



West Elgin Secondary School 2008 ONTARIO SCHOLARS



Katelyn Caughell
Wallacetown
Parents: Shawn and Wanda
Attending University of Waterloo
Program: French



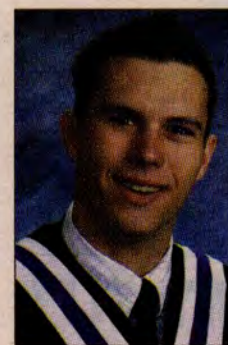
Kaitlyn Claxton
Wallacetown
Parents: Leah and Martin
Attending McMaster University
Program: Humanities



Victoria Close
Dutton
Parents: Mike and Pam
Returned to WESS



Brittany Correia
Dutton
Parents: Helena Clark
Attending University of Western Ontario
Program: Kinesiology



Jonathon Dietrich
Wallacetown
Parents: Evelyn Dietrich
Attending Fanshaw College
Program: Construction



Stephanie Dos Santos
West Lorne
Parents: George and Lourdes
Attending Western University
Program: Bach. Science Kinesiology



Alyssa Doub
Wardsville
Parents: Brad and Kathy
Attending University of Western Ontario
Program: Music



Sheri Ford
Dutton
Parents: Chris and Wayne
Attending University of Windsor
Program: Human Kinetics



Stephanie Gash
West Lorne
Parents: Judy and Stephen
Attending University of Toronto
Program: Film



Cecile Gionet
Rodney
Parents: Kathy Gionet
Attending Huron University College
Program: Arts - Languages



Karen Godfrey
Wallacetown
Parents: Tom and Donna Jean
Attending University of Windsor
Program: Concurrent BA/BEd/E.C.E.



Taylor Gosnell
Iona Station
Parents: Tony and Michelle
Attending University of Guelph
Program: Psychology



Brendan Guest
Rodney
Parents: Vaughn and Laurie
Attending University of Western Ontario
Program: Engineering



Sarah Hamelin
Iona Station
Parents: Denis and Dawn
Attending University of Waterloo
Program: Environment and Resource Study



Brittany Hein
West Lorne
Parents: Hal and Yvonne
Attending University of Western Ontario
Program: Bach. of Science in Nursing



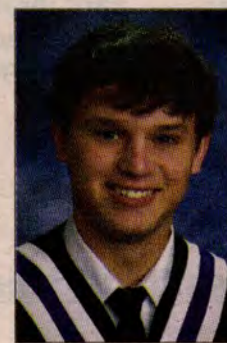
Rachel Humpfrey
Rodney
Parents: Jim and Marie
Attending McMaster University
Program: Physical Science



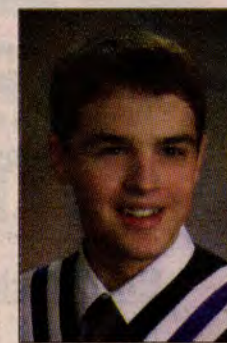
Sarah Johnston
West Lorne
Parents: Heather and Jim
Attending Laurier
Program: History Archeology



Emily Kalmbach
Rodney
Parents: John and Anna
Attending Laurier
Program: Cultural Studies and Anthropology



Jeff Koscik
West Lorne
Parents: Rich and Heather
Attending Carleton
Program: Political Sciences



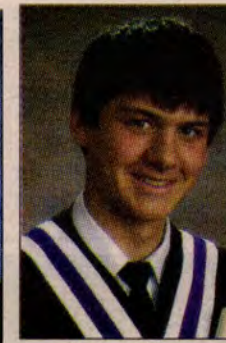
Jeremy Koscik
West Lorne
Parents: Rich and Heather
Attending University of Waterloo
Program: Life Sciences



Danielle McGill
Rodney
Parents: Patsy and Mark
Attending Huron-Western
Program: English



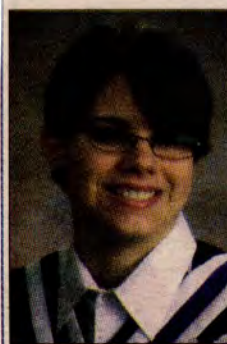
Nicole Oliveira
West Lorne
Parents: Maria and Domingos
Attending Fanshaw
Program: Pre-Health Science



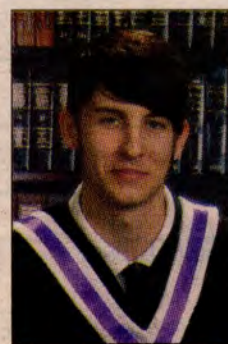
Spencer Payne
Iona Station
Parents: Rick and Sonia Payne, Karen and Grant Campbell
Attending Ridgetown
Program: Agriculture



Emily Rose
Dutton
Parents: Dave and Connie
Attending Mohawk College
Program: Pre-Health



Erin Sheedy
West Lorne
Parents: Jillian and Stephen
Attending UWO
Program: Visual Arts



Matt Soos
West Lorne
Parents: Peter and Kathy
Attending University of Guelph
Program: Bach. of Bio-Resource Management Degree



Rebecca Stone
Dutton
Parents: Valerie and Robert
Attending University of Victoria
Program: Geoscience



Dan Sutton
Dutton
Parents: Trish and Joel
Attending University of Windsor
Program: Human Kinetics



Catie Welch
Dutton
Parents: Dave and Elaine
Attending University of Guelph
Program: Honours Art - Major Theatre Studies



Ann Pfeifer
Iona Station
Parents: Dorothy and Greg
Attending Western University
Program: Health Sciences



Kaylie Wood
Dutton
Parents: Helena and Steve
Attending University of Guelph
Program: Animal Biology

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

Sarah Dick
West Lorne
Parents: Wendy and Darrell
Attending York University
Program: Studio Art

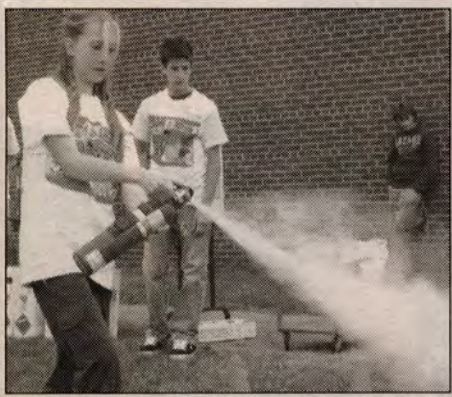
Jessica L Gregory
Dutton
Parents: Barry and Brenda
Attending Brescia-UWO
Program: Food and Nutrition



WESS Commencement JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

The WESS Commencement was held Oct. 9 in the school gym. This year's Valedictorian is Catie Welch. Congratulations to the award winners and the graduating class of 2008!

Farm Safety events in West Lorne



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

WESS Safety Day

Kiana Brown learns the proper way to extinguish a fire May 30 at WESS. Safety Day presentations taught students how to handle farm equipment and ATVs

The farming community has a greater understanding of safety following farm safety presentations at WESS and the West Elgin Community Health Centre (WECHC) May 30.

The WECHC was visited by guest speakers including MPP Steve Peters and Steve Zronik with the Ontario Farm Safety Association to talk about the importance of farm safety. The health centre performed a Farm Family survey in 2006 covering about 600 families and found that 83 per cent of farmers were self taught in the use farm equipment, and 48 percent would take the chance to learn more about how to stay safe. At WESS, students held a Farm Safety Day; high school students had farm equipment and safety displays set up on the school grounds to educate grade 5 and 6 students from Dunwich-Dutton Public School.

Zronik said farm related accidents have been going down since that time.

"Employers have a number of responsibilities under this act now. If you employ labour, you have to make sure your equipment is maintained in good condition and that any protective devices, shields and guards are in place," said Zronik.

Zronik said that workers, especially inexperienced workers, are more likely to take risks because they don't know who to ask for help. Farm equipment can be very dangerous, so workers should never operate equipment they don't fully understand.

MPP for Elgin, Middlesex, and London Steve Peters reminded the audience that workers cannot be reprimanded by their employers for refusing unsafe work.

"One of the things that always troubled me over the years was that there was at least 10 young people, under the age of 20, who died on the job in the province, and young people were more likely to be killed or injured on the job within their first 30 days than anyone else was," he said.

Tracey Cross, a member of the Lampton Farm Safety Association, spoke May 30 about the importance of farm safety. Her son Jamie was killed 11 years ago after falling off a tractor.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Farm Safety and volunteer appreciation

Steve Zronik of the Ontario Farm Safety Association was one of several guest speakers at the West Elgin Community Health Centre May 30. Speakers gave valuable tips for staying safe on the farm. MPP Steve Peters also spoke.

Steve Zronik has been with the Farm Safety Association in Ontario for 28 years as a consultant, communications specialist.

The Occupational Health and Safety Act was developed for Ontario Farms in June 2006.

News THE CHRONICLE JAN 24/08



WESES cafeteria awarded by Eat Smart

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

The Eat Smart award is given to school cafeteria's that offer a good selection of alternative healthy foods and exceptional standards in food safety. Kate Underhill and Sonia Colautti (left) with EatSmart were at West Elgin Senior Elementary School Jan 9 to give the award to cafeteria staff Anne Wrobell, Veronica Fodor and Brenda Eckeir.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Can a Wildcat outrun a Viking?

Wildcats number 37 Jason Carroll ran for the score zone as Aurthur Voaden S.S Vikings closed in Oct. 23. A close game ended with a score of 14-10 for the Vikings.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

WESS wins best of five

The WESS Volleyball team won best of five games against Central Elgin Oct. 23. Number 12 John Drummelsmith (left) went for a spike. This win puts WESS in 1st place in the South Division. Playoffs start Oct. 30. WESS will get a bye.



JEAN GUY ST. JACQUES/THE CHRONICLE

WESS Athletes Banquet June 4

This year's WESS athletes of the year award winners from left to right: Debbie Lavesley, Emma Wilkins, Dan Sutton, Aaron Cowall and Jonathan Godfrey. JUNE 12/08



SUBMITTED

WESS Jr. Volleyball gets WOOSA Silver.

The West Elgin Wildcats Junior volleyball team won TVRAA gold and then went on to win silver at WOOSA on Nov. 13. Back Row: Tina McCaffery (coach), Sean Millard, Rob Roos, Zach Dymock, Tyler Hull, Jason Ambrose, Emily Varga (ast. coach). Middle: Jason Alves, Cody Parker, Ryan Leys. Front Row: Cody McKinnon, Cole Schnekenburger, Robert Johnston. NOV 27/08

Schools debate a change to recess

Local elementary schools are looking at changing recesses.

Instead of having three recesses, the three public elementary schools would switch to two, possibly as soon as after March break.

Called a Balanced School Day, a students day would be changed to three 100 minute blocks with two 40 minute nutritional breaks.

Parents from Dunwich-Dutton, Aldborough and West Elgin Senior Elementary School met for an information session Dec. 10 where a principal from C.C. Carruthers in London explained that schools experience since switching to the new schedule.

Locally, 75 per cent of the surveys (expected to be distributed mid-January) must be returned with 80 per cent approving the balanced school day.

"You still have the same number of minutes in a day but its rearranging the times in a day," said WESES Principal Dave Westaway.

A benefit of a balanced school day, for WESES particularly, will be the split of the lunch break from West Elgin

Secondary School. "I'm not saying its bad or good but the kids are at different stages of life," said Gibbons. "They don't need any more influences."

A designated lunch time would virtually be eliminated with a balanced school day.

Instead, students would have two nutritional breaks, one at 10:20 and another in the afternoon. Students would have two, smaller lunches, which research shows is more beneficial.

Twenty minutes of each 40-minute break would be designated for nutrition, eating and the second half of each break would be for recess for students to take part in extra activities like intramural sports or music.

Research has shown student energy levels are boosted in the afternoon, after a second nutritional break.

Now, english and mathematics are usu-



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Recess may change

WESES student Daniel Wittek (left) plays basketball during recess. Schools are considering changing the recess duration

ally taught in the morning, the student's prime learning time, when their attention levels are higher.

With the second nutritional break, students will have more energy and "brain power" to learn "tougher subjects" in the afternoon, said Gibbons.

As a parent with a student at DDPS and WESES, his children come home after school, have a snack and struggle to get started on homework.

Breaking up the long afternoon of classroom time may

benefit students, who will have more energy when they get home.

Classroom time is already being lost around the recess time.

"When you have more recesses you're losing more time when they are putting on their snowpants or when they are taking them off when they come in so you are losing five or 10-minutes before and after each recess," said Westaway.

"We'll see how it goes in the new year see how our council wants to move ahead. We want to try and

do it all together but if two school don't want to we'll take it from there," said Westaway.

The change will be a challenge for teachers and parents who will have to possibly pack lunch differently.

If surveys do go out to parents in January, it's possible the balanced school day could be implemented after March break, as a trial.

Schools have proposed to the superintendent to try the balanced school day as a trial, which could be permanent next September.

Chronicle Kid!



Alex Kirshner
Age: 12
School: WESES
Favourite tv show: Hockey Night in Canada
Favourite activity: Playing Hockey
What you want to be: A Hockey Player

If you or someone you know would like to be a Chronicle Kid, just give us a call at 768-2220.

Chronicle Kid!



Chris Batton
Age: 6
School: Aldborough P.S.
Favourite tv show: Danny Phantom
Favourite activity: Playing basketball
What you want to be: A Policeman

If you or someone you know would like to be a Chronicle Kid, just give us a call at 768-2220.

Dominant WESS hockey victory

The WESS Boys team went up against the St. Joe's Rams in hockey action Dec. 11, ending in a thorough victory for the Wildcats.

Troy Cook made two goals. Tyler Duarte and Zach Welch each made one. Assists to Mike Verboom with three, Brendan Munn, Brandon Baptista and Zach Dymock all with one each.

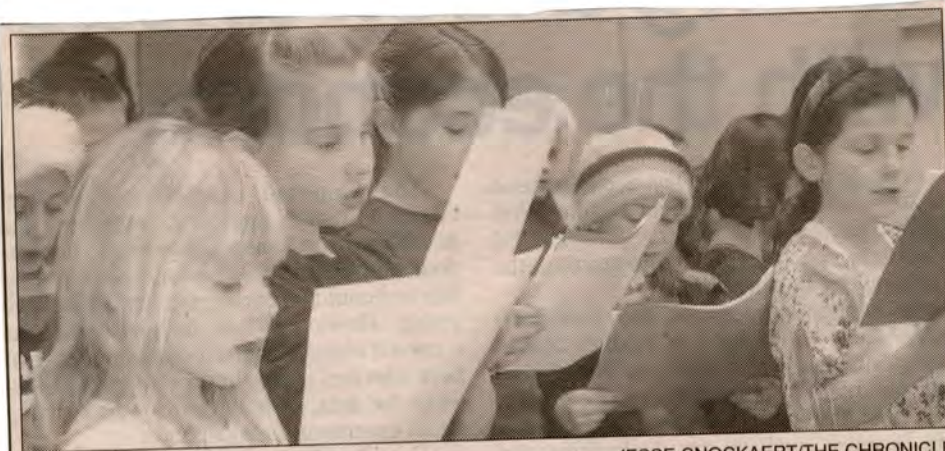
The team was shorthanded for the entire second period. But despite that, the Wildcats never lost control of the game.

The game ended 4-1 for WESS.

St. Joes is one of the favourites to win this year and were unbeaten prior to this effort by the Wildcats.

Boys Hockey Coach Rob Tait described WESS's victory as "dominant", saying that this game was the most complete hockey victory he has ever coached.

The next WESS home game is Jan. 13 against East Elgin. **DEC 18/08**



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

St. Mary's choir performance

Students from St. Mary's Catholic School held a choir performance at the West Elgin Community Health Centre Dec. 15.

JAN 2/09

WESS athletes compete at OFSAA in hurdles and races

On May 31, two athletes from West Elgin Secondary School competed at the OFSAA West Regional High School Track and Field Championships at TD Waterhouse stadium in London. The event featured the top high school athletes in Southwestern Ontario from Windsor to Kitchener/Waterloo.

Jess Kalita and Deb Levesely qualified for the competition with fine performances at the WOSSA championships the previous week. Both athletes ran personal bests in their respective events. Jess Kalita finished 8th with a time of 1:09.2 in the Senior Girls 400 metre hurdles and Deb Levesely finished 11th in the Junior Girls 800m with a time of 2:38.53. This was the last event in the Wildcats Track and Field season. The team enjoyed a fine season this year sending 9 athletes to the WOSSA championships. The Wildcats competed at meets this year in London, Strathroy, Chatham and Woodstock.



OFSAA West Regional Competition

SUBMITTED

WESS student Jess Kalita competes in the Senior Girls 400 metre Hurdles at OFSAA May 31. Kalita finished 8th. WESS student Deb Levesely finished 11th in Junior Girls 800 metre dash.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Rehearsing for Musical Showcase

Amanda Ackersley and Karly Danis practice on March 20 for the 2nd annual Musical Showcase in the West coming up March 27 in the WESS gym. 2008



Wildcats win Bronze at OFSAA

SUBMITTED

At OFSAA the Wildcats blew through pool play defeating all of their opponents in two straight games. In the quarter-finals the girls defeated Woodland Christian in two straight sets setting up a semi-final match-up with Acton. Although Acton won the semi-final the girls played well and still had high hopes for a bronze medal. In the bronze medal match, the girls squeezed out a 15-13 win in the third and deciding game. The Wildcats earned bronze at their first OFSAA!

Top row (L-R) Kelly Welch, Dylan Weselowski, Melanie Ganhadeiro, Jessica Varga, Sheri Ford, Hillary Hodder, Lauren Sheedy, Stephanie Leys, Elysia Peskar, Dave Burke, Kasi Burke. Bottom row (L-R) Meghan Schneider, Jacqueline Lamb, Emma Wilkins, Rhonda Knight



Racing for a good grade

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Instructor Paul Gallant gets ready to race some CO2 fueled cars Jan. 23 at West Elgin Secondary School. The cars were built by his Grade 9 and 10 students as part of an on-going project. The cars were raced down an 80 ft track which had a 60 ft racing area. Gallant promised that the student who could beat the car he made himself would earn a perfect mark on the assignment. In the end, the car built by Grade 10 student Teresa Nestic beat Gallant's car by about a tenth of a second.

WESS boys basketball finishes season

The West Elgin Senior Boys Basketball team wrapped up their season on Feb. 15 with a playoff game against CDL. A sharp shooting CDL won the game 66-37. Mike Godfrey led the Wildcats scoring 19 points and strong team defense maintained the intensity for the game.

The Wildcats started the scoring and held on strong for the first quarter. The second quarter saw too many threes from the opposition. The Wildcats played a strong fourth quarter, with almost everyone making the score sheet to win the final quarter. It wasn't enough to go on to semi-finals, but a strong finish to a great season.

Free hot breakfast at West Elgin Secondary School

WESS students Travis Roodzant, Alicia Lozon and Matt Payne enjoy a breakfast of egg-muffin sandwiches and juice around 8:45 am Feb. 15. The school has a free, student run breakfast program to give students good food to start their day. Hot breakfast foods are served once a month. The breakfast program is seeking public support to continue.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE



Trade Assembly at WESS tries to get students excited about trades work

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Brad Kerr, a marketing officer with Fanshawe College, was one of four speakers at the WESS Trade Assembly on Jan 18. Speakers from the local 700 Iron workers, steel workers, and another representative of a North American Trade school all spoke about their professional careers and what students need to know to get involved in skilled trade work. The assembly was organized by Paul Gallant, a tech instructor at WESS



WESS loses in Semi-finals SUBMITTED
Co-Captain David Clark (89) knocks down a pass in action against the Huron Park Huskies during the league semi-finals Nov. 7. The game ended 28-3 for the Huskies.

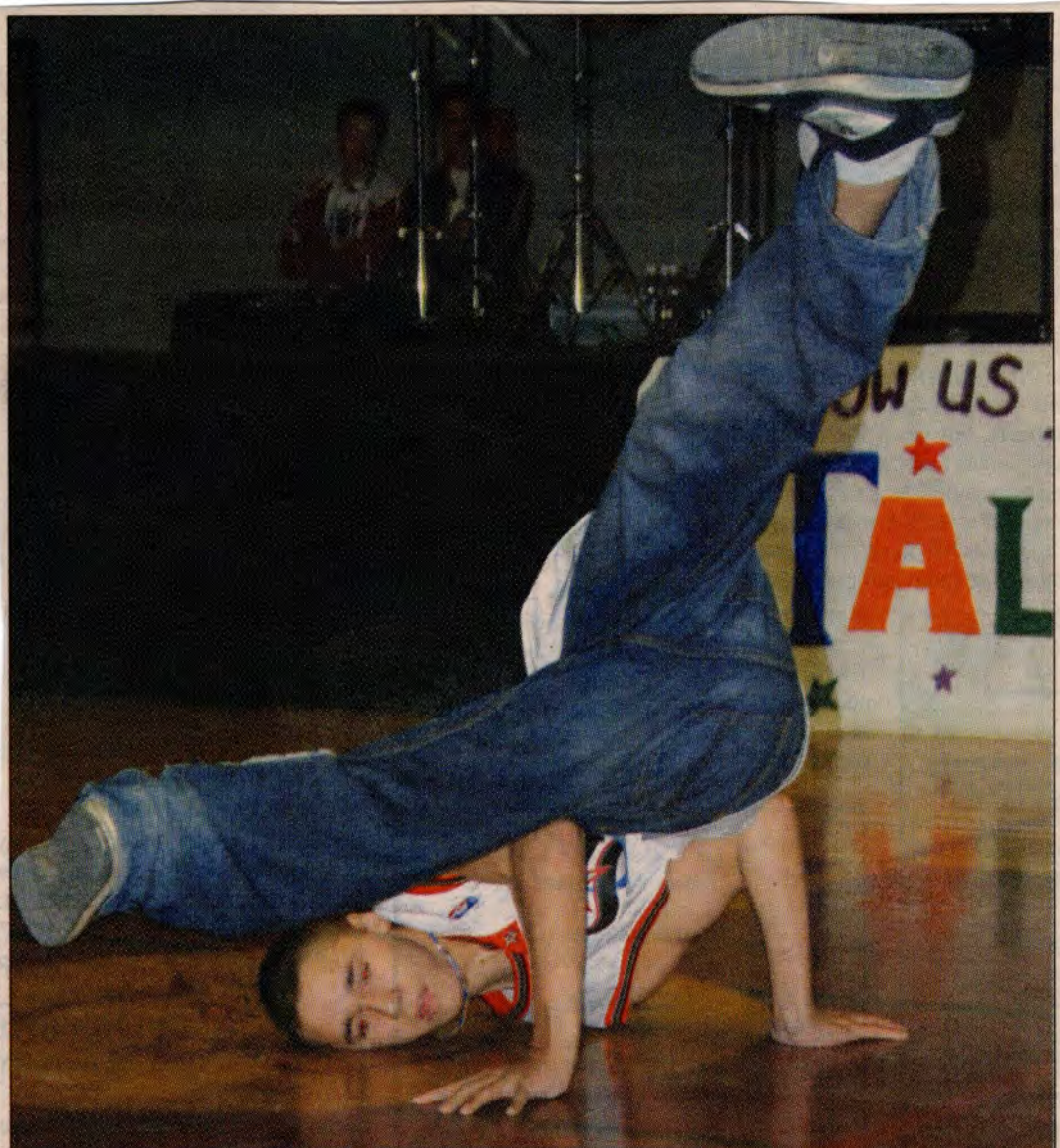
WESS football season over

-by Greg Burns

On Nov. 7 the WESS Football team travelled to Woodstock to play in the league semi-final against the undefeated Huron Park Huskies.

The Wildcats played a tough game and went into half-time with a 3 - 0 lead against the Huskies. In the second half the Wildcats struggled with injuries and fatigue and were unable to continue with their strong start. The final score of the game was 28 - 3 for the Huskies.

The team wishes a speedy recovery to Joe Peternel who suffered a broken leg in the game. While the team was disappointed with their loss they should be proud of their steady play this season as they continued to be a force in the Southeast Division. The team will have their end of season banquet later this year.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

WESS has got talent

The West Elgin Secondary School Talent Show was held Nov. 7. Anthony Crivea showed off some break dancing moves. Among the performers were (along the bottom) Brandon Carrey and Jarret Carder who livened things up with some rap, Katy Miller who did some dancing, and Jacob Rowe and Jacob Zoller who played some country music.



WESS Fashion show

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

On Oct. 15, West Elgin Secondary School students gathered in the school gym for a Spirit assembly Fashion show. (Above) Evan Timmermans and Brandon Baptista, along with Vanessa Paiva and Vanessa Dacosta (below) were just a few students who showed their stuff, escorted by the school mascot. The assembly was also held to show off the rosters of this year's sports teams.

OCT 23/08



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Wildcats beat the Vikings

WESS number 15 Rob Roos of the Jr. team made for the net during the game at home against the Aurthur Voaden Vikings Dec. 16. The game was tight going into the second half, but WESS managed to hold onto their narrow lead and end the game with a score of 36 to 35. The Sr. Boys played Aurthur Voaden that same day and won 50 to 29.

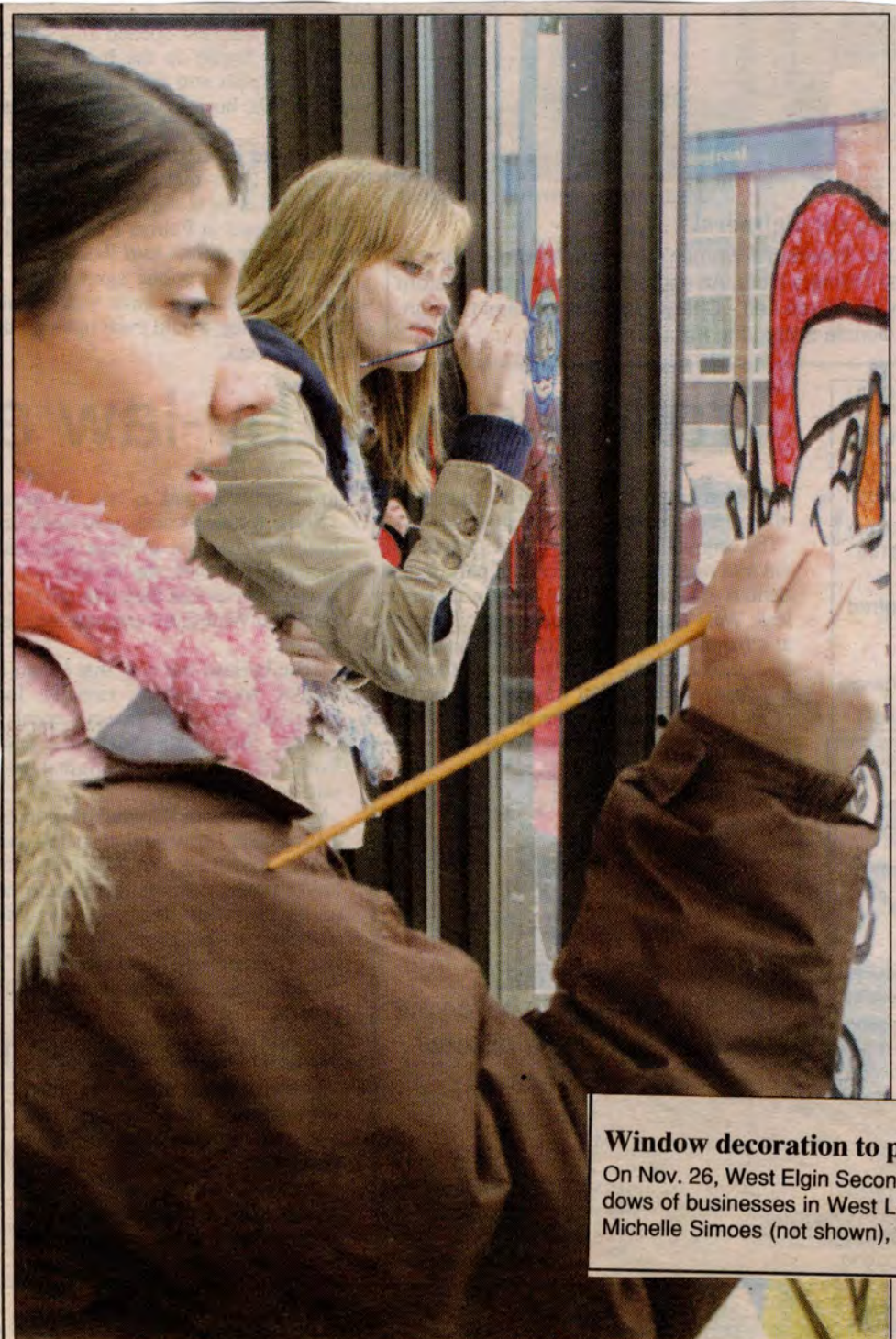
DEC 24/08



St. Mary's School meets Santa and makes gingerbread cookies!

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Santa Claus made an appearance for the St. Mary's Catholic School kindergarten class in West Lorne Dec. 10 and 11. (Top Left) Kalinda Wrobel took the opportunity Dec. 10 to explain to Santa what she wants for Christmas. Afterwards, everyone made gingerbread men. (Bottom Left) Five-year-old Alexandra Blackhall was helped out with her cookie by her parents Natalina and Rob, (Right) and Ethan Slaats knew that the best part of working with food is getting to eat your mistakes.



JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE

Joyful Noise Youth Band. Dec 18/08
The Joyful Noise Youth Band made their performance debut at the Wonderful Time of Year concert held Dec. 8 at WESES.

JESSE CNOCKAERT/THE CHRONICLE
Window decoration to prepare for the West Lorne Santa Claus Parade
On Nov. 26, West Elgin Secondary School students did some festive paintings on the windows of businesses in West Lorne. Grade 10 students Emily Varga, Jasmine Prince, and Michelle Simoes (not shown), decorated the windows of the Out to Lunch Cafe.

EDUCATION 2009



West Elgin Secondary School 2009 ONTARIO SCHOLARS



Michelle Keith
Wallacetown
Parents: Karen and Robert
Attending Queen's
University
Program: Honours
English



Tara Kretschmer
Fingal
Parents: Monique and
Roland
Attending Laurentian Uni
Program: Psychology
B.Sc.



Kimbery Kriter
Rodney
Parents: Kevin and Irene
Attending University of
Waterloo
Program: Honours Arts



Kyle Kuska
West Lorne
Parents: Linda and Robert
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Social Science/
Criminology



Melanie Laing
Wallacetown
Parents: Susan and Stephen
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Political
Science



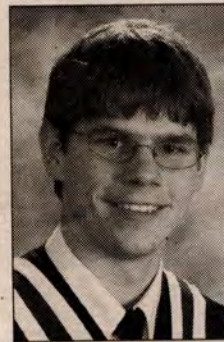
Bailey Lamont
West Lorne
Parents: David and Belinda
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Social Justice



Rob Loeters
Clachan
Parents: John and Ann
Attending University of
Waterloo
Program: Geography/
Environmental Mgmt.



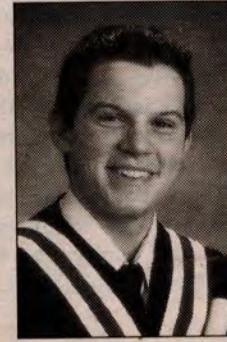
Molly McWilliam
Dutton
Parents: Cameron and Anne
Marie
Attending Fanshawe/
Western
Program: Nursing



Daniel Ovecka
Wallacetown
Parents: Randy Ovecka,
Rob Ronyson
Attending Apprenticeship



Vanessa Paiva
West Lorne
Parents: Alcina and Paulo
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Human Arts



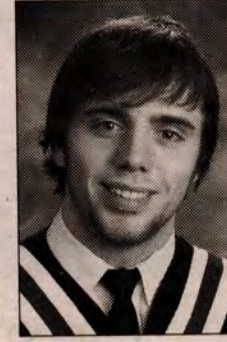
Joseph Peternel
Iona Station
Parents: Beth Peternel
Attending University of
Windsor
Program: Human
Kinetics-Sports Medicine



Jacob Rowe
Dutton
Parents: David and Linda
Attending Humber
College
Program: Funeral
Services



Hailey Slaats
Rodney
Parents: Martin and Deb
Attending Fanshawe/
Western
Program: Collaborative
Registered Nursing Prgm.



Greg Speller
Rodney
Parents: Marg and Stephen
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Criminology



Alanah Sutton
Dutton
Parents: Kim Ivan and Paul
Sutton
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Psychology



Etienne VanZyl
Dutton
Parents: Ferdinand and
Dalene
Attending University of
Western Ontario
Program: Science

Congratulations to all our Grads!

Michelle Ward
West Lorne
Parents: Barb and Jim
Attending McMaster
University
Program: Honours
Kinesiology 1

