

WEST WORD



February 3, 2014

www.greeleyschools.org/westword

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Alie Olivas/West Word

Cory Varela loves playing basketball for the Greeley West team.

Practice makes perfect Special Olympics team enjoys experience

By Alie Olivas
Staff Writer

Before some of the world's best athletes head to Sochi, Russia for the Olympics this month, some equally dedicated athletes in Greeley West competed in their own games for the Special Olympics.

Special Olympic athletes from all over Greeley West played in an exciting basketball tournament last Wednesday at Valley High School.

They spent several weeks preparing and practicing their skills with the help of fellow Greeley West students, like Alexis Badial, who helped the athletes with their shooting, dribbling, and overall basketball skills.

"We help show them how to play defense and encourage them to shoot and pass the ball- and just have fun," said Badial.

A strong contender for MVP, Cory Varela, practiced his basketball skills for a while before his big game.

"I like playing basketball and am good at shooting,"

said Varela.

Dylan Radcliff is another one of the players who prepared for weeks for the game, he was in the gym as much as he could be.

"I like the people I am playing with and I like to make baskets," said Radcliff.

Watching these students practice, they easily work just as hard and probably have more fun than any other Greeley West athlete. Their love for the game shows in their bright smiling faces.

Special Olympics provides an amazing and empowering experience for the intellectually disabled community.

Over 14,000 athletes in Colorado take part in activities year round. Volunteers are always needed and information can be found at specialolympicsco.org/volunteer.

Badial sums up her experience as a Special Olympics volunteer: "I like seeing the kids happy and having them look up to you."



Alie Olivas/West Word

Dylan Radcliff's favorite part of basketball is making baskets.

Jeffers crowned Mr. GWHS winner

By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

Thirteen Spartan men participated in Greeley West's "100th annual" Mr. GWHS competition, a fundraiser put on by the junior class for prom. The event was held in the auditorium last Saturday.

Senior Johnathan Jeffers will head off to college with the title Mr. GWHS with his stellar stand-up comedy performance.

Jeffers' act was mainly to utilize the sound affects he can make. "I feel honored to represent Greeley West High school and the IB program, and I would also like to congratulate Ori (Bitton), for receiving second place."

At the end of the performance, each finalist was asked an interview question. Jeffers was asked



Jeffers

if Hollywood was to ever make a movie about him and his life who would he want to play his role. His response was "Fat Amy because she shares the same physical and mental qualities that I do."

Bitton played "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen on the ukulele.

The other top finalists included Mason Sedlacek, who sang "Let me be your Teddy Bear" by Elvis Presley. The other two were Brandon Tuttle, and Nate Gorsline who did their act together. They played "Chopsticks" on the piano without using any hands.

Other acts included dancing, magic, and singing. The IB boys performed an a-cappella song together.

Mr. GWHS serves as a sort of talent contest/pageant for the student body and was well-attended again this year.

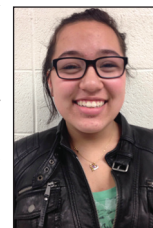
Freshman wins Vice President honor

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

Usually when a freshman gets involved in a club, they just mix in with the crowd and do what they are told to do, but Greeley West freshman Alexia Soria has gone beyond that expectation and has recently been elected to be the District Second Vice President for FCCLA.

Of the ten FCCLA Districts in Colorado, Soria represents the Northern District, which is the second largest district.

With Soria's new position, she must manage events and help out the FCCLA Northern District President with other work that must be done as well.



Soria

"The other co-Vice President and I act as stress relievers for the president," said Soria.

As a freshman, this is the first year Soria has been involved in the Family Career and Community Leaders of America.

"I first joined in order to make friends and meet new people, but I never expected to make it this far," said Soria.

In order to become an officer, after being ranked as a top FCCLA student at Greeley West High School, Soria and seven other students throughout the district had to take a test which determined what position they would receive within the office.

Soria plans to continue participating in FCCLA throughout her high school career and is excited to see what new things she can bring to the northern district office.

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Poms go to nationals

By Malia Long
Staff Writer

The Greeley West Poms, who have recently won third at state in the hip hop division, headed to nationals on Thursday at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. They competed in jazz and hip hop divisions.

Co-captain Rachel Baldwin was looking forward to the trip. "I am so excited to go out there with my team and leave my heart on the dance floor. It's the greatest feeling stepping off that stage knowing you gave it everything you have got," Baldwin said.



Baldwin

Sydney Haines a sophomore here at Greeley West agreed. "I'm excited for dancing on the Disney ESPN stage. It seems so surreal that I have the opportunity to dance there," Haines said.

Savannah Lucio is also excited to grow closer to

her teammates who seem like sisters to her.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the different levels of talent in our division. It's not very often you get to see talent all across the nation. It's good to know we are up there competing with the best of the best," Lucio said.

The Poms performed at the ESPN Center in Walt Disney World and competed on a stage that has a background of a castle. The girls practiced every day.

"It is a lot of hard work and dedication all year and even while we are there to get this far. The countless hours of practice pay off in the long run, and I can't wait to see where our work will take us as we are competing in Florida," Baldwin stated.

Results from the Poms performance were unavailable at press time. Follow @GWWestWord on Twitter to see how they placed.



Lucio



Photo Courtesy of Peggy Freemole

Kylee Jackson is lifted by her Poms teammates during a dress rehearsal of their Jazz National dance.

Senior athletes already being signed to college

By Micheal Caro
Staff Writer

Signing day for student athletes at Greeley West is soon approaching. This year seniors Brittany Corrales, Sadaam Noor, Leo Salcido, Tara Trevino, will all be sharing their athletic abilities with college teams. Signing Day will officially be held in early February for the students.

Senior Leo Salcido has had many different offers from colleges to play football. But Salcido finally decided to commit to Chadron State College in Nebraska. Salcido received a half ride scholarship from the football team. "I chose Chadron State because of their outstanding academics and they have a great environment to learn in," Salcido said.



Salcido

He plans to play football all four years at Chadron and plans to major in some type of engineering. "Chadron has a high achieving football team and I'm excited to be a part of it next year," Salcido said.

Corrales is beginning her adventure at Western

**Continued
Signing, Page 16**

City sponsors father-daughter dance weekend

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

This City of Greeley decided to put on three Father Daughter dances this year. The Greeley Father Daughter dances were held this past Friday and Saturday at the Greeley Recreational Center in downtown Greeley.

One dance was held on Friday, January 31st at 6:00 p.m., and the other two dances were held on Saturday, February 1st: one at 1:00 p.m. and the other at 6:00 p.m.

Fathers and daughters from all ages were welcome to attend the father daughter dances that were put on at the rec center. At the dance, there

were many refreshments, a lot of finger food, and a whole lot of dancing.

Along with the finger food, refreshments, and dance, there was also a professional photograph opportunity that came along with the ticket so the proud fathers could remember the special night.



Super Bowl

2.3.14

Page 3

Broncos' success enhances party traditions

By Jake Firkins
Staff Writer

As the Super Bowl approached, a lot of planning, shopping, and cooking in preparation ensued for the Big Show, especially with the hometown team playing a part.

Sergio Felix, a senior at West, went to his cousin's house to watch the Super Bowl. He and his family watched it on his cousin's 56" flat screen TV. While he was there he made fun of his cousin because his cousin's favorite team, the Dallas Cowboys, didn't even make it into the playoffs. He supported his favorite in the game, the Denver Broncos, by wearing all of his Bronco's clothing and gear.

Felix was very excited about the Super Bowl. "Especially this year, since someone talented will be performing during the half time show (Bruno Mars)," Felix said.

Zach Jewkes, a freshman at West, went to his grandparents' house to watch the Super Bowl. He ate food and played football in the yard.

He was also excited about the Super Bowl. "Heck yeah! The Broncos are going to take it!" Jewkes said.

Mr. Zach Armstrong had his Super Bowl party



Spartan educator Greg McAdams takes his job as Broncos' fan seriously. McAdams wore the shoulder pads to emphasize the importance of the Super Bowl to his Career and Life Choices classes.

Jake Firkins/
West Word

Rolo is school's biggest Denver fan

By Tara Trevino
Staff Writer

The definition of a Broncos fan can be determined by many things. Senior Rolando Sanchez exceeds the definition of being the biggest Bronco's fan here at Greeley West.

The Broncos have made history this year for the state of Colorado by making it to the Super Bowl.

"I cried tears of joy; I was the happiest I could have ever been. I was screaming as loud as possible, WE'RE GOING TO THE SUPERBOWL! I even announced it over the PA in Sears," explained Sanchez.

When asked what made him the biggest Bronco



Sanchez

Continued
Biggest Fan, Page 16

Super Bowl results always a gamble

By Alex Garcia
Staff Writer

The Super Bowl is one of the greatest sporting events all year. Football fanatics gather around to watch this game with family and friends. They make large amounts of food for everyone and the atmosphere is loud throughout the entire game.

If the Super Bowl alone isn't intense enough for the average person, maybe a few bets here and there will make things a bit more interesting. Whether in Vegas or in your living room, Americans across the country make bets on the big game.

Placing money on the team you think will come on top makes you that much more into the game because now you actually have something to lose if it doesn't go the way you predicted. People have bets that have gone up

in price to the thousands if you're serious about your football. But a quick survey around Greeley West found that most students are staying in a more moderate range.

You see West students betting each other on the winner of the game in the halls almost every day.

"It's an easy way to make some money," said freshman Darren DeLaCroix. Some West teachers are participating in a small wager of a Super Bowl grid, where point combinations result in earning a small amount of extra cash.

Betting is just part of the sport and hikes up the excitement for the game even more than it already is. When you think about the Super Bowl you think about betting money, eating food, and a loud environment.



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Students known for being bad drivers, now bad parkers

By Micheal Caro
Staff Writer

Recently many Greeley West students have been parking in the south parking lot and the campus monitors are cracking down on it. The south parking lot is only for teachers, buses and visitors. The students have their own parking lot for a reason.

Students who park in the south parking lot will receive “warning” stickers on their driver-side window. The campus monitors are getting tired of students using the south parking lot to park their vehicles. “Usually when the stickers are put on the car, the students don’t park there anymore,” campus monitor Rudy Danford said.

Some students argue that all parking lots should be opened to everyone. “Some teachers park in the north parking lot, why can’t we park in the south parking lot then,” Senior Leo Salcido said.

Some students find it difficult to park in the north parking lot and walk all the way through the commons and hub just to get to class on time. “It doesn’t make any sense that students have to park in the front. We should be able to park anywhere we want,” senior Walker Brown said.



Brown

Last year, the campus monitors had a few cars towed because the students were repeated offenders and the campus monitors wanted to show other students that they meant business. The campus monitors will continue to crack down on the parking lot issue and will place “warning” stickers on student’s windows. The south parking lot is only meant for buses, visitors and teacher’s not students.



Campus monitors place warning stickers on students cars. Parking in the south parking lot is against the rules for all students at Greeley West.

Micheal Caro/
West Word

Yoga Club’s meeting time not flexible enough for students

By Tonya Schiestel
Staff Writer

Yoga Club was started earlier in the school year for any students that were interested in joining, but it has recently been canceled due to a lack of student interest. The last couple of meetings before Christmas break were attended by only a handful of students and only one student attended the mandatory meeting at the beginning of the second semester.

There were a few male students involved in yoga club when it first began, but as time went on they slowly began to not show up.

“I think they were embarrassed to be a part of

Yoga Club because most people consider it to be a feminine activity,” said Mrs. Laura Light-Kovacs.

She also believes that students thought they needed to be flexible to participate in yoga, which she says is not true.

There are a few students still interested in yoga club and Light-Kovacs would love to start the club up again if more students were interested in joining. Any students that would like to be involved in Yoga Club are encouraged to approach Kovacs with their interest.

In the meantime Kovacs will be leading the local faculty members and teachers in yoga after school.

Singing Valentines come early this year

Every students knows Valentine’s Day is right around the corner. Aside from the cookies, candy, flowers, and stuffed animals, Greeley West students know another tradition: Singing Valentines. The Singing Valentines are groups of choir students who practice love songs to sing to others who are receiving a gift purchased. The groups that sing songs on Valentine’s Day are known to be a delightful interruption to the class, and are celebrated every year. It’s a happy tradition, well worth the blushing and embarrassment.

Students who have no idea what to get their special someone on Valentine’s Day, often find Singing Valentines a perfect option. Students can request the choir students to sing to their significant other by telling them their name, and schedule so they can go to their classroom and serenade them with a love song in front of the whole classroom, and with some chocolates for a reasonable price!

Students can send the groups to their girlfriend/boyfriend, a friend, or even a favorite teacher! This year, the Singing Valentines will be performed on February 10-13, because of the day off on the actual holiday. Students are encouraged to send in their orders as soon as possible, and to stay excited for the upcoming celebration of love.

--Haley Alberts

MLK Day leads into February celebration of Black history

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

Most students are aware of who Martin Luther King Jr. was, what he stood for and how he helped change. Most students, however, only celebrate the fact they do not have school on MLK day. Many students and teachers would like the students of Greeley West to understand MLK day for what it is, and celebrate it as more than just a day off.

“I would like students to understand a lot more than MLK day,” said Mike Conner, a history teacher at Greeley West High School. This month is about understanding how much of the American history has to do with African Americans and why people need to remember.

“It is ever more important to understand this with the changing culture,” explained Conner.

Black History Month is an opportunity to

remember how the United States became what it is today. The society is now diverse with many cultures from many different areas of the world. It may be important to remember one of the most important of these.

Since the United States is a “melting pot” people tend to disregard the fact that there are many different cultures, but during Black History Month, and especially during MLK day, students are

encouraged to embrace the diversity and hardships of the African-American community. Most students, however, ignore the day and the month.

“Students may not be aware of the fact there is a month devoted to the culture. I think we need to promote awareness,” stated Conner. And other cultures may not be aware of Black History Month either. “Over time I hope it will be more recognized than it is now,” said Conner.

Mr. Daniel Mork works in a data team meeting last week with math colleague Ms. Loni Harris.



Merall Sherif
West Word

Mr. Mork a good guy

Merall Sherif
Staff Writer

Mr. Daniel Mork teaches Trigonometry/Precalculus, Geometry, and Algebra Concepts. He is also the sponsor for Greeley West's student council. Before starting at West, Mork moved to Colorado from Minnesota.

Mork graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota where he studied math, psychology, and Norwegian. A fun fact about Mork is he speaks fluent Norwegian. Before teaching, Mork worked at Target Corporation, ran a web development company, and even worked at a rock climbing wall. Deciding to become a

teacher came later. He decided he was going to start going to school again to work on getting his teaching license while working full time. "I was always good at math and my family and friend environment has always valued education. I didn't feel like I was really progressing society sitting at a cubicle trying to get people to spend their money working in marketing analytics."

He then received his masters at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. In his free time, Mork enjoys the great outdoors, participating in cross country and downhill skiing, camping, and fishing. He also plays the trumpet and played in a brass band in Minnesota.



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Alex Garcia/West
Word

Mr. Travis Krause and Jacob Rogers display their martial art skills in martial arts club.



Don't mess with this club

By Alex Garcia
Staff Writer

Martial art is a type of combat practice that is seen throughout the US. It is actually a very popular practice for adults and students to practice. Here at Greeley West High school we have our very own martial art club that everyone is welcome to join. The club is taught and sponsored by Art teacher Travis Krause. Mr. Krause has about 17 years of experience under his belt that he has been using to teach students at West wanting to learn the techniques.

Martial art students do not perform in any type of competition. It is not considered to be a sport where students go out and compete with others.

"The competition is always with yourself," said Krause. Although the club is not looking to compete, they do take advantage of certain activities going on at the school in order to showcase the techniques that they are learning. Usually the club performs during ethnic fest in the gym in front of students wanting to observe the complicated techniques involved with the practice.

They are willing to take any opportunity they get to showcase their skills. The club is working on producing their own club shirt which will be coming out soon. It will be the first time the club has come out with a shirt for anyone to purchase.

Although competition is not an option, the martial arts club is looking pretty busy these next couple of weeks.

SPARTAN STAR

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

Lucy Salazar Junior



It is no question Junior Class President, Lucy Salazar, has her hands full on a daily basis. Not only does the self-motivated IB student maintain an outstanding GPA despite her nothing less than challenging IB schedule, but she has also dedicated herself to representing the entire junior class of Greeley West. When it comes to academics, it is obvious the determined IB student is quite involved. She is currently a participant of Student Council and Theatre. As far as clubs, Salazar is a member of Link Crew, French Club, Garden Club, and National Honor Society. When Salazar isn't at school, you can find her working, babysitting, or volunteering at local thrift shops and Heath, where Salazar attended middle school.

As far as her future, Salazar plans to attend either Wyoming or NAU.

-Isaiah Maes

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Big man has big dreams for the future

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

When AJ Frieler graduated from Greeley West High School in 2010, he definitely left his mark. He was an All-Conference football player that led our team through the playoffs, he was an All-American discus thrower for West, and he was a great overall student and person that others could only dream about being.

Frieler is currently attending Colorado State University and is studying to receive a double

major in Business Management and Marketing. Frieler is currently in the middle of his third year at Colorado State.

After graduating from Greeley West High School, Frieler first attended the prep school at the Air Force Academy. Although Frieler had high hopes of playing football for the Falcons, immediately after his arrival, he suffered a blown out knee and therefore could not play football as

a Falcon. After a year in Colorado Springs, he decided to transfer to Fort Collins and play football as a CSU ram instead. Frieler then played football for Colorado State for two years before he started getting back problems that would eventually force him to stop playing football and focus on his schooling.

Frieler was a very active student during the four

years he attended Greeley West. For his first three years at West, Frieler was a three sport athlete playing football, wrestling, and track. His most memorable moment at Greeley West was the 4A State Championship game that was played at Invesco Field his junior year. "Never give up: that is a lesson that I learned through high school football that I still carry with me today," Frieler said. Although Frieler graduated in 2010, his work ethic and dedication is something that athletes and students today could definitely look up to.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

AJ Frieler

Cheerleaders clinic makes another debut at Greeley

By Eric Seeley
Staff Writer

Frequent attendees of Greeley West sporting events might have seen the cheerleaders hold the pee wee clinic during games throughout the years.

We have yet to see these young boys and girls perform with the Spartan cheerleaders for a Greeley West crowd. They usually hold the event

during halftime of a football game but falling short in participants did not allow them to proceed. Prosperously they will hold one during the winter and perform at a boys' basketball game.

The clinic will take place on February 8th at Greeley West for boys and girls ages four through twelve.

Participation is a charge of thirty dollars which

covers cost for a Greeley West High School t-shirt, pizza, chips, juice, and one free parent admission to the performance at the basketball game on February 13th.

Check in will be at 9:45am in the Greeley West lobby and the clinic will go from 10am to 2pm. The kids will be learning a sideline cheer and dance taught by the Greeley West cheerleaders and

coaches. The kids who come will learn everything the cheerleaders and coaches have at their disposal.

They will perform their cheer and dance at halftime of the February 13th boys' basketball game for the Spartan fans. Proceeds will also go to the cheerleader banquet towards the end of the year along with other fundraising.

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Greeley West H.S.	SAT	April 12- May 17	8:00AM-2:30PM
(No Easter weekend)			

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

Student athletes should be competing in multiple sports

With high school sports requiring more and more time and dedication these days, the amount of three-sport or even two-sport athletes is declining at a rapid rate.

Nowadays, athletes are choosing to focus on a single sport instead of playing and competing in as many sports as

■■■■■■■■■■
**Brandon
Holmes**
Editorial
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possible. With as many summer programs and offseason practices that most teams are now putting on, playing multiple sports is a very difficult thing to do.

Although focusing on one sport may be beneficial to people in some ways, there is a certain competitiveness that athletes lose when doing so. Even though you

may lift more or train more for your certain sport and increase your ability in tangible skills such as strength and speed, you lose opportunities to compete against others in game situations.

Athletes need to play in as many competitive games and scenarios as they possibly can. There is a huge difference between practice situations and game situations. When you compete in real-life game situations, whether that sport is football, basketball, or even golf, you learn to be

competitive and you gain intangible attributes that you just cannot receive during a practice or while training in a non-competitive environment.

Both coaches and athletes need to realize that focusing on one sport alone is not always the most beneficial thing to do. Athletes need to be both dedicated to the sport(s) in which they play, and at the same time aim to be the best overall competitor that they can be as well.

New TV seasons will answer audience questions

The New Year calls for a new start, and for all the TV watchers, it also means new seasons for their

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**Tara
Trevino**
Editorial
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favorite TV shows. Along with school starting, it calls for the winter season premiers for *Pretty Little Liars*,

Ravenswood, *Teen Wolf*, *The Real World*, *Duck Dynasty*, *Klondike*, *Mysteries of Oakland*, *Vampire Diaries*, *The Originals*, *Teen Mom 2*, and plenty more.

Sure most of these are chick shows, but they are also the most advertised all over every single girl's Twitter, Instagram, and other social media.

What's going on with Scott, Alison, and Stiles, the three main characters from *Teen Wolf*, who last season died and came back to life? Are they going crazy with all the hallucinations and bizarre

dreams?

On *Pretty Little Liars*, audiences will wonder, "Is Alison still alive? Is Aria's one true love Ezra apart of the A team blackmailing her and her friends? Who is A?"

For those of you who don't understand the questions from not watching the previous seasons and are curious, you can catch up on Netflix. As for the rest of us, we will all have to keep up to date with this season's new episodes to know the answer to the many questions left unanswered.

Students don't park in south lot to be obstinate

There have been many incidents of students getting notices for parking in the south parking lot recently. There has never been an explanation given on why this parking lot is off limits to students.

It's very convenient for students who have classes in portables and also in the 500 hall. Students are not doing anyone harm by parking in the south parking lot. Considering the parking lot is always empty, it accessible for student parking and the north parking lot which is the designated student

parking lot is always overcrowded and hard to find parking in.

Not only is it hectic to get out of the north parking lot during lunch and after school, but there have

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**America
Monje**
Editorial
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been many accidents due to overcrowding. The north parking lot is also where parents pick up their students so that makes it a lot more hectic before and after school.

There have also been many occasions where rushed parents almost run over students crossing the street. It is very clear that the south parking lot should be open to students to distribute the amount of people in the north parking lot and make it safer.

Students park in the south parking lot any ways and will continue to do it.

Letter to the Editor

Pharmacy program offered

Greeley Central offers the Pharmacy Technician Program through the Health Science Academy, a great way to get a good job after high school.

The goal of this class is to pass a PTCB test and be certified to work in a hospital or retail setting. There is also college credit earned through Arapahoe Community College.

This class is full of new things to learn everyday from guest speakers to visiting the hospital and pharmacies around town.

In March, this class is going to be in a competition sponsored by HOSA hoping they will make it to nationals.

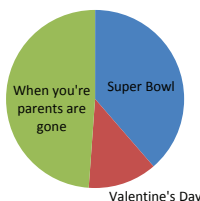
HOSA stands for Health Occupation Students of America. This organization opens many doors for students to get involved in the medicine field. This class is offered to upcoming juniors and seniors.

Be sure to see your counselor for an application to sign up!

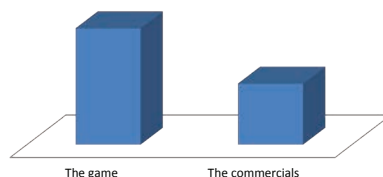
--Autumn Sands

Spartan Pulse

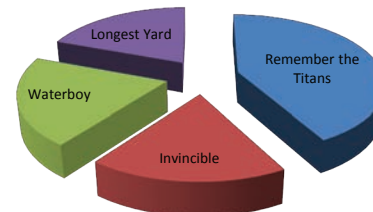
When is the best time to have a party?



What is the best part of watching the Super Bowl?



What is the best football movie?



“Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” Day

|||||||
Chris
Campbell
Editorial
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Couples are everywhere on Valentine's day. Not only couples, but couples and their balloons, their stuffed animals, their stupid candy, and their dumb smiles. Quite frankly, couples on Valentines are the most annoying thing to ever hit the face of the Earth.

What about the single people here at Greeley West? Where's our chance to be annoying? Where's our chance to rub it in all the couple's faces that we are single, and proud of it?

I propose that February 13th becomes national

“Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” day.

This day would be one of the most inspiring and festive days for singles everywhere, we would not use the frilly colors, pink and red, but more vivid and single colors, like electric blue and yellow. Instead of handing out candy and chocolate, single people would treat themselves to amazing meals and crazy dances. Quite frankly, “Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” day would be the day that made every person in a relationship angry.

Imagine it, all those small little people in relationships on “Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” day would have to sit at home, preferably with their boyfriend or girlfriend, and cry with buckets of ice cream. The best part of “Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” would most definitely be the dances at the end of the night. Sort of a mix of New Years and Halloween

meets X-rated Disney Channel, with fireworks.

The best part? Maybe while at the dances, you meet some special guy or girl (who you know is single, because come on, why else would they be there) who you get to spend all of Valentine's Day with. That's two days where you get to rub things in people's faces.

So join with me, single brother's and sister's, let us combine to show the couples of the world how bad they have it.

Let's show them how sad they should be on “Look-At-How-Single-And-Proud-I-Am” day.

“That's two days where you get to rub things in people's faces”

Single on V-Day? Awesome

|||||||
Micheal
Caro
Editorial
|||||||



When most people think about Valentine's Day, they think about a significant other. The day is celebrating something very special in their lives- love. But what most people don't realize is that a great amount of people will enter Valentine's Day single.

What singles don't realize is being single on Valentine's Day is a true blessing. There are many benefits of having no Valentine. First, singles don't have to compete with other couples to impress their

significant other. Impressing a significant other can become very expensive to manage. Singles will save money and can spend it on themselves. Also, single people don't have to take on any responsibilities.

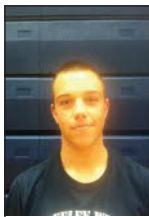
Singles don't have to take their significant other out to the perfect restaurant, buy the perfect bouquet of flowers, or even make them happy. Being single on Valentine's Day doesn't always have to be bad for singles, just look on the bright side.

Valentine's Day is not all about finding true love. It's about appreciating the closest people in someone's life.

Valentine's Day is all about showing love and appreciation to others. But it seems like today, love is becoming expensive to buy.

Going to bathrooms creates a hassle

|||||||
Eric
Seeley
Editorial
|||||||



Students constantly complain about how the restrooms at Greeley West are way too busy, and they are a complete mess. A solution to this and a quick fix to this problem is to open up all the restrooms at Greeley West for the students to access.

There are four sets of restrooms that West offers, but only one set is easily accessible for the students.

The bathrooms in the commons are the only ones that students can get into without any restrictions.

Students constantly complain about how the restrooms at Greeley West are way too busy, and they are a complete

The bathrooms by the boys' locker room are open, but you have to get lucky and hope the gym doors are cracked open or unlocked.

The bathrooms are crowded during passing period and are always a complete mess from the excessive traffic that goes through there daily. If more bathrooms were open to students, they would be able to get in and out faster and not be late to class.

This would also keep the bathrooms cleaner because not all the boys/girls are trying to cram into the same bathroom.

The bathrooms by the lobby and by the gym doors are for teachers use only, but not all teachers use that restroom. Teachers use the bathrooms in the commons to just like the students at West do. So shouldn't the students be allowed to use the so called “teacher's restroom”.

SWEET TWEETS

Sarah Gentry @sarahgensch

“@GWWestword: How did you spend your power outage?” eating my half cooked blueberry muffins on the kitchen floor



GW WestWord @GWWestWord

We've made it as a publication! We're toilet reading... Every paper's goal.

Rizo @rizo_sylvia

“@psychological: Giving students homework over the weekend can increase stress, anxiety, and depression risk.” @GWWestword Thanks teachers.

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.

Ag students in different world

By Eric Seeley
Staff Writer

It is like a whole different world for students that are part of the agriculture program. The AG students are almost an entirely different school by itself. The students are always having to go on field trips to develop their knowledge and skills, and are always having to do after school activities for class.

The Ag department isn't like any ordinary class. They don't really have the same structure of class as all the other classes.

Instead of taking notes, on the computer, or sitting in a desk all day, they have a much more interactive classroom environment. The big thing

that Ag students learn is how to weld. Welding is a key concept for the class and learning how to do different types of welds with different types of welders. The class usually welds panels for the school farm.

"Working with metal products and doing different farm jobs really draw me into the class," said Ray Monje.

The school farm is located on 35th Ave and 37th St. The farm has a wide variety of farm animals ranging from cattle and horses to ducks and

Continued
Ag, Page 16



Senior Ray Monje welds two pieces of metal together in the Ag Shop on Tuesday.

Eric Seeley/West Word

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Counselors get ready for frosh registration

By America Monje
Staff Writer

As everyone knows registration for incoming freshman is approaching very quickly. That's the time when the Greeley West counseling department visits all of the middle schools along with counselors from all the other high schools and they get 8th graders which are soon to be freshman registered and ready to go for high school.

"Well because of registration we have to spend time away from West so we're not available, but we like visiting the middle schools and making it a personal experience for the kids," counselor David Cowan said.

The Greeley West counseling department will be visiting all of the middle schools sometime in the month of February, then on March 4th Greeley West will be hosting an 8th grade orientation for all 8th graders interested in Greeley West.

This is when the kids get to visit Greeley West and sign up for clubs, sports, and can buy spirit wear as well as tour Greeley West themselves. Then in August for the day known as the freshman invasion, Link Crew gives the new freshman a tour of the school, they play team building games, get to meet other freshman as well as upperclassman and get a sense of knowing they have someone there for them if ever in need.

All of these events are extremely helpful in making new freshman feel more at home, so their high school experience at Greeley West can be pleasant and one of a kind.



FASHION TRENDS: Perfect on Valentines

With Valentine's Day rapidly approaching couples are making their big plans for this special day.

You have to find the perfect outfit that looks cute, yet at the same time doesn't look you are trying too hard.

Unfortunately, we live in Colorado so dresses are difficult to wear as it is usually very cold in February.

Luckily you can still wear that cute dress by pairing it with leggings and boots. This also dresses down the look and makes it an effortless, yet cute style. For guys, cardigans are a good way to go, paired with a V-neck and jeans, it is a great way to dress down a cardigan or to dress it up add a collared shirt and tie.

Lauren
Miller
Fashion Expert



Photo Courtesy of Sydney Haines

Sophomores Sydney Haines and Connor Thompson show off their Valentine's Day apparel outside of Greeley West last week. Thompson already has a gift too!

Secret Life Of Walter Mitty better than expected

There are not many movies made that have a character with an incredible imagination. One of the only movies I can think of that does have imagination is *Inception*.

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty is a movie that has a character with a wild imagination.

Walter Mitty works at Life Magazine and lives a boring life, where he is shy and doesn't have many adventures in his life.

There are many times during the movie where he zones out and has crazy experiences like fighting

his boss in the street and saving a puppy from a burning building.



Riley
Mincic
Movie Review

Walter, played by Ben Stiller, creates an eHarmony account because he is too afraid to approach a co-worker that he has romantic interest in. Since Walter has not had an interesting life, he leaves a majority of his profile blank.

When work forces Walter to go out into the world and experience what is going on, he finally has stuff to fill in for his profile.

Some of Walter's travels included areas like Greenland and Afghanistan. In each location, experiences some of mother nature's natural beauty. It seems like a serious movie and that is what I expected going in to see the movie. Once the movie started, there is humor, a love story, and excitement.

An added element to the movie is all of the underlying messages for the audience.

There are many points in the movie where I laughed and it took me a while to stop. This is a great family movie that everyone should take the time to go and see. I give the movie a 8 out of 10 Spartan heads for its humor and good story.

-- Book Review --

The Demon King

by Cinda Williams Chima

to court after three years of riding and hunting with her father's family. Raisa aspires to be like Hanalea, the legendary warrior queen who killed the Demon King and saved the world. But it seems that her mother has other plans for her—

plans that include a suitor who goes against everything the Queendom stands for.

The Seven Realms will tremble when the lives of Han and Raisa collide in this stunning page-turner.

The characters were brilliant and the plot well built. In fact, this book was so good that I had to pick up the next one. It was the most interesting when Han and Raisa met...

- Christi Treutens

Super Bowl by Ariell Martinez



Lack of divers costs West chance to win meet

By Riley Mincic
Staff Writer

There was a huge girl's swimming meet last week. Inner city rivals went at it in an all-out race to the finish line. It was a close meet between West and Greeley Central with Northridge struggling.

Greeley Central came out on top with a score of 450, while West came in second with a score of 415, and Northridge in last with a score of 140.

What it came down to were the divers. The swimmers did their part and gained enough points to win a meet.

West only has one diver on the team, Kelsie Brinklow, and that would be the deciding factor to the win for the Wildcats.

It was senior night at the Greeley Rec Center. West had three seniors that were honored while Central had nine and Northridge had three.

The seniors for Greeley West are Simone Morales, Katie Gilmore, and Nedy Ayala who is a junior but is graduating early.

This would be the first year of the annual Mark Hummels MVP award. The winner of this award was Morgan King from Greeley West.

She swam three state qualifying times. Two in individual races and one in a relay.

The relay that got qualified to go to state was

the 4x200 freestyle. The racers that were involved in getting it qualified included the King, Ellery Sedlacek, Dianna Rowe and Belle Whyrick.

When asked what was going through her head when you qualified, Sedlacek said, "relief, we have been working on qualifying this relay for the past couple of duals and we finally got it."

Next up for the Spartans will be the conference meet which will take place at Mountain View.

Spartans drop 'winnable game'

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

On Friday January 24th the boys' varsity basketball played against the Boulder Panthers, coming off a tough loss against Monarch.

After scoring 13 in the first quarter and 12 points in the second, Greeley West was losing, 28-25. The Spartans got out scored in the third and were down 50-41 heading into the 4th quarter. The Spartans outscored their opponent 20-17 but wasn't enough and lost, 67-61.

"Our mentality was to start winning again. It was a winnable game and we just wanted to get back on track," freshman Darren DeLaCroix said.

"The season hasn't really gone the way we expected it to, especially because we went into Christmas break 5-2. But once we got into league play, the game got way more difficult. There is definitely some room for improvement we just hope it will come sooner rather than later," DeLaCroix said.

He finished the game with 10 points and 3 rebounds and Mason Barnes scored a team-high 16 points with five rebounds.

Greeley West also played Mountain Range on January 28th and suffered a devastating loss and struggled to get anything going offensively. The Spartans also struggled to defend the Mustangs. Greeley West put up a fight, but the Mustangs cruised by the Spartan with a 77-48 loss.

West will take to the floor again on Tuesday night for a road game against Boulder Fairview, which will complete the first half of their conference season.

Sophomore
Skye Smith soars
through the air at
a recent ice
skating
practice, right.
Below, Smith
works on a turn.

Photos Courtesy of Smith
Family



Flying by in a blur

Skating practice, competition fills IB student's life

By Malia Long
Staff Writer

Skye Smith, a figure skater who is a sophomore at Greeley West High School shares her passion through competitions and recitals. She has a new competition almost every season, and recitals in winter and spring.

Smith has been skating for eight and a half years now. She started when she was only seven years old.

"Starting at age seven was very late compared to other skaters" Smith says.

Smith's first competition was at age ten and that was when she felt she became serious about skating. Smith has gone to places such as Denver, Aspen, and Vail for her skate competitions.

She is going to Sectionals in August and if she qualifies she will be heading to regionals.

Smith has attended various clubs being taught by Olympians or Olympian coaches. She even puts on clubs for skaters in smaller levels than her.

Smith can do many tricks such as spines like the camel spin, sit spin, lay back, and flying camel. Her jumps consist of axles, doubles, and salcow, which Skye describes one of these jumps as "splits in the air".

Although skating takes up a lot of her time, she still has time for IB and other social activities. She loves ice skating but she doesn't want to overwhelm herself so much that she becomes burnt out from her passion.

"I love skating so getting burnt out would be very heartbreaking for me," Smith states

Smith is a very talented young girl who is perusing her passion through skating.



Smith

Girls hoops earn first league victory

By Zeke Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The Greeley West girls basketball game enters the second half of its conference season feeling a little bit better with things after earning their first victory of the season last Tuesday.

The Lady Spartans hosted the Mustangs of Mountain Range and came out on top with a

victory, 46-43. Previously, the girls had lost eight straight games.

It was a tight contested game from the start. Junior team Captain Harper Sheets had 14 total points, eight of them coming from the free throw line.

The Lady Spartans will host Boulder Fairview in a league conference game tomorrow night.

Senior wrestler has great year at West

By Chris Campbell
Staff Writer

Henry Alvizo is senior wrestler at Greeley West. He and his team have battled through the season so far, and Henry is doing just fine with his last year.

For this wrestler, wrestling is not just a sport, but a way of life. From cutting weight to lifting, almost his whole life revolves around his wrestling season. "It's a pretty tough sport, you have to be dedicated and have a big heart," Alvizo said. He

has already won 6 out of his 9 matches this year, and he plans to go on and win many more.

Although Henry loves the sport that he's in, he admits that it has its ups and down. His last match, against Rocky Mountain, was difficult for him.

"The very last match I was in was probably the most challenging, it was the one that kept me from getting first in the tournament," said Alvizo.

Win or lose, Henry plans to prosper and even thrive in his last season as a Spartan wrestler.

Physical Ed Students of the Month



Mr. Hanson
Tiauna Brown
Bryan Chacon
Mr. Stieb
Jenea Padilla
Fernando Lopez
Ms. Abbott
Derian Antonio-Jauregui
Jessamyn Bennett-Lobato
Ms. Polling
Emmy Coleman
Zakaria Aden



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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?**



Abbie Polland

A

Italian
Food

Having
Off-Blocks

Italy

Fort Hays

Fell on my back
during a
volleyball game

Channing
Tatum



Princely Damue

B

Chinese
Food

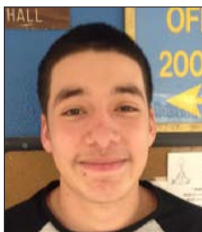
The Girls

Barcelona,
Spain

Oregon State

Got caught
twerking by
my mom

Pink Floyd



Solin Duran

C

Qdoba

Boys
Basketball
Team

Hawaii

Oxford
University

Surgery on
tail bone

Eminem



Zach Jewkes

D

Subway

Going
Off-Campus

Arizona during
Spring Training

Arizona State
University

Depantsed at
Wal-Mart

Adam
Wainwright

Across

- 1- Prices paid
6- Regretted
10- Cave dwellers 14- Disney mermaid
15- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland
16- Airline since 1948 17- European capital, in song
18- 3:00; 19- Jessica of "Dark Angel"
20- Hot time in Paris 21- The despoiling of innocence
24- Goes back on
26- Playground retort
27- "Runaway" singer Shannon
28- Descendant
30- Bamboo stem
33- Pines for
35- Pouch
38- Hammer parts
40- Altar words
41- You are here
43- Volcanic output
44- Bridge holding
47- Denier's words
48- Apartment sign 49- Crossed (out)
51- Mountain range
54- Liverish

58- Unbridled

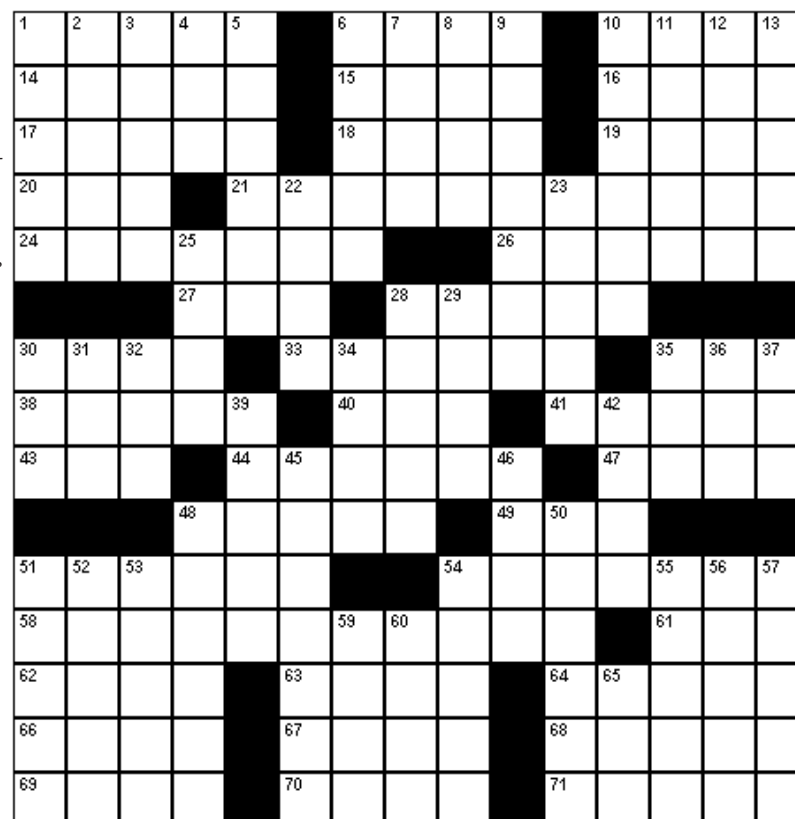
- 61- Dashboard abbr.
62- Enlist again
63- RR stops
64- Classy pancake
66- Mother of the Valkyries
67- Buffalo's county
68- Large cat
69- Type of gun
70- Dispatch
71- Frighten

Down

- 1- Escapade
2- Use a soapbox
3- Femme fatale
4- Type of shirt
5- Heavy hammer
6- Sailing hazards
7- Russian range
8- Canadian gas brand
9- Exit a railroad conveyance
10- Defeated
11- Exhausted
12- Forbidden
13- Slope
22- Hard to hold
23- "_____ by any other name..."
25- Paradise lost

28- Begin's co-Nobel

- 29- Gator's cousin
30- No. cruncher
31- DDE opponent
32- O.T. book
34- Mozart's "___ kleine Nachtmusik"
35- Hit sign
36- Court fig.
37- McBride of "Boston Public"
39- Tempest
42- The King ____
45- Goes by
46- Off-ramp
48- Boring tool
50- Chooses
51- Fathers
52- Inactive
53- Chopin composition
54- Stationed
55- Last letter of the Greek alphabet
56- Higher
57- Sex researcher Hite
59- French 101 verb
60- Drops from the sky
65- Rocker Ocasek



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

STR8TS

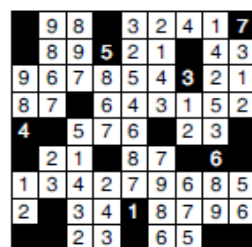
No. 87

Tough



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

Previous solution - Medium

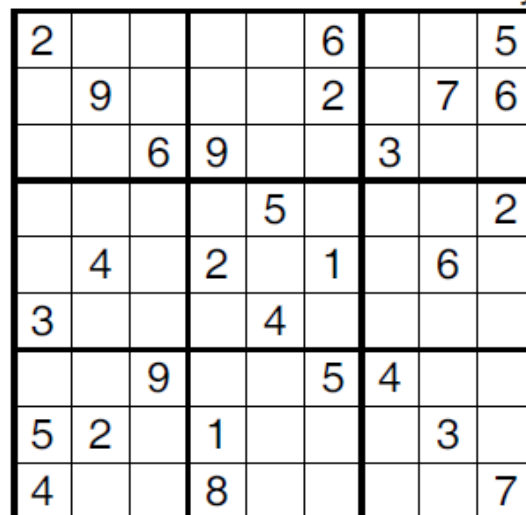


How to beat Str8ts –
Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5].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

SUDOKU

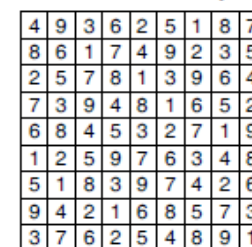
No. 87

Easy



The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

Previous solution - Very Hard



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

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

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

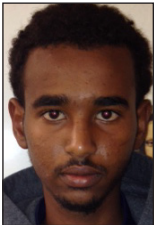
From
Signing, Page 2

Nebraska Community College for softball. Corrales was a four year starter playing softball at West so there was no doubt that she wouldn't play college ball. Corrales earned a half scholarship from the team for her tuition and fees. "I choose Western Nebraska because the softball program is high achieving and have a good reputation," Corrales said. She plans to study psychology and sociology. Corrales plans to transfer to a four years college and continue playing softball if she can. "I'm excited to start my new softball career at Western Nebraska," Corrales said.

Sadam Noor will be signing for Trinidad State to play soccer. Noor was unavailable for comment.

Trevino signed at Western State to play soccer for the Division II school.

Signing day is an important day for student athletes because they are starting a new chapter to their athletic career at a new school.



Noor

From
Ag, Page 10

chickens.

There are always animals at Greeley West that are from the school farm. The goat that is currently in the AG shop came from the school farm. This gives students the opportunity to learn how to bottle feed the goat since its mother has abandoned it. Students also get the chance to hatch baby chickens once the mother hen lays the eggs.

1	C	O	S	T	S	6	R	U	E	D	10	B	A	T	S
14	A	R	I	E	L	15	E	R	S	E	16	E	L	A	L
17	P	A	R	E	E	18	E	A	S	T	19	A	L	B	A
20	E	T	E	21	D	E	F	L	O	R	23	A	T	I	O
24	R	E	N	E	G	E	S	26	A	R	E	N	O	T	
27	D	E	L	28	S	C	I	O	N						
30	C	A	N	E	32	Y	E	A	R	N	S	35	S	A	C
36	P	E	E	N	S	38	I	D	O	41	E	A	R	T	H
43	A	S	H	44	T	E	N	A	C	E	47	N	O	T	I
48	T	O	L	E	T	49	X	E	D						
51	S	I	E	R	R	A	53	B	I	L	I	O	U	S	
56	I	N	T	E	M	P	E	R	A	T	E	61	M	P	H
62	R	E	U	P	63	S	T	A	S	64	C	R	E	P	E
66	E	R	D	A	67	E	R	I	E	69	T	I	G	E	R
69	S	T	E	N	70	S	E	N	D	71	S	C	A	R	E

From
Biggest Fan, Page 3

fan Sanchez received a smirk on his face.

"You've come to the right person, being a fan of the Denver Broncos isn't just that, it's a way of life. I've been a fan ever since I knew about football," Sanchez explained.

"I was an outcast when I was younger and being a part of something that was able to bring everyone together under one name was comforting. The dedication and perseverance the players showed on and off the field gave inspired me."

One of Rolo's favorite players past and present is Ed Mcaffrey, "he was small when he first started and set an example it didn't matter the size because he was beast he didn't care how big his opponent was." Rolando Sanchez sets the example of a true

I've been a fan
ever since I
know about
football.
- Senior
Rolo Sanchez

Students thumbs
getting stronger
through game

By Staff Reports

A new video game sensation is filling the classrooms at Greeley West and distracting students from their work.

Flappy Bird is a new game available on all mobile devices that entertains and frustrates people alike. In the game, players tap their screen to keep a bird from flying into several different green tubes.

Players are scored for every successful tube passed through.


This is not a Greeley West-only phenomenon. There are currently over 7 million players nationwide. The leaderboard has individuals who have passed through 9,999 different tubes.

Johnny Shirazi, a sophomore, has the current known Greeley West record at 100. That's a lot of thumb tapping onto an electronic device.



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