

WEST WORD

March 10th, 2014

www.greeleyschools.org/westword

Volume XLVI No. 12

TCAP: May the odds be ever in your favor

By Malia Long
Staff Writer

The TCAP theme this year is based off of *The Hunger Games*. The school is calling it the "TCAP Games." There will be games provided during lunch and breaks for students, with prizes ranging from bubble gum to hundreds of dollars.

There will be a video made by the video production class that will introduce the theme. It will be based off of the movie *The Hunger Games*.

They have been working hard to get their video ready to introduce the theme and to motivate the students to try their hardest. Attendance is a big priority in this year's TCAP games, because there will be prizes for that too. Students are able to choose the teacher whose room they will be in, so it makes it more comfortable for the kids testing.

It is not mandatory, but if students choose to participate in the games then they have better chances for the prizes.

The games are "minute to win it" games. Participants have one minute to complete whatever task there are to collect as many tickets as they can.

At the end there will be prizes for how many tickets students collected.



Prizes are up on display near the choir room. The prizes can be exchanged for tickets.

Sirena Barker/West Word

TCAP meetings

This year for TCAP, West held class meetings before TCAP actually began. The sophomores and freshmen were on different days, and they discussed how important TCAP will be for them because, starting this year, it goes on their transcripts.

Students also participated in many games and fun activities during the assembly.

Faculty and administration hoped to stress the importance of TCAP to those taking the test, and talked with students in depth about the impact that their tests would have on them.

Juniors and seniors also had a class meeting at the same time as the sophomores and juniors, discussing ACT for juniors and the next steps for after graduation for seniors.

After all the class meetings, there was an assembly which not only reviewed TCAP, but also congratulate those who competed in winter sports, placed in any events in their respective clubs, and other honorable mentions.

--Staff Reports

Prizes make taking test worthwhile

By Staff Reports

In an effort to make students more enthusiastic about taking TCAP this year, the faculty is providing fun and games for TCAP test takers, and although games by themselves might be enough fun for some, Greeley West faculty is also providing a large amount of prizes to students who qualify.

Prizes range from trinkets to sports drinks.

Students will be given tickets for good behavior or for winning one of the many games that have been prepared.

They can trade in these tickets for one of the many prizes that are on display near the hub.

Voting for TCAP

In the weeks leading up to TCAP testing, Greeley West had been hard at work designating TCAP voting. Freshman and sophomore students were able to choose three teachers to test with.

A large amount of the voting was done during English and CAP classes. Students were also pulled out to make sure they got their votes in if they weren't found in class. Surveys were utilized as a way to get students into an environment with a teacher they are familiar with.

--Merall Serif

West showed growth during last year

By Tara Trevino
Staff Writer

The previous year was a big year for Greeley West Spartans after TCAP, results on scores gave West a big boost as far as being ranked. Each school and district is ranked based off of many things, one of the foremost being TCAP.

There is a performing scale that is based off of scores, the previous year students were a yellow which stood for improvement. This year from last year's scores the school is now a green school which is the performing level. West is the only high school in district 6 that is ranked a green school.

"Teachers and administrators are doing their best



Hudson

to make TCAP relaxing and enjoyable for the students to not feel as stressed out, incorporating games and an environment that isn't so tense.

"What the students don't realize is that TCAP affects everyone in the school. Realistically, this year TCAP scores are being put on transcripts this year and future classes will be based off TCAP scores as well," said Mrs. Ann Hudson.

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Vandalism leads to locker lock down

By Alie Olivas
Staff Writer

Recently, the boys' varsity locker room has been shut down due to disastrous vandalism. Greeley West now has to pay thousands of dollars for the juvenile acts of so called "Spartans." And whoever did it ruined the privilege for everyone else that uses the locker room.



Lopez

"It's a pain in the butt not being able to get my P.E. stuff from the varsity locker room because they are always locked," sophomore, AJ Lopez said.

The cieling tiles were torn down, the metal brackets that held them up were bent and destroyed, there were condoms thrown all over, and the vandals used paper towels to block the urinal drains and peed in them.

The school is offering a \$100 cash reward to whoever gives them the correct names of the boys

**Continued,
Vandalism, Page 16**

Brandon Mattes performs among his fellow students. Mattes qualified to play with the CSU honor band.



Lauren Miller/West Word

Honor band man Mattes awarded opportunity to play with CSU group

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

Senior Brandon Mattes took the stage with his clarinet Saturday the 22nd of February, but it wasn't just any stage. Mattes qualified to play in the annual CSU Honor Band along with one hundred other Colorado high school students. Mattes, who has been playing the clarinet for eight years, was picked to play in the concert

and represent Greeley West. The group rehearsed together three days before the concert as well as the day of the performance. The concert consisted of a mix of classic and modern music and a total of four songs. "I enjoyed playing with many other people that play at a high level," Mattes explained. "It was an honor playing in such a high chair." The performance lasted roughly forty-five minutes for a successful audience of the general public.

Students have thrilling time acting nerdy

By Tonya Schiestel
Staff Writer

This year, nerd themed, MORP was held on February 28 in the auxiliary gym. The DJ for this dance is currently a student here at Greeley West. Eric Villalba, a sophomore, requested to DJ at one of our school dances for free and then suggested that the proceeds be donated to charity. MORP was the perfect opportunity for him to do so and it turned out to be a big success. Villalba has been DJing for three years now and producing for about a year. He's always been interested in music and he actually taught himself how to DJ.

"I just wanted to give," said Villalba. "I always like to help out others and I know this wasn't much, but it was something and I hope it made a difference." The proceeds were donated to Katelyn Brand who is currently battling cancer.

She is seven years old and attends Meeker Elementary School. In 2007, she was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma and then in 2008 she went into remission.

Bracelets were sold and donations were also collected at the entrance to MORP to support Katelyn and her fight against cancer. All the ticket proceeds were donated to her as well.

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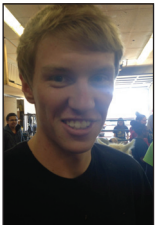
FFA Week February 18-21

"I like doing this because I like animals - dead or alive."



- Brady
Stephenson,
Junior

"I like doing this because it's more fun to get other students involved in FFA."



- Jeremy
Reinders,
Senior

"I like doing this because it helps students understand one of Greeley's cultures."



- Travis
Harbert,
Senior



Teacher goes a long acre to please Agriscience kids

By Jacob Firkins
Staff Writer

Kelly Longacre is the Agriscience teacher here at West. He teaches seven classes, all of which are centered around agriculture. He teaches Agriscience 1, Agriscience 2, Animal Science, Ag Mechanics 3, Ag Mechanics 4, and Pre-Vet.

Longacre got his degree from Colorado State University and majored in Agricultural Education. He began his teaching career at Franklin and taught science, wood shop and some computer classes. He taught there for five years. He then spent his next five years at Eaton High where he taught some of the same things.

He then came here to West because he wanted to have a job where he taught one subject.

Longacre went to Valley High School in Gilcrest and was very involved in school. He lettered nine times in sports. These letters came in football, basketball and track. He also lettered in band as well.

He was in almost every club that was at Valley at the time he was in high school. Just some of these clubs were STUCO, STANDD, FFA and many others.

He has been married for 15 years but doesn't have any kids. His dream job is to take over his family's ranch.

During his free time he works on his hobby farm. His favorite classes are the shop classes where he gets to go out into the shop and work with his hands.

He likes working with his hands and building things in his free time as well. He also likes to watch TV, particularly *Criminal Minds*.



Longacre



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Sanford shares social studies

By Garrett Hays
Staff Writer

There are many new faces around Greeley West and one of those new faces is Lea Sanford. Sanford is one of a few student teachers at Greeley West. She teaches US Government and History.

Sanford currently attends the University of Northern Colorado. "I like to teach and show kids that not only can history be fun but school can be as well," said Sanford.

Sanford went to high school in Delta a little town located just outside of Grand Junction. Sanford was inspired by her high school history teacher and thought he was the best teacher she had ever had. "Because of him, I want to pursue this career and thanks to him I know how to make class fun for the kids," said Sanford.

"It's an honor to teach with Mrs. (Laura) Light-Kovacs and I'm happy to get such a great teacher to student teach for," Sanford said.

Sanford doesn't have a favorite class to teach but loves all of them and the kids. Sanford's favorite class in college was Chinese History. "It's kind of a bummer that I can't teach the history of China but it will still be one of my favorite subjects," Sanford said.

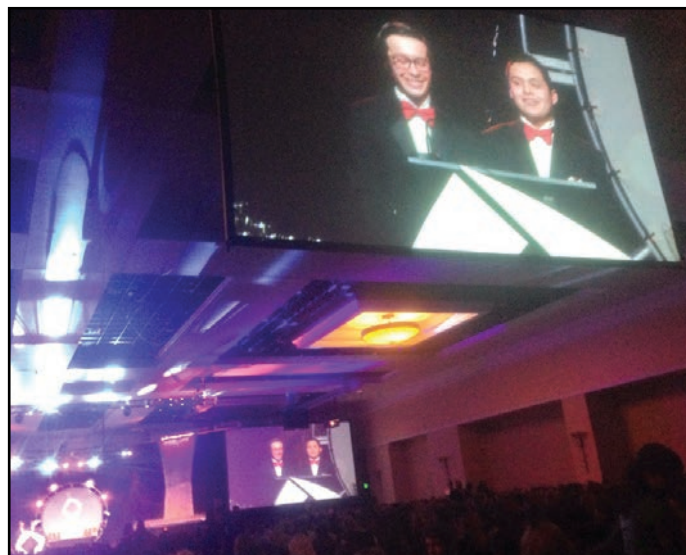
Her favorite part of school is not just the kids but also the history department. "The history department is one of the best group of people I've met and it's amazing that they took me in the way they did," said Sanford.

Sanford will be teaching through the end of the semester.



Garrett Hays/West Word

Student teacher Lea Sanford leads a group activity during her social studies class last week.



Greeley West senior and District 7 officer Aaron Zimola joins another DECA officer on the big screen at the DECA State Conference in Colorado Springs.

Edgar Lopez/
West Word

Marketing successes

DECA spends weekend in Colorado Springs

By Jenea Padilla
Staff Writer

This year Greeley West had eleven qualifiers for State DECA. All of the qualifiers ranged from freshmen to seniors. State DECA qualifiers and Ms. Sherry Christensen left for Colorado Springs on Sunday February 23rd, and returned February 26. It was held at the Broadmoor Hotel.

Christensen was extremely proud of all of her students who qualified for state. "Kids trusted me enough to join and they tried hard. They are kind kids, and they have been very successful. The students took on a challenge and met it," said Christensen.

One of the qualifiers was sophomore Dayna

Rodriguez. It was Rodriguez's first time qualifying for State DECA and she participated in an individual event. She participated in Apparel and Accessories Marketing. "To prepare for state I practiced a lot with seniors, such as Aaron Zimola and Chris Campbell," said Rodriguez. She was very nervous, but excited at the same time.



Wethington

Christensen had a lot of confidence in her students and hoped that many of them would make it to nationals, but no one from West qualified. However, there were two students who were very close. Freshman, Andrew Wethington,

**Continued
DECA, Page 16**

SPARTAN STAR

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

Sylvia Rizo Sophomore



Sylvia Rizo, an active Spartan with tons of Spartan pride, has two more years remaining of her high school career, yet she has already accomplished so much.

Rizo's hard work academically brought about many achievements including a spot on the honor roll, due to her outstanding GPA, as well as the Silver Award for her stellar performance on TCAP.

Not only does the enthusiastic MYP student find herself on the honor roll consistently, she is also a triple threat as far as sports, participating in cross country, basketball, and tennis. On top of athletics, Rizo is also an AVID student, participates in theatre, and is a member of the STANDD club.

As far as her future, Rizo plans to attend Eastern New Mexico University in order to study how to train horses. The cowgirl had spent a portion of her childhood experiencing rodeos and would, indeed, refer to herself as an animal person.

Rizo says ultimately, her main focus in life is her relationship with God. Rizo's energy, work ethic and enthusiasm will allow her to do what she desires in life.

-Isaiah Maes

Club battles bullying, celebrates diversity at West

By Alex Garcia
Staff Writer

No Place For Hate has been around as a club in other schools for many years getting students of all ages to understand the true meaning behind the intentions of the club. Most recently the club has come to West to get involved with the community.

President of the club, sophomore Violet Marcantonio, is trying to expand the club and get more students involved.

"I understand what it's like for students who don't have a big voice; I do have a big voice and use it to speak on behalf of those students," said Marcantonio.

The club is beginning to get more involved this

semester and expect it to keep growing for next year. The club consists of 30 members. Training for the new members completed on February 19.

The club usually looks for students who are passionate about the same things. "I usually ask if they are passionate," said Marcantonio, "If they aren't passionate about diversity and bullying then they probably don't belong in the club."

New club helps students to build integrated community

By Lauren Miller
Staff Writer

The Building Bridges Colorado program is new this year to Greeley West. Although, this program has been at West in a small scale for a couple years, this year it has become much more advertised and popular.

This new program is specifically designed for female Colorado students, and is taking it to a

much larger scale. The previous program was called MEUS which stands for Middle East United States. There were three Greeley West students involved in this program and now with the new Colorado program many more students are joining.

This program involves a 2 week summer intensive program for girls going into 10th, 11th, or 12th grade for the 2014-2015 school year. At this intensive program they work on building

relationships with people not only from their own school, but with students from all over Colorado. This gives students the chance to discuss real problems they may be facing like discrimination or segregation. Students will also learn more about themselves and ways they can be leaders in their school and community. Following the intensive training, they return to their schools as normal and find ways to incorporate things they learned

into their everyday school lives. They also will have monthly "check-ups" the following school year to track their progress. "The building bridges program has taught me that diversity is such a great thing and to appreciate different perspectives. The program has an emphasis on communication and teaches students how to communicate respectfully and listen to others' perspectives," said junior Olivia LaRocco.

Key Club creates a "cause for paws" animal program

By Anna Eisenberg
Staff Writer

For a week in February, the Key Club at Greeley West High School raised money and other supplies for the many animals at the Humane Society in Evans.



Fisher

A table was set up every day during lunch with members asking for donations from students.

As well as the donations, the Key Club was also selling ribbons with paw prints on an "M" to show the support of a student.

"We had a lot more success this year than we did last year," says Key Club sponsor, and teacher at Greeley West, Kimberly Fisher.

As well as the table filled with little ribbons, the Key Club took pictures of many of the different animals at the Humane Society.



Rogers

Teachers could volunteer to place them in their class rooms. Students were also able to donate to these class rooms. The class rooms were mostly excepting things such as food, treats, and toys for both dogs and cats.

Students were not required to donate to the cause but many did.

"I think it's a really noble cause that a lot of people tend to forget about or not notice," said Jacob Rogers, the president of the Key Club.

The club raised more money for the animal shelter than last year and more than they expected to.

Certain class rooms also gained a lot of food supply, toys, and other helpful things. All of the money will go to benefit the Humane Society in Evans.

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Registrating for the future

By Chris Campbell
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, 8th grade students invaded Greeley West for Freshman registration. Students from middle schools in Greeley, Windsor, Eaton, Evans, and LaSalle came to Greeley West in search of interesting clubs, activities, and sports.

Prospective students found myriads of tables in the hub, each manned by students and teachers representing their clubs and trying to get members to join.

Freshman registration has always been important to the clubs at West, as freshman are the future leaders and members of West.

Some clubs had demonstrations, candy, and happy smiles in hopes of attracting students. Many chose to perform in the gym for the hundreds of students.

The theater department performed a dance from their upcoming play *Tarzan*, West Poms performed two of their dances from nationals, cheerleaders performed their routine, and many other clubs performed to the delight of the students.

Many of the Greeley West faculty, students, and teachers are more than excited for the future students to arrive at West, and hope that the future of West is in good hands with the new athletes, leaders, singers, actors and more in the high school.

Spartan senior places first at science fair

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

Sara Lance, a senior at Greeley West High School, recently took first place at the Longs Peak Science and Engineering Fair held at UNC.

The science fair was held on February 27th and was open to any students from Weld County and Larimer County school districts.



Lance

At the science fair, Lance took first place in the Physics group of the competition and was also the third best in the whole fair.

Lance's age group only included students who were in high school, but the science fair included all students varying from 5th grade to 12th grade.

There were over 200 entries into the science fair.

Lance's project originally began as a project for Zach Armstrong's IB Physics class, but Armstrong, being a judge for the younger age group, recommended that Lance enter her project into the science fair as well.

The Wing and Ground Effect is what Lance presented to win first place in the fair. "With placing in the fair, I also qualified for state, which is held on April 10th," said Lance.

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Graduate makes his mark as Division 1 baseball player

By Eric Seeley
Staff Writer

Austin Miller roamed the halls last year as a senior. Miller was not only an outstanding student and athlete, but also a great leader in the community.

Miller knew for a while that he would be attending Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He decided to attend LMU because of their baseball program, and the palm trees that surround the campus.

They are currently a Division 1 school that plays in the West Coast Conference. His hard work on the field and in the weight room has earned him a spot in the starting lineup for the Lions. The team works out three times a week, and is on the field for six days a week. He plays centerfield and currently hits in the second spot for LMU. He is currently leading the Lions in batting average, hits, doubles,

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Austin Miller



Miller

triples, slugging percentage, on base percentage, and hit by pitches.

"I miss some of my favorite teachers that helped me through high school," said Miller.

Miller was also a great role model that the school had. He graduated as one of the top students from the class of 2013. He graduated with a 3.7 GPA. Miller helped out with the Special Olympics program at Greeley West. Miller was a four time varsity letter in baseball and a three time letter in basketball. Miller is a business finance major.

Presidential award a big deal for student

By Edgar Lopez
Staff Writer

Courtney Packard applied for the President's Leadership Award in November, which is awarded to students with high involvement in the community. The main requirement is an essay about a specific experience that had significance to the community and to the applicant's voluntary

career. Packard wrote about her participation in the Relay for Life as a team captain and the personal significance the race had to her. Recently, she received a letter from President Obama acknowledging the effort she puts into helping the community and her school. "The experience that I wrote about was very important to me so it was a big deal to receive the recognition," Packard said

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Greeley West HS.	M-F	March 31-April 4	8:00AM-2:30PM
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

Love her or hate her, Miley entertains us

Even though the Miley Cyrus we grew up watching on Disney Channel has changed dramatically into a hip-hop/rapping diva who dances in her underwear,

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



many people still love her music and are very supportive in everything she does.

Many students here at Greeley

West - including me - even went to the Pepsi Center last Tuesday to support Miley Cyrus in her Bangerz tour. We grew up watching Miley's best of both worlds, on Disney Channel's Hannah Montana, from dating in high school to performing at night as Hannah Montana.

Miley's most recent album released, *Bangerz*, showed America the new music that Miley is



Miley Cyrus performs on her second stage at the Pepsi Center on Tuesday night. Cyrus delighted her legions of fans with a variety of pop music hits.

Jenea Padilla/West Word

making. She is no longer that country girl who used to sing with her father Billy Ray Cyrus. She is now a rapper, and writes and produces music with other artists such as Juicy J, Ludacris, Britney Spears,

Future, Nelly, and many other different artists that she has never performed with before.

Miley has been most recently acknowledged about her new, short, blonde, hair that only

continues to get blonder and shorter. Another thing that stood out to many people recently were Miley's live performances, and vulgar music videos.

In the video for the song "Wrecking Ball," Miley was singing in her bra, and underwear swinging back and forth literally on a wrecking ball, and licking hammers. In the video for "We Can't Stop," you can find Miley, again in her underwear, singing and twerking with giant teddy bears.

Many people from different generations find the new Miley to be crazy and a bad influence for the youth. Others see Miley's new look, and new actions, as finding out who she truly is, and her very interesting music videos as art.

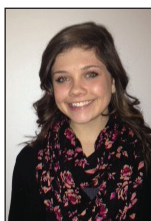
Parents who have young daughters that grew up watching Miley on Hannah Montana are afraid they're going to find their daughters twerking to Miley's new album. Like many other artists, Miley is going through a different phase and who knows; someday she may go back to the country girl that everybody once loved.

Cyrus proves Americans are divided on being role model

Growing up, Hannah Montana seemed to be the "perfect" role model for young girls on Disney Channel. She sang about true friends, that no one is perfect, and that you can have the best of both worlds. She had a cute, innocent and fun personality and it was easy to love her.

This innocence that was portrayed through Hannah Montana on the TV show is much different than the Miley everyone

|||||||
Lauren
Miller
Editorial
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knows today. Many judgments have been made about Miley's new "rebellious" side and that she has lost her positive role model image. Miley has recently stood up for herself saying that Hannah Montana was simply a role she played as a young teenager and that is not who she really is.

Miley has recently been caught doing things like smoking weed and wearing extremely provocative clothing. Parents of

"Hannah Montana was simply a role she played as a young teenager."

teenagers who grew up loving the Miley they knew on Disney Channel have quickly changed their minds about her and don't even want their kids listening to her music. They have quickly changed their opinions about her before even stopping to think about the reasoning behind why she's

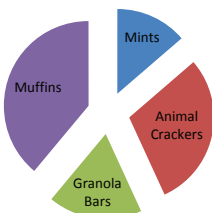
doing the things she is. She and Liam Hemsworth recently broke up and that seems to be about when she started acting a little more rebelliously.

On the contrary, many people of all ages love the new Miley and say they can relate to her pain and lifestyle. They love that she is open about her broken heart and that she doesn't try to act perfect or above anyone else.

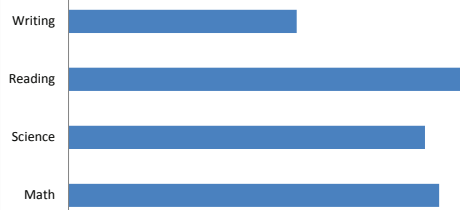
Everyone goes through different stages and being the star she is maximizes her choices and puts a spotlight on her, making her choices appear worse than they truly are.

Spartan Pulse

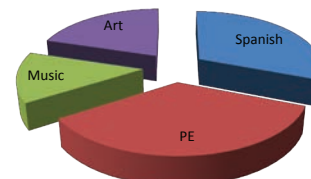
What is the best TCAP snack?



What is the worst TCAP test to take?



If you could add a TCAP subject to be tested, what would it be?



There should be no debate about pets in class

Lately certain teachers have been adding onto their classroom festivities by getting a new class pet. This is a great idea for teachers to get some new furry friends in classrooms for multiple reasons.

When students have classes, they tend to act poorly or fall asleep during class periods, especially on the long block day schedules, but when you have something to lighten the mood, especially something cute and fuzzy, it can make a big difference.

Ms. Ferdinand, also known as Ferdi, got a new bunny in her classroom about two weeks ago, as well as Mrs. Dent.

Whenever I or other students are in the classrooms with the furry friends, they seem to be more optimistic and seem more interested in going to class. They can set off a whole new mood for the classrooms, and bring a little bit of joy.

Some may get the impression that they could perhaps distract students from their learning, but

I disagree because when the teachers want the pets put away and out of sight or mind, they can put them in their cage and in a corner where it wouldn't be a problem.

But during off time, or the last few minutes of class they could bring them out and let the kids pet them. It's a proven fact that petting animals can lower stress levels. This will brighten student's moods and hopefully make them have more positive attitudes during the school week. I encourage all teachers to pick up on this new trend and get a class pet as well for their classrooms.



**Haley
Alberts
Editorial**

Inking up all about fashion, not rebellion

Tattoos today are more common than in the past, not because one is rebellious and dangerous but because the tattoo they choose to get has meaning.

Many high school students today already have tattoos or want to get one at some point in life.

Is this another trend? No. Getting tattoos is a common way to keep memories alive, to tell stories, and simply to express one's self.

When out and about on a day to day basis, tattoos appear at almost every glance, then there are those who choose to get their tattoo on a covered area of their body. People we see every day, like the woman or man that takes your vitals at your doctor's, the firefighter that rescued a dog from a blazing fire, the person that delivers your mail, the uniformed soldier you sat next to on a plane, they all have a tattoo. That doesn't make them any less of a person than the next.

In the past tattoos have been represented by poor judgment, that is a stereotype. Tattoos can be the deepest most heartfelt meaning to a person. Instead of being "disgusted" or giving dirty looks towards others that are "inked up" think about what it may mean to that person.



**Ariell
Martinez
Editorial**

Spring time brings all sorts of fun things to West

Spring time is probably the most enjoyable time for students. The weather starts to warm up, spring sports take place, spring break is near, the end of the school year is around the corner, and for the seniors graduation is coming up fast.

With the weather warming up students fashion trends change from jeans and hoodies to bro tanks and cargo shorts for the males. For the females its leggings and scarfs to

skirts and sun dresses. With the fashion changing the school becomes more colorful because the students are bringing out the festive colors of springs.

Spring sports startup which means baseball, track, girl's soccer, girl's tennis and girl's golf all get going. Baseball is a popular sport within the school, track always has all sorts of athletes on the team, girl's soccer has good looking players on and off the field, girl's

tennis brings some spectators to their matches, and girl's golf is city wide and has only the best female golfers in the city.

Spring break is inching up and many students have plans to go on vacations or staying home and relaxing or even just a week off from school excites most people teachers and all.

And for the seniors graduation is right in front of your eyes and the senioritis may hit hard, but nothing excites a senior more than the idea of graduating and being done with high school to move on with their lives.



**Zeke
Rodriguez
Editorial**

Suck it up, show up to class seniors

**Garrett
Hays
Editorial**



Senioritis has hit and hit hard this spring, and has every senior

struggling to finish up the year. With graduation closing in and closing fast the seniors are getting impatient and ready to leave for the next chapter in their life. As graduation gets closer more and more seniors give up and stop trying in class. Students start to not attend class or just get lazy and begin

to loose interest in the school work. To pass classes all you need to do is show up for class and do work.

As we roll up on the halfway point of the semester kids need to suck it up and show up to class and get work done. We are almost there, so why stop and get lazy now?

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.

Nuggets of wisdom

AVID classes visit
Denver for conference

By Michael Caro
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, February 26th the AVID seniors and sophomores attended the AVID Student Leadership Conference at the Pepsi Center. The student's attended a college fair and also heard from various community leaders and Kroenke Sports entertainment executives. There was also a keynote address from Denver Mayor, Michael Hancock. After the conference, the students attended a Denver Nuggets game.

The field trip was important for the sophomores so that they could meet with college representatives from in state and out of state colleges and learn more about financial aid. A College in Colorado representative gave both the AVID senior's and sophomore's tips for saving for college.

The AVID students heard from a variety of community leaders, such as former athletes and government officials. The students heard their life stories and the challenges they faced. The speakers taught the students how to overcome challenges they might face in high school and

A group of AVID students sit at the Pepsi Center listening to Denver Mayor Micheal Hancock speak.

Photos courtesy of Sarah Bruemmer



beyond.

"The best part about the field trip was listening to the guest speakers and the challenges they faced while chasing their dreams and how they overcame those challenges," said sophomore Robert Perez.

The AVID senior class is the size of 18 students. Most of the students have been in AVID for three or more years and have all been accepted into colleges. The field trip's purpose was to give the seniors a break from school and allowed them to enjoy their accomplishments. Even though the first half of the field trip was all business, the AVID students finished off the day with a Nuggets game at the Pepsi Center.

"The field trip was beneficial for the students but it was more of a reward for the seniors for all they have accomplished in the past," AVID teacher Cyndy Miller-Hughes said.

"The best part about the field trip was listening to the guest speakers and the challenges they faced while chasing their dreams and how they overcame those challenges."

- Sophomore
Robert Perez

Guitar class full of heroes

By Michael Caro
Staff Writer

Greeley West offers a variety of music classes including the Introduction to Guitar which is a recently added class to the West elective panel. The Introduction to Guitar class has been at West for the last two years and is taught by orchestra teacher Tom Nugent. It is a very popular course to take among West students who are interested in music.

"I'm a complete music geek and I take pretty much all music classes that are offered at West and guitar class is by far my favorite class," freshmen Brandon Duarte said.

The guitar students learn a variety of genres such as classical and blues music. Students perform tests once every two weeks to keep track of their progress. The students learn the basics of guitar first, such as how to play melodies and chords. As the class continues the music becomes more difficult. The students will learn and memorize about 40 songs this semester.

"Guitar class is one of my favorite classes to teach at West. It's really exciting to see how much talent there is at Greeley West," orchestra teacher Tom Nugent said.

The guitar class is very attractive to many West students and Nugent expects more students to join the class next year. About a total of 40 students signed up for the class this semester and Nugent believes the class will remain popular among West students.



FASHION TRENDS: Tribal Print

This spring you will notice a lot of tribal print. While Greeley is a pretty small town, we are a little bit behind on fashion trends.

Tribal print was more popular in larger cities last spring but we did see some pops of it show up here as well.

This spring, however it will show up a lot more. You will see more leggings with this print in a variety of colors along with other pops of it in other clothing. You will also see it in scarves and even headbands.

Unlike the huge amount of the print in leggings, it can be found in subtle details as well like belts and pockets. Adding this print can bring out a new, fresh look to an otherwise boring outfit.



Lauren Miller
Fashion Expert



Lauren Miller/West Word

Angeles Bernal, junior, shows off her pop of tribal prints with her belt, paired with any color, it makes for a fun, flary look.

Non-Stop has Liam Neeson, non-stop action

Liam Neeson always seems to find himself starring in some kind of action suspense thriller. In the just released movie *Non-Stop*, he is at it again.

This movie has all the suspense build up you could ask for. Liam Neeson plays an air marshal on a plane. A terrorist begins to text him and tell him that he will keep killing people on the plane until his demands are met. It is truly a masterpiece watching how the director finishes his piece.

This movie was such a great showing that I want

to go see it again. Much of the suspense of the movie is the question of how people are dying on a plane crowded with many other people.

Recent movies like *Taken* and *Grey* that star Neeson are all very similar to one another. The fact that he has skills in hand-to-hand combat and with guns is what makes them alike.

At the end of *Non-Stop*, everything comes together. The mystery gets solved but it is a fight to rescue the plane.



Riley Mincic
Movie Review

Spartan orchestra debuts self-written music

By Haley Alberts
Staff Writer

Recently, there was an orchestra concert that was held in Greeley on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:30 pm.

This concert was a compositions concert, where the chamber orchestra got to play various songs that were written and composed by their very own students.

There were around 20 students that went to

the concert, where they played songs that were personally chosen by the players themselves, or songs that were written by them.

The students got a lot of amazing opportunities with this concert, to play songs that meant something personal to them. Aaron Zimola got to play "A Thousand Years" during the concert, which was a popular song known mostly from the Twilight movies. Also, Nate Evans got the chance to play a solo.

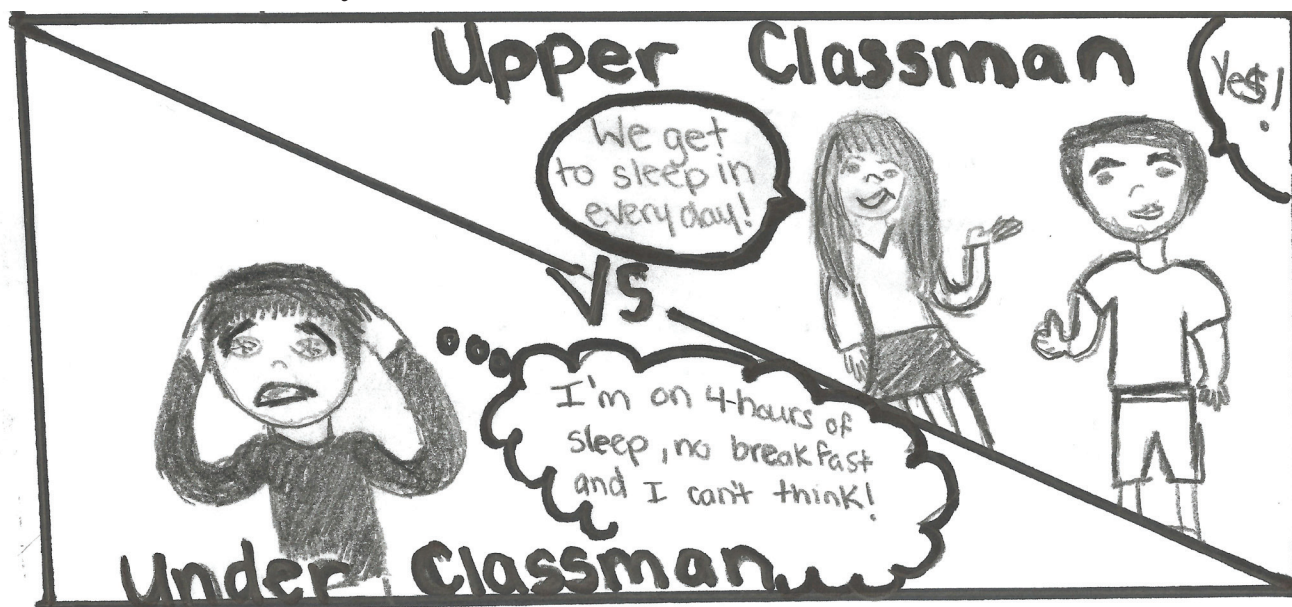
Lindsay Dalton got the chance to play two pieces

that she wrote herself, called "Death and the Maiden" and "The Wanderer" that was a piano and violin duet.

Dalton stated that, "It went well, and the composition sounded good throughout the concert, and it was very cool being able to play our own pieces that no one has ever heard before."

The concert went well, and was helpful to the musicians to be able to compose their own pieces, and show them to the public. This showed all their talents and skills on a personal level.

JCAP Week by Ariell Martinez



West relay team places at state

By Riley Mincic
Staff Writer

The Greeley West girls swim team finally wrapped up their season on February 15. Four girls out of the team were there as they were the only ones to make it to State. The four girls that made it were Morgan King, Isabelle Whyrick, Dianna Rowe, and Ellery Sedlacek.

State was held at the VMAC Aquatic Center which is host to other 5A Front Range league teams. Schools like Horizon and Mountain Range use this as their home pool for swim meets. The pool can hold many swimmers, with not a big team going to state, West might have been one of the smallest teams to go.

Morgan King competed in the most events on

the team. She swam in the 50 free, 100 Butterfly, and the 4x200 freestyle relay. The other girls only swam in the relay, which dropped time and set the girls up for a great season next year.



Rowe

The girls were mostly underclassmen this year or juniors. The lone three seniors, one is a junior graduating early, set the team up to have a great year next year. There are great expectations for the team to swim well next year.

Swimming usually doesn't get many spectators besides the parents that go to watch. We need to make it our job as a school to get out there and to support the swimming teams. The fans can make a difference in how the team does. The crowd can pump them up to swimmer better, faster, and stronger.

Spring sports hope to compete

By Brandon Holmes
Staff Writer

Track and field, baseball, boys' swimming, girls' soccer, and girls' tennis are all of the sports which take place during the spring season.

Greeley West High School's track and field coach Rich Davis has been the head coach at West for the last two years. The turnout of students for track and field has jumped from 70 kids last year, to 120 kids this year.

"Although we don't have the superstars that we have had in the years past, our team will be a lot deeper and will leave us better off when it comes to team competitions," said Davis.

Greeley West High School's baseball coach, Brian Holmes, has been the head baseball coach at West for the last seven years. Holmes is very hopeful for this year's season as well.



Davis

"We have a group of players that have played together for a long time and hopefully this will be the year they bring it all together," said Holmes.

Boy's swimming is another one of the five sports that is held in the spring season. Colin Shaha, the head coach for boy's swimming, is very hopeful for this season.

"We have a lot of returning seniors this year that have put a lot of time into

**Continued
Spring, Page 13**



Photo Courtesy of Greg McAdams

Senior Adrian DeLaCruz poses with his third-place medal at the State Wrestling Championships at the Pepsi Center. DeLaCruz lost a hard-fought match 10-7 to undefeated PT Garcia.

Finishing strong

Two Spartans make podium at state meet

By Mason Barnes
Staff Writer

The class 5A state tournament for wrestling was held February 20-22. Greeley West sent three wrestlers to the tournament. Seniors; Adrian DeLaCruz, Emilio Rubio and Junior Dylan West. Both DeLaCruz and West won their first round matches, but Rubio lost by fall.

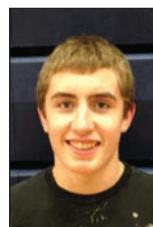
DeLaCruz then went on to the Quarterfinals and defeated Pachello from Arvada West 7-3. West defeated Snider of Ponderosa in a close 5-4 match. Rubio went on to win in a major decision 14-2 over Rothgeb of Fountain Fort Carson in the Consolation bracket.

DeLaCruz continued his dominance with a 5-2 win over House from Ponderosa in the Semi-Finals. Dylan West's run would end in the Semis as he fell to Hankins of Coronado 7-5.

But then West won his Semi-Final match 9-2 in the Consolation bracket. Rubio won an 11-5 decision over Dominic Dincola of Bear Creek in the consolation bracket.

Rubio was the first wrestler knocked out of the tournament going 2-2 in the tourney, after his losing 9-2 in his final match. Dylan West won a closely contested match 4-3 over Brandon Madril of Pomona to take home third place at 126 lbs in the 5a tournament. DeLaCruz made it all the way to the state match against PT Garcia (41-0) DeLaCruz lost a hard fought match 10-7 finishing second in the state with a 40-6 overall record.

After sending 3 wrestlers to state bring home a third place medal and second place medal is something to be proud of.



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From Spring, Page 12

preparing for this season," said Shaha. Shaha believes that they will have much stronger conference and state meets this year as well.

The Greeley West High School girls' soccer team is also expected to have a breakout season this year. "Some people say that we are strong contenders for the state tournament, and that puts a lot of pressure on all of us," said sophomore Caeley Lordemann. Mike Lordemann, the head coach for girls' soccer,

has been coaching at Greeley West for many years and these girls have put in many hours preparing for this season.

The girls' tennis team, led by head coach Ryan Pace and assistant coach Zach Armstrong, also expect a good season from their squad. "We have a strong team and will be even better than we were last year," said Armstrong. As well as being strong competitors this year, they only have two seniors that will graduate which means they will have many girls returning for future years to come.

Basketball teams finish difficult seasons

By Zeke Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The 2013-2014 boys basketball season came down to winning both of their final games to make the playoffs. They won the first game against Loveland by a generous margin with the score 90-75. Senior Mason Barnes touched the Indians defense with a whopping 35 points. The second

game was a win and in but the Spartans fell short with a 61-57 loss.

The Lady Spartans had a rebuilding season with first year head coach Mark Jarnot and lots of young talent on the team. The lady Spartans finished 4-19 with only one of those wins coming from conference play against mountain range.



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What?

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

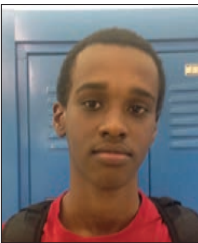
WHAT is your favorite food to eat?	WHAT is the best part of Greeley West?	WHAT is your dream vacation location?	WHAT is your dream college?	WHAT is your most embarrassing moment?	WHAT celebrity do you want to meet?
---	---	--	------------------------------------	---	--



Ruben Bocanegra
Class of 2014

A

Pizza	Hanging out with friends	Mexico	University of Nebraska	Slipped on ice in front of my friends	Will Smith
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Mahamoud Ahmed
Class of 2015

B

Cherry Pie	Olivia DeNovellis	Dubai	University of Colorado Boulder	Getting questioned by the newspaper	Carmelo Anthony
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Jonny Shirazi
Class of 2016

C

Spaghetti	The music program	Paris	University of California Berkely	Fell out of a tree while chasing a squirrel	Vin Diesel
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Bevin Schneider
Class of 2017

D

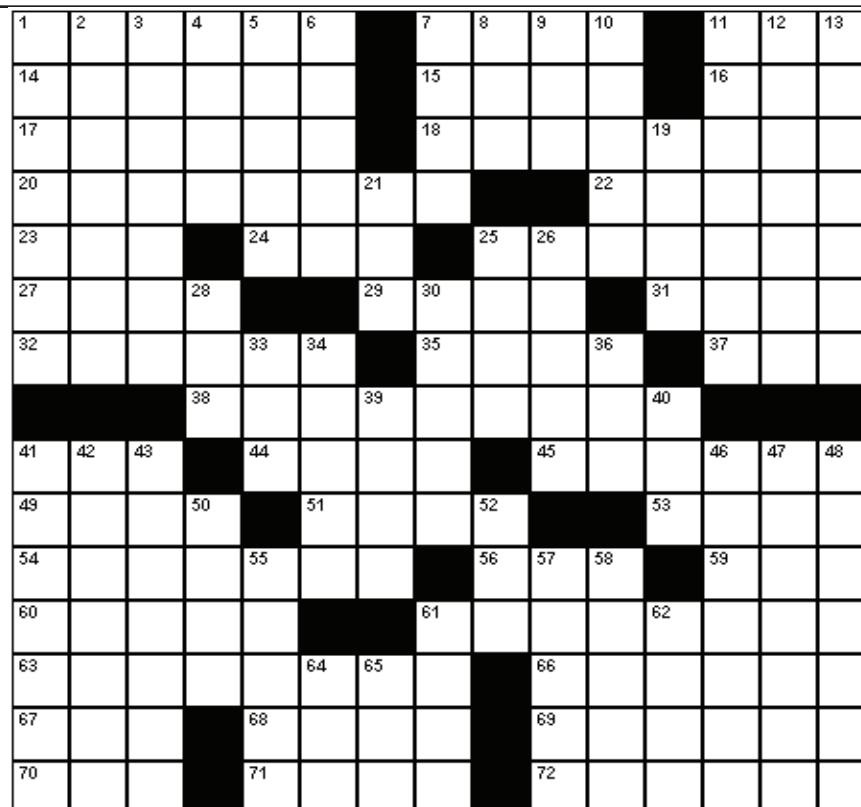
Mac & Cheese	The sports	Dubai	Univerisity of Washington	Air-balling a free throw	John Wall
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Across
 1- Missing
 7- Grime
 11- 1970 Jackson 5 hit
 14- Jaw
 15- Bakery employee
 16- Junkyard dog
 17- Swindle
 18- Merchant ship's nationality
 20- Annoy
 22- City on the Nile
 23- China's Chou En-____
 24- RR stop
 25- Previous monetary unit of Germany
 27- ____ dancing is popular with cowboys!
 29- Singer Ives
 31- Bird of prey
 32- "The Ice Storm" director
 35- Revivalists
 37- Against a proposition
 38- Abductor
 41- From ____ Z
 44- Litigant
 45- Attack with severe criticism
 49- Golfer Ballesteros
 51- Group of tents
 53- Ask for divine guidance
 54- Ragtime dance

56- Sister of Zsa Zsa
 59- "Wheel of Fortune" buy
 60- Magna ____
 61- Happening every two years
 63- Not safe
 66- Treeless tract
 67- "____ Ventura" was played by Jim Carrey
 68- Bone: Prefix
 69- Tantalizes
 70- Cleaning agent
 71- Spotted
 72- Late bloomers;

Down
 1- Accessory
 2- Sheikdom in the Persian Gulf
 3- Hoarding
 4- Decorative case
 5- Bird homes
 6- Pay for
 7- Dreadful
 8- Bump off
 9- Rule, for short
 10- Instant
 11- Photochemical
 12- Mexican dish
 13- Freezing mixture
 19- Went under

21- Bar bill
 25- Type of school cook
 26- Failures
 28- Antlered animal
 30- Render weaponless
 33- Frozen Wasser
 34- Elicit
 36- Fairly dry, when describing champagne
 39- Type of tide
 40- Knock vigorously
 41- Not sociable
 42- Period of a renter's lease;
 43- Supervise
 46- Gad about
 47- Wicker receptacle for documents
 48- Blind
 50- Italy's Villa d'____
 52- Architect I.M.
 55- Folded food
 57- Roman goddess of the hearth
 58- Pays to play
 61- "It's ____ real"
 62- Cool!
 64- Exploit
 65- Numbered rd.



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

STR8TS

No. 90 Medium



Previous solution - Easy

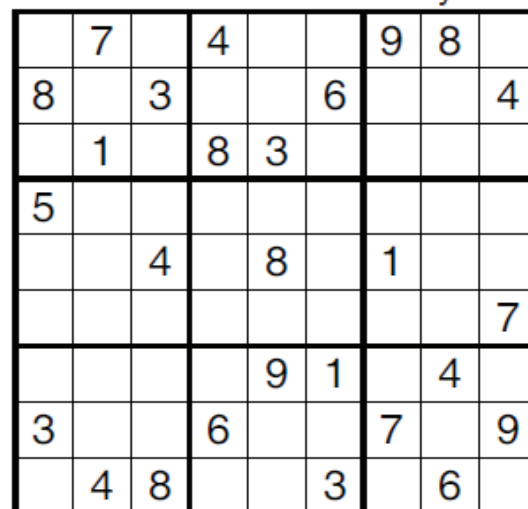


How to beat Str8ts –
 Like Sudoku, no single number can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. These need to be filled in with numbers that complete a 'straight'. A straight is a set of numbers with no gaps but can be in any order, eg [4,2,3,5].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

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

SUDOKU

No. 90 Very Hard



Previous solution - Tough



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

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

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

The solutions will be published here in the next issue.

1	A	B	S	E	N	T	7	D	I	R	T	13	A	B	C
14	N	A	T	E	R		15	I	C	E	R	16	C	U	R
17	C	H	O	U	S	E		18	R	E	G	I	S	T	R
20	I	R	R	I	T	A	21	T	E		22	C	A	I	R
23	L	A	I		S	T	24	A		25	P	F	E	N	N
27	L	I	N	E		28	B	U	R	L		29	K	I	T
32	A	N	G	L	E		33	E		34	N	E	O	S	
							38	K	I	D	N	A	P	P	E
41	A	T	O				42	S	U	E	R	43	S	C	A
46	S	E	V	E			47	C	A	M	P			P	R
54	O	N	E	S	T	E	P		55	E	V	A		56	A
59	C	A	R	T	A				60	B	I	E	N	N	I
63	I	N	S	E	C		64	U	R	E		65	S	T	E
67	A	C	E				68	O	S	T	E		69	T	E
70	L	Y	E				71	S	E	E	N		72	A	S
															T



Dayna Rodriguez, Savannah Drury and Kayla Hoskins enjoy their last meal at the DECA state competition.

Edgar Lopez/West Word

From
DECA, Page 4

and senior, Aaron Zimola were two people from West that made it into the finals.



Zimola

Wethington participated in the Principles of Marketing. Principles of Marketing is an event that only first year DECA members can participate in. Wethington plans to stay in DECA throughout his high school career. He joined DECA because he likes the business aspect of it. "My greatest experience at state was being

called up on stage as a finalist," said Wethington. He isn't positive what event he'll participate in next year, but he does plan on staying in individual events. Next year he plans to try to be a state officer.

Aaron Zimola was a state officer for DECA and he was in charge of nine different schools, all a part of Weld County. Since Zimola will graduate in May, his state officer position was just recently passed on to a student from Loveland High School. "I was basically a celebrity," Zimola said.

Being a state officer is an important role, and with that comes a lot of attention. As an officer he had everything paid for on the trip including meals, and his suite. Aaron participated in the Apparel and Accessories Marketing and was very close to qualifying for nationals.

From
Vandalism, Page 2

who did it.

"We want to find out who did it to make them suffer the consequences," Athletic Director Mr. Jeff Cranson said.



Greeley West students and staff take pride in being a Spartan and are proud to say they are a part of the family. However, when childish acts such as this one occur, it is an embarrassment to the whole school.

Administrators, faculty, and teachers alike are appalled that anyone in the school would do something like this to Greeley West High School, and many encourage the vandals to come forward and admit to their crime.

"The boys need to grow up and be held accountable for their actions- It's gross and immature," said P.E. teacher Tory Hanson.

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