

NEWS

GHS clubs visit the windy city

By Contributing Writers

Chicago is called the windy city, for both its politics and weather, but perhaps a more appropriate name would be; the city of a million pictures. Okay, so it wouldn't look as poetic on a postcard, but that is exactly what Chicago became on April 14 as Goshen High School's photo club took its annual field trip.

The photo club arrived at South Bend airport eager to leave the oh-so-boring land of Indiana. As they bought their tickets and boarded the train with their brave chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Nolt, the level of excitement rose. As traveling goes, the trip was rather quiet and toned down with everyone thinking about the day that lay ahead.

After two and a half hours of just wanting to get there, the photo club unloaded at Millennium Station just underneath the great city itself. As 11 stiff high school students and 2 very structured adults climbed the concrete steps leading to the sidewalks of Chicago, with their cameras poised and at the ready, they began the walk to their first destination.

The John Hancock building is one hundred looming stories tall with enough windows to reflect the entire city right back into your eyes. All 13 club members piled into an overused elevator, awaiting the 1,127 feet rise. In the short time it took the elevator to rise that high, their ears



Above: Drama club students and chaperones gather for lunch in Chicago. Below: Photo of the Chicago Riverwalk, provided by sophomore April Quintana, from the photo club trip on April 14.



controlled everything with their overwhelming sensitivity.

The rest of the trip flew by and as their memory cards filled, there was no shortage of the memories that were created. Club members ended the day with the world's best pizza and a train ride home with enough laughter and jokes to

last a lifetime.

While the visual arts can be created merely by taking a look and a few snaps of a camera, Chicago is also home to many art galleries and theatre, one of the most notable among them being the Steppenwolf. Created in 1974, the Steppenwolf has been

a center of theatre throughout Chicago, with a staff of renowned actors. Naturally, this was the focus of the GHS Drama Club trip on the 12th of May.

The play in question was "The March," written and based on a novel by E.L. Doctorow. It is set in the civil war, and features the

stories of different characters as they travelled along with the march of the famous (or infamous) General William Tecumseh Sherman. From an escaped slave girl to a pair of confederate turncoats, the play shifts from story to story, weaving them together in a story based on the themes of war, identity and death.

The Drama Club left at 11:00 AM from GHS, and arrived in Chicago at 1:00 PM, where they ate at "Marcello and Sons" restaurant, which garnered high approval. By 3:00 PM, the play had begun. Most of the Drama Club was impressed with the play's special effects and the characters, as well as the acting and production values.

What criticisms were brought up were with the story. "I thought the plotline was a bit all over the place," commented English teacher Andrew Murto. "It lacked real focus and it was hard to tell who the main character was, even if I liked most of them."

The trip was taken at a great price to students, at only \$40 for a trip that would normally total nearly \$120 with the combined price of the bus and plays. It was funded by the money made by Drama Club with the fall play and the recent one-act events. All in all, it was a rich experience for the drama club, exposing them to professional theatre at one of the most renowned theatres in the Midwest.

The art within architecture

By Tomahawk Staff

Have you always wanted to attempt architecture, even if you only have that little tiny piece of interest? The CAD class that GHS offers is the place for you! Ranging from using software to building houses, it's pretty awesome. This class teaches students how to use the program computer-aided design and drafting, (CAD) a program that basically teaches you how to create mechanical and architectural structures.

Those really cool map looking things you see around and the buildings that you see around the tech hallway that look so cool you wish they were real? Yeah, students are creating those buildings, and CAD is the class they're taking to come up with these ideas. This class is taught by JJ Johnson and grades 10 - 12 can take it.

If you're not a senior, you must understand design processes. CAD is a year long class that gives you 7 college credits. They focus on two different software programs; "Autodesk AutoCAD," which is a 2d CAD program and "REVIT," which is a 3D modeling software for architecture. It is required that CAD students must turn in a poster

that displays their design. Four students turned their posters in early, which let them qualify for the BGI competition.

Three of the four (Tam Huynh, Megan Sherk and Diego Garcia) were presented with awards of honor for their designs. What the judges look for in these posters is how the architecture is structured. "How the poster is laid out is not a major part, but it's nice for it to look nice," said Johnson. Looking back at a great year, these students should realize that what they're



Senior Diego Garcia shows off his award winning design.

doing is very impressive, and they understand that what Goshen offers within the computer and design class is really substantial.

Goshen schools receive teacher grants

By Daniel Potashov

The Indiana Department of Education has recently granted 28 school systems in Indiana over \$100,000, each adding to a total of 6 million dollars given around the state. The Goshen school system has received \$160,000 to reward teachers that have done well in the eyes of the TAP program.

Superintendent of Goshen Community Schools, Bruce Stahly, explains what this means and exactly what impact it has. "Certainly students have noticed the teachers have been doing new things with their curriculums, such as the 'BUN' method, meta-cognition, the summarization method and questioning," he said. "They come from TAP. You know how you see all the teachers in the Media Center every Monday morning, sitting in on a conference? Those are TAP meetings with the faculty. The way TAP works is there are three levels of teachers, the Masters, the Mentors, and the Career teachers. The Master teachers, appointed by TAP, are Carl Weaver and [Marcia] Yost.

They oversee the ten or so Mentor teachers. The Mentor teachers are [Todd] Kirkton, [Marilyn] Graber and several others. They teach every other teacher methods that students have been learning recently. The mentor teachers will sometimes walk into a classroom and see if the teacher is doing well at getting these points across, and see if they're actually good at doing their jobs."

The grant is basically a small reward for the teachers of Goshen community schools. "Each teacher is eligible to have a \$2500 bonus for next year," Stahly added. "The incentive doesn't affect the pay scale for the teachers at all. We are very lucky to have this grant, and this shows the TAP program is working very efficiently so far."

Only teachers that are ranked as "effective" or "highly effective" will be eligible to receive the bonus incentive. The fact that GCS is receiving money because of our excellent teachers really says something about how excellent the students are, along with the teachers and staff.