people have to spend ridiculous amounts of money on a gift.

The meaning of this day is to show appreciation for the mother or grandmother in one's life. Mothers would be thrilled if their son or daughter just said a simple "thanks" for everything that they do.

Students, faculty and administration alike all have their own ideas on how to show their appreciation to their mother's on this special day.

"I'm going to mail my mom a very nice card and my dad, brother, and I are going to get her a huge bouquet of flowers delivered to her," said Mr. Greg McAdams.



Lopez



Olivas

"I will take my mom to Olive Garden and buy her pretty flowers," said sophomore AJ Lopez.

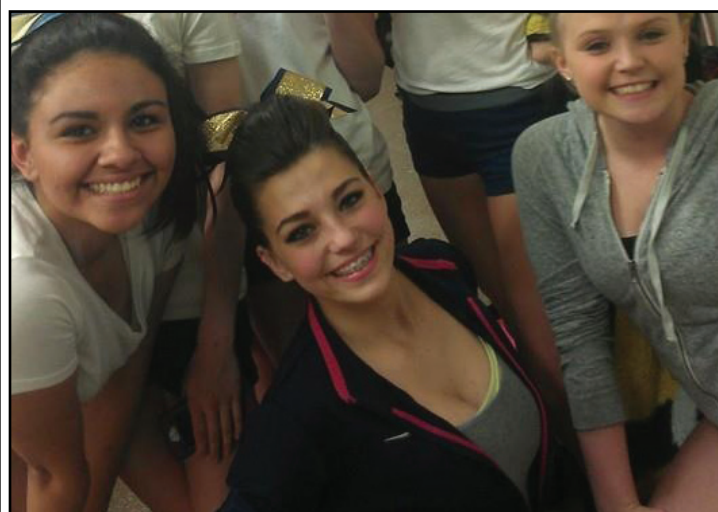
"I'm getting my mom flowers and a massage. My family and I are also having a barbeque for her," said senior Cadi Green.

"We are making a custom bouquet of flowers for her

and putting them in a pot," said sophomore Skye Smith.

"I'm getting my mom flowers, and candy that I ordered for her from a candy store that we went to in Chicago. I'm going to make sure that she doesn't have to do anything all day," said senior Brian Halsey.

"I'm giving my mom a hug and some money so she can go to Mexico. We are also having a barbeque for her," said senior Fabian Chayrez.



Brooklyn Thaut poses in her cheer practice gear.

Courtesy of Katie Delgadillo/West Word

## First tryouts of year

### Cheerleading coach announces 2014-15 team

By Alie Olivas  
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, the Greeley West cheer team held try-outs in the gym. There were a ton of girls that showed up and were eager for a spot on the squad.

Previous cheer members were still expected to try out.

The girls had to show off their skills while doing multiple things such as: kick lines, jumps, dance routines, and flexibility.

Girls who came to try out were expected to present a rigorous routine that would show case their skills. The

competition was stiff, from the many girls that showed up; only 25 were selected to be on the team, along with one alternate.

Only nine cheerleaders from this year made it on to the cheer team for the upcoming season.

The captains for the 2015 are Lexi Porter and Mallory Radcliffe.

"It was really exciting, and the whole time I was trying out, I thought to myself: don't give up," said Melanie Nelson, a freshman (now sophomore) cheerleader.



Nelson

## New STUCO reps announced

By Jenea Padilla  
Staff Writer

Next year's 2014-2015 senior Student Council committee will include; President, Andra Turner, Vice President, Jordan Rojas, Secretary, Colton Kindvall, and Treasurer, Lizzy Parker.

All of the students have participated in student council before, and look forward to another great year of planning school events, spirit days, and student dances.

Junior Lizzy Parker was the treasurer for the 2013-2014 school year, and she will keep her position as the treasurer for next year.

"We're looking forward to build on the events we organized this year," said Parker.

A lot of the new events that student council organized this year, such as the dodge ball

tournament, and the mitten collection, are events that student council plans to continue with next year.

Next year should be a successful year for Student Council. Some of the Student Council members from each grade level are even planning to attend a camp this summer oriented by student council to receive help with areas such as planning events.

They are unsure of how many people will be at the camp; due to other plans students have this summer.

Next year's Student Council is hoping to integrate more, and they are also hoping to not only provide an exciting, eventful year for West, but also to become more involved with the community.



Parker

## West girls journey to conference

By America Monje  
Staff Writer

The Journey Women's conference was held on April 29 from 7:30 to 2:30 at UNC. This year the theme was Distinctively Beautiful, based off of one of Carlos Andreas Gomez's poems, he also happened to be the guest speaker at the conference. Gomez is a poet, writer, and actor. His book is called *Man Up* and he is most famous for his role in the movie "Inside Man".

The conference consisted of soul searching exercises and information on rape cultures. Gomez shared many of his poems with the women and talked about challenges he faced growing up that were very relatable. This year was the first year in the

conference that there was a male guest speaker. The conference seemed to be very successful with many young women from different school that attended. The conference began with one big group

presentation in the ball room from Gomez, and then continued to two different breakout sessions in which everyone could choose from various different sessions. Each breakout session was in different conference rooms and consisted of about 30 women in each. The sessions ranged anywhere from Zumba to "When yes means no." "The conference was very powerful and inspiring. I'm really glad I was able to attend. I'm looking forward to doing it again next year," said sophomore



Miller

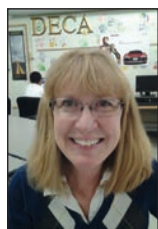
Susan Miller.

# Teacher Story

By Jacob Firkins  
Staff Writer

Ms. Sherry Christensen is the business and marketing teacher here at West. She also is the DECA advisor.

She has been here at West for 13 years teaching kids how to be successful in the business world when they graduate from this school.



Christensen

Ms. Christensen earned her BBA degree from the University of North Texas. She majored in human resource management.

She later received her teaching certificate after completing some courses at Colorado State University. She also received her master's from the University of Northern Colorado in 2010.

She got her master's degree in Educational Leadership. Then in 2011, Ms. Christensen got her principal's license.

She teaches many classes here at West. Some of the classes she teaches or has taught are Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Business Law, Word Processing and even MYP Marketing and Your Future.

Despite her expertise in business and marketing, she also has many other interests.

When she was in school, her favorite subject was government. She also enjoys many different types of music. She listens to everything from Christian music to country and even a little bit of pop.



Courtesy of DECA

Ms. Sherry Christensen poses with her DECA group during districts earlier this year

Christensen also enjoys the outdoors. She likes to go hiking and biking and also does a little gardening.

## From Testing, Page 1

score well on the exams. Scoring well on an AP or IB exam will possibly give the students college credit.

"I really hope I score well, and hopefully my hard work pays off at the end. My goal is to get a score of three or higher on my AP Government exam so I can earn college credit and save money for college," said junior Kenzie Starkey.

The IB exams will begin with HL English and end with IB Music. 55 West IB students will be taking exams at the Greeley Wesleyan Church. IB exams test the student's comprehension skills. All the exams are in an essay format which makes the IB exams more difficult than AP exams. IB exams will end on May 23 and IB exams do not have any retakes for students. IB exams are scored on a scale from one to seven. A score between one and three is not considered proficient and a score of four or higher are considered proficient.

"I'm going to be taking five IB exams this year. I've been preparing for the last two years to score well on my exams. I expect to score an average score of five on all five of my exams," said IB senior Ian Morrison.

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# Wagy enjoys time competing for NJC volleyball team

By Hayley Alberts  
Staff Writer

Former Greeley West student Hannah Wagy, is currently attending Northeastern Junior College (NJC), where she got a full ride scholarship to play volleyball for both years she will be there. She graduated from West last year in the spring, 2013.

During her time at West she participated in playing volleyball all 4 years, tennis for 3 years,

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Hannah Wagy

soccer for 1 year, and was in the Interact Club. Last year Wagy was the only Varsity tennis player to make it to State and place for 3 singles.

Currently, Wagy is still attending NJC and playing volleyball for them. She also has a job in

Sterling at a local tanning salon, and plays tennis on the side. Wagy enjoys going to the Mountains and snowboarding with her family and having quality family time with her parents, and siblings, Peyton and Kelsey Wagy, who are also former Greeley West students as well.

She also found herself in a newly blooming relationship with Sophomore Jake Dittman, who plays baseball for NJC. Wagy has met many new friends since graduating, and still keeps in touch

with the ones still currently attending West as well. She enjoys college so far, and looks forward to another year. "I love NJC. The people here are very friendly and real," Wagy stated while asking about her college experience so far.



Wagy

## Key club ready to clean park

By Eric Seeley  
Staff Writer

The Greeley West Park is far from a park these days. It looks more like a dump, but after May 10, it would be restored to what it used to be.

"We are excited to help out the community and make it a better place, outside of Greeley West. Now residence will be able to go on walks without seeing trash covering their favorite walking spots," said Brandon Tuttle.

The Key Club is in charge of restoring the park. A community member, close to the park, reached out to the Greeley West Key Club and asked if they would be willing to help out the park.

The Key Club gladly accepted the task with open arms. They will be cleaning from 9-11 a.m. and welcome anyone who would like to help. Students aren't required or won't be looked different if you show up for a little bit and leave. Key Club will be glad that you spent part of your time on a Saturday to help out the community. All students need to bring is themselves and a good attitude, and some work gloves. Trash bags will be provided.

It is not restricted to only Key Club members, but to the entire community. Neighbors of the park will also be helping make the park pristine again.



Brandon Holmes/West Word

Middle-school aged kids play on the cement staircase at Greeley West park. Greeley West students will clean up the mess left behind by park-goers this week.

Neighbors of the park have been staring at the trash filled park for months. It is mainly due to the flood and also the wind blowing neighbors' trash cans over. Key Club is expecting that the more dense areas, like the forest areas, to have more trash than the actual open grass area.

## TANE hopes more seniors attend

By Garrett Hays  
Staff Writer

This year, TANE is being held at the same location as it was last year, Chippers Lanes in Greeley. In the past years TANE has consisted of bowling, eating pizza, and winning lots of different prizes. TANE is the after prom party, where even the freshmen and sophomores are invited to attend. Last year's TANE was very successful, but the majority of the upperclassmen ended up not going.

The administration will try to get the seniors and juniors more involved with TANE to increase the

amount of people who show up.

TANE will be held immediately after Prom on May 3. The Greeley West Booster Club is also accepting donations to help fund TANE. Bowling isn't the only thing to do at TANE, there are plenty of games and a bunch of fun activities to participate in to win different prizes.

Greeley West senior Justin Miller attended TANE last year. "I had a great time and it would be a lot better if we could get more upperclassman to show up," said Miller.

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Nikki Harris/West Word

Juniors Savanah Lucio and Jessie Alvarenga laugh while at their Choir Concert

## Conjunction Junction

Trip to Western Slope brings music classes together

By Michael Caro  
Staff Writer

On Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Greeley West performing arts classes headed out to Grand Junction to compete in the Colorado West Invitation Music Performance Festival. The festival is an annual event and West has always participated in the friendly competition. The Greeley West band, choir and orchestra all performed on Friday April 25<sup>th</sup>.

All of the performing arts classes scored well in the competition. All of the performers earned superior ratings from the judges.

"They all performed extremely well and I'm proud of all my students for working hard and preparing for the festival. The bands represented Greeley West very well and we left the competition with many compliments from judges and other schools," said band teacher Chet Arthur.

About 90 performing arts students attended the festival and most of the students were excited to compete and show off their musical talents. The performing arts classes have very few competitions throughout the year.

"We have few competitions throughout the year for the band, orchestra and choir and this festival

was a great way to show off our musical talents and to be critiqued by judges," said sophomore Nathan Evans.

Greeley West earned a high achieving status in Grand Junction. Many underclassmen are excited to compete in next year's competition in Grand Junction.

### Band impresses judges out west

On April 25, the Greeley West band performed a variety of music pieces in Grand Junction at the Colorado West Invitation Music Performance Festival.

The band scored and earned high scores giving the West band a very high achieving status.

"We performed well at the competition. We earned a superior rating from the judges and we were critiqued which I think will allow us to perform better in the future," said sophomore Nathan Evans.

--Michael Caro

## Strings section sounds sultry

By Brandon Holmes  
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 24 and Friday, April 25, the Greeley West High School Chamber Orchestra traveled to Grand Junction to compete in the CHSAA Large Group Festival. The Chamber Orchestra was graded by three judges over the two days they played. From the judges, they received a score of one from the first two judges and a

two from the third judge. Along with those three scores from the judges, they received a superior, overall rating of 1. "We are very happy with the results from the competition this year," said junior Austin LaVelle. The entire Greeley West Orchestra went along on the trip down to Grand Junction. "Although we usually do very well in the competition, the things that we do outside of orchestra are what make the trip worthwhile," said senior orchestra member Casey Fowler.

## Chorale groups dazzle

By Riley Mincic  
Staff Writer

Recently on the weekend of April 25 the Choir traveled with orchestra and the band down to Grand Junction for a competition. They play in this every year and there has been a lot of excitement this year. Mrs. Ecker has got the choir firing on all cylinders. It is her first year doing this with the choir. They sang three traditional songs that most

choirs know.

The choir scored ones on all the songs that were sang. This is the highest score that can be earned. This is a strong performance from the choir and is looking like it will stay strong throughout the next couple of years with a lot of the choir being juniors and sophomores.

It was only Pegasus that went and competed with the orchestra and band.



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## Zoe's made great location for Prom

This past weekend, Prom was held at Zoe's Café in downtown Greeley. Leading up to the event, some kids believed it was not a good spot for Prom to be held.

The one major problem that most kids encountered was the lack of parking spaces downtown. Although the parking wasn't an issue last year the amount of dancing space was.

Last years Prom was at Pelican Lakes in Windsor and the amount of space was ridiculous. Cramming so many kids into one small space made the dancing almost miserable and dripping with sweat.

Even some kids thought that having Prom in Windsor was also a problem, having to drive so far seemed to be a hassle for most kids, a problem that they won't have to deal with this year. The best part of having Prom at Pelican Lakes was the surrounding area and the lake right outside the dance.

Zoe's was a great place to hold a Prom, It had the room to dance and had a very close location, The parking was not even that bad if you didn't mind walking around town showing off in a dress or tux.

Garrett Hays Editorial

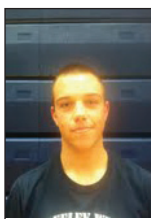


## Students still disrespecting school

Throughout the school year Greeley West has been going downhill. This year wasn't the start of it, but instead was rock bottom. This school year has been a low point in athletics and the students of Greeley West.

Teachers, who have been at West for many years, have been saying for the past couple of years that Greeley West is going downhill. Greeley West students have no pride for the school like they used to. Students have been just ruining Greeley West by leaving their trash

Eric Seeley Editorial



You can't go into a classroom without seeing something written on a desk.

out, disrespecting other students and teachers, and the actual building itself. You can't go into a classroom without seeing something written on a desk.

Right after lunch students are able to see trash covering the ground and the tables, that is left behind by students. Students are constantly cussing each other out, and also letting the teachers have it.

Students need to show more respect for the school. You don't leave your trash around your

house so why should you around the school. It isn't just your school, but it is also the other 1500 student's schools as well. Visitors think our school looks trashy because of all the writing on the desks, walls, and the trash.

Students are always using foul language, and it is getting to be a problem. Using inappropriate language makes you look bad and makes others think less about you. It is such a problem that the P.E. department said that if they hear someone drop the f-bomb that they will get a zero for that day. Not only in the gym, but throughout the school, students need to watch their language.

The students of West need to get their act together. They need to stop all of the cussing towards each other and the teachers, and also disrespecting the school.

## ACT prepares students for AP tests

The end of the year is quickly approaching, which means it's almost time for AP testing. This year the first test will be held today and the last test will be held on May 16.

For many juniors this will be their first time taking an AP test, leaving them unsure of what to expect. They've been preparing all year long, but I don't think anything can truly prepare you for this test except experience.

Of course, studying and knowing the material is important, but being able to sit and focus for two or three hours is equally as important. Most students have not had much experience with this

sort of testing environment and it can be very overwhelming for students.

Strict rules, stern proctors, strange people and an unfamiliar test can all affect a student's performance. Luckily for the junior class, they recently took the ACT which is held in a very similar environment to the AP tests.

This hopefully prepared them for their upcoming AP tests and eased their nerves a little bit. The ACT was a great way to get students the experience of taking such a long and strict test, which will hopefully help them with future tests.

Tonya Schiestel Editorial



## Drive safely!

It's getting warmer outside as school is about to end. Everyone is out and about driving, walking dogs, and riding motorcycles.

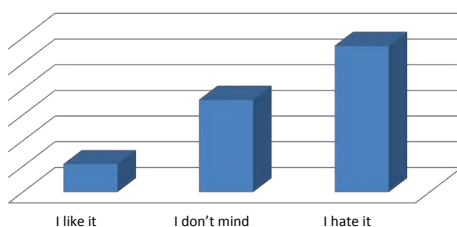
Those of you that can drive need to be aware that you are sharing the road with motorcyclists. Everyone speaks of how careless young drivers are but let's face it, we all know someone of every age group that drives like a maniac. That however is not okay.

More people are going to be out so not only being aware of motorcyclist but children as well. Whether you are by a park, driving home through your neighborhood or even on a busy road keep your eyes out for kids.

--Ariell Martinez

## Spartan Pulse

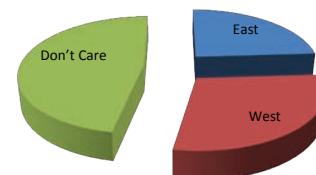
### What do you think Colorado's bipolar weather?



### How are you getting ready for finals?



### Pregame Prediction: Which division will win the NBA championship?



# West students should put emphasis on charity

Every day during lunch, hundreds of Greeley West students go off campus and spend their money on food. And it is also no secret that there are countless amounts of students who spend money on things such as drugs and alcohol. While these seem to be normal high school expenses, they are not the best

|||||  
**Alie  
Olivas  
Editorial**  
|||||



ways to put money to use.

Going out for lunch every day is fine; however, have you ever stopped and thought about putting your money in a better place?

If every student from Greeley West would donate \$1 to charity, there would be \$1600 to a very deserving foundation. There are charities for just about anything

you can think of. Helping abused animals, children without homes, sick children, natural disaster victims, and war veterans.

I know that every kid here has at least \$1 to donate, and that can truly make a difference if the whole school does the same. Even if you can't give any money, you can volunteer your time in helping those charities.

Our world is so caught up in buying the nicest things that we often forget about helping others

out. Donating to our community is such a positive and enlightening thing that every person should experience.

Greeley West students could change people's lives by contributing their time and money to the community.

Unfortunately, no one can force community involvement; it takes someone with character and selflessness to make a difference.

## Great graduation debate rears ugly ahead again

### Some seniors still want chance to walk with friends

Seniors this year are upset about not getting the choice of who they get to walk with at graduation. Many students are in fear that they will end up having to walk with someone they don't know, or they don't like, and also they have the fear of a teacher they haven't ever had handing them their diploma.

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



At Central High School, seniors are allowed to at least pick one partner to walk with, and they get to choose the teacher they want to hand them their diploma.

Whereas at West students have to choose their top four teachers, where the order of their choices doesn't even matter, and administration picks which teacher the student gets.

Seniors look forward to graduation day all year,

and to not be able to walk with their friends in their last high school event ever is unfair. Last year's seniors of 2013 complained about graduation and many students ended up walking with people they didn't know, and got their diplomas handed to them by teachers they never even had.

The way graduation is set up is to benefit students who may not have anyone to walk with. They do not plan on changing the way this is set up anytime soon, and it's honestly to benefit the

minority.

Many seniors, just like last year are very upset with this change, and they just want the opportunity to walk with their friends in their last high school event ever.

## NHL, NBA playoffs feature plenty of drama for fans

This is one of the best times of the year for sports. There are many things that are going on including the Masters, spring football, baseball season started, NBA playoffs, and the NHL playoffs.

In all honesty, all of these catch my eye and you can find me in the living room watching all of these events throughout the spring.

The two main sports that are going on though are the NBA and NHL playoffs. With both of them going on at the same time it is hard to find the time to watch both. With a great lineup of teams in both sports, it makes for very interesting playoffs.

What do you prefer to watch? Some may say that since the Avalanche are in the playoffs and the Nuggets are not, that they will be watching the NHL playoffs instead of the NBA. Others say that

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



since the Western Conference of the NBA playoffs are so stacked, that they are watching the NBA.

Personally I will be watching both, with the little time I have I make sure I watch all the Ays games and as many NBA games that I can.

Usually I'll catch all the late games, and stay up to date on everything else with Sportscenter.

Whatever you choose to watch you know that it will be fun to watch and that there will always be something to watch. When it comes to the end, everyone should watch every game of each series for the finals.

Those are always the best games to watch just like the NBA Finals last year when the Heat won the championship. We will have to wait and see who wins both this year.

## 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.

# Pennies help fight cancer

By Alie Olivas  
Staff Writer

The Greeley West Key Club recently took on the challenge of raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The project "Pennies for Patients" consisted of many opportunities to donate money to the society.

"Our goal is raise as much money as possible. We are hoping to out-do last year's amount," said junior Jacob Rogers.

One of the ways to donate was called the "Penny Pile-Up." During fifth block, students were asked to dump out all of their change and teachers weren't supposed to start class until the change

was counted. In Mr. Armstrong's fifth block class, just nine students raised a total of \$60. The "Penny Pile-Up" helped raise a total of \$200.

Another activity they did was called "Dart Art." Students had the opportunity to buy a balloon that was filled up with paint for \$1, and they then could throw a dart at the balloon. This project resulted in \$50 for the society and a beautiful painted canvas.

The last activity Key Club did for the society was called "Coin Jug." In the commons there were jugs

**Continued  
Pennies, Page 16**



Kenlee Frank, sophomore puts her own coins into her class's coin jar.

Alie Olivas/  
West Word

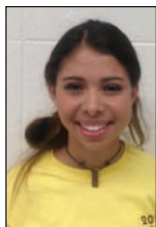
# Theater kids enjoy day off at Buelle show

By Lauren Miller  
Staff Writer

On Wednesday April 16 the IB and MYP theatre and woodshop students attended a play in downtown Denver. They saw a Comedy play called *Animal Crackers* at the Buelle Theatre.

After their hard work and dedication in the musical *Tarzan* they decided to take a day off of school to enjoy a play as members of the audience

for a change. The woodshop students had built the whole set for the musical this spring and put in several hours outside of school to make it look as professional and realistic as possible. The theatre students that participated in the play also put in many hours outside of school to ensure the performance would go off without a hitch.



Nava

Mrs. Peggy Freemole and Mr. Mark Bruemmer, the theatre director and woodshop teacher, chaperoned this event.

Students were thankful for the break from school and said it could not have come at a better time in the school year.

"The play was super funny and definitely a play worth seeing," said sophomore Alyssa Nava. "Not only was it an unforgettable experience; it exceeded my expectations!"

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## FASHION TRENDS: Spring Fashion

The weather is finally consistently remaining warm, between 75 and 80 degrees and the spring and summer clothes are spreading the halls. For guys, there are many ways to dress for spring and summer in a casual, yet stylish way.

Cargo shorts are never ever acceptable. Ever. Casual, lightweight chambray fabric for shorts, with minimal pockets, are perfect for the nice weather. Paired with a casual v-neck and boat shoes or Vans, you can create a casual but nice looking outfit. (Wearing your shorts around your butt defeats the purpose and will instantly ruin the outfit).

So maybe consider waking up just 5 minutes earlier and put a little extra thought into your wardrobe for the last few weeks of school.

Lauren  
Miller  
Fashion Expert



Lauren Miller/West Word

Had this picture been in color, you would have seen that Connor Young and Gavin Paczosa are very springy and fashion savvy.

## Divergent's dystopian society full of action

There have been many movies recently that have been based off of bestselling books. The most recent one to come out is *Divergent*. This movie has been getting a lot of hype and was predicted to be a good movie.

This movie leaves us with a major cliffhanger that will lead us into the other movies of the trilogy. The first of the three movies is more like an appetizer than a full meal which is why it seems like such a cliff hanger.

This movie is set in a post war setting as a city

that has been enclosed in walls from the rest of the world. The people that live inside are divided



Riley  
Mincic  
Movie Review

into five main groups. Abnegation which controls the government, Candor runs the courts, Amity works in the fields, Erudite work in the science labs and the Dauntless serve as security for the city.

You are placed into one of these groups by your personality. There is a test given that tells you what you should be, but ultimately it is your decision on which group you go to. There are special cases

where the test cannot determine your faction and this means that you are divergent.

The leaders of the city want to eliminate all divergents to prevent difference in the city and to keep order in their perfect society. The story surrounds Tris and what her decision is which is to become Dauntless. She is a divergent which puts a target on her back.

This movie comes with a lot of action and is a great movie to watch. I enjoyed it and I believe that everyone else will as well. I have never read the book but from people that have, they say the book is better. I am giving this movie a 8 out of 10 Spartan Heads.

## Yearbook staff enacts plan for better distribution

By Alex Garcia  
Staff Writer

Yearbook distribution changes from year to year to try and make it a bit more efficient. Last year every year book was put in the commons where students were to go and pick up on their own time, after school, and during the actual yearbook signing time students had. The commons made for a very crowded area.

All the yearbooks got handed out to the right people but it sort of seemed like some kids could

just walk in and just grab a yearbook that they didn't pay for. Although it was a bit small in space everything got out correctly and quite efficiently. "Lobby distribution was a disaster so we definitely won't be doing that again," said

This year the process for receiving the yearbook is to be tweaked a bit in order to make it easier and more efficient. They have not received the exact times yet but administration and the year book staff have an idea of how it will be done this year.

As of right now Mr. Greg McAdams is working

with administration and the yearbook staff in order to come up with a location and time.

The only thing students can count on for this year's yearbook distribution at the moment is that it will be a little more organized and the location will no longer be the lobby.



McAdams

Countdown by Ariell Martinez



## Swimmers paddle past city rivals

By Anna Eisenberg  
Staff Writer

The boys' swimming team at Greeley West has done very well this year. On April 29, they competed against the Loveland team and won. "It was the first time Greeley West has won against Loveland in swimming in six years," explains the swimming coach Colin Shaha.

Also on May 1, the city meet in Greeley took place with Greeley West, Central, and Northridge all competed. Greeley West won the meet by over 160 points. "They represent West well and are training as hard as they can. We should have a great end of the year," says Shaha.



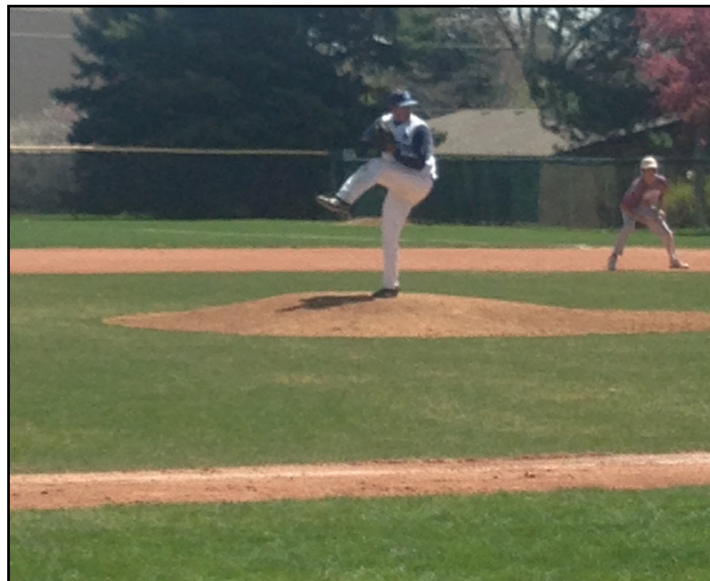
Shaha

One swimmer on the team received the Mark Hummels award for the most outstanding swimmer.

Brody Luis received this award but he does not attend Greeley West High School, he is just on the team.

The only two meets left is conference and state. "All of our relay times have made qualifying times. There is Mason Sedlacek, Lukas King, Bryce Fehringer, Brody Luis, and Nate Gorsline have all made these qualifying times, and hopefully one more," Shaha stated.

Shaha predicts that next year will be a good year for swimming.



Ray Monje works out of the stretch at last week's baseball game against Horizon. Horizon beat the Spartans 12-9 in eight innings.

Mason Barnes/  
West Word

## Season ending win

### Seniors sent off with victory against Loveland

By Jake Firkins  
Staff Writer

The Greeley West varsity baseball team hasn't lived up to their expectations this year. Despite the team's best efforts they will not be making the playoff this year.

The Greeley West Spartan baseball team is seven and ten overall and four and five in league play. They are in the 5A Front Range league.

The Front Range league has some tough opponents. The number one team in all of 5A baseball according to Maxpreps.com is Fairview

who also is a member of the 5A Front Range League.

Naturally, Fairview is also on top of the Front Range league. Their record is set at 16 and 1 and ten and 0 in Front Range league play.

Greeley West is currently positioned as the 40th best team in all of 5A. They need to be in the top 32 to make the playoffs. The Spartans played their last game on May 1 against the Loveland Indians and sent their seniors home with a win, blowing out the Indians 14-7 in their final game.

## Mr. GWHS pageant promises to thrill

By Zeke Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

In the span of a week the lady Spartans played 4 games which can take a toll on your body but the Spartans managed to go 2-1-1 over that week of time.

April 24, 2014 the lady Spartans went on the road to take on the lady Hawks of Horizon. It was a tight and contested battle from the start with only one goal being scored the whole entire game.

That goal came at the 55<sup>th</sup> minute of the second half, that goal was scored by sophomore Kiley Cropper.

April 26<sup>th</sup>, the Spartans traveled to Fort Collins to take on the Lampkin's and they played a hard fought game but ended up taking a draw with the Lampkin's.

Jaylin Piacenza had 8 saves to help shut out Fort Collins.

April 29, the lady Spartans hosted Rocky Mountain; the girls played a tough first half going up 2-0 at the break.

Rocky Mountain started the second half out firing on all cylinders scoring 6 goals in the second half. The Spartans fell to Lobos 6-2. Kiley Cropper scored west's two goals.

May 1<sup>st</sup>, Greeley west traveled to Loveland for their regular season finale.

Both teams played well but due to great play by sophomore Kiley Cropper and junior Jianna Piacenza score two goals apiece put lead the Spartans to a victory over the Indians 4-2.



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## Coin toss determines tennis tourney

By Edgar Lopez  
Staff Writer

No. 1 singles player Paige Crews and No. 2 singles player Emily Hopwood joined doubles team Kayla Hoskins and Ellie Davidson with berths into the state tennis tournament this week at Fossil Ridge with an impressive showing at regionals at Cherry Creek High School last week.

The girls helped the entire team to a second-place finish at the regional, which is the best showing of any female sports team at their respective conference tournament since Greeley West became 5A four years ago.

After an impressive regular season, the tennis team qualified for their Cherry Creek regional with a fourth-place finish at Loveland High School the

week before. Greeley West won a coin flip and avoided the long drive to Grand Junction after finishing in a tie with Mountain Range.

Look for results and photos from the state tournament in the last West Word of the year on May 19.

## Basketball job openings at West

It has been a crazy two weeks for the Spartans' basketball program. Both the boys and girls head coaches have decided to take another path in their life. So for next season, West will have two new coaches leading the Spartans to victory on the court.

Former girls basketball coach Mark Jarnot was a one and done coach, as he only lasted one season as the girls head coach, while Tory Hanson lasted three years in the boys basketball program.

"I am going to miss the sense of humor that he brought both on and off the court," said sophomore Connor Thompson.

--Eric Seeley

said Halsey. Junior, Damue Princely, did extremely well at the meet on Friday. He placed third overall in the 100 meter dash. He also placed fifth in the 200 meter dash.

The track team's next meet is Friday, May 2. They will be going to Longmont to participate in the St. Vrain Invitational, only a select few athletes will be able to go.

## Athletes qualify for state meet

By Jenea Padilla  
Staff Writer

West's track team had one of their biggest meets of the season on Friday, April 25. The Weld County Championships were held at UNC and there were over 20 teams that participated. Unfortunately, many of the athletes were not able to participate due to the band, choir, and orchestra trip to Grand Junction.

Senior, Brian Halsey, took 7<sup>th</sup> in discus with a PR and also placed in shot-put as well. "It's nice coming down to the end of the season doing good, and I'm only a few feet off of making it to state,"

## Who is crowned boys/girls Athlete of Year? Find out in the next West Word

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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?



Stephanie Fontana  
Class of 2014

A

- Randy's
- Lunch
- San Diego, California
- San Diego State University
- Fell down the stairs while carrying boxes
- Tupac



Riley Spight  
Class of 2015

B

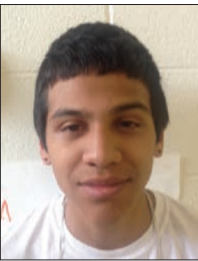
- Chicken alfredo
- All of the ethnicity
- West Indies
- University of Santa Barbara California
- Passed out at a choir concert
- Matt Damon



Marissa Chavez  
Class of 2016

C

- Chinese food
- The drinking fountain by the gym
- Uranus
- University of Hawaii
- Got diarrhea while in the hot tub
- Carrie Underwood



David Noriega  
Class of 2017

D

- Tacos
- My friends
- Hawaii
- Iowa State
- Sneezed out soap bubbles while at Wal-Mart
- Paul Walker

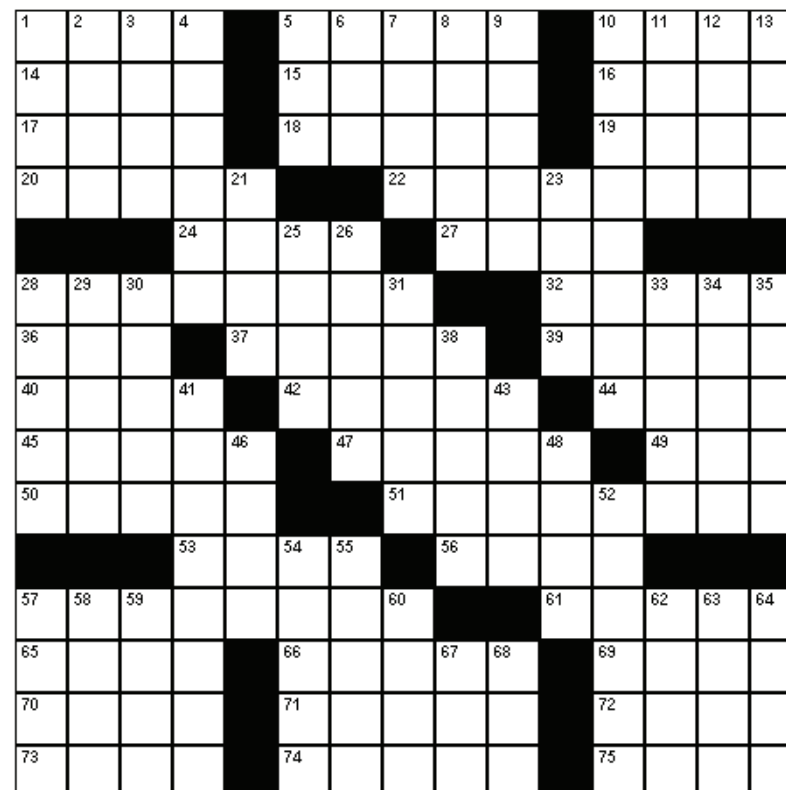
## Across

- 1- Material charity  
5- Roman garments  
10- Be bold  
14- Interlock  
15- As \_\_\_ resort  
16- \_\_\_ about (approximately)  
17- Biblical trio  
18- Light wood  
19- Golden Rule word  
20- Many times  
22- Vigorous exercises  
24- Reindeer herder  
27- Student's hurdle  
28- Stack of firewood  
32- Under way  
36- Dada pioneer  
37- The end of \_\_\_  
39- New Mexico's state flower  
40- Cambodian currency; 42- Waterfall  
44- Plaster backing  
45- Jeter of the Yankees  
47- Parody  
49- Philosopher \_\_\_-tzu  
50- Roofing stone  
51- Indication  
53- Get better  
56- Move sideways, killed

## Down

- 57- Nickname for New York City  
61- Duck with soft down  
65- From the U.S.  
66- Titled  
69- "\_\_\_ grip!"  
70- Singer k.d.  
71- Author Zola  
72- Grab, slangily  
73- Noncommittal words  
74- Brother of Moses  
75- Hankerings  
1- Bullets and such  
2- Fall faller  
3- High-ranking NCO  
4- Protect  
5- Bar bill  
6- Pay stub?  
7- Big bash  
8- Item having exchange value  
9- Blank look  
10- Uncertain  
11- Years in old Rome  
12- Campus mil. group  
13- Archer of myth  
21- California wine region  
23- Anthem opener  
25- Fasteners

- 26- Entreaties  
28- Hospital rooms  
29- Bay window  
30- Wagner work  
31- Blow one's top  
33- Central Florida city  
34- In base 8  
35- Lake in the Sierra Nevada  
38- Healing plants  
41- Sopor  
43- Tribute  
46- Retain  
48- Bolt  
52- Resembling twigs  
54- Sleep disorder  
55- South American ruminant  
57- Indonesian holiday resort  
58- Muslim leader  
59- Actress Rowlands  
60- Islamic chieftain  
62- Strike out  
63- School founded by Henry VI  
64- Super Bowl XXXIV champs  
67- "Xanadu" band  
68- Bear lair



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

## STR8TS

No. 95

Tough



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

Previous solution - Medium



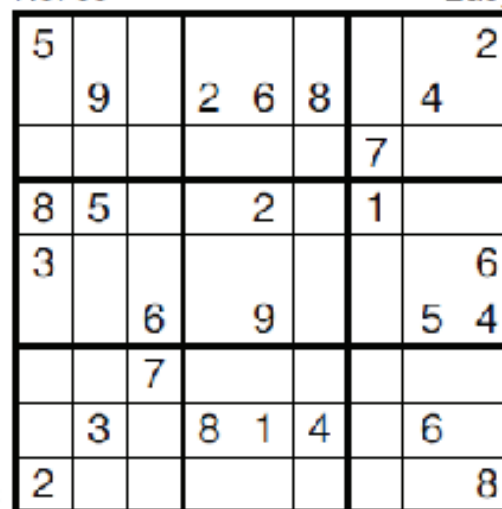
How to beat Str8ts -

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

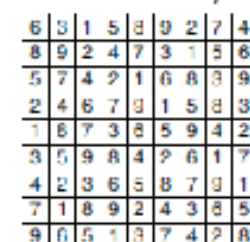
No. 95

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

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

**From Pennies,  
Page 10**

labeled with each grade level for students to drop change off in.

"We are hoping for a good turnout. If every student brought one dollar, we would be able to donate over \$1600 to the leukemia society," said junior Andra Turner.

The leukemia and lymphoma society offers many

ways for people to donate and support research. Every penny donated is directed towards helping sick patients and doing research for the disease that kills many people every year.

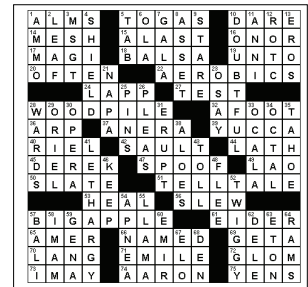


Turner

**Last issue of year!**

The May 19 issue of *West Word* will be the final issue of the year and feature our annual "Senior Pages" where your favorite writers will recollect their time here at West.

Also look forward to year-in-review stories, spring sports' state tournament results, and a graduation preview!




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