



Photo by Matt Starling

## Vaughn's reign highlights Homecoming

By Derrick Gourieux

This year's Basketball Homecoming was considered a success by Key Club President Rusty Smith. The dance, which took place on Saturday night, February 20, is expected to bring in over \$1,200.

Bad weather caused the Homecoming game and dance to be moved back a week, cutting, in several peoples' opinion, the profits of the event. However, Smith disagreed. "I don't feel that it (the bad weather) had a noticeable effect either way. From a financial aspect, the dance was a success, but I haven't heard enough feedback from the student body to call it a success or failure as a 'dance.'"

The night's festivities began with a boy's intrasquad scrimmage, followed by the presentation of the Homecoming attendants and Queen. The attendants were Junior Jenny Bagwell, escorted by Kevin Garrett; Sophomore Jenny Moore, escorted by Brad Kinsey; and Freshman Nicole Rivers, escorted by Nathan Baker.

Finally, Ginny Shafer, last year's co-Queen, returned to present the crown to Karen Vaughn, who was escorted by Junior Brent Gaines. Vaughn was chosen as Queen by the Senior basketball players from a list of four other candidates—Cherie Mullen, Nicole Chapman, Michelle Craig, and Tina Hack.

According to Vaughn, she was overjoyed by receiving such an honor. "I was definitely excited," she explained. "I was shaking so bad that I could hardly hold the flowers."

After the Queen's ceremonies, the Lady Flash took on Heath in a very close game to win 51-50. According to many, Lone Oak's victory added much enthusiasm to the night's festivities. School spirit had been brewing all week because of much pre-Homecoming hoopla such as "hick day" and "slob day."

"I was overwhelmed by the school spirit during the entire event," commented Junior Scott Henry. "I thought the whole thing went great."

## Leap Year Day Today! Tables are turned for this unusual year

By Lechelle Yates

Leap year is "the ideal excuse for a young lassie to pop the question to the gentleman of her choice."

Leap year long has been the time for rejoicing among unmarried women because traditionally during that year a woman has the right to propose to the man of her choice.

This "custom" dates back to the time of St. Patrick and Bridgett of Ireland when priests and nuns were allowed to marry. Bridgett felt it was unfair that only men could initiate marriage. After much debating, St. Patrick finally agreed to let women ask men to join them in matrimony every four years.

But what causes this year of open season on bachelors? A year is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds long, resulting time to be left over at the end of each year. With the reforms made in the Julian calendar and the adoption of the Georgian

## Dance raises funds for Smith memorial

By Rusty Smith

Sheri Rust, Andrea Shields, and Ashley Moore organized a dance held Saturday night February 27 at the Lone Oak Lion's Club Community Center from 8:00 p.m. until midnight. All proceeds from this dance will go to help fund a memorial for Mike Smith in the 1987-1988 Lone Oak High School yearbook.

According to Andrea Shields, she and Sheri Rust came up with the idea for the dance "about a month ago". The dance was held for juniors and seniors "just because of space considerations."

This group of students had worked within the school preparing for and publicizing the dance. With the help of Kim Simmons, Jody Burton, and Doug Downs they made posters and started hanging them after the Homecoming dance.

Music for the dance was supplied courtesy of Craig "Too Cool" Bradley and WRİK (K-98).

calendar in 1582, an extra day was added to every four years with the exception of each hundredth year not divisible by 400.



Photo by Matt Starling

The Oak K would like to suggest that LO student body participate in Leap Year Day. Since marriage proposal is inappropriate, girls could, instead, join the fun by carrying their favorite guys lunch tray, letting the guy wear her jacket, open the door for him, or by carrying his books - as seen above.

## Rushing wins 4-H meet

By Tina Griggs

Amy Rushing, a sophomore at Lone Oak High School, won a 4-H talk meet competition held at the Paducah Community College on Saturday, February 20. She was competing with 80 other students from other area high schools.

Rushing will represent McCracken county in regional competition in March at Lone Oak High School. If she is successful there, then she will represent the region in state competition in June at Lexington, Kentucky. State competition will be held at the University of Kentucky.

Rushing states, "I am happy that I won." This is the second year that she has gone to regionals.

Editorials

# Clark's "get tough" policy draws criticism, praise

Much controversy has recently arisen concerning the actions of high school principal Joe Clark. The principal of Eastside High School in Paterson, New Jersey, has received much criticism for his "get tough" policies.

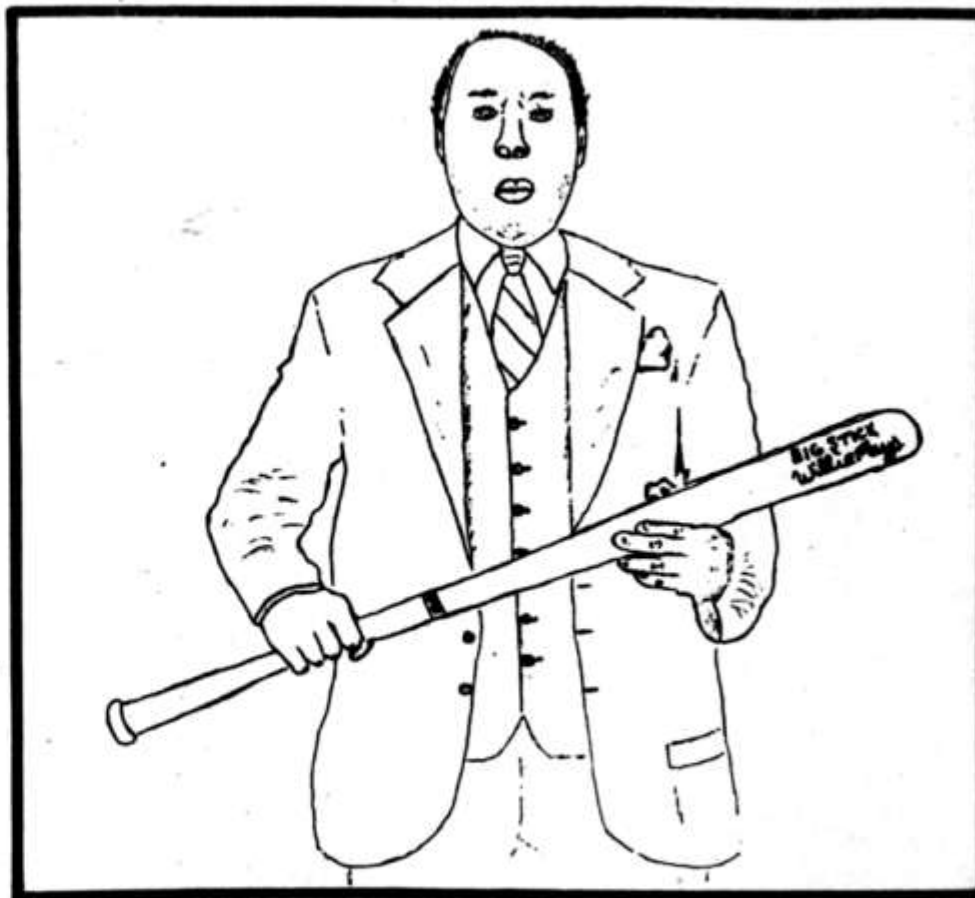
Clark, however, was just trying to improve his school. He carried a bat through the hallways and shouted through a bullhorn. He also expelled many students with high absenteeism rates, some as much as 21 years old. To help decrease the drug traffic in his school, Clark locked the entrances to the school during school hours in order to keep the drug dealers out.

Clark's actions helped the school, but the school board disagreed with his tactics. It seems as if he didn't use the proper channels to expel some of the students, and locking the doors during school hours was illegal. The board filed insubordination charges against Clark and threatened to fire him. These events have sparked great debate in education circles.

Clark was a harsh man, but his actions were necessary. The problems his school faced demanded quick, severe action and he has been punished for doing so. It has been argued that his expulsions have cost many young, underprivileged people a chance at an education, but they weren't getting an education. They were too busy skipping school and selling drugs to learn anything. The school's performance in national reading and math level tests went up during his tenure also, but many observers attest that to the expulsion of the weak students.

It seems that many people are content to complain about education. Most, however, are not willing to do anything about it. Whenever a maverick, like Joe Clark, strives to make improvements he is driven away, criticized. If Americans want the best education for their children, they should be willing to overlook a few outdated rules allow the educators to create a good educational atmosphere.

Rusty Smith



# Americans are losing momentum in today's advanced world

By Derrick Gourieux

The world is becoming more and more complex every day and the advantages people once thought American students had are quickly diminishing. Global business and international commerce are becoming everyday affairs. However, many people still fail to see the importance of learning about other languages and cultures.

America no longer has the edge it once had over other countries. It is not that we lack technological knowledge, but that few scientists, politicians, and other international entrepreneurs have enough knowledge of other languages and cultures to successfully interact with overseas competitors.

Perhaps one reason such countries as Japan and France are quickly gaining an advantage over America is because their students are learning about cultures and languages other than their own. In many countries, English is as much a part in the curriculum as their native language. This allows them to communicate much more efficiently with people around the world.

But if the knowledge of other countries is so important, why do so few people try to excel in this area? With many people it is a matter of pride. "Let the other countries learn our language," they might say. "We're the best nation and we shouldn't have to over exert ourselves."

However, this attitude can only cause hard feelings in international affairs. Perhaps if more Americans tried to learn more about the Russian way of life and what the people are really like, there would be better opportunities for peace between the two countries. But we let our pride and laziness stand in the way.

If we do not wake up and really start trying to be a part of the new "complex world", we may be left behind. It's up to us. Will we lose many opportunities because of our ignorance, or will we strive to understand the world we live in?

# Immediate advantages look better

By Daniel Kirkwood

"It's so easy." "Everyone does it." "Hardly anyone ever gets caught." Mom and Dad won't accept anything less than a "B", and all that is needed is one more answer for an 88%. The teacher's attention is channeled away from the class. Now the decision belongs to the student.

Should the student go ahead and get that "B" by cheating, or does he turn in his own work and get a "C"? From early childhood human beings are drilled to be honest, but many forget this when the advantages of cheating seem greater than the disadvantages. Others just simply ignore the "honesty always pays" policy when they see our world of corruption, twisted truths, and immediate gratification.

What exactly are the

advantages of cheating? A better test grade and a chance to be "cool"? That "A" also looks great to the ones who rear us.

The immediate advantages of being honest don't look as rewarding, but one thing that makes it all worthwhile is the freedom of good feeling one has for himself after he has been honest. Another, and probably the most important advantage of them all, is self respect!

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## Editorial Policy

The editorials printed in this newspaper do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Oak K staff.

## Hotline to have many benefits

By Tina Griggs

Homework Hotline is a program that is aimed at benefiting those area high school students who need help with their homework, and it can also help those students who wish to work in a studio. The Chamber of Commerce contacted the four county high schools, Lone Oak, Reidland, Heath, and Saint Mary's, about this project. Homework Hotline begins on March 7 and lasts through April 4.

Mr. Jim Toy, who is helping with Homework Hotline, states, "I think that this is something that will benefit those calling in, those answering questions, and those who work as studio personnel."

Students will be running the entire program. They will answer the questions, work the studio, and of course phone in. A different high school will run the program each week. Lone Oak will kick off the program on cable channel 20. It will air Monday nights from 7-8 P.M. Right now there is only a five week pilot program planned, but if student response is good then there may be more.

## Legend grows into American tradition

Ireland is famed for shamrocks, leprechauns and of course, the day of the year we all pull out our favorite green attire to avoid getting pinched.

St. Patrick's Day is March 17, the anniversary of the death of Ireland's patron saint. St. Patrick is said to have had magical powers and driven all the snakes from the Emerald Isle so the grasses could grow lush and green. The deep green of Ireland's plant life brought forth the declaration of green as the national color, and the Irish people began the tradition of wearing it every March 17 to honor St. Patrick.

The tradition crossed the Atlantic years ago with Irish immigrants trying to escape the potato famine and still exists in the United States. Many large American cities celebrate St. Patrick's Day with elaborate parades, parties and reunions of people of Irish descent.



(L-R) Donna Engler, Rebekah Lewis, Laynie Hudson, Jennie Church, and Paula Atherton represented the Kentucky Colonels at All-State Band held recently in Louisville, KY.

## Denker, others win place first at Governor's Cup

By Lechelle Yates

Brian Denker and the quick recall team consisting of Robert Seifert, Todd Sensing, Joey Kreuger, Dan Rudolph, and Patrick Carbonel placed first in the Second District Governor's Cup Challenge held Saturday, February 13, at Lone Oak High School.

Denker won the English division and the quick recall team beat Heath for first place.

Second place Lone Oak winners were Kreuger in the English and Science divisions and the future problem solving team consisting of Seifert, Jamie Cook, Joe Herman, and Todd Sensing.

Other LO participants were Cindy Darnell, Amy Rushing, Matt Little, Kevin Toon, Dan McDermott, and Bill Johnston, Anee Meyers, Cary Collins, and Marc Lockett.

Heath High School and Middle School were overall winners of the Paducah-McCracken County Challenge.

Lone Oak Middle School finished second overall in the Heath won middle school competition. First place winners included Mike Keeney in Social Studies and Chad Peterson in Science. Millie Lynn won second place in English and Aaron Clarkson and Amy Kilpatrick won third and fourth place, respectively, in the language arts division.

Mr. Jim Toy served as the district tournament manager. Judges for the challenge were Mr. Don Werner, Mr. Don Baker, Mrs. Gail Gaddie, and Mr. Larry Hopper.

Mr. Larry Harper, Superintendent of Public Instruction, presented the awards.

## Wooley to preside over conference

By Robert Wagner

Karen Wooley, President of FBLA, will preside over all meetings and the awards assembly for the Region One Future Business Leaders of America conference at Murray State University on March 1. She and Mrs. Abell are responsible for the planning of the conference. An opening general session will begin at 9:15 A.M. and Kentucky FBLA State President, Daryl Pepper, will bring greetings to the members.

Several members from LOHS are going to participate in competitive business events during the conference. Some events at the conference include: Mr. and Ms. FBLA, Who's Who in FBLA, and public speaking. A talent show and a Battle of the Chapters will be held.

Corn-Austin will present a fashion show, and Beauty Control will present a slide presentation on wardrobes. Most important, the 1988-89 regional officers will also be elected.

The purpose of attending this conference is "to meet other FBLA members, gain experience in competing, and learn about the business world. It's a fantastic learning experience!", said Wooley.

Lisa Reid agreed, "I get to meet new friends and I learn helpful hints from workshops about job interviews and business attire."

## Guilt plays important part in child abuse issue

By Tina Griggs

"Shh!", John Andrews told his five year old daughter Lisa, "you've been bad, and if you tell Mommy she won't love you anymore." Lisa is an 8 year old child. Since she is a child, she trusts her parents. If her dad told her that Mommy wouldn't love her, then Lisa believes him. Lisa does not realize that her father has just abused her. Since Lisa doesn't know the difference and she's afraid to tell her mom, the abuse goes on until a neighbor or a teacher realizes what's going on. This is a classic case of child abuse.

What is child abuse? Child abuse is defined by the United States Congress as "the physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, negligent treatment, or maltreatment of a child under eighteen by a person who is responsible for the child's welfare under circumstances which indicate that the child's health or welfare the harmed or threatened thereby."

There are several types of child abuse. Physical is the most common reported. Sexual abuse is the main reason why most children runaway. Neglect is a hurt as the result of things not done rather than what has been done. Emotional abuse can make a child quiet even to the point that they won't talk at all.

In the Western Kentucky area 170 physical abuse cases, 72 sexual abuse cases, and 294 neglect abuse cases were reported in 1987. These are just reports, and they are not confirmed cases.

In small communities the tragedy is that they think, "Well, that's New York or Chicago or somewhere else; things like that don't happen around here." This is sad because many times child abuse can be happening next door, and they don't realize it because of this attitude. Child abuse is against the law and it can bring 5-10 years in a prison.

It has been found that in areas of low economic standing that cases of neglect were reported the most. A parent didn't have enough money to buy proper clothing for winter because the money was spent to pay bills. Sometimes a member of the family spent the money on alcohol, and did not use the money to pay the gas company. Therefore, their gas was shut off. This left them without heat for part of the winter.

In 1984, 1,726,649 child abuse cases were reported nationwide. Out of those cases these statistics were taken:

- \* 3% involved major physical injury
- \* 18% of reported cases involved minor physical injury
- \* 4% involved in unspecified physical injury
- \* 55% involved neglect
- \* 11% of cases reported involved emotional abuse
- \* 10% of cases reported involved other maltreatment

Below are listed some warning signs of child abuse:

#### Physical:

- \* unexplained bruises or welts (maybe in the shape of an object)
- \* unexplained burns (shape of cigarette)
- \* bald spots
- \* unexplained fractures
- \* unexplained lacerations or abrasions
- \* signs of soreness from the way the child moves
- \* clothing inappropriate for weather to cover marks of physical injury mentioned above

#### Behavioral:

- \* withdrawn or aggressive (behavioral extremes)
- \* shies away from physical contact
- \* wary of adults
- \* seems afraid to go home

See/ CHILD



## Beyer serves as Junior Rotarian

By Robert Wagner

John Beyer has been chosen as the February Junior Rotarian by the Lone Oak High School faculty and staff for his academic ability and achievements.

Beyer is a member of Beta Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and plays on the varsity boys' basketball and baseball teams.

An honor student in both the ninth and tenth grades, Beyer was chosen for All District Basketball honors, in 1987.

The best thing about LOHS is "it is a nice school with lots of good students," according to Beyer.

His idea of a good student is, "someone who participates and tries to do their best in everything."

Beyer feels a good teacher is a one "who explains and helps in and out of class."

He is unsure what college he will attend, but he wants to secure himself with a good high paying job in the future.

## LO trio wins big in Murray

By Robert Wagner

Jill Green, Kim Ellegood, and Shelia Kruegar were successful at the Distributive Education Clubs of America regional conference at Murray State University on February 1. Michelle Millage, Brian Mount, and Shelly Hatfield were also recognized at the conference. Mrs. Wallace presided over the meeting.

Jill Green won first-place in Display. She had to take a 6 question test and did a display with items that the judge brought.

Kim Ellegood won second-place in Spelling. She had the second highest score and received a trophy.

Shelia Kruegar place third-place in job interview. She filled out an application and had an interview by two judges. Each person received different points for different things.

The purpose of attending the conference is "to elect new regional officers and to represent LOHS DECA," said Green.

These conferences are learning experiences. Green said, "if you're an active member in DECA. You will learn alot about business."

Shelia Kruegar and Shelly Hatfield will be competing at the state conference in Louisville on March 10-12.

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**Movie  
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*GURU*  
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## No mourning over Williams' film

By Derrick Gourieux

Viet Nam has been the topic of several serious movies in the past few years, but very few comedies are ever made of this controversial war. "Good Morning Viet Nam", however, is the fantastic exception to the trend.

Robin Williams is as funny as ever as he plays an energetic radio D.J. in the war-torn country of Viet Nam. He quickly finds himself in trouble with his commanding officers when his outrageous antics become too much for them to stand.

These hard feelings lead Williams into many hardships and even some life-threatening situations. He finally becomes so annoyed with all of the censorship that he leaves the station never to return. However, when he realizes how much his fans like him, he decides to tough it out.

Even though "Good Morning Viet Nam" makes light of many aspects of the war in Viet Nam, it very effectively exposes the evils of war. This movie is perfect for both Viet Nam buffs and fans of great comedies.

## So far, so good for Megadeth

By Rusty Smith

Megadeth has released yet another monstrous assortment of speed metal songs. Their new album So Far...So Good...So What? is a powerful collection of this band's best music yet.

The main highlight of this album is a cover song. Megadeth's remake of the Sex Pistols' song "Anarchy in the UK" rocks with uncontrollable power. Although the song was originally a political statement, Megadeth has turned "Anarchy" into a smorgasbord of hot guitar chords and screaming

vocals.

Despite the blazing rendition of "Anarchy", none of the other songs on this album pale in comparison. "Liar" and the lightning fast "502" complement this album with their guitar chords and satirical social and political observations.

Although So Far... So Good...So What is a good album, not everyone will like it. People who dislike heavy metal and especially speed metal should avoid it. However, head bangers and thrash fans should enjoy Megadeth's new offering.

## Schmitt to run for District post

By Rusty Smith

Eric Schmitt is hoping to become the first Lieutenant Governor of Key Club division 15 from Lone Oak High School's Key Club.

The Lieutenant Governor has many responsibilities. The Lieutenant Governor is an aid to all club presidents in planning projects, rallies, and other events. He is also one of the links between the District Governor and the individual clubs. The Lieutenant Governor must also correspond with the clubs in his division and make sure they adhere to all Key Club International rules and regulations.

Schmitt will make a speech at a March 6 zone rally at Clarksville Academy High School.

Elections for the office will be held on the same day, with each area club receiving 2 votes to determine the new Lieutenant Governor.

"During Christmas break (of 1986), I started thinking about running for Lieutenant Governor," states Schmitt. "After Christmas I was elected Freshman Representative of our club. This year I was elected Sophomore Representative. I have been preparing and planning to run for Lieutenant Governor Division 15 of the Kentucky-Tennessee District of Key Club International."

## Project Graduation forms committees

By Jennifer Snow

Preparations for Project Graduation are being made, with a recent survey of Lone Oak's Seniors to suggest activities for the all-night graduation party, as well as a parents' meeting to organize committees for food and decorations.

Seniors chose among the activities a dance, Laser Tag, mud wrestling, raffling of a Lamborghini, calculus board races and eating contests. They also chose foods they would like to eat. Pizza headed the list.

Parents of seniors attended a general meeting February 8 to outline the needed committees, and the chairpersons of the event met Feb. 15 to coordinate it. The committees are: finance, prize, food, activities, public relations and decorations.

## Lone Oak duo sings at All-State Choir

By Shannon Adler

Murray State University selected Stacey Speer and Christy Morris at the district level tryouts to represent Lone Oak at All State Choir on February 3-6 at the Radison Hotel in Lexington.

Lulah Hedgeman was the director of the Soprano Soprano Alto (SSA) choir in which Stacey Speer and Christy Morris participated. The SSA choir performed a spiritual entitled "Honor, Honor" and they choreographed "Stompin at the Savoy". Thursday night the All State participants attended a talent show and a dance.

"It's a great opportunity to share the honor of singing with a large group of people joined together for the same purpose," said Stacey Speer.

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Monica is seen in a navy Esprit tank top with a dow detail and a white Esprit miniskirt. Stephanie is also wearing an Esprit outfit. She has on a red and white striped tee-shirt with matching white knit pants.



Stacy's style is casual in soft-blue jeans and a striped shirt with the sleeves rolled.

## A Preview of '88 Spring Fashions

Stacey is ready for a walk on the beach in his faded pinstriped jeans by Bugle Boy and a pink and gray muscle-tee by Heet. Carolyn is wearing a stripe knit outfit by Outside Interests in baby blue.



Stacy is wearing a red striped OP shirt and white OP shorts.

The girls are modeling outfits by Shore Club. Stephanie is decked out in a mint green crop top and matching pleated shorts with button detailing. Brittany is featuring a powder blue outfit and her shorts have a drawstring waist. Miniskirts are still the rage for Monica, who is wearing a denim mini by Guess with a pink and white striped shirt. These outfits are courtesy of County Seat.



# Lone Oak upset ends decade of endless heartbreak

By Tina Griggs

Lone Oak fans have come faithfully for years to see the Lone Oak Purple Flash play and sadly lose against the Tilghman Tornado. But on January 29, the Lone Oak Purple Flash declared D-day on the Tilghman Tornado. Everyone—coaches, players, fans, and parents—all of them received a long awaited satisfaction when Lone Oak beat Tilghman 61-59.

The players, coaches, and some members of the student body had comments on a victory that was 10 years in coming.

Coaches:

Coach Guhy: "... Since I have started here in January, I

have observed that both Coach Hopper and the team work hard in practice. If both the coach and the team work hard, then good things are going to happen. I am very happy for Lone Oak and hope the victories continue."

Coach Estes: "I felt we were finally going to receive the respect I knew we deserved. Also, being an old Heath boy, I felt proud to be a part of Lone Oak and I wanted to tell every Heath friend what we just did."

Seniors:

Holly Warren: "... We beat them on the last regular season game we'd play against them. It made me cry. It is definitely

the highlight of my senior year."

John Beyer: "My first reaction was a feeling of excitement. It was a dream come true. We have been wanting to beat them ever since I have been playing basketball."

Jason Ricks: "... It was a great feeling. You would have thought that we had won the state championship. It was very special to me because I am a senior, and this was the last chance I had. It was great!"

Juniors:

Linn Harper: "I was very surprised!"

Eric Rudolph: "It was an unbelievable feeling!"

Sophomores:

Brittany Lawrence: "... There was so much pep and enthusiasm; it was great. We beat Tilghman for the first time in 10 years, and we finally showed them that we are as good as they are!"

Freshman:

Mark Chumler: "I thought that it was pretty awesome. And after beating Tilghman, I knew that the varsity team could beat almost anyone they wanted to."

Lori Hayes: "I was really glad that we had beat Tilghman. For four years my brother was on the basketball team and he went through the disappointment of not being able to beat Tilghman."

## Lawrence wins poster contest

The Pep Club would like to thank all the students who participated in the Homecoming poster contest, and to our art teacher, Mrs. Stickler for judging. Congratulations to all the winners!

1st place - Brittany Lawrence, sophomore wins two Aerosmith concert tickets to SIU.

2nd place - Tim Whitelock, freshman wins two tickets to a MSU basketball game.

3rd place - Martin Hughes, senior wins two Ky. Oaks Theater tickets.

1st runner-up for concept-Billy Meadows, senior wins a \$10.00 gift certificate to Dennison Hunt.

2nd runner-up for imagery - Pat Carbonel, senior

wins to Pasta Vino lunches.

3rd runner-up for color - Lito Tomes, junior wins two 8" pizzas from the parlor.

4th runner-up for creative use of materials - Lenny Powley, freshman wins two 8" pizzas from the parlor.

5th runner-up for theme - Chris Barton, freshman wins a UK baseball cap with built in radio.

These students won Honorable Mention:

Danny Dowell, freshman wins a UK baseball cap.

Kelly Vaughn, junior wins a UK baseball cap.

Lori Rutherford, sophomore wins a pair of sunglasses.

Robin Stringer, freshman wins a pair of sunglasses.

## Honor classes prepare to attend triple header

By Derrick Gourieux

Mr. Jim Toy and Mrs. Donna Brugger are organizing a group of approximately 45 sophomore and junior English enrichment students to go to Nashville to see a "Triple Billing" on April 6.

The production, which will be held at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center, is an example of chamber theatre. This method of production, particularly suited to the works of Edgar Allan Poe, Shirley Jackson, and Mark Twain, is staged from the narrator's point of view.

"I'm glad that we're going," explained Mr. Toy, "because it gives us an opportunity to see something different." "Triple Billing" will be very different from "Cats", the Broadway musical that a group of students saw last year. "I have always tried annually to provide a theater experience for the students," he said.

The trip will cost twenty-one dollars, which includes bus and

play tickets. The students will leave the school parking lot at about 7:30 a.m. and return at about 4:30 p.m.

● CHILD / Cont. from pg. 4

There is a local child abuse center you can call; the program is called Child Watch. The number is 443-1440. If you are a victim or know of someone who is, please don't be silent anymore.

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## Biology Club hits the slopes in Wisconsin

By Carolyn Kerins

Thirty members of the Biology Club met at Lone Oak High School at 4:30 a.m. on Friday, February 12. The Brooks Bus took the group to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, (near Lake Geneva), for the annual winter ecology trip.

The group, along with sponsors, Mr. Tony McGroarty, Mrs. Donna Brugger, and Mrs. Karol Richards, stayed at the Crossroads Motel. During the afternoons, the club members cross-country skied at Kettle Moraine State Park; during the evenings, everyone had the option of down-hill skiing at Alpine Valley.

Jason Rubenacker said, "Skiing in just shorts is a blast. Try it sometime, seriously!"

Mrs. Donna Brugger felt that it was "one of the neatest trips we've ever taken."

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## Flashes burn through February; turn up heat on coldest month

### Lone Oak 61, Tilghman 59

The arena was crowded and the stands were "jammin'" while the excitedly tense spectators stood and chanted, "Go! go! go!" as the Purple Flash continued to strike the Tornados and pulled ahead.

Lone Oak faces Tilghman at least three times a year on the basketball court, and each time within the last ten years, Tilghman was the victor. On Friday, January 29, the Purple Flash turned the tables, celebrating with a two-point, (61-59) victory.

After viewing the Purple Flash's thirty-nine-point loss to Tilghman earlier this season, the fans didn't know what to expect. The gloomy faces of the spectators told the story as the scoreboard reflected the 11-0 Tornado lead midway through the first quarter.

The Purple Flash was down by only four points at the start of the second quarter, but Jason Ricks made two three-point shots to help narrow that margin, and to tie the game 29-29 at half-time.

The exuberant Lone Oak team continued to battle the Tornados throughout the second half. The end was just a few seconds away when Brent Gaines was intentionally fouled by Tilghman. Nervously, each fan held his breath as Gaines completed two key free throws to win the game for Lone Oak.

Close to an hour after the game, hoarse students and parents were still celebrating the win they hope will start a tradition.

Jeff Smith was the high scorer for Lone Oak with 15 points, followed by Jason Ricks with 13. Brent Gaines and John Beyer each chipped in 12 points while Brad Kinsey added 5 points.

### Lone Oak 44, St. Mary 61

Lone Oak's Purple Flash squared-off against rival, St. Mary Vikings, Tuesday, February 2, at St. Mary High School.

The Purple Flash defeated the Vikings 63-50 earlier this season, but was unable to repeat the performance as Lone Oak fell behind 4-14 at the end of the first quarter. The Viking defense shut down Lone Oak's scoring drive to widen the margin 15-27 at half-time.

After half-time, the Flash closed in on the Vikings to bring the teams within three points.

St. Mary's strategies changed and St. Mary won 61-44.

### Lone Oak 68, Heath 55

The Lone Oak Purple Flash is still tied for first place in the district with Tilghman following Lone Oak's victory over the Heath Pirates, Thursday, February 18, at Lone Oak.

Lone Oak took the lead early in the first quarter with a three-point shot by Jason Ricks. The Purple Flash continued the energetic scoring drive as Lone Oak finish the first quarter with a 15-8 lead.

Heath tried to close in the Flash, but the Lone Oak remained strong as the first half ended with a narrow margin 29-27.

After half-time, the Purple Flash dominated the court. Brent Gaines and Ricks each had three-point shots in the third quarter. The Flash started the final quarter with a 47-38 lead, but didn't slow down, and went on to win 68-55.

John Beyer was the leading scorer with 26 points! Jason Ricks added 12, Tim Stonecipher chipped in 11, while Brent Gaines added 10 points, and Jeff Smith scored 8 points for Lone Oak.

### Lone Oak 63, Fulton City 53

The Purple Flash defeated the Bulldogs when Lone Oak visited Fulton City on Friday, February 19.

Lone Oak led 19-9 at the close of the first quarter and only led by three points and half-time (29-26).

Fulton City's and Lone Oak's offenses came alive during the second half. Jason Ricks completed two three-point shots during the third quarter, allowing Fulton just a two-point lead at the start of the fourth quarter.

Both teams rallied hard throughout the final quarter. Again, Ricks hit two three-point shots. The game was tied 53-53 at the sound of the buzzer, sending the game into overtime.

The tremendous Oaker team added ten points to its score within the extra three minutes, while prohibiting Fulton City from scoring.

Ricks led in scoring for the Purple Flash with 20 points. John Beyer and Jeff Smith shot for 16 and 13 points. Brent Gaines added 10 points, while Tim Stonecipher chipped in 4 points.



Photo by Matt Starling

Niki Henderson hits the deck as she draws a foul from Paducah Tilghman.

## Huffine burns nets for career high

### Lone Oak 59, Carlisle 40

The Lady Flash enjoyed a 39-40 victory over Carlisle's Lady Comets, when the two teams met at Lone Oak on Monday, February 15.

The Lady Flash jumped to a 13-5 first quarter lead and increased the margin to 25-8 at the sound of the half-time buzzer.

Lone Oak continued its scoring drive and defense throughout the second half as Carlisle started to come alive. The Oaker team was too much for the Lady Comets as the Lady Flash's victory brought Lone Oak's season record to 12-7.

Shawn Huffine was the leading scorer with 20 points, followed by Shari Brantley who had 14. Laura Wallis shot for 7 points, Angela Beach chipped in 6, while Donna Brookshire and Patricia Jones contributed 5 points each. Niki Henderson added two points.

### Lone Oak 75, St. Mary 48

The Lady Flash increased its winning record to 13-7 when Lone Oak pounded on the Lady Vikings at St. Mary High School on Thursday, February 18.

Lone Oak led 17-7 at the close of the first quarter and 38-17 at the end of the first half.

Following the half-time break, Lone Oak kept up its tremendous scoring drive as Shawn Huffine

hit her fifth three-point shot to give her thirty-two points for the game.

Angela Beach shot for 10 points, and Shari Brantley added 8 points. Lori Meadows and Niki Henderson contributed 7 and 6 points to Lone Oak's victory, while Laura Wallis and Donna Brookshire added 4 points. Latonya Jones and Patricia Jones each had 2 points.



Photo by Matt Starling