

WEST WORD

November 4, 2013

www.greeleyschools.org/westword

Volume XLVI No. 5

Brentwood celebrates 50 years with open house

By Michael Caro
Staff Writer

Brentwood Middle School is throwing a 50th anniversary celebration in early November. Brentwood's principal visited last Friday on October 25th to meet with any students who were interested in helping out with the upcoming event.

So far, not many former Brentwood students have volunteered for the anniversary and the committee is looking for more help.

Abby Rocha, a former Brentwood student, is the only one who has volunteered for the 50th anniversary from Greeley West. Rocha felt it was important to be a part of it. "I have many great experiences at Brentwood. The teachers were great and I'll never forget my time at Brentwood," Rocha said.

There will be an open house on Saturday, November 9th from 12-3:30. Guest speakers have not been arranged yet, but principal Nicole Petersen hopes former students and staff will volunteer to tell their stories from Brentwood.

There will be a BBQ for the first 500 people who show up. Hamburgers and dessert will be served for all who attend. The event will also have tours of the school and displays available for all visitors.

"I see it as a community Brentwood reunion," Petersen said.

For more information on how to be a part of the celebration, you can contact Petersen at Brentwood.



Rocha



Jacob Firkins/West Word

Selam Misgna and castmates rehearse their El Teatro performance in the final week before Friday night's performance at the Union Colony Civic Center.

City celebrates culture

Theater group performs on Greeley's biggest stage

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

The El Teatro group performed last week to students and parents alike. They had performances during school on October 31st and on November 1st for students from all of the schools to come and watch. They also had their big performance on November 1st at the Union Colony Civic Center. The show started at 6 pm.

There were 26 students in the performance. The languages spoken were English, Spanish, Somali, Oromo, Karenni, Tigrinia, Japanese, Italian, Amharic, Karen, French, Q'unjobal, Thai, A.S.L. and Arabic.

The play was based on stories that those 26

students turned in to Ms. Jessica Cooney, the El Teatro advisor. Then Adiam Tesfaselassie from Greeley West and Dani Araujo from Northridge took those stories and turned it into the play. They made the play under the supervision of Cooney.

"The whole point of El Teatro is to celebrate diversity. It shows us that people are more alike than different," said Cooney. "It Inspires understanding."

The play is written in 15 different languages. This year the performance included cultural and hip hop dance. Students from all walks of life participated in the performance. There were kids in IB, kids in the special education program and even students still learning English.

AIDS speaker leaves direct impact with student body

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

Mr. Brian Holmes's health classes had the opportunity to hear from Rick and Barb Wise speak to them on Wednesday and Thursday last week during 3rd and 5th and 4th and 6th blocks, respectively.

The couple goes around the country and world speaking about AIDS/HIV. Barb has AIDS and she and Rick speak to people about living with AIDS and how it can affect your life.

Rick married Barb even though she already had AIDS so they know what marriage can be like with that obstacle in their lives. They use this experience to teach others about relationships and AIDS/HIV.

Holmes has her come speak because she is very informative about HIV/AIDS. Barb contracted HIV in 1993 when she was attending Denver University. The couple help reinforce what Holmes teaches about abstinence. They also teach about making good choices health-wise.

"The presentation was outstanding," said Holmes. "They have been coming to speak to my class for 12 years. They always have an impact on the students."

The students have many reactions to the presentation but most were in a sort of shock. Most kids couldn't believe that she could be so normal looking and still have HIV/AIDS for 20 years.

Rick graduated from University of Northern Colorado and Barb graduated from Denver University. Barb gave up her job to travel around telling her story and telling kids about AIDS/HIV and relationships. Rick later gave up his job as well to travel with and support his wife in her efforts.

The couple has traveled to 30 different states as well as Switzerland and Japan.

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Freshman ditches homework for humanity

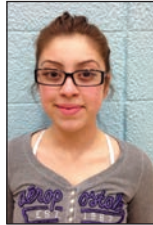
By Merall Sherif
Staff Writer

Merall Sherif
Neomy Ruiz is a freshman Spartan off to a good start for her high school career. She is involved in AVID, has praisable grades, and is enjoyed by her teachers.

About a week ago Ruiz showed up to school without any completed homework for any of her classes; uncharacteristic? Her act was more

character building than uncharacteristic.

The night before, Ruiz and her family visited a local Walmart store and walked in to find a man on his knees, hunched over and who appeared to be praying. This man was actually severely hurt from slipping from the rain and his sandals.



Ruiz

The man did not speak any English, only Spanish. "Nobody was helping him, everyone just walked past him," explained Ruiz. She asked the man what happened and what his situation was and translated for the store administration, which did not have any Spanish speaking employees on hand.

The man had fallen on his back and hit two vertebrae and was seriously injured. "I was disappointed nobody helped the poor man, so I just started translating everything about the incident

and trying to get him the help he needed. I am proud I could translate and help someone in need," elaborated Ruiz.

AVID teacher Mark Jarnot emailed her teachers negotiating extensions for her assignments, recognizing her heroic act. "That is the definition of integrity. She showed respect, humanity, and compassion for other people. She has a strong character to do that when no one asked anything of her, and she still did the right thing," Jarnot said.

Free candy

Trick or treat night pleases youngsters

By Michael Caro
Staff Writer

The trick or treat street was held on October 28th throughout the Greeley West halls. Many clubs at West participated in the event. There was a good turnout this year. Lots of kids showed up dressed up as princesses to super heroes. Even high school volunteers and staff members dressed up for the event. Trick or Treat Street is a tradition at West.

Interact Present Alexis Badial was happy with the turnout. "Trick or Treat Street was lots of fun. I love dressing up and giving out candy to the little kids. It puts a smile on my face," Badial said.



Badial

Besides getting candy, little kids were able to attend a magic show hosted by Chemistry teacher Michael Petraglia. Also, the Interact Club played a movie "Halloween Town" in the Spooky Spartan Cinema in Mrs. Hammer's room. Lots of the little trick or treaters enjoyed the movie with popcorn served by the Interact Club.



Michael CaroWest Word

Students dressed in all kinds of costumes wait for trick-or-treaters to show up. West students dedicated their Monday night for child safety.

Daniel's Fund November deadline looms

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

The deadline for the Daniels Fund Scholarship, November 15th, is approaching quickly. The Daniels Fund Scholarship is geared towards students whose families have a low income and are very passionate about their community and hard work.

"Character, leadership, and service are the three key attributes for a Daniels Fund Scholarship applicant," said counselor David Cowan.

Of course having a good academic background and resume helps your chances for achieving the scholarship as well but any senior student from Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, or Utah can apply for it.

Every year, 250 seniors are awarded a full ride scholarship through the Daniels Fund Program. Although you must reside in these specific states to apply for the Daniels Fund Scholarship, students that win the scholarship can take their money and attend any school in the United States.

The process for applying for the Daniels Fund is very easy. It first begins with the student applying online. After the student applies online, they must notify their counselor because the counselor has a section of the application they must fill out as well. Sometime in January, after all of the prospective students fill out the FAFSA form, the finalists are notified. As a finalist, the student must go through an interview process.



Cowan

Pass out

Bathroom excuse in planner is just that

By Addison Vergara
Staff Writer

The students at Greeley West High School are generally dedicated and hard-working. However, some students are perceived as lazy and manipulative, especially when it comes to being in class, and staying in class.

In order to leave a class, a student must have the "hallway passport" of their planner completed by their instructor. The date, the time the student departed and returned to class, the destination, and a teacher signature must all be included.

This system seems like a good way to keep students in check, but once in the hallways it's a whole different story. Apparently, students having using these bathroom passes not to use the restroom, but for other purposes. This includes going to their car to get assignments that would otherwise be late, meeting up with friends, wandering the halls aimlessly to try and waste time, or even leave campus to buy food or drink.

What is the motive behind these "vacations" students are taking? Junior, Kevin Zimmerman explained that students are simply looking for a break.

"As the school year progresses, student



Addison Vergara/West Word

Top: Students patrol the halls without their passes.

Right: Ben Roadcap is watched by Rudy Danford to make sure he is going to class. Campus security have been cracking down on students.

discipline seems to decline, and kids start looking for as many ways as possible to get out of class," Zimmerman said.

This problem is more frequent than many may think. Member of campus security, Rudy Danford expresses his distress, saying "I would be happy if I never saw a bathroom pass again." Although students have passes in their hands, Rudy says he is "constantly" telling kids to return to class because it is obvious they are loitering,

This issue makes one think that the planner should be called a "break from class" rather than a "bathroom pass."



College fair back on after floods delay

By Ariell Martinez
Staff Writer

The annual college fair will now be held on November 12 at Greeley Central High School.

Many students eager and ready to talk to representatives from colleges they hope to attend lost the opportunity due to the tragic floods across Colorado. The college fair was originally scheduled for September 19, 2013.

An estimated number of about 80 students signed up to attend in September. Those who were planning on attending the September college fair are now required to re-register again with their counselor.



Hensley

Ms. Becky Hensley, a counselor at Greeley West, said colleges across Colorado will be attending, as well as a few colleges from neighbor states such as University of Northern Colorado, Aims Community College, and University of Wyoming.

In previous years, the College fair has been very successful. Hensley said, "It's a really good resource and experience."

Counselors are encouraging all juniors and seniors to attend.



West website improvements heading this way

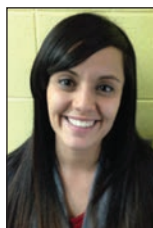
By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

Sasha Cohoon, Greeley West's sports secretary is in charge of the Greeley West homepage website this year. Many people have been wondering why the page hasn't been updated, and why there are still pictures of students on the website that have already graduated. The room numbers for teachers classrooms aren't even updated, and there are events that happened on there from the 2012-2013

school year.

The office has been extremely busy the first couple months of school. They have three new people in the office, and with the official count the office has had a crazy start to the year, putting the website at the bottom of the "to do list."

"My goal is to get the new



Cohoon

website up now that the office has calmed down," said Cohoon, "I'm going to ask to re-do the website completely because it's not very user friendly."

Cohoon has to call downtown to ask for the districts permission to start fresh on a new website. The district has to go "behind the scenes" to erase the things that Sasha doesn't have access to. As soon as she gets the permission of the district Sasha will get the new and improved website updated.

On the website you'll find notes from Greeley

West teachers, and district information that they ask to have on the website. The website also has important announcements and big events that are happening around Greeley West high school.

One of Sasha's new goals for the website, being the sports secretary, is to have more information about West's sports on the website. Other than the twitter page, West's sports aren't as recognized as Sasha would like, and she wants that to be a part of the website.

Costumed critters fill hallways



Tara Trevino/West Word

Marianna Poling's class entertains the student body with its performance of "Thriller" on Thursday in the gym.

Anime club uses holiday as cosplay day

By Kennedy Spittler
Staff Writer

For everyone, Halloween is a time when we all get to dress up as our favorite characters just because we have the excuse. There are always those who dress in the traditional costumes, but some are more unique.

This year for Halloween the president of anime club, Samantha Jacobson, is creating a real life image of her anime character. She created this character to resemble herself with a more



Jacobson

professional look and wings. Anime is a style of animation that is primarily Japanese and according to the members, the look of each character is not what defines them, but rather the back-story.

"This club is a very diverse group with a share in a liking for anime", stated Mr. Jarnot, the teacher supervisor.

Coin competition

Greeley West Student council finished its first Halloween costume contest/penny war. The way it worked was the teachers who dressed up in their very best Halloween costumes collected donations for flood victims.

Considering it's a costume contest whoever has the best costume wins, and the top three costumes get prizes. "Not only does it get everyone in the Halloween spirit, but it's for a great cause," student body president Courtney Packard said.

The deal is pennies are good and silver coins and dollar bills are bad. If you wanted a teacher to win, you voted for them by putting pennies in their jar. When silver coins and bills were put into jars it subtracted that amount of pennies from the jar.

The winner of the competition was "The Counselors of Oz," who dressed up as The Wizard of Oz characters. All told, STUCO made a good amount of money for flood relief.

--America Monje

Each student's anime will look different this year for Halloween and some won't necessarily be their own work. For now most of the costumes are kept a secret by each student, but not for long.

Shortly after Halloween the members from both Greeley West and Central High school are planning an event at the Greeley Mall.

During this the students will dress again as anime character and proceed to walk all throughout the mall.

FCCLA group attends annual Fall Conference

By Riley Mincic
Staff Writer

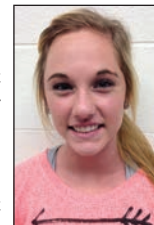
On Monday October 21st the FCCLA group went to its annual Fall Conference. There were kids from all over Northern Colorado that came to attend. It's a great way to make new friends and participate in many activities that benefit everyone that goes.

Every year there is a speaker that goes on stage and talks to all the kids that attend. Giving a life lesson that kid's will want to use. This year was the former Athletic Director from UNC.

He talked about always making sure that you always work hard no matter what you do. Starting with school, then working your way to the Gentry career of your choice. Also to be successful in college top gain and build on some skills that is important in the real world. Communication is a big one.

After the speaker usually there is a workshop for all the kids, followed by lunch, and another workshop. Sarah Gentry went to two workshops. One was about suicide prevention. They talked about what should happen if someone started to show the signs of suicide. Sarah followed that workshop up with one on frosting a big cookie. Between the two Sarah though the cookie frosting was the most fun, while the suicide prevention was the most beneficial.

After all the workshops concluded the day was starting to come to an end. Everyone came back together for a final wrap up.



Martial arts club shows growth

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

At Greeley West there is a variety of Clubs and organizations that are available to all students. There is a wide range of options for students allowing them to choose the club of best fit. A popular club this year and unique club at West is the Martial Arts Club ran by Mr. Travis Krause who started the club in 2000. The club is a fine example of the diversity and the variety of clubs Greeley West offers.

The group meets every Tuesday after school until 4:30 working on various ways to improve

their martial arts. They focus on specific types of arts such as A Filipino art called Arnis de Mayo along with a Chinese art called Shaolin Kung Fu.

In order to perfect these complex arts students work on a variety of techniques and skills that will guide them to improve in the arts. They work on basic mechanics such as self-defense, form work, and teamwork along with various strength building and



Krause

conditioning workouts.

Though the club works hard and stays focused on improving they do get some fun time to relax their minds and enjoy their time together. "I love watching people grow," said Krause about his students.

"I think it's the coolest thing seeing people improve."

The club is having one of its most successful years this year with one of its biggest groups ever but hope members won't lose interest and continue to pursue their martial arts skills.

Spartan students vote for first time

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

How many Spartans know the mayor of Greeley's name today? The election is happening here in Greeley voting for a new mayor and new council members. Students at Greeley West High School don't seem to know or even care about the political happenings around them.

"I think voting is a privilege. I just turned 18 and I'm really excited to be able to get my voice in and contribute in my community," senior Courtney Packard said.



Packard

Unfortunately, only a few like her understand the importance of being politically aware of their local legislature. "Don't complain about the government and our city if you're not putting your voice in as well," Aaron Zimola says, another student very involved.

Most students don't really care about the elections in Greeley, but is it for good reason? "I think students are too caught up in school and what's going on around them or what's going on in the real world, these student years are a detachment. Most of the students here aren't able to vote yet so they're trying to figure out what they believe," mathematics teacher Daniel Mork explained.

GREELEY



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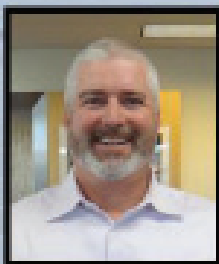
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Astronomy students see stars and heavens

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

One of the most rigorous and most interesting courses students are able to take at Greeley West is Astronomy, which is the scientific study of the individual celestial bodies and of the universe as a whole. Mr. Tony Scott teaches the class and is one of the great available options to choose in order to receive a science credit. Mr. Scott has kept the

class interesting and interactive for the students by holding Astronomy Nights for the last four years, only requirement being student interest.

He holds these correlations during the night about once a month at the Poudre Learning Center to get his students to receive a real life aspect of astronomy and be able to understand the language of the science as well. Members of the Northern Colorado Amateur Astronomers Association join

the group as they share their knowledge with the students and guide them in observations. The NCAA members share their high-powered telescopes, along with some homemade ones, with the students to make clear examinations and collect compelling information.



Scott

Students make specific inspections of many things anywhere from planets, the moon, and star systems to nebula and iridium flares.

"We get to see amazing sights and things people don't usually see", Scott says about the unique perceptions, "for example we got the chance to see a comet last year, which had never happened before!"

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Share drive files corrupted

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

A recent share drive malfunction on the Greeley West computer system has created difficulties for staff members and students. Every file that was saved to the share drive on Wednesday, October 23rd was corrupted. The cause of the malfunction is still unknown but district technology workers are trying to make sure it does not happen again.

There were many classes affected by this

problem. From Newspaper to Health class, many files were deleted and lost.

Although many classes had difficulties with the system, the newspaper in your hand may have taken the hardest hit. On that day, many *West Word* pages and stories were laid out and saved to the share drive. The newspaper staff scrambled to rewrite and find all of the stories, pictures, and pages that were lost. Health classes also suffered from the share drive malfunction.

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SPARTAN STAR

Throughout the 2012-13 school year, West Word will be recognizing outstanding students at Greeley West.

Iralynn Carmona Freshman



Many people are quick to say freshman have not done enough, nor have they had enough opportunities to achieve in order to deserve any public acknowledgement. However, Iralynn Carmona is experiencing her first year of high school and already she had persevered, committed, and achieved.

While overcoming obstacles such as switching school districts and having to make new friends, Carmona has been able to participate in LULAC, choir, and volleyball, and plans to try out for the Greeley West basketball team and run track. Carmona currently possesses straight A's despite her challenging IB schedule.

As of right now, Carmona has extremely high goals set. She hopes to attend Harvard University and, someday become a lawyer.

Not only does Carmona demonstrate actions of a Spartan star, but she also displays characteristics of a capable, hardworking student. She will experience a challenging, yet promising life down the road.

-Isiah Maes

Graduate Alex Rettmer catches a fly ball.



Photo Courtesy of Alex Rettmer

West's chemist has huge heart

By Addison Vergara
Staff Writer

Michael Petraglia is a chemistry teacher, and has been teaching students at Greeley West the difference between mixtures and solutions for over twenty years now. However, Petraglia's story includes a lot more than teaching.

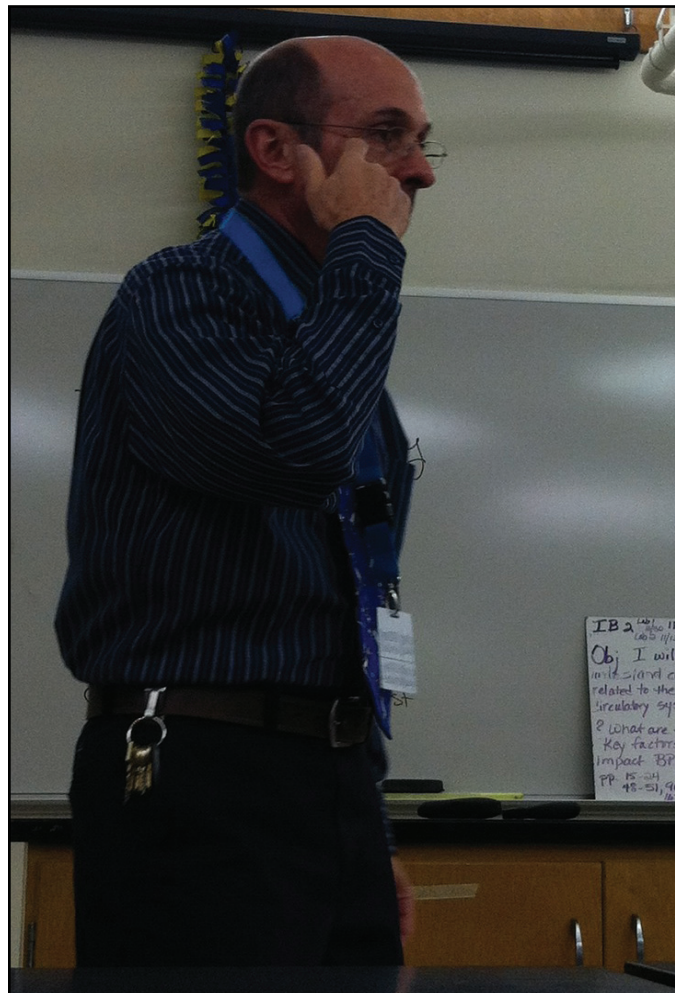
Petraglia was born in Denver, and spent his early years there, but moved to Pennsylvania for a period of time. Petraglia and his family then returned to the Denver area before Petraglia's seventh grade year. After middle school in Littleton, Petraglia attended Mullen High School. He ran cross country and was a member of a state champion track team his senior year.

Petraglia obtained a degree in environmental biology at the University of Colorado-Boulder, where his interest for chemistry first began. "In college, I found out that I couldn't get much accomplished without knowledge of chemistry," Petraglia explained. Fuel was added to the fire of Petraglia's fascination when he worked for lab support in the department of chemistry and biology at the United States Air Force Academy. He encountered some great chemists at the academy, and was able to take classes under one of them at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.

Along with experience at the Air Force Academy, Petraglia has worked as a greenhouse manager for a florist, and also at a semiconductor manufacturer.

Petraglia loves chemistry, but he loves his family even more. He has a wife of thirty-seven years, Pat, two children who graduated from West in the nineties, and four grandchildren, that he loves to spend as much time as possible with.

Just last week, Petraglia took his grandson Isaac to the West-Central football game, his first football game ever. "He enjoyed eating popcorn and watching the colorful car caravan," Petraglia said.



Science teacher Michael Petraglia points to his eye as he explains to his students about light rays during a lesson last week. Petraglia has been working at Greeley West since 1990 and had two children who graduated from here.

Addison Vergara/West Word

Former student hitting a homer in college

By Alie Olivas
Staff Writer

Not long ago, Alex Rettmer walked the halls of Greeley West. He set an example at West by not only participating in sports, but also excelling in academics.

He continues to outshine in academics and sports at the next level. Rettmer is currently attending the University of Northern Colorado as a business major. His ultimate goal is to own his own accounting firm when he graduates. He has had a

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Alex Rettmer

lot of personal experience in the business field as his dad is a co-owner of a business himself. Every once in a while Rettmer assists his dad with his business, Weiss Jewelers.

As Rettmer attends UNC he participates in club baseball for the Bears. Juggling baseball and school makes Rettmer continually busy. "The amount of work that college requires is not what I

expected," Rettmer said.

Rettmer misses his friends and sports at west above all. His favorite memory as a Spartan was when his baseball team won Legion state in 2011.

Rettmer also had many great teachers that he "learned a lot from." One of his favorites was Mr. Don Wagner. "He genuinely cares about his students and is just an all-around great guy," Rettmer said.

Rettmer's work ethic and positive attitude at West has translated into a successful college experience.

Alumni shouldn't judge West's pride

Greeley West alumni are not happy with the major losses against Greeley Central this year. Greeley West football hasn't lost to Greeley Central since the year 2000. However, that streak ended this year with a 7-0 loss. Football players from previous years were upset that this year's team couldn't carry on the tradition.

A few days later Greeley West's volleyball team had an intense battle against Central's volleyball team, but unfortunately was unable to come out on top. Therefore, that gave the

alumni more to complain about.

The alumni complained all over social media like Twitter and they made sure that this year's senior class knew that they thought they were better.

Many of the alumni said that Greeley West lost all of their "good" athletes since the class of 2013 left. Some alumni even complained about the lack of the school pride Greeley West is showing this year.

The tweets made by the alumni had the seniors of 2014 enraged, and the students

were battling back and forth on Twitter. This year has been a tough year for some athletics against Central. However, it's unfair for the alumni to talk bad about the classes below them because none of them were there to see the battles that both teams experienced.

Many high school students believe that the previous students should support their school no matter what, and that they shouldn't be so focused on West when they are off at college doing their own thing. "Once a Spartan, Always a Spartan," and some people think the alumni aren't exactly showing that.



Jenea Padilla
Editorial

Seniors disappointed in behavior

If you ask any senior at Greeley West, we will all say that we are upset with the lower classmen's behavior. Being a Spartan now means completely

Alie Olivas
Editorial



different things than it did four years ago. The freshmen students don't take their education as

seriously as they should, and it makes our entire school look bad. It's safe to say that us seniors are fed up with the behavior going on.

It is a very disappointing thing to see kids not care about their education and disrespect the teachers. They think that it's funny to talk back to teachers or interrupt them during class, when in reality, it is the most disrespectful thing you can

do. The teachers are trying to teach us and prepare us for the world after high school. They do not need to be disrespected by teenagers.

As a senior who is planning on going off to college next year, I value the education I get here at Greeley West. It is sad to see lower classmen act so immature, but they will eventually learn the hard way.

It is hard to have school pride and be proud to say I'm from West when kids shoplift at King Soopers and vandalize our school.

Most of the seniors here take our school very seriously and have the upmost respect for the staff members. It's frustrating to see our school filled with students who don't care.

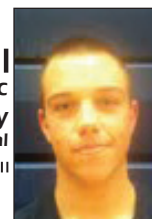
I think I can speak for the majority of the upperclassmen when I say we are ready to move on from Greeley West.

Reduce, reuse, recycle needs to be school goal

There needs to be a bigger effort throughout the school on recycling goods. Greeley West should become a more environmentally friendly school. We already have recycle bins, but that isn't enough.

There are many more recycling opportunities that the school could be doing that would improve West as a whole.

Eric Seeley
Editorial



The school put more effort into recycling several of things. Other schools around Greeley West have containers in the school so students and staff could place their bottles in them once they are done using them. Many students eat school lunch and just throw away their plates and milk cartons. The school should have separate bins for each type of thing. Energy drinks and pop is a popular thing that teens are constantly drinking. The school should provide us with a recycle bin so that we can put these hundreds of cans we are wasting.

The school could encourage the students to recycle more. Many students throw away their paper once they are done with them instead of recycling them. If the staff would encourage more students to recycle, then it would have a greater affect. If all the students in the school participated in recycling, then we would be recycling thousands of pounds every month.

SWEET TWEETS

Ellery Sedlacek @Cellery_sed16

@GWWestWord I care about British accents and good reffing. #badcall

katieann @katieannxo902

@GWWestWord does gdub miss me? Probs not, better yet can this get in the newspaper #idontevengohere

#AustinMiller @austin_miller_8

@BruningAndrew @GWWestWord The willingness to win doesn't seem to be there anymore

#BruningAndrew @BruningAndrew

@austin_miller_8 @GWWestWord I saw it in the football game I left early I couldn't even watch it was so ugly it's a shame

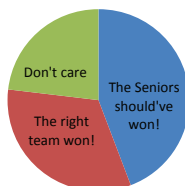
Lobna Alsrarj @i_GotThatSwag...

@GWWestWord Friday night football games are probably the best thing about high school.

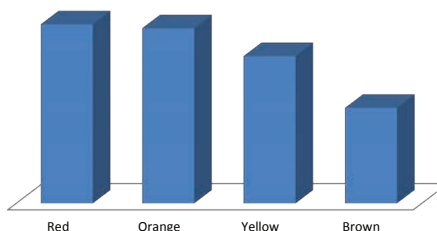
Tweet @GWWestWord to share your opinions via social media. You may find your tweet right here every two weeks.

Spartan Pulse

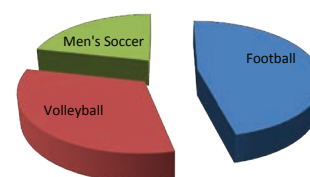
What is your opinion of the Powder Puff game?



What is your favorite fall color?



What is your favorite fall sport West vs. Central game?



People act irrational when they vandalize other's possessions

It seems there are some serious grudge holders here at Greeley West High school. There have been a couple reports of people's cars being written on with car chalk or egged.

The weekend of October 4th, a Greeley West football player's truck was egged and many subliminal messages were written on his windows about his alleged recent decisions.

Everyone knows egg makes car paint chip and that seems to be a little harsh, but maybe he deserved it. There were also many other reports of people's cars being vandalized in the same weekend and that brings up the question, what could someone ever do wrong to deserve that?

The truth is being in high school sometimes things are taken out of proportion and studies show teenagers tend to make irrational decisions. Many of these decisions are controlled by emotions.

Teens let these emotions get the best of them causing them to make irrational decisions, and often they don't consider the consequences of their actions.

Usually being a driver in high school means your car is your prized position and that makes high schools a weak target towards what others might consider revenge.

Although it may be fun at the time, what are you really gaining from vandalizing peoples cars? As future adults, issues should be handled maturely and rationally because being reckless leaves

teens vulnerable to harsh labels and stereotypes.



**America
Monje
Editorial**

Standardized tests are unfair way to judge student knowledge

It feels as if standardized test are becoming a way of life in all schools across the nation. These include ACT, SAT, TCAP and the PLAN test. Do these tests really test the student's intelligence? Some say that standardized tests are a fair and objective measure of student achievement. Others say standardized testing doesn't improve student achievement.

Standardized test hold the school and student accountable. The best part about testing is showing if teachers and schools have taught enough to the students to be successful on standardized test.

Most test scores are released to the public and puts teachers and schools under a lot of pressure to perform well. Also, standardized test allow schools, teachers and districts to be compared. In most states, all schools take the same test which allows students be compared with other students

throughout the state which will provide accurate data test scores for all schools.

If you ask most students about standardized testing you probably hear something like, "They're a waste of time and stupid."



**Michael
Caro
Editorial**

Standardized tests evaluate a student on one particular day and doesn't take into the account the external factors. Simply, students don't perform well on test. Many of these students are smart and understand the material, but it doesn't show on the test. Then there are the students that don't simply care whether they do well

of not on the test. If standardized test were not required to be taken, District 6 would have more money to spend for the students. Lastly, the amount of stress that is put on teachers and students in not healthy. Some students pull an all nighter to perfect the test and teachers are under a lot of stress.

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Greeley West HS	SAT	Nov. 9-Dec. 14	8:00 AM-2:30 PM
(No class Thanksgiving Weekend)			
St. John's Church, Greeley	M, TH-SAT	Dec. 23, Dec. 26-Dec. 28	8:00AM-4:00 PM
St. John's Church, Greeley	M, TH-SAT	Dec. 30, Jan. 2-Jan. 4	8:00AM-4:00 PM

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

TCAP welcomes social studies and science

By Staff Written
Staff Writer

This year, seniors at Greeley West will be taking a state mandated TCAP test on social studies and science. This test is a “field test”. All seniors who participate are the guinea pigs for future students. From this test, District 6 hopes to measure the

academic success of the seniors at Greeley West.

District 6 has been adamant throughout the school year that these tests have multiple benefits to students including testing as a life skill, practice for online testing environments, and future student assessment based on the tests that will be taken this year.

Schedules will be posted in the coming weeks.



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Tonya Schiestel/West Word

Brandon Valenzuela enjoys playing Mind Craft in room 602 as part of the video game club.

Gamers unite

Newest club meets every day after school

By Tonya Schiestel
Staff Writer

Videogame club is something new offered here at Greeley West this year. It was recently started by senior Josh Reynolds, who had to first get the idea approved by athletic director Jeff Cranson before officially starting the club.

Mr. Mark Jarnot volunteered to be the teacher in charge of this club and he is very pleased with the outcome. “They are a great group of students who are very dependent and I know that I can trust them with our school’s equipment,” Jarnot said.

This club meets in room 602 every Friday during lunch and also every day after school.

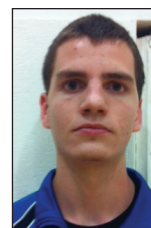
These meetings last 45 minutes and are spent playing video games with/ against each other.

A few of the games played include Minecraft and Hunger Games. Students use the computers in room 602 to play these games, as they are all PC games. There are currently about 15 students in this club and they are hoping to increase its size.

It is super easy to join and everyone is welcome, students just need to show up to the meetings. An entry fee of \$26.95 is required to join the club but it is definitely worth it if you consider yourself a “gamer.”

“The thing I wish people would say is, ‘Play more videogames.’” said Reynolds.

He is hoping to encourage more people to join his club as he explained that it is lots of fun and a great way to meet new people.



Reynolds

FASHION TRENDS: Men's wear

For all you guys that struggle with what to wear on a daily basis, this is for you! There seems to be a reoccurring theme in men's apparel here at Greeley West: athletic shorts and t-shirts.

Lauren Miller
Fashion Expert



While this is a very comfortable style for busy high school students, once in a while it is refreshing to see guys dress their best for school. Rather than athletic pants, jeans or dress pants are a nice alternative. Collared shirts are a nice way to dress up a pair of jeans, or pair them with dress pants for a nicer look. A tie is always a nice touch!

Whether it's for sports or just for fun, it is always refreshing when guys put effort into their style.



Lauren Miller/West Word

Senior Faisal Hassan shows off a European style through his jacket and shoes.

Don't take your parents to see this funny *Grandpa*

Johnny Knoxville out did himself on the comedy "Bad Grandpa". With inappropriate humor and amazing real life reactions this movie is definitely worth seeing.

This movie is not a date night movie but rather a movie when in need of a good laugh; you must see this movie.

For those students who are not old enough to go see this movie on their own, do not see this movie with your parents. Your parents might think it is funny, but it would be an uncomfortable experience in some scenes.

The hidden camera aspect makes this movie unbelievably funny because the pranks get real people's reactions to the stunts. Let me be the first to tell you, the reactions are hilarious.

Unlike most Knoxville "Jackass" movies, "Bad Grandpa" includes stunts and a scripted story. The story makes out to be funny in almost every scene.

It is a story where Billy is being taken to

his dad because his mom is going to prison. Knoxville plays Irving, Billy's grandpa, who has to take Billy to his father.

It was hard to pick my favorite scene, but it was probably when the main characters were in a restaurant and Grandpa and the kid are having a farting contest. Knoxville stands up and farts - and let's just say he left his mark.

It is almost impossible for me to say anything bad about this movie. The only thing that might be bad is the inappropriateness. But that is what makes the movie as

funny as it is.

Billy, played by Jackson Nicholl, does a great job of being funny in this movie. He plays off of Knoxville really well and makes out to be a comedy that many will love.

This movie to me is the funniest movie I have ever seen! There is no way I can say anything bad about this movie. It deserves a 10 out of 10 Spartan Heads.

Riley Mincic
Movie Review



--Book Review-- *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore

In Katsa's world, people with two different-colored eyes are called Gracelings. They may be Graced with the ability to read minds, to cook, to be storytellers or any combination of other skills. Katsa was 8 when a cousin tried to touch her inappropriately. She killed him. Since then, her uncle and guardian (King Randa of the Middluns) has deemed her his Graceling killer. He's trained her and sent her to maim or murder his enemies. Though Katsa hates killing, she believes it is her Grace and, therefore, her lot in life.

Attempting to use her skills for good, the teenage Katsa has formed a covert vigilante group called the Council. They right the wrongs perpetrated by the land's seven kings. She and two friends are in the midst of rescuing the Lienid king's kidnapped father when Katsa encounters another man of Lienid descent in the courtyard. He is clearly Graced with fighting skills like Katsa, but she is able to knock him unconscious. She worries that his having seen her will endanger the Council's missions.

This mysterious plot is violent and cunning. The characters and story was one of the best reads. No book compares to this tale.

--Christi Treutens

Halloween by Ariell Martinez



Famous teacher works in footwear

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

Ms. Tammy Parker isn't only one of the most loved Spanish teachers here at Greeley West, but also an assistant manager of Famous Footwear at Greeley Centerplace.

Parker started her job at Famous Footwear in October of 2012. Nine months later she became the assistant manager in the summer of 2013.



Parker loves her job at Famous Footwear, especially now that she's an assistant manager.

Parker is in charge of her classroom and she is in charge of the store. With that comes a lot of responsibility.

However, Parker doesn't mind that. She helps people with returning products. She helps people find the right sizes, and she makes sure that product is always stocked and ready to be sold.

"I like seeing and working with new people," said Parker, "I'm always around students and other staff members, or other people that are involved with the school."

Parker's friends often come into the store and she loves seeing them. Parker gets to use her Spanish skills in the store a lot, and that's also one of her favorite parts of the job.

Parker works at the store mostly on weekends. She sometimes works 2-3 times during the week depending on her schedule.

She started working at Famous Footwear because she recently went through a divorce and the second income is a lot of help for her.



English teacher Corrine Ferdinand poses last year with the NHL's Stanley Cup that visited the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland. Ferdinand works as a photographer for the Colorado Eagles hockey team when she's not folding clothes at Old Navy or teaching students.

Photo courtesy of Corrine Ferdinand

Glitz and Glamour

Ferdi shoots photos of stars, folds clothes at jobs

By Sirena Barker
Staff Writer

Ms. Corrine Ferdinand could never be described as a lazy person. She teaches at Greeley West, works for Old Navy, and photographs for weddings, senior pictures, and the Eagles hockey team.

"I partly do it because of money. I also do it so I don't get bored during the big breaks in the school year. It gives me purpose over summer and winter break," Ms. Ferdinand said.

Ferdinand is very enthusiastic about all of her jobs, though some more than others. "Old Navy

pays me ten bucks an hour to mindlessly fold clothes." She said.

Ferdinand's favorite job is photographing the Eagles hockey team. She gets to take pictures of the action every single weekend at the games. "Photography is my other passion. It's cool seeing my pictures used on posters, I get to meet the players, last year I got to pose with the Stanley's cup."

But having all of her extra jobs isn't all glitz

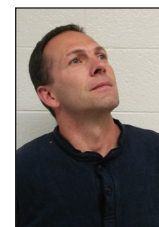
**Continued
Ferdi, Page 16**

New teacher owns patent on product

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

All teachers at Greeley West have different hobbies but one of the more interesting ones is Mr. Rich Davis. Davis owns a company called Secure Piers.

Secure Piers manufactures and distributes Trade Heliposts, which are tools to help secure objects that stick out of the ground that can be blown over by the wind. These objects include signs, poles, and billboards.



Davis

The design of this tool is like a giant screw that is screwed into the ground and filled with cement to anchor down any objects that are subject to fall during strong winds. The tool

is shipped all around the United States and even other countries.

The company was granted a patent in 2002 and began manufacturing in July of 2003.

"I chose to do this because of the good business opportunity," Davis said.

"It's also half the price (of other services) and saves the buyer time."

Davis employs 15-20 workers whose jobs include sales both local and national. "It's actually quite ironic that we haven't shipped to Colorado yet, but we have so many other states," Davis stated.

There was a time where Israel wanted their product to build a wall around the whole country, but was denied permission a few days later. "It's kind of a bummer, because they wanted the tool every five feet to protect against tanks," Davis said.

Stieb literally wouldn't see the sun if he didn't have his second job

By Zeke Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Have you ever wondered if teachers have other jobs besides coming teaching five days a week? Well for Coach Stieb he is a co-owner for his lawn and sprinkler repair and winterization. His business partner is Scott Imoles who is also a teacher at Winograd.

Stieb has been doing this job for 18 years and counting. Stieb has co-workers that may be familiar faces to some of the Spartans. One of his assistants is Brandon Duval. Also Stieb had two Spartans that worked for him during the summer they are seniors Michael Caro and Gregg Wall. They are both very hard workers from football so this job was no challenge for the two offensive line men.

Stieb works during the school year after school every day for about three more hours after he already had a long school day, and on the weekends during the school year Stieb and his crew work about eight to ten hours. During the summer Stieb works the weekdays and tries to keep the weekends free for himself and his squad.

Spring and fall are his most busiest seasons

because it's when people start getting their sprinklers installed and new more work done on their lawn. And fall because it's the time of the year when winterization is happening and people need their sprinklers turned off.



Stieb

Concussions leave impact on Spartan competitors

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

Concussions, or, the “c-word”, seems to be at all time high this year. Concussions are far from ideal for playing sports; which is where most people get concussions. Every “c-word” is different though. After about four or five, sports are a definite no.

Athletes seem the most susceptible to getting a concussion. Devre Boston is a sophomore on

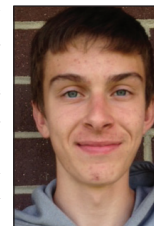
the Junior Varsity football team has had three concussions in this season alone. “A concussion is a severe blow to the head. It can result in nausea, dizziness, and headaches,” said Boston

When getting a concussion, the procedure is pretty standard. A trip to the hospital, a cat scan to make sure there is no bleeding, and pain medication. The aftermath is harder to deal with. “It’s harder to concentrate and think when I do school work,” says soccer player Teague Citrino.

Citrino has had four concussions. Both Boston and Citrino were forced to sit out for a least a week from their sports. “None of the coaches or the trainer would let me even work out,” Citrino states. This is just the standard for getting a concussion.

Concussions are really serious and can lead to mental illnesses, even with just one. “All of my concussions, I got because I was being stupid. Like tackling someone with my head down, or something like that. So hopefully I won’t do that again,”

Boston explains. Boston now has to get a specially padded helmet, just in case. Citrino is still not allowed to head-but the ball in soccer, and is required to wear a helmet as well. Some concussions have been very serious but due to special requirements these two athletes are okay for now.



Citrino

The Greeley West football celebrates its first win of the season two weeks ago against Mountain View.



Eric Seeley/West Word

Back to winning ways

Spartans win first game of season in comeback fashion

By Eric Seeley
Staff Writer

The Greeley West football team comes up with its first win of the season last Friday against the Mountain View Lions, 24-21. The Spartans were expected to lose against the Lions, who are three places higher than the Spartans in the class 4A state rankings.

The Spartans started off slow allowing the Lions to score a quick touchdown, but missing the extra point. The Spartans had all the momentum in the second quarter getting two touchdowns and a field goal.

The Spartans allowed Mountain View to take a 21-17 lead throughout the second half. The Spartans went on a late rally with less than two minutes left to go in the game.

Sophomore quarterback, AJ Lopez, connected with Addison Vergara with seconds left in the game. Lopez

“We stuck to the game plan and played the way we know how.”

- Quarterback
AJ Lopez

put the ball in a perfect spot, and Vergara made a beautiful tip toe catch on the edge of the end zone.

The key to the Spartans success was that they never gave up. Wide receiver, Darrin DeLaCroix, was a prime

example of this. In the second quarter DeLaCroix had a pass bounce off of his chest, but he stuck with it and ended up catching the ball for the Spartans first score of the game.

“We stuck to the game plan and played the way we know how, the offense and defense came up big when it mattered most,” said Lopez.

This was the Spartans first win of the season, so they became 1-8. The Spartans finished their season against the Windsor Wizards on Friday. Results were unavailable at press time.



Mixed results for fall sports teams

By Mason Barnes
Staff Writer

With fall sports coming to an end some programs struggled more than others but all of them fought hard and should walk with their head held high.

The football team had a very didn’t meet a lot of people’s expectations and even the team’s expectations. The team has had one of the worst seasons West football has seen in awhile. Including a 7-0 loss to Central. It was the first loss to Central

Wags wins award

With the softball teams great success this season under Mr. Don Wagner coaches in the 5A Front Range league voted him as the conference coach of the year. This is the first time Mr. Wagner has won this award in his long 13 year career.

“I’m honored; it feels good when your peers respect you and acknowledge your achievements,” Wagner said.

--Mason Barnes



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Continued

Fall Sports, Page 16

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?



Casey Fowler

A

Qdoba

School Spirit

Paris

University of Kansas

Tripped over a base in a softball game

Channing Tatum



Hannah Rothe

B

Chick Fil-A

Spartan Pride

Thailand

University of Florida

Walked into the girls restroom

Bob Marley



Ariston Dixey

C

Jimmy Johns

People

Ireland

University of California

Sat through the wrong class for a whole period

Lana Del Rey



Kaci Padilla

D

Bogeys

Dave Falter

Canada

University of Northern Colorado

Caught Larping

James Hetfield

Across

- 1- Goose egg
4- Fortune-telling cards
9- Subatomic particle
14- Ruckus
15- Light ____
16- Use a soapbox
17- Connoisseur of wine
19- Monteverdi opera
20- ____ Carta
21- Ire
23- Aha!
24- Molars, e.g.
27- Facts and figures
30- Fashionable
32- Convent dweller
33- Tavern
37- Excuse
39- Rice cooked in broth
40- Medieval steel helmet
42- Appliance brand
43- Skin emollient
44- Animation unit
45- Pollen producers
48- Office fill-in
50- When prompted
51- Mex. miss
55- North American buffalo
57- Flat slab of wood

Down

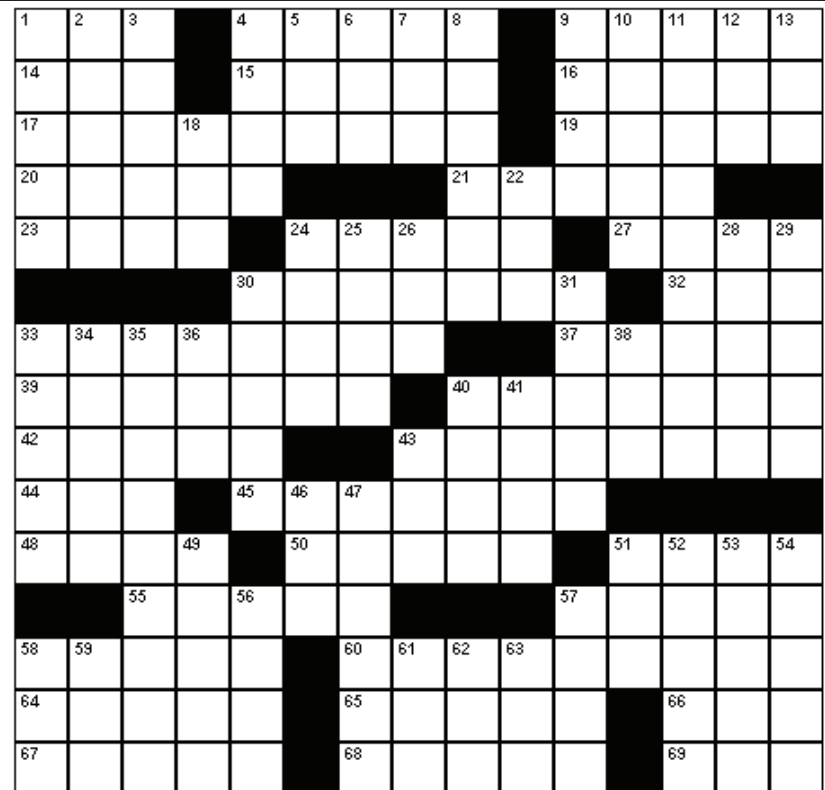
- 58- Rest on the surface of a liquid
60- Not yet crowned
64- Hotelier Helmsley
65- Specific geographical places
66- Peg used on the first in golf
67- Klondike territory
68- Back streets
69- Georgia, once: Abbr.

Down

- 1- Model Campbell
2- Brainstorms
3- Rope used to guide a horse
4- Spanish appetizer
5- Baseball bat wood
6- Thor Heyerdahl craft
7- Black gold!
8- Agreement
9- Electronic music pioneer
10- Blew it
11- Red organic dye
12- Suffix with Capri
13- Classical beginning
18- The loneliest number
22- Flyers' org.
24- Hardware fastener
25- Canadian gas brand
26- Hot time in Paris
28- Thick fleshy underground

stem

- 29- Writer Loos
30- Bits
31- Relaxes
33- Area of land
34- Actress Anouk
35- Psalter
36- Sweetie
38- Actress Tyler
40- Chicken cordon ____
41- First-class
43- Onetime Jeep mfr.
46- Likewise
47- Yearly
49- Device with 88 keys
51- Plant
52- Tirades
53- Forest makeup
54- One who uses an abacus
56- Ollie's partner
57- Big cheese
58- Move through the air
59- Romanian coin
61- Heston's org.
62- 100 yrs.
63- Actress Charlotte



"Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com
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STR8TS

No. 82

Medium



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

Previous solution - Easy



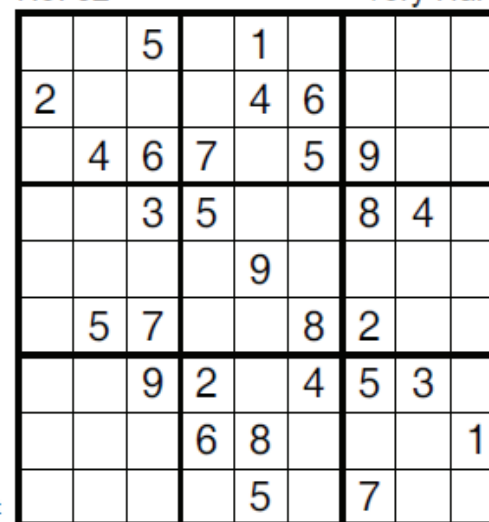
How to beat Str8ts -

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

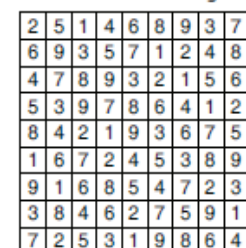
No. 82

Very Hard



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Tough



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

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

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

Honors breakfast feeds smart kids

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

The annual honors breakfast was held last Friday in the gym. Students qualified for the breakfast by having a 3.5 GPA or higher in both semesters of the previous school year.

About 200 students and family members attended the breakfast at 7:15 during first hour.

Breakfast burritos and an assortment of fruits and pastries were served buffet style in the gym.

"It is exciting to see how many people truly care about their academics," senior Brian Halsey said about the breakfast.

Teachers were given the leftover burritos afterwards, since they were busy during the breakfast teaching.

From
Ferdi, Page 2

and glamour. "It makes teaching a lot harder because I have to spend my time working at other jobs, which takes away time I could use to plan and grade."

No matter what job Ferdinand has, however, will ever be as important to her at teaching is. She is a teacher through and through, from the passionate lessons she gives, to her wealth of knowledge on her subject, no other job she has can compare to being a teacher at West.



From
Fall Sports, Page 13

since 2000 and was a hard one to swallow.

The softball team had the best season of all the programs and arguably one of their best seasons in awhile making the playoffs. The team lost both of their first round games.

Boys tennis had a forgettable season going 0-10

and 0-7 in conference play. At the end of the year they almost had a couple of players make it to the state tournament.

Boys soccer had a respectable season with a record of 6-7-2 and just missed the playoffs.

Volleyball had a tough year with a losing record. They had a lot of close matches including against Central. They went all 5 sets lost a very close 5th set 15-10.

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