

WEST WORD

December 2, 2013

www.greeleyschools.org/westword

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Tonya Schiestel/West Word

Junior Kayla Uyemura hands over her cans of food to help out with the food drive

Serving others

Interact club gives food to flood victims

By Tonya Schiestel
Staff Writer

Every year, the Interact club here at Greeley West puts on a food drive called The Big Give. In The Big Give, various kinds of food are collected and assembled into a Thanksgiving basket which is then given to families in need. This year, Mrs. Rachel Hammer made the decision not to do The Big Give and to instead help the victims of the recent Colorado flooding.

Continued
Food Drive, Page 2

NHS coat drive attempts to warm poor

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

The Greeley West National Honors Society sponsored a coat drive throughout Greeley West. The organization received 70 coats donated.

"I think we did really good this year considering. I'm proud of West," said sponsor of the coat drive and teacher at Greeley West, Brian McKinnon.

Continued
Coat Drive, Page 2



Tonya Schiestel/West Word

Junior Riley Spight counts and sorts boxes of food for Interact Club

Young Chautauqua: acting, history together

By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

This year the teacher's from Greeley West who are in charge of Young Chautauqua are Mrs. Easton and Mrs. Chavez. Young Chautauqua is a research project based around a theme. Students who participate act exactly as their character they're presenting. They give speeches and answer questions just as their character would and are not allowed to break character. This year's theme is the Civil War Reconstruction. The students who participate choose a character from the Civil War and they research that character. They create a monologue, and they find a costume to fit their character.

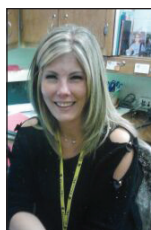
Once the student is done with all of their research,

have their costume made, and have their monologue ready, they do a performance at the Centennial Park Village in early May. Students speak and act as their character would.

Young Chautauqua participants will rehearse a couple of times of week in the beginning, but will begin to rehearse more often the closer they get to their performance time.

Young Chautauqua is free for students. Mrs. Chavez and Mrs.

Easton help the students put their costumes together, and help prepare them for their performance in May.



Chavez

Chavez wants more people to participate in Young Chautauqua. "As long as the students contact me or Mrs. Easton before winter break to tell us they want to participate, they can."

Junior Hector Rosales is a student who is participating in Young Chautauqua this year. Rosales plans on dressing up as Uncle Tom, from the novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, an anti-slavery novel written by Harriet Beecher Stowe.

"My reason for participating in Young Chautauqua is because I want to practice my public speaking," said Rosales. Rosales wants to research someone who has a similar skin tone because he wants his performance to be as accurate as possible.

Young Chautauqua is sure to be a great performance.

A taxing new club

A group of Greeley West students are becoming educated in doing taxes in order to help other members of the community. Taxwise is a new program at Aims Community College that teaches volunteers how to file tax returns.

Through this program students can actually become certified to do taxes and can then choose to volunteer their time to do people's taxes for free. This program is very beneficial to people who don't speak very strong English and to those who don't know how to do their tax returns or can't afford to get them done.

Taxwise is great because if students wish to become an accountant you already have background knowledge in filing taxes. Students can see Mr. Mark Jarnot for more information.

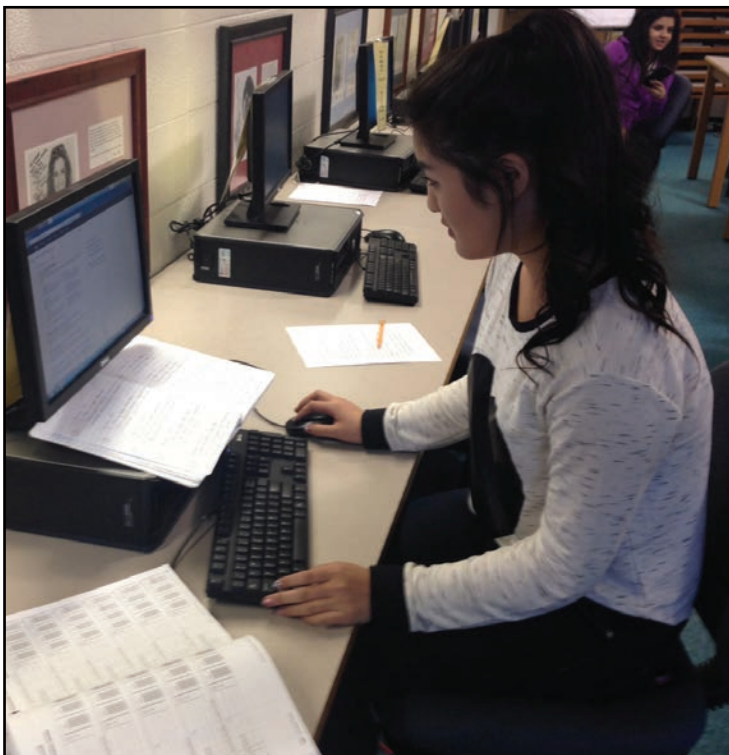
--America Monje

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Sophomore Jessica Cha finishes her MYP personal project writing task in the library last week.



Michael Caro/
West Word

MYP projects get personal

By Micheal Caro
Staff Writer

The MYP Personal Project is for freshmen and sophomores preparing for IB their junior and senior year of high school. MYP stands for middle year's program and IB stands for International Baccalaureate. The MYP and IB programs are famous for being notoriously difficult and the personal project is the beginning.

Greeley West is the only school in District 6 that has a MYP and IB program. A personal project is an opportunity to learn about or do a certain activity that the MYP student is interested in. It allows the student to develop skills in planning, designing and presenting, all in which are critical in high school and beyond.

The personal project is a year-long project beginning November of freshman year and ending November of sophomore year. Students work outside of school to complete their projects. The ideas for the projects range from rebuilding cars or stereotypes to shadowing certain jobs or businesses. Students are even supposed to work on their projects during summer break. MYP students

commit themselves to the program for four long years and most succeed. The whole point of the personal project is to learn to reach goals and to share knowledge about your project with others.

Jessica Cha is a sophomore in MYP and is in the finishing steps of her personal project. Cha's project is volunteering at places that have to do with her career choices and personal interest. As of now, Cha interns for Pirate Radio and volunteers at Northern Colorado Medical Center Hospital.

"I'm volunteering at places that will benefit my future," Cha said. MYP is defiantly challenging and keeps all students on their toes.

Cha is part of many clubs and organizations at Greeley West and still finds time to manage her school work. Cha's plan after her personal project is finished is to show people that they can volunteer while being a student and volunteer at places that will benefit their future.

"I entered MYP not knowing a lot to be honest, but I think it's going to pay off in the long run," Cha explained.



Cha

Arrest brings attention to drug use

By Alie Olivas
Staff Writer

Greeley West is a high school full of an eager, diverse student body, wonderful programs and lots of sports. But could Greeley West also be full of drugs?

According to junior Andrew Williams, "Drugs are horrible at West. They are everywhere." It is no secret that there are many kids that not only smoke marijuana but are also abusing heavier drugs and prescriptions drugs.

There have been former Spartans who have been to jail and even died because of their drug problems.

Since the marijuana laws have changed over the past year here in Colorado, the drug issues have also changed. The problem is increasing because it's legalized now and laws are changing on a daily basis. It is a lot easier for kids to get marijuana because their parents can legally have it," said Officer Pillard.

Marijuana is not the only problem at West. Some students referred to other Spartans using cocaine, prescriptions narcotics, steroids and hallucinogens.

"Students do drugs for a variety of reasons and to understand those reasons is more important than punishment," said teacher Colin Shaha.

Car searched at school

By Michael Caro
Staff Writer

On November 20th during lunch, a couple police vehicles caught the attention of many Greeley West students rushing to lunch. Greeley Police officers looked to be searching a black vehicle parked by the tennis courts. The campus monitors were not giving out any information about the incident. "It's confidential," campus monitor Rudy said.

There is a rumor that the vehicle being searched was stolen by a student at Greeley West. The student was believed to be standing at a bus stop

and got tired of waiting and stole a car in a nearby neighborhood.

Students witnessed the car being scanned for finger prints and being searched inside and out for any contraband. This rumor cannot be confirmed though. Many student witnesses saw a family standing by the vehicle and believed they were the owners of the vehicle.

No one knows who might have stolen the vehicle or why but it proves that Greeley police officers are taking their jobs serious no matter who it might deal with. Students should be wary about committing crimes on Greeley West's campus.

From Food Drive, Page 1

Although the flooding happened a few months ago, there is still a large amount of people without homes and other everyday necessities. The Weld County Food Bank serviced and continues to serve many of these people. As a result of this they are in dire need of food and so they created a list of the "Top 10 Most Needed Items." The Interact club

got a hold of this list and in an effort to include the entire school collected as much food as possible shared it with other clubs and teachers.

Each club/teacher took on a different food item to collect to ensure that all 10 items would be collected. As the food was collected it was kept in the back of Hammer's room where it was piled high on desks and tables. On Friday, after school, Interact members met up to sort, count and box the food.

From Coat Drive, Page 1

All the coats received will be going to Catholic Charities to help the community. Students at Greeley West and staff members all donated the coats generously.

Catholic Charities is a local foundation that helps out the community. The coat drive at West, has been an annual thing for years. McKinnon is

proud to say it will go for years to come. "It's a little tradition that helps the community and helps students as well give and help out a little bit towards community service," explained McKinnon.

Next year, the National Honors Society wants the drive to be sponsored more to get people involved a little more than they were. "Our overall goal is to be involved and also help the people in our community. We want it to grow and get more people donating," said McKinnon.

Class ring wearers a dying breed in the high school

By Sirena Barker
Staff Writer

There are several ways that students can show their Spartan pride within the school. They can wear T-shirts, collect tassels, or paint their faces to show all of their school spirit. But a dying tradition within the school has been class rings.

Jostens offers class rings in an assortment of

sizes, cuts, and styles.

Students can even design their own custom ring designs to fit their high school career. Jostens, the school seller for everything from rings to graduation caps and gowns says that class rings "Are the ultimate personal storyteller, connecting you to who you are, where you've been, and where you're headed. It's the perfect combination of your

achievements, your class, and your interests. All in a one-of-a-kind class ring design built to last a lifetime."

But do students agree with this statement? Many of the students around the school do not wear class rings anymore.

"I think class rings are the dumbest thing I have ever heard about. They're pointless, I'm never

going to wear one. What's the point of wearing something from high school when you're in college or an adult?" said Cordell Gillingham.

"For those who can afford them and want them, there hasn't been that much change (in who) buys them and wears them. Even where I went to school, it wasn't ever a huge thing," said teacher Greg McAdams.



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Tarzan tryouts

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

Greeley West is putting on a spring play again this year, the title of which most people are very familiar with. This year's winter production is *Tarzan*.

The play is being directed by Mrs. Peggy Freemole, the language arts and drama teacher here at West. The play is a story about family, love, loss, and acceptance. Most people liken this play to the cartoon but it's a drama; it's nothing like the popular Disney Cartoon. "It's a drama with music," said Freemole.



Freemole

Most of the leading roles have already been decided despite the dates of the production being in a few months. *Tarzan* will be played by Mason Sedlacek, a senior at West. Jane hasn't been decided at press time.

Turk (Tarzan's sidekick) will be played by Dylan McDonald, Kala (Tarzan's ape mother) will be played by Erin Brunswick, and Professor Porter (Jane's father) will be played by Justin

Witwicki.

Practices won't start until after the winter break but as soon as the cast is finalized, there will be research practices to help the cast start to get into character. Freemole and the cast will study apes and their ways of life. There will be an emphasis on how they move and act because Freemole wants the cast members playing the roles of the apes to be as realistic as possible. The cast will even take a trip to the zoo so they can see first-hand how the gorillas act and walk.

Freemole wants this play to be one that people will remember. She wants it to be numbered among the great plays that have been shown here at West such as *Cats* or *Les Miserable*. She believes she has the kids that will put in that hard work to make that possible.



Jake Firkins/West Word

Olivia LaRocco looks over her lines as she auditions for the part of Jane for spring's *Tarzan* production. Kennedy Spittler, Savannah Lucio and Kathryn Melin also await their turn.

Some students still attend school regularly

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

Greeley West High School has had a shocking amount of students who have had perfect attendance this year. Throughout Greeley West, there are currently 68 students eligible for perfect attendance. Out of those 68 students, 19 of them have not been tardy a single time.

"Students who have perfect attendance have been rewarded with passes which allow them to leave for lunch five minutes early," said assistant principal and athletic director Jeff Cranson.

Although this isn't a very large reward for these students at the time, there will be a much larger reward for students who still have perfect attendance at the end of the year or even semester.

Junior Felix Hernandez is one of the many students with perfect attendance this year. "My family drives me and encourages me to attend school and be here as much as I possibly can so I can succeed in my education," said Hernandez.

His first goal is going to be to make it to semester with perfect attendance and if it is possible, the next goal will be to make it the end of the year.

When it comes to good attendance so far in the year, Greeley West is not alone.

"Both Greeley West and Greeley Central have an astonishing number of students with perfect attendance," said Cranson.

Perfect attendance is an accomplishment that requires much commitment and dedication to their education. This attribute will take these students very far in life. Being able to be punctual and dedicated are two qualities a student needs to be successful in high school, college, and wherever they end up.



Cranson



Hernandez

Greenhouses will get workout with gardening club

By Alex Garcia
Staff Writer

The garden club has recently been introduced to Greeley West for all students to join. It is the first of its kind to come to West.



Cooney

The first informational meeting was held Wednesday, November 20. With a turn out of about twenty five students, it seems like the club will be quite successful. English teacher Jessica Cooney volunteered as sponsor of the new club.

Cooney and some of her El Teatro students saw a similar club on their recent trip to California and decided to start the new club. It



Alex Garcia/West Word

The inside of this greenhouse will soon be full of developing plants. It was exciting to see the number of students they received their very first informational meeting. She personally does quite a bit of gardening on her

personal time. It's a hobby that many people enjoy to do.

The type of gardening usually depends on the season of the year. Around this time of the year it usually consists of indoor plants and flowers. The club is new and still doesn't have much planned for the year but they will meet regularly a week in order to discuss activities they will be involved in for the school and community. The club will be ran just like any other club at West where members will be assigned to different position within the club

All in all the garden club is just giving an opportunity to those who enjoy getting out in those warm sunny days or taking a trip to the green house to enjoy that hobby with others who have similar interests in gardening.

Districts was great day for DECA program

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

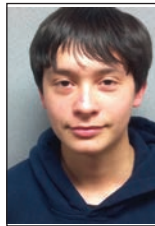
Greeley West DECA participated in the District Competition November 11 at the University of Northern Colorado. The conference welcomed eight schools from the Colorado DECA District 7 consisting of Northridge, Greeley Central, Brighton, Loveland, Mountain View, Prairie View, and Thompson Valley.

With nearly four hundred students participating for the regional conference the stakes were high and the competition was fierce.

Greeley West had twenty-five students that were a part of the conference all competing in the role plays and one State Officer, Aaron Zimola.

Each participant engaged in two role plays,

presenting their ideas to judges who score their presentations based off organization and accuracy through good analytical skills. These scores are combined with their test scores to the marketing tests that participants took previously.



Zimola

Once the scores are finalized the top two through four scores, according to the marketing category, move on to the state competition.

Greeley West had 11 participants move on to the state competition in five different categories. They were: Allie Brown, Savanna Drury, Alex Garcia, Edgar Lopez, Tyler Maas, Dayna Rodriguez, Diego Ruis, Aaron Zimola, Kayla Hoskins, Chris Campbell and Wethington.

These students will participate in the State Conference in February against DECA members from all districts.

Finals schedule announcement coming

The one thing you can count on about the finals' schedule is that it changes every year. In the past years the schedule has benefited the students and some benefited the teachers.

No matter what changes are made to the schedule not everyone is happy with it. Some years they pile teachers with work and preparation and others cram tests into students' schedules. The district can't seem to find a way to make a schedule to fit everyone's needs.

The West principals were recently in a meeting to discuss the layout for this year's schedule but have not yet reached an agreement on what it will look like this year. Last year's schedule had students taking 2-3 tests a day in long block classes throughout the week with Friday as a makeup day.

--Mason Barnes



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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
Greeley West H.S.	SAT	Jan. 11- Feb. 8	8:00AM-2:30PM
Greeley West H.S.	SAT	Feb. 22- March 22	8:00AM-2:30PM

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

Sarah Ghent competes in a horse jumping competition. Ghent, who graduated from Greeley West in 2012, has competed in rodeo and polo as well. Ghent currently is attending the University of California-Santa Barbara.



No horsing around

Former Spartan takes college life seriously

By Tara Trevino
Staff Writer

Two years ago was the last time Sara Ghent walked the halls of Greeley West as a high school student. Ghent was a part of the IB program, which helped her to push her way forward into the University of California Santa Barbara.

Ghent continues to make the same impact at UCSB that she did at Greeley West. She's involved in the Make a Wish Foundation as an intern in the Santa Barbara County and also participates in other various community service projects.

As if that alone wouldn't fill up her schedule, Sara is in a group called Bee Conscious where she goes to bee hives and extracts the honey.

With all the hard work Sara participates in, she is also able to live the California dream. Sara is involved with the local surf club at her school. She continues to play soccer on the UCSB soccer club team, who made it to nationals this past weekend.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Sara Ghent

Along with soccer, Sara is able to still ride horses as well; previously she used her horseback riding talents in jumping competitions, but recently used her horses to play polo.

Ghent credits West with helping create the dedicated college student she has become.

"I loved West so much! It helped me prepare for the future," Ghent said. "I miss the bonds I made with friends; there is nothing like high school friends."

"I also miss the bonds I made with some of my teachers and how close I was with all the people in my class," said Ghent. With the larger classes at UCSB, it's hard to bond with classmates.

Ghent plans to study abroad her junior year, and after college, she plans to attend to the family business at Ghent Motors.



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Conner can do it all

By Addison Vergara
Staff Writer

Mike Conner is a government and history teacher here at Greeley West High School. Sitting in his classroom, students might hear him explaining the philosophy of John Locke, Montesquieu, or James Madison. Or they might hear him elaborating on the history of the United States Constitution. But as passionate as Conner is about teaching his students about the history of the country, Conner has quite an interesting history of his own.

Conner was born in Indianapolis, but spent most of his adolescence in Aurora, where he attended Gateway High School.

At Gateway, Conner was an athlete and a scholar. He played football, basketball, ran track, and was

also involved in things like the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

After high school, Conner enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado, where he was a physical education major and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. Originally planning to be a coach, he soon decided on teaching highschool students.

"My main motivation was to coach sports, but once I got into the classroom, I knew that was where it was at," said Conner.

In his spare time today, Conner loves to spend time with his wife, Shannon, and his two little girls, Keelyn and Abby, watching movies or going to the park. He also enjoys golfing a few extra holes whenever and wherever he possibly can.



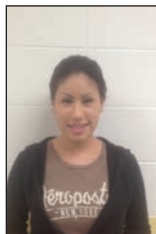
Social studies teacher Mike Conner explains government to his junior class last week.

Addison Vergara
/West Word

SPARTAN STAR

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

Karen Chavez Senior



It's no question Karen Chavez has done her time in high school. But for her very last year of high school, she has made graduating a main priority, in order to finish high school and set herself up for nothing less than success.

As far as academics, Chavez currently has all A's and B's. She also is a member of Link Crew. In the morning, you can find her in the counseling office. This is where Chavez is Ms. Rains' student assistant during first hour, when many high school students are probably still sleeping in.

After high school, Chavez plans to attend college, hopefully at IBMC, where she will study to be a medical assistant. Her goal is to enter into the nursing field of the Army.

Chavez says there are three words that sum up life, "It goes on."

-Isaiah Maes

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Lots of uses for Pinterest

Pinning, liking, boards; 10 years ago, those words would be very misunderstood if they were used in the context we use them today. Pinterest has become a trend, spreading all around the world, and is now extremely well-known. Beginning just three short years ago in January of 2010, it has quickly become popular for people of all ages.

With nearly 40 categories, it is easy to find nearly anything imaginable. From fashion to technology, there is a little something

Lauren
Miller
Editorial



of interest for anyone. Searching through the many categories, the pages seem endless and have become very addicting to millions of people. Fashion trends, along with tips and “DIY’s”, have spread through Pinterest and are easily shared with followers through repinning and orally sharing with friends. It has become almost like a small community; one that is a popular topic of conversation.

Pintrerest was originally started by a young man; he and his friends expanded the company to a world-wide media site. This site has been used by teachers to get ideas, along with scientists to discover what’s popular. Although Pinterest is geared mostly towards girls, there is a lot on the

Continued
Pinterest, Page 16

Clean up!

Greeley West High School students have a major problem of not throwing their trash away. If you walk through the hallways, classrooms, or even the parking lots at Greeley West, you will see all sorts of trash just lying around on the ground.

Brandon
Holmes
Editorial



Everything from school lunch food to scrap pieces of paper litter the school campus on a daily basis. Students will eat lunch in the commons and just leave all of their trash sitting on the table when they leave. As well as trash being left after lunch, students leave crumpled up paper and wrappers in classrooms as well.

Janitors can only do so much when it comes to picking up trash and cleaning up the school. Students need to take some responsibility and pride in their own school and keep it looking nice as well. Although Greeley West is not the greatest when it comes to facilities and classrooms, we still need to work to prevent it from becoming any worse.



Addison Vergara/West Word

Trash left behind after lunch near the 500 hallway last week is more proof kids need to throw things away.

Is it that hard for a student to just walk over to the trash can and throw their trash away? If every student just picked up their trash and had a little more respect for the school, Greeley West High School would be a better place to be.

When is the best time for your off block?

There are eight classes in a full schedule and as you get older, the more off blocks you have. There are many off blocks that people could enjoy.

Maybe you want to have a short day and end early so you get eighth off; but that only accounts for every day expect Wednesday. Or you can have a longer lunch

Zeke
Rodriguez
Editorial



receiving 5th block off, but than that doesn’t apply on Thursdays. Or you can have a late start every day and get first off, but that would exclude Thursdays as well.

Honestly, I like to have the late start because I have first and second off now, and it’s great getting to sleep in every day. But it’s a drag to spend the rest of the day in school with no more breaks. And I eat breakfast so late that I’m never really hungry at lunch, and sometimes I just don’t eat at all and I end up being so hungry later on in the day that I am practically starving myself.

In my opinion, I think the ultimate choice would be to have first off, fifth off, and eighth. It is the best of three worlds because you get the chance to sleep in, you get to have a longer lunch for the most parts, and you get to go home early on almost every day.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear West Word,

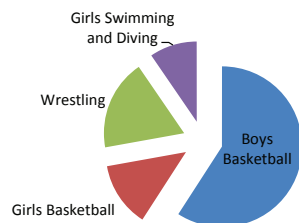
I think that (“Seniors disappointed in behavior,” Issue 4) is an overexaggeration. Granted, lots of the freshmen are rude and disrespectful, but the MYP students aren’t! (Alie Olivas) should’ve at least

excluded her statement towards MYP students. I have to agree with the fact our school is getting vandalized, but it’s not just the freshmen that are doing this. You shouldn’t judge others’ class if your own class isn’t the best in the school.

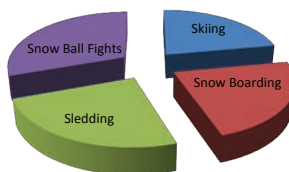
Aspen Truitt, MYP Freshman

Spartan Pulse

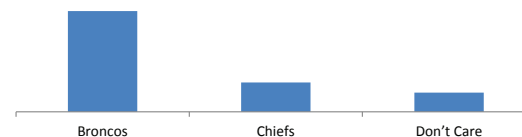
Which winter sport are you most excited for?



What is your favorite snow related activity?



Pregame Prediction: Who is going to win the Chiefs-Broncos game when they rematch?



Everybody can do their part to stop bullying

There are about 160,000 kids that miss school every day out of fear of being bullied. According to bullying statistics from 2010, there are about 2.7 million students being bullied each year by about 2.1 million students taking on the role of the bully.

We don't need a website to tell us that bullying is a problem. We can just look around our school. I have been bullied since the 5th grade. Probably everyone at school has been bullied at some point. And if we're honest, we've also been the bullies.

Bullying is a big problem because there have been many girls and boys who have committed

suicide because they were bullied. There are a few different types of bullying: physical, emotional, verbal, and cyber bullying.



**Alex
Franks**
Guest Editorialist

Many school shootings have happened because students were bullied and wanted to get revenge. It's not always that extreme, though. Sometimes, if you're bullied, you just feel worthless or stupid.

Obviously it's a big problem. So, how can we improve our schools when it comes to bullying? We all have to look around our school and see how many people have been bullied or who are being bullied right now.

Youngsters a cesspool of selfishness

The other day, I was driving into my neighborhood, and I saw a group of middle school kids walking around the block. I drove by them slowly and waved, but did not get the same response. One of the kids stuck his tongue out at me and another threatened to throw the ball he was gripping at my vehicle.

The rude attitude the kids displayed appalled me. After a couple more experiences like this, I realized that America has an epidemic on their hands. Younger kids, especially of middle school age, are becoming increasingly self-centered and cocky. It is not uncommon today to find a thirteen year old who displays the same egocentric attitude as some high profile celebrities.

Pop culture today conveys a message to these kids

that shows a world where you must put yourself first to succeed, where you must keep up with the latest trend to be admired or respected, and where you have to act like a jerk to be cool.

When I was in middle school, I worried about playing sports and riding my bike. Kids today seem to be more concerned about what bro tank to wear, or how many pairs of Nike elite socks they have.



**Addison
Vergara**
Editorialist

Instead of associating themselves with something conceptual, like the relationships they have with friends, they identify themselves through material possessions. This attitude is creating a cesspool of selfishness and self-centeredness in the younger generations of today. Hence, the attitude displayed by the kids in my neighborhood.

Maybe the reason someone is bullying you is because of problems at home or school issues. We tend to lash out when we are angry and when we are just thinking of ourselves. But if we want things to change, we all have to group together and stop thinking of just ourselves.

Where does the change begin? The change has to start in ourselves. We all need to respect and value others more than we do now.

The Bible says in Luke, Chapter 6 verse 31, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." I believe that if we all lived like that, all of life would be better and we could help our schools end bullying.

Maybe, you think, people are just too sensitive, or that people just need to be able to take a joke. Well,

you might be joking around, but you might have joked around in a mean way and hurt someone's feelings. If the person you made the joke about with isn't laughing, then the joke is not funny. If someone was joking about you, and you weren't laughing, how would you feel? It's all about putting yourself in someone else's shoes.

Bullying is a huge problem. You see it happening every day around you. If we want it to change, we're the ones who have to start the change. Take the time to think before you speak. The people you are talking to have value as well, even if they're different; even if you don't like them.

It's like the Lorax says, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."

Let me work with my friends

Teachers seem to love to assign group projects, but are they really beneficial to students?

Teachers argue that group projects help students to make friends and also get to know their classmates better. They think that it helps students to broaden their thinking as they are open to multiple opinions while working with others. But many teachers seem to be blind to the fact that usually one person ends up doing all the work while the rest of their group members mess around and do nothing. This is not always the case but it seems as if most of the time it is.

Teachers usually choose groups because they don't want students working with their friends with fear that they will do more talking than working. What they don't realize is that students work better

with their friends because they trust each other with pulling their weight in the project. Students usually hang out with people who have a work ethic similar to theirs making group projects easy and fun.

When students are put in groups with people that they don't know the student who cares most about their success in that particular class is usually the one who ends up doing all the work. They don't know if the other students really care or if they are even going to do their part in the project and so that one student takes over the entire project. This is not fair nor is it any fun for the student doing all the work. Teachers need to be more aware of who's actually participating and who's doing nothing when doing group projects.

**Tonya
Schiestel**
Editorialist



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.

Sophomore Ben Falconer sculpts a gargoyle in Ms. Dawn Feinberg's class last week.

Kennedy Spittler/
West Word



Class creates gargoyles

By Kennedy Spittler
Staff Writer

During this time of year where the semesters are coming to a close, many classes are having large projects due. In Ms. Dawn Feinberg's sculpture class, they are currently putting the finishing touches on their gargoyles. This is a project like all the others and takes up about three weeks of the class. When done with each of these pieces, most of them will go on display in the school and the others will go home with their artist.

Feinberg decided that she would do gargoyles in this class because it is a historical art form. The

gargoyle can be traced back to ancient civilization, where the sculptures were placed on top of Egyptian pyramids'. On top of these pyramids, the gargoyle would have an open mouth that would serve as a waterspout.

Ben Falconer created a gargoyle in the image of a mouse. The mouse did not completely hold its shape; the tail fell off during the heating process. When asked about his inspiration, he said that he goes mainly on random impulses that lead to abstract art pieces.

There is a chance to see all of these unique, historical art pieces once they are put on display.

Missing: Textbooks

Where do they go?

By Merall Sheriff
Staff Writer

With Weld County School District 6 being one of the least funded school districts in the Northern Colorado area, the supply of textbooks is obviously limited, dated, and out of shape.

For most classes, textbooks are rented out through the library at the beginning of the year or semester. However, many classes, particularly English and literature classes, use novels for book studies and other activities and distribute books to students from their classroom sets.

"My classes start out the year with 70 *Frankenstein* books; by the time we finish the book, 25 are left, and I'll only get back 3 that are in good condition," explained English teacher Corinne Ferdinand.

"The funny thing is, they are never required to take the books home, so I can't really track them down when they do go missing because they aren't checked out," commented Ferdinand.

The Greeley West English department has a \$2,000 budget for 10 teachers to utilize. A large sum of that funding was used to purchase the set of *Frankenstein* books Ferdinand is losing. After inquiring where these textbooks and novels are disappearing to, teachers came up with a variety of whereabouts; books are in cars, under beds, in lockers, in the trash, used to prop open doors, and to elevate pillows. "Sometimes I think kids eat them," concluded science teacher Sarah Bruemmer.

GREELEY



SPRADLEY BARR

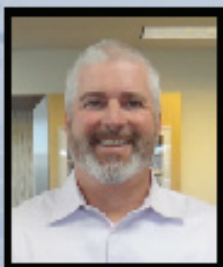
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FASHION TRENDS: Nail Art

Style can be reflected through clothing, hairstyles and even through nail art. Many girls enjoy creating different designs on their nails, and some even do them every day to match their outfit.

Lauren
Miller
Fashion Expert



As the holidays are approaching, nail art can span from snowflakes to Christmas trees, to red and green colors. Rather than seasonal designs, others do their nails based simply on their mood or personality. Some prefer solid black, while others may enjoy flowers or brighter colors. As “crackle” nail polish has become less popular, “fuzzy” nail polish has taken its place. This polish goes on flat but looks as though it were soft and fuzzy. The greenish-blue color resembles Sully’s fur from *Monster’s Inc.* If this furry style isn’t for you, there’s always the classic French style that is much simpler and will never go out of style.



Lauren Miller/West Word

Senior Kirstie Ortiz adds flair to her classic French manicure with cheetah print.

Bowing down at the feet of Jennifer Lawrence

Jennifer Lawrence acting in the *Hunger Games* might be better than her work with a bow in the movie. She is quite impressive with the bow I might say.

The movie lasts around 2 hours and 30 minutes and covers a lot of the book. With obviously not being able to get everything the book says, it does a good job of telling the story.

The ending of the movie sets up an intriguing ending to this trilogy. This movie was all about telling the story

and leading the story to the final movie.

Snow, the President of the Capitol, starts to show his true colors of who he really is. He hires Plutarch Heavensbee to try and get Katniss to turn on all the districts and show that she is not the hope of a rebellion.

In the first movie she starts to become the hope by beating the Hunger Games system by getting two winners. In this movie, more than two come out alive in the 75th

Annual Hunger Games.



Riley
Mincic
Movie Review

Violet Ambrose is grappling with two major issues: Jay Heaton and her morbid secret ability. While the 16-year old is confused by her new feelings for her best friend since childhood, she is more disturbed by her “power” to sense dead bodies - or at least those that have been murdered. Since she was a little girl, she has felt the echoes that the dead leave behind in the world... and the imprints that attach to their killers.

Violet has never considered her strange talent to be a gift; it mostly just led her to find the dead birds her cat had tired of playing with. But now that a serial killer has begun terrorizing her

-- Book Review -- *The Body Finder* by Kimberly Derting

small town, and the echoes of the local girls he’s claimed haunt her daily, she realizes she might be the only person who can stop him.

Despite his fierce protectiveness over her, Jay reluctantly agrees to help Violet on her quest to find the murder - and Violet is unnerved to find herself hoping that Jay’s intentions are much

There is a point in the movie where she is tested for her loyalty to the districts. She could shoot one of the other opponents or keep him alive.

She ends up making the right decision, but you will have to see the movie to find out what that decision is. This movie does an amazing job of telling the story and showing resilience by many characters. It is a story of the start of a rebellion.

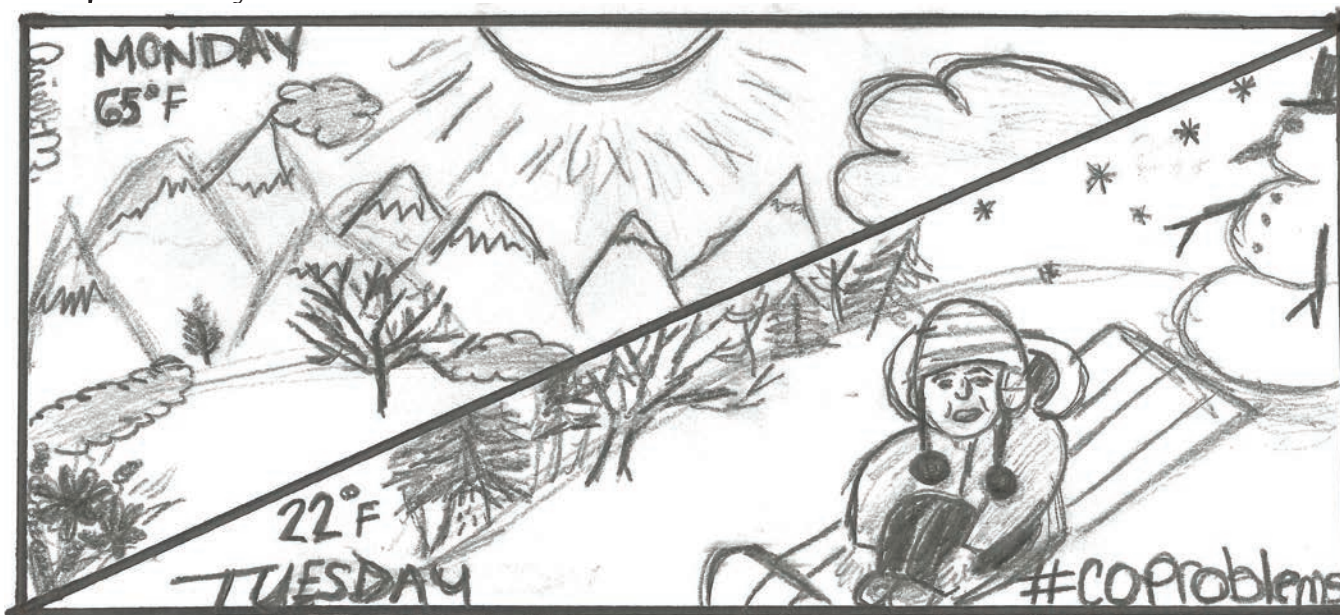
This movie was great and I’m giving it a 9.25 Spartan heads out of 10. It is a must see movie. It is a must see movie, especially if you have seen the first movie or read the books.

more than friendly. But even as she’s falling intensely in love, Violet is getting closer and closer to discovering a killer... and becoming his prey herself.

This was an absolutely thrilling book. I couldn’t get enough of this story. I was almost sad it ended. Jay’s protectiveness, though adorable and ultimately very sweet, battled against Violet’s desire to be independent and forget her ability. Kimberly Derting did a fantastic job on this book and I would love to read it again.

- Christi Treutens

Bipolar by Ariell Martinez



Candy Land

It was October 31st. The night was silent, yet eerie. Every candy was hiding - under couch cushions and car seats, mattresses and rugs. But one little candy didn't and he was just sitting there like an idiot and all the candy was yelling at him, "RUN" and "HIDE."

He didn't know why everyone was hiding. It was too late - a human took him up and put him in a bin, then a loud "Ding Dong!" sounded throughout the house.

The door opened and the candy's heart raced with fear. The humans all shouted "Trick or Treat!"

The candy nearly fainted. He was placed into the fat one's bucket. The human drooled with hunger. It grabbed the candy out of the bag and peeled the skin off the candy. He was alive just long enough to see the human open its giant jaw, smell its foul breath, and feel its teeth sinking into his flesh as it chewed away to the soft chewy center!

By Robbie Dunn

Death By Chocolate

Utter bliss.

Wrapped so tenderly, so lovingly,
so deliciously.

Salivating.

Widening your lips in anticipation

Rewarding, fattening, fattening...

Sugar and heart-dropping.

Pounds and pounds and pounds

Never leaving.

Obesity building up your being

Dying, dying.

The deadly assassin;

Taking lives daily

By Juliet Cha

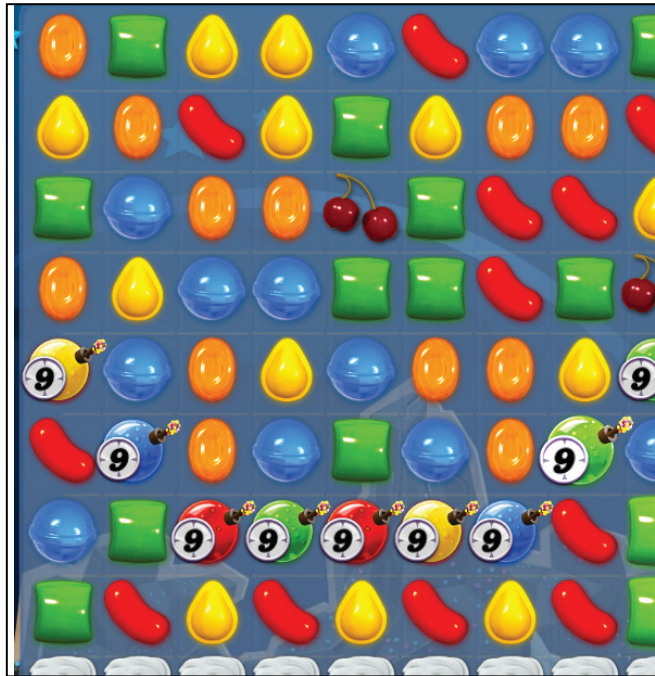
Untitled

I am the first piece of candy in your pillowcase. I am the start of Halloween. I come with you house to house, door to door, shaking and jumping in your candy bag. On the way, I meet other friends though even some family members! It's getting incredibly packed in here, and I want to leave. But I do love hearing the jolly sounds of "Trick or Treat"

It's getting dark. I fall asleep and when I wake up, I'm on the floor of the living room sorted with my family. Then I get picked up... and I don't remember the rest.

By Haley Meyer

Candy - we all love it. While we all have different tastes when it comes to the sweet stuff, one thing is for certain: we're addicted. So much so, we're addicted to a game on our smart phones dedicated to it. So why not a candy page in the West Word? Enjoy Edgar Lopez's feature on the game, Candy Crush surrounded by creative writing stories submitted by Ms. Alaina Perez's class.



By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

Teachers wonder what students are doing on their phones under their desk during class. They usually assume they are texting or on some kind of social network, and are correct most of the time.

But these days, students aren't just texting and roaming social networks. They are playing the popular and addictive Candy Crush. This game is a big hit to smart phone users and has players dying to get to the next level.

The game has multiple objectives from clearing jelly, to moving ingredients, all while trying to reach a certain score and move up through the levels. You start out with five lives and can lose those lives by not completing the objective in a certain amount of moves, having to wait half an hour to regain the lost life.

So what makes this game so addictive to people with smart phones? In order to succeed in the game you have to make smart precise moves that make you think carefully. When players fail to make the right moves it gives them the desire to redeem themselves and get past that level. Once you begin to climb the levels and start to master the techniques, beating the next level becomes a must. The levels become more difficult as you climb the candy crush ladder, with added features such as chocolates, bombs, and gaps. There are a total of five hundred entertaining levels that will glue your eyes to your smart phone for multiple hours and will make anxious to reach the next level.



Being Skittles on Halloween isn't easy. People kidnap me and my friends

from our home (store) just to give us away on Halloween! Some of us end up with little kids and others with teenagers or adults. We get to our "owner's" home just to watch our friends being eaten. Then our turn comes, our clothes get ripped up and the last thing I see is a wide open mouth.

- By Cesar Barrera

"Today's the day!" said King Size Crunch.

"Woooo!" All the candies screamed.

"I-I'm scared..." whispered Baby Ruth. She was in the corner of the bowl.

"Ding Dong," went the door.

"I-I don't... I'm not ready," Ruth said.

"Trick or treat!" yelled the kids.

"Not me. Not me. Not me!" she said.

Of course she was chosen.

She got shoved in a bag and was thrown around all night.

That next day, she was pulled out. She breathed a sigh of relief. She was too late though.

Crunch. Baby Ruth was eaten.

Her grave stone read:

Baby Ruth

Scared of Halloween

October 30, 2013- November 1, 2013

R.I.W. (Rest in Wrappers)

By Kaylie Harden

Guard Gillingham expected to lead offense

By Eric Kelsey
Staff Writer

Cordell Gillingham will be a key player for the Spartan boys' basketball team this season. He is a sophomore and in his second year in the basketball program. Last year, as a freshman, he played in nine of the 24 varsity games. He plans on seeing a lot more playing time this year.

Gillingham will start this year on varsity for the Spartans at guard. He will be sharing playing time with two other players.

This year, the Spartans have high expectations for their season. Last year, they lost in round one of the playoffs to Heritage High School, and they plan on making it deeper into the playoffs this season. The team will be young, so the beginning of the year will be a

learning experience for many. Still, Gillingham has great confidence in everyone. He is excited to see his teammates, as well as himself, step up this season. They have all played together at some point in their basketball career. Many of them played together last year on varsity and junior varsity.

"The key to our success will be everyone coming and playing together as a team," said Gillingham.



Gillingham

Gillingham enjoys playing with the Spartans' high-pace offense. Gillingham has a lot on his plate because he plays guard. He will be one of the key players to the Spartans' high caliber offense. The

offense uses their speed to pick apart other teams' defense. Gillingham is looking forward to their first game against Rocky Mountain next Monday.

Hanson excited for basketball campaign

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

Basketball season is just around the corner and Tory Hanson seems really excited for the upcoming 2013-2014 season. Hanson has been coaching for 12 years at Greeley West. Alongside him on the court is Coach Mike Stieb.

While feeling confident about the upcoming season Hanson stated, "I enjoy watching the kids and how much work they have put into the game, and it's good to know that they're having fun in the

process."

Hanson's coaching dreams developed when his uncle was a Division 2 college head coach for Nebraska-Omaha and after that he became the coach for Kansas State University.

Hanson also played for the University of Wyoming. He coached at Northridge before coming to Greeley West.



Hanson

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What?

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

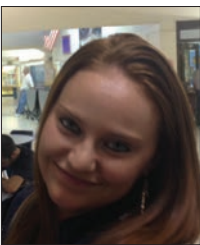
WHAT is your favorite food to eat?	WHAT is the best part of Greeley West?	WHAT is your dream vacation location?	WHAT is your dream college?	WHAT is your most embarrassing moment?	WHAT celebrity do you want to meet?
---	---	--	------------------------------------	---	--



Justin Miller

A

Cinzetti's	High school Special Olympics team	City of Atlantis	Notre Dame	Ate egg drop soup with a fork	Jackie Chan
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Gilleen Leslie

B

Texas Roadhouse	Sports	Fiji	University of Oregon	Got depantsed at the bowling alley	Miley Cyrus
-----------------	--------	------	----------------------	------------------------------------	-------------



Diego Martinez

C

Johnny Carino's	Teachers	Barcelona, Spain	Colorado State University	Dropped flyer in a cheer competition	Brad Pitt
-----------------	----------	------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------



Logan Dion

D

Red Robin	Sports	Boston	Colorado State University	Walked into the girls rest room	Barrack Obama
-----------	--------	--------	---------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------

Across

1- Got along
6- ___-Ball
10- Actress Merrill
14- Garlic sauce
15- Some linemen
16- Among
17- Graven images
18- Catalog
19- First name in spydom
20- Sharp reply
22- Mall-goer, often
24- Authorizes
26- Account book
27- Reindeer of North America
31- Fannie ___
32- Sky blue
33- Streamlined
36- Loud noise
39- Sterile hybrid
40- Next after the second
41- Urn
42- Opposite of post-
43- Interval of time
44- Type of ray
45- Bingo!
46- Wide strait
48- Loose-fitting skirtlike garment

51- Bus. card info

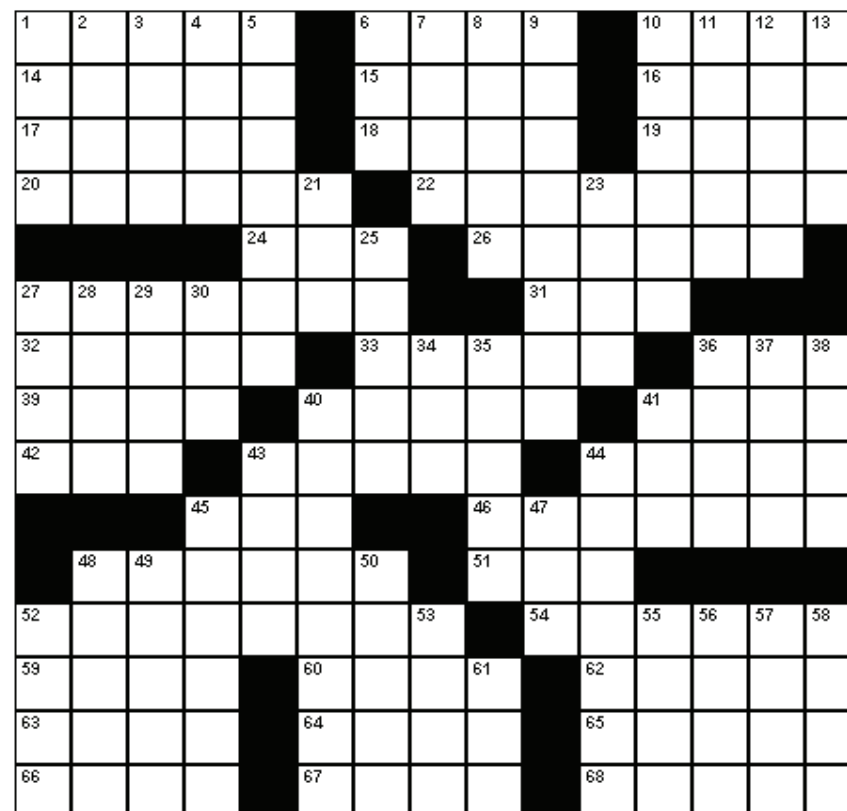
52- Cartographer
54- Nominating
59- Select
60- Professional charges
62- Capital of Vietnam
63- Fit to ___
64- Consumer
65- Concerning
66- Nipple
67- Mother of Helen of Troy
68- Stuns

Down

1- Free from bias
2- Adjutant
3- Underlying cause
4- Cockney greeting
5- Undress
6- Poivre's partner
7- Grow together
8- Ford flop
9- Highly regarded
10- Injury
11- Icon
12- Gunpowder ingredient
13- Hebrew month
21- Ref's decision
23- Mont. neighbor
25- Japanese dish

27- Group of tents

28- Cote d'___
29- Dominion
30- Anger
34- Abner's adjective
35- Set up
36- Ruin
37- Woe ___
38- Oscar winner Patricia
40- Grateful
41- Covered vehicle
43- Rider's command
44- Noblest knight of the Round Table
45- Decorative band
47- Coop denizen
48- Pan-fry
49- Cop ___
50- Farm birds
52- Future doc's exam
53- Vibrating component of a woodwind instrument
55- "Give that ___ cigar!"
56- Don Juan's mother
57- Bar ___
58- Skedaddles
61- Madrid Mrs.



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

STR8TS

No. 83

Tough



Previous solution - Medium



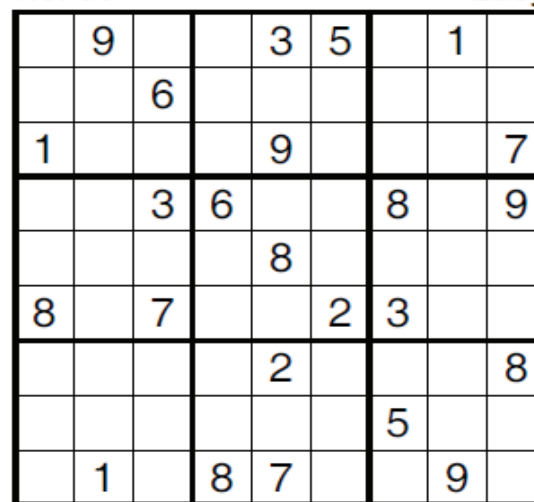
How to beat Str8ts –
Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5].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

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

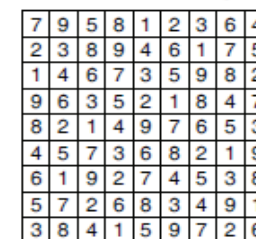
SUDOKU

No. 83

Easy



Previous solution - Very Hard



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

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

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

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Small Forensics team finds success at Central Invitational

By Zeke Rodriguez
Staff Writer

On Saturday, November 16th, the Greeley West Forensics team went to a competition at Greeley Central High School. It was an all day event. Greeley West had two students that placed on Saturday.

At the completion only three students went, and out of those three two of them placed very high. Allie Brown placed first in her creative storytelling, and senior class president Aaron Zimola placed first in Congress, only using bio to defeat the competition.

The team did not place because there is no team placing, just individual placing for the competitions.

From
Pinterest, Page 8

site that many guys would be interested in. Most guys won't even give it a chance, in fear they would get made fun of. With such a wide variety of categories, there are an abundance of interesting things for men. Travel, sports, sciences and much more, there is something for any guy and it can be used in a wide variety of ways.

There are also a wide variety of uses for Pinterest besides what most people think. Pinterest is proof, along with other popular media sites that the increase in speed of technology makes it so easy for sites like this to spread and soon go world-wide.

Those events vary in numerous ways. The creative story telling event allows 15 minutes to come up with a story and present it in front of the judges.

In the Congress event, they speak of what is going on around the U.S, dealing with congress and events they are involved in.

The scoring of the events is based off of how often and well you speak in front of the judges.

In case you didn't know what forensics is, it is a competitive speech and debate team that students can join. They go to competitions to motivate and inspire teammates, peers and judges.

The Greeley West forensics team is made up of less than ten students. They meet once a week and are always looking for new members.

1	S	A	B	E	5	T	O	O	L	S	10	A	B	B	A
14	A	L	E	S	15	A	S	S	E	T	16	C	O	E	N
17	L	E	N	T	18	C	U	L	A	R	19	H	A	N	K
20	E	R	N	E	S	21	O	P	E	R	E	T	T	A	
23	S	T	E	E	L	24	I	E	25	S	E	E	R	S	
26					27	M	E	C	C	A	28	T	R	O	W
31	S	E	T	S	32	A	L	L	S	33	A	N	A	M	E
37	A	C	H	F	38	L	A	T	T	E	N	39	I	M	A
41	A	C	I	D	42	S	T	O	O	N	43	G	N	A	R
45	R	E	N	A	46	T	A	47	S	P	A	C	E		
49					50	K	N	O	B	S	51	E	M	A	N
55	O	N	A	S	56	P	R	E	E	57	O	R	E	G	O
59	R	O	B	E	60	U	N	D	E	R	61	S	T	A	N
63	S	U	L	U	64	P	O	I	S	E	65	I	M	N	O
68	O	N	E	R	69	T	R	E	E	D	70	C	A	E	N

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