

LOHS Beta Club "clicks" their way to Louisville



LOHS Beta Club after the State Convention in Louisville.

by **Jenny Sutor**
Editor-in-Chief

Clicking "fleas" together to grab the attention of fellow Betas while campaigning at the State Beta Convention caught on very quickly to the already rambunctious crowd. Amid the bustle of other campaign slogans, fliers scattered across the floor, and shouting of candidates asking for votes, these noisemakers were a big hit. The fleas served as a "mascot" for Shannan Sams' campaign slogan "Fleas vote for 'Cat' Sams."

The State Beta Convention was held December 3-5 at the Galt House in Louisville. Forty members from LOHS attended with Mrs. Metzger, Mrs. Thompson, and all members, approximately 3000, attended three general sessions.

The first general session was devoted mainly to campaign speeches and skits. The 92-93 State Beta President Elizabeth Rogers gave a speech on "There is no limit," which gave students a

new perspective on the question "What's the limit." According to Rogers, it's not the sky anymore.

Shannan "Cat" Sams delivered a speech to an audience of almost 3500 people for her candidacy for Presidency. There were nine other candidates running for president. After her speech, twenty members from LOHS performed a one minute skit with the theme of "Cat," Sams as the Cat Woman and the theme song from *Bat-Man*.

The second general session, after the voting for officers, shed a new light on handicaps and how people have accomplished major goals.

Mr. Bob Moore kept the Betas in awe of story after story of many people who have overcome difficult handicaps and setbacks in their lives. "If people can accomplish feats with no arms or doubtful fans and critics, then so can you," Moore said. Several people he mentioned that have overcome difficult setbacks in their lives were Lucille

Ball, Joe Frazier, Dave Thomas, Thomas Edison and Abraham Lincoln.

The third general session was the initiating of new officers and talent contest.

Saturday afternoon, several LOHS students took tests in competition with other schools. The students and subjects they competed in are as follows: Spelling-Kelly Seward, Math-Jason Sykes, English-Daniel Rushing, Science-Eric Free, Social Studies-Blake Thompson, Creative Writing-Sandra Marshall.

The Quiz Bowl participants included Don Presley, Jason Hornbeak, Chrystal Galloway and Adrienne Gleeson. Janey Collins,

Adrienne Gleeson and Kelley Speer competed in the talent competition, with 44 other schools.

Free time consisted of ice skating in the rain, venturing out into Louisville streets to find somewhere to eat, wading through the water to go to the Galleria, reunions with old friends, and entertaining trolley riders with Christmas carols. On the bus trip home almost everybody caught up on the hours of sleep they had missed over the weekend.

The State Beta Club Convention was a positive experience for all involved and LOHS's Beta Club is anxiously awaiting next year and all new adventures.

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A tradition of beautiful windows continues



by Jason Phelps
Opinion Editor

For the sixth year, the LOHS art students have given the community works of art in the form of decorated windows. This year's forty-two windows are no

exception to their tradition of beauty, quality and creativity. The windows are created using colored tissue paper glued to a black background. "Art students have worked exceedingly hard every year on the windows. But, I think

Choir performs a Christmas extravaganza

Jennifer Grimes
Staff Writer

This year's Christmas choir concert is one that's sure to be exciting. The choir will be performing "The Many Moods of Christmas" at First Baptist Church of Paducah at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, December 16th.

The Lone Oak and

Livingston County choirs will be accompanied by a 34-piece orchestra. The orchestra will consist of musicians from as far away as Jackson, Tennessee to as nearby as Lone Oak High School. Lone Oak student, Don Presley will be playing his trombone in the concert.

The parents of several Lone Oak students will be

this year is an exceptionally good year. I hope the students and faculty appreciate and enjoy the windows."

LOHS leaves the lights on in both front halls in the evening during the holiday season. The light gives the tissue paper windows the effect of stained glass. The themes of this year's window designs are related to the carols presented at the choral Christmas concert.

Candyce Boyer, senior art student, had this to say about her hour glass design. "We just wanted something different from the other students. Something to think about and to remember. I had an excellent partner, Jennifer Lambert."

participating, also. Brandon Driver's mother, Nancy, will be playing her clarinet. Allison Heath's mother, Malissa, will be playing the piano and the electric keyboard. Christy Buchanan's dad, Larry, will be playing the organ.

Lone Oak and Livingston County have commissioned a work to be arranged by Jeff Clark, who is band director at Livingston County High School. The work was originally a piano duo by Nielson and Young. The new arrangement is for piano and orchestra and will be performed at the Christmas concert.

Lone Oak's choral director, George Murphy, who will be conducting this year's concert thinks things will go off without a hitch. Murphy says, "All the kids are totally prepared."

Band presents Christmas concert

by Jason Phelps
Opinion Editor

On Sunday December 5, the Lone Oak Instrumental Music Department presented the 1993 Christmas Concert. Featuring the LOMS 6th, 7th, and 8th grade bands, the concert combined well known tunes with previously unheard arrangements. Throughout the performance, skill and music complexity increased exponentially to its finale when the LOHS Concert Band took the floor. Mr. Light and the members of the band should be congratulated for a seemingly flawless performance. Although the hardness of the bleachers distracted from the concert's enjoyability, the concert was a success. The concert included, "Valdres (Concert March), Jim Curnow", "Greensleeves, Alfred Reed" and "A Christmas Suite, Elliot Del Borgo". Trumpet player, Jessica Miller, had this to say about the concert. "The concert went very well considering we only had three weeks to prepare for it. The second chair trumpet player, Ashley Seely, did outstandingly well on her solo.



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Brent Adams designs stamp for Holiday Station

by Jenny Sutor
Editor-in-Chief

LOHS's art student Brent Adams rang in the holiday season with quite a clang. Along with many LOHS art students, he entered a contest for designing holiday stamps. Adams won the contest and his stamp design will be used through December 24 at the Holiday Station in Hank Brothers.

Adams learned of winning the contest on December 1, when he attended a ceremony to recognize the three finalists. Marshall VanHook and Jennifer Lambert were also finalists. Each was presented with a 1993 Commemorative Mint Set and a plaque with the special cancellation stamp and Adam's name will be

displayed in the Holiday Station.

Out of the 85 entries, Adams submitted 12. He drew them out in one night and he said, "I just tried to think of things that were Christmasy and not too religious, because of the many religions. Then I drew a mailbox because the contest was for the post office.

Adams' design plate will be destroyed, making it a cancellation stamp, never to be used again. This makes the stamp more valuable. Art students had one week to design their entries by a scale of 1 1/2" by 3 1/2" on a white 8 by 10 sheet of paper. Adams used a computer for the fonts and drew out the rest.

Sandy Hayden said, "I would have hated to have to



of chosen because all the designs were very good."

Adams got to cut the ribbon to open the Holiday Station and was "surprised, excited and honored," his design was chosen.

Adams said, "When you

enter contests you can't always expect to win because you never know what the judges will think of. There were about 85 entries, with a lot of good ones. All of the finalists were great."

Task force proposes new high school

by Mary Kate Garrett
Editorial Editor

"We want a new school. Period. The End," said Buddy Light at a task force meeting on the night of Dec. 7. The meeting concerned the options for renovation or total reconstruction of a new LOHS. It was decided that a new Lone Oak High School be built on the present Board of Education site. The board could then move to the current location

of LOHS.

Tilford Underwood, chairman of the task force, said, "The reality of this happening depends on how much money the Board can spend on this project. I think that everyone thinks that this idea is probably the best one, but the revenue that is available has a lot to do with it."

The exact proposal, made by Harold Wood, is this: "The first recommendation of this

task force is to build a new Lone Oak High School on present Board of Education property. In the event that this is not possible, we suggest that the Board proceed immediately with the renovation of the present facility."

This proposition will be taken to the Board this month, who will then either accept or reject it. If accepted, at the January board meeting members will talk with architects about the cost and options of the new building.

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Around Town

by MK Garrott
Editorial Editor

Aren't birthdays the best times? They are so fun and exciting and everybody looks forward to them so much. We celebrate in lots of different ways. Some people have big parties, some prefer to observe their special day in the company of only their families or close friends. So much comes before the actual day, though, that we are so worn out that the anniversary is somewhat...not fun. That is what comes of not recognizing the importance of the "Reason for the Season."

Jesus' birthday is this month. Do you know that this is the reason that all those thousands of people visited our mall on the day after Thanksgiving? I

bet. All those people didn't come because it is almost Jesus' birthday! They came because Christmas has become so commercialized. We have become so totally involved in the gift receiving part of the holiday that some think that the whole purpose of Christmas is to get presents. The purpose of Christmas is to celebrate the birth of Jesus and in celebration of that we give our loved ones gifts. However this has gone overboard in recent years. I sound like a big Scrooge, but that makes me really mad. Think about it. This is not the time to be as grumpy, irritable and snappy as we are these days. These are the times to be joyous, festive and grateful.

Remember this during the coming holidays. I sound like I'm preaching and I guess I am, but sometimes we need it, so deal with it. Merry Christmas! -30-



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The Oak K

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Portfolios demand respect from teachers

by Jennifer Grimes
Staff Writer

Even though portfolios are a fact of the present and apparently the future, everyone seems to want them to be a thing of the past. Some teachers don't take the time to think of challenging assignments, and students,

therefore, don't want to do what seems to them as pointless writing exercises.

According to the Teacher's Handbook for Kentucky Writing Portfolios, it is each teacher's responsibility to take class time to discuss portfolios and give some time to review the

entries in class. However, teachers are not allowed to make any direct corrections on the students' work. The work is to be his or her own.

When teachers assign these portfolio entries they need to keep some goals in mind. The entries should encourage the students to

write creatively and become independent thinkers. And most of all, the portfolio should have direct relevance to what the students are studying in the classroom at that time. Be sure that the portfolio shows what the
(Continued on pg. 13)

LOHS needs improved lunch schedules

by Jenny Sutor
Editor-in-Chief

Brrrrngg.....It's lunch time at LOHS! Everybody dashes to the lunchroom and throws their books down just in time to stand at the end of an already humongous line. Ten to fifteen minutes elapse and some people are not yet to the door to get their food. Finally, we get to sit down

and have barely enough time to inhale our lunch and throw the trash away before the bell rings again.

I seriously think it is time that LOHS had three full lunch periods. LOHS has three lunch periods, but the second lunch only has about a hundred people, of which many do not eat at the specified time. The middle school has three

lunch periods and it works out fine. There is enough room for everybody and they have more time to eat. Another lunch period could be added between 11:25 and 11:55. Students in that lunch period would just have a split fourth hour class.

As Lone Oak grows with more students, the lines are going to get longer. The

sack lunch helps speed the process up a little, but having ten or less minutes to eat is unhealthy and unnecessary. The solution of adding an extra lunch is logical. I hope that LOHS will consider this as we students are still waiting in the lines that keep getting longer and longer.

Teenage mothers not ready for responsibility

by Mary Ellen Weber
Business/Advertising
Manager

NBC Nightly News recently did a segment about teen-age mothers. When asked why she didn't get married, one young mother simply replied, "I don't want a commitment."

Wait a minute. What's wrong with this picture? She doesn't want a commitment, so she has a baby?!? Incredible! Isn't a baby at least an eighteen year commitment? Of course, she doesn't see it that way. To her a child doesn't seem like a big commitment. She, in all probability, will not raise

the child to be a productive member of society, and he will, most likely, end up on welfare, like his mother, or worse.

This was not the only shocking comment made by a teen-age mother in this news segment. An eighteen-year-old, who by the way has two children, was asked if she thought having a baby at such a young age (fifteen for her first one) was okay. She replied very matter-of-factly, "Yes."

I guess these young mothers do not realize what statistics show. It is a fact that children born to unwed mothers are more likely to be emotionally

disturbed, commit violent crimes, and end up on welfare, or worse.

Obviously there are some exceptions. Some single mothers are very committed to their children, and as a result do a very good job raising them. And there is nothing shameful about being on welfare. To depend on it as a way of life, however, is taking advantage of the government.

The fact is, however, that kids need fathers in their lives. In 1965 twenty-six percent of black children were born to unwed mothers. Senator Moynihan of New York predicted then that if nothing

were done to reverse this trend, the cities would become violent, unlawful places. Guess what. They did.

In 1991 that percentage was almost as high for whites: twenty-two percent. What is going to happen to this country? The prospects are scary.

In the presidential campaign, Dan Quayle said that celebrities, such as Murphy Brown, hurt society when they make unwed mothers seem so glamorous. People laughed then. Maybe now people are starting to listen.

Christmas isn't always the best time of the year

by Ashley Dillworth
Chief Photographer

The beginning of December brings with it many changes in the season. The air is crisp with bitter cold. You can almost feel the briskness of it as you breathe the air through your nose. The trees stand lonely and bare. Dark, oppressive clouds fill the sky more often than not. And despite all these depressing things, December also brings mixed feelings of excitement, good-naturedness and peace. Christmas is close and for many of us, this means a time of good will, a time for families to gather. It is a special time for many of us. But for many who are alone, who have no one to

share presents and food and laughter with, Christmas is a sad and lonely time. These people, who feel lost without loved ones, usually spend Christmas in a state of depression. No one cares to invite them in for a meal, no one thinks to send them cards. They are lonely and bereft.

In Paducah we don't see the poverty-stricken. We don't see people lying on benches with only a newspaper to warm them. We don't see little boys and girls rummaging around in alley trash bins to find scraps of food. We know they exist, but we don't see them. Because we do know they're out there, we try to make ourselves feel better by

giving gifts to charity groups that send these gifts to the poor. But we don't see who we give to.

Picture yourself in New York City. Picture hurriedly walking down Main Street, wrapped in a warm jacket, carrying brightly colored packages. Your breath is coming out in small white puffs but you don't pay much attention to it because you are content with warmth. You are happy and excited as are most of the people bustling and jostling around you. But then you spot an old man and a little boy huddling together on a bench. They're shivering from cold and their stomachs are growling from hunger. The little boy is softly crying

because his grandfather just told him he couldn't afford the red fire engine truck the boy wanted for Christmas. The most he will get for Christmas is a new pair of socks-one without holes.

You may be wondering what the point is to this editorial. The point is very simple. Christmas is a time that most of us enjoy. But for others it isn't, whether because of poverty, loneliness or just bad health. We all need to remember how lucky we are. Not only this Christmas, but every Christmas and all year long. We all need to remember those who are suffering this season for whatever reason. And we need to care.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to the article "Dissection: Helpful or Just Plain Gross?" featured in the November 30 issue of *The Oak K*. As a member of one of the two Anatomy and Physiology classes, I am currently participating in the anatomical dissection of a cat. I am also a vegetarian and outspoken animal rights activist. I take issue with several of the ideas presented in Doughty's article, but the proverbial "straw that broke the camel's back" was certainly the stereotypical representation of anatomy students who choose to dissect. (Mr. McGroarty's anatomy students, by the way, are given the choice between dissection and an alternate assignment.) The article states, "Some say that animals are bred only to have their remains treated cruelly by some oily, drooling high school punk who has seen too many 'Friday the 13th' movies." First of all, I prefer not to be referred to in such terms. All of the anatomy students are qualified students in good academic standing who have taken several other science courses. The anatomy students who choose dissection, including myself, are not thrill-seekers out to see something gruesome, but aspiring scholars searching for more knowledge through first-hand experience. I have seen all of the "Friday the 13th" movies, but none have given me psychotic urges to begin "whittling madly," as Doughty puts it, on my cat. The specimens are treated

with the utmost respect. Secondly, the specimens dissected in class are not "bred" for dissection purposes. The Biology Department acquires the cats from Carolina Biological Supply Company, which obtains the specimens from animal shelters which practice euthanasia (because of population factors, not the need for dissection specimens).

What Doughty describes as "disgusting" "hacking" and "whittling" I view as a very interesting, completely humane, and logical use for the earthly remains of an animal, whether an earthworm (which students don't seem to get too sentimental about dissecting) or a cat. It is an unparalleled, irreplaceable educational experience which many misunderstand and fear, simply due to lack of experience and scientific knowledge on the matter. Unless one takes the class and experiences the dissection of the cat firsthand, one cannot criticize dissection based on any reasons other than emotional ones or outmoded rumors, myths, and assumptions.

Sincerely,

Laura Denison

Dear Editor,

This is in response to November's article "Dissection: Helpful or Just Plain Gross?":

Computer biologists scratch their keyboards and terminals because they cannot find cures for the mysterious diseases affecting humans, other animals and plants. These computer whizzes never had the chance

to study tissue either in vivo or in vitro. In 1993, Dr. Tina Toe Tee spearheaded the movement to pass the legislation against animal use in medical research and as a teaching tool for the aspiring biologists. Today, June 14, 2144, a sad realization is upon us. We are dying. Our doctors of medicine have never dissected or had the results of medical research because of the ban on the use of animals in veterinary and human medicine.

The only time I saw a cat or dog was in pictures. I remember my mother showing me a photograph of her mother and in the scene, she was holding a cat. Population ecologists estimate that if science is not allowed to use animal tissue as a learning a research tool, life on planet earth will terminate in another fifty years. Because other countries followed the lead of Dr. Toe Tee, there are no trained biologists nor are there research labs equipped to combat these killer viruses.

It is estimated that all the *Felis domestica* (cats) and *Canis domestica* (dogs) have disappeared from the face of this planet. The white plague has already claimed 189,000,046 humans. Before human extinction occurs, Dr. Aura Renison is trying to lobby Congress to pass laws to begin research on mice or rats to combat these killers. Famous geneticist, Para Sitism, said, "If a vaccine is not developed within five years, all life will disappear, even the decomposers (bacteria and viruses) will be gone

without their hosts." Whether you believe the ecologists or Dr. Sitism on the amount of time that we have left, we are dying. . . . help. . . .

by Tony McGroarty

Dear Coach McGroarty and Laura,

Although I appreciate your responses, I want everyone to understand that the article was written light-heartedly and in fun. I presented both sides of the subject. I realize that I leaned a little more against dissection but that was merely for the edification of the minority of students. I wanted to present an alternative to dissection and make it known that having an opposing opinion is good. The majority of students have no problem with dissection; therefore, I did not feel that it was in dire need of being addressed. Thank you for your concern on the fate of our world. Your points were well taken.

Gina Doughty

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WPSD

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LOHS students charitable Paduchans lend a Helping Hand

by Chrystal Galloway
Beat Editor

In the eternal words of John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." As we all know, now is the time when our country needs us the most. It's surprising how little of our time and efforts could be used to better our society. For those of you who feel you could make a change, volunteer work may be the answer. Also, if any students are interested in a career in social service, volunteering is a great place to start. Paducah Area Social Service Organizations are always in need of more volunteers. Some volunteer programs require very little training or time, while others demand dedication.

One of the easier programs is volunteering at the **Spouse Abuse Center**. There is no specific age required to volunteer. Peggy Paine, director of the organization, said "The work done by the teenagers centers around the children of our clients. Students can lead group play session, or in special cases, teach a class. One high school student set up a class where she acted as a dancing instructor to a group of children." Not only did she learn how to work with children while in a teaching position, but also her students learned a few groovy steps in the process. The basic rule in working with the children is

to be a good role model. The only qualifications for volunteering are to take a two-hour training course and to sign a confidentiality contract. You can set up your own schedule as well, which is a big plus for students who work. For more information, call Peggy Paine, Spouse Abuse Center, 443-6001.

Family Services is another organization in which there is no age requirement to volunteer. Family Services is the main group that sponsors food and toy drives for needy families during the holidays. Their season begins the Monday after Thanksgiving. Sharon Simmerman, volunteer director, said, "Teenage volunteers are needed to pass out and collect applications from families. They can also collect and pack boxes of food and toys for distribution. There are no qualifications or training necessary." For more information, contact Sharon Simmerman, Family Services, 442-3575.

For those of you who are 18-years or older, you may be interested in volunteering at the **Child Advocacy Center**. Their volunteers can represent children in court abuse cases. The Child Advocacy Center also sponsors a sexual abuse prevention programs in grades K-6. This program is only open to students who are eighteen-years-old or older. There are two different kinds of work available to

volunteers. The first is much more serious and requires much more dedication. In this type of volunteering, you would be appointed by court to be a certain child's advocate or speaker in court. This requires a 40-hour training program, the swearing in by a judge of the district court, investigative work and a presentation of the child's view in court. The second type of volunteering is a little easier. In this type of work, you deal with the child through one session a week, for about an hour in order to teach him or her about the court system. The training program takes a considerable less amount of time. The volunteer would have to be in court with the child during the trial for comforting purposes. For both of these

programs you must go through an interview, pass a criminal record check, and have some kind of free-of-charge training. Sandra Fellows, director, wants all volunteers to understand that, "When a person offers to volunteer for a child, that person is the friend and most importantly, the voice of that child." For more information on this worthwhile cause, call Sandra Fellows, Child Advocacy Center, 442-5797.

Hope Unlimited is a Christian-based organization which provides women with free pregnancy tests, free clothing for new mothers, and counsels women seeking adoption referral. In most cases you must be eighteen-years-old or older to volunteer. There are two types of work to be done by volunteers; the person could be either a counselor, work

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during holiday season

(Continued from p. 8)

in the clothing department, or do paper work. To be a counselor, one must go through a strenuous 21-hour training program and be emotionally strong. Even working in the clothing outlet requires some kind of training. Considering this organization is sponsored by the Christian Action Council, one must also be a Christian and attend church regularly. Even if a student is under eighteen, you can call their offices and talk to the director. If they can get enough people together, they may begin a work program for teens. For more information, call Hope Unlimited, 442-1166. Better yet, they invite all students to visit the offices for themselves.

If anyone is looking for purpose in their life, any of these or other organizations are willing to help them find it. Even if they aren't interested in a career in social service, any cause that they volunteer for may make them change their mind. If these programs aren't appealing there are plenty of other organizations in Paducah in need of volunteers. Lend a helping hand; it's worth it.

Beta Club is extremely cool

by Sandra Marshall
Staff Writer

One of the many groups getting into the holiday spirit this year is Lone Oak's Beta Club. They are doing this by fulfilling one of Beta Club's

SADD honors victims of drunk driving

by Gina Doughty
Feature Queen/
Circulation Manager

There are two groups that have been quite busy lately in their attempt to reduce the frequency of drinking and driving, thus, reducing alcohol-related deaths. Recently, some of the members of each group, LOHS's SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) and MADD (Mothers

Against Drunk Driving), joined at the Paducah Civic Center.

MADD held a state-wide vigil in which the parents who had lost their children due to alcohol abuse came together to honor their children. The names of the dead children were honored and a candle was lit for each of them.

LOHS's SADD was asked to attend and read the names of children

whose parents could not be there. They also lit a candle in that person's honor.

This is a comforting experience for persons grieving the loss of their loved one.

"The time that these people volunteer in their crusade to end this self-destruction is admirable. These people are truly devoted," said member of SADD, Tywatha Massengill.

Key Club members beautify city and lives

by Mary Ellen Weber
Business Manager

LOHS Key Club members met at Noble Park Sunday, October 10, with paint and paintbrushes in hand. Their mission - paint a community building which desperately needed a facelift.

This was the first service for the Key Club this year, and they plan on doing several other projects. They hope to

do some work with the Spouse Abuse Center, nursing homes, and the Boys' and Girls' Club. They also sponsor the basketball homecoming dance, so they are going to be very busy this year.

One Key Club member, Jessica Maddox, said, "Doing these projects gives high school kids a sense of responsibility to the

community."

The students had fun while painting the building at Noble Park, and invite more students to get involved. Coach McGroarty, the sponsor of the Key Club, said, "The leadership of the Key Club this year is the best since we started the club. We challenge all students to get involved in the community and join the Key Club."

main obligations: helping the community.

Each month, Beta Club has one or more projects that the members can participate in. This month, these projects have been Christmas caroling

at local nursing homes, volunteering with special needs children in preschool classes, and helping out with the Kmart Kids, an organization which gives volunteers children to

sponsor at Christmastime.

This year, Beta Club volunteers sponsored six children, providing fifty dollars worth of toys, clothing and other goods for each of them to make this Christmas better for them.

Lone Oak three-peat in McDonald's tourney

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

Once again, Lone Oak cut down the nets and took the trophy from the annual McDonald's Classic Tournament, proving its continual dominance over regional teams for the third year in a row.

Lone Oak eliminated Fulton City 74-61 in the first round, and overcame Reidland 77-53 in the championship game. In the Fulton City game, they were led by senior Chris Golightly with 20 points and 10 rebounds, and junior Eric Fox was the high scorer versus Reidland with 15 points. Seniors SheRon Minter and Clay Davis, along with sophomore Brandon Moore, also made key contributions.

Coach Roy McKamey said he was pleased with the

team's performance in the tournament. "We have a lot of players that have really improved from last year," he said.

Fulton City was not only the first game in the tournament for Lone Oak, but it was also the Flash's season opener.

"[The win] got us going in the right direction," said junior Jeremy Felker. "It gave us confidence."

"It started us off on the right foot," said senior Brian Kinsey.

Fox had 15 points, senior Clay Davis had 12 and Minter had 11 in the game. Moore had five points, along with seven assists and only two turnovers.

Coach McKamey had plenty of nice things to say about Davis. "He averaged 10 points per game for this

tournament and shot an unbelievable 83% from the field (10-12)," he said. "Clay was on the all-tournament team in our eyes."

Sophomore Chad Kirk contributed four points in his first varsity game. "I was a little nervous at first, but once you get into it you get over it."

"It felt great to play my first varsity game," said Davis.

Lone Oak's weakest point in the game, according to Coach McKamey, was their defense. "One of their players scored 32 points so we coaches were not pleased," he said.

In the championship game against the Greyhounds, Lone Oak opened with a 16-8 lead and never looked back, racing to a 24-point win.

Golightly had 13 points and

14 rebounds, and Minter and Moore had 12 points each. Moore continued his great play at point guard with six assists and no turnovers.

"The team played very well," said junior Ryan Bivin. "We've got a lot of depth this year."

"We still have a lot of room to improve," said Golightly.

Golightly, Minter, Fox and Moore all made the all-tournament team.

"In the Reidland game we were, at times, devastating," said Coach McKamey. "We are getting key contributions from everyone."

As for Lone Oak being a regional contender, "It's still too early to be sure," Coach McKamey said. "But this team can get a lot better. They work hard and they pull for each other."

Shannon Speaks

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

Recently I heard someone on ESPN say something derogatory about Jamal Mashburn. The sportscaster said that Jamal has been a "big disappointment" in the NBA. But in my eyes, aside from being the product of a great university, he is generous (he donated half a million dollars to a UK scholarship fund), unselfish in his play and a great player besides.

But yet this obviously uninformed person thinks Jamal is a "disappointment". Excuse me? The same Jamal who is leading all rookies in scoring with 20 points a game? The same Jamal who, besides Jimmy Jackson, is

the only Maverick who is halfway decent? The same Jamal who, not like that wimp Chris Webber who is always hurt or that beanpole Shawn Bradley who is averaging about 0.3 points a game, has played every game and done very well?

Jamal a disappointment? I think not. Without him, the Mavericks would be even worse, if possible. Even with him they've lost their last thirteen games as of December 8.

The only disappointment is that fans expect one player to resurrect a program. Jamal is a great player, but he needs teammates to help him out. A one-person team does not an NBA championship make.

Frosh, JV and Varsity Boys	Score	C
Freshmen	Lone Oak 46	O r n e r
Lone Oak 50	St. Mary's 36	
Livingston 37	Lone Oak 44	
Lone Oak 52	Reidland 26	
St. Mary's 24	Varsity	
Lone Oak 53	Lone Oak 74	
Calloway Co. 46	Fulton City 61	
Lone Oak 58	Lone Oak 77	
Reidland 34	Reidland 53	
Junior Varsity	Lone Oak 63	
Lone Oak 42	St. Mary's 37	
Livingston 38	Lone Oak 78	
	Reidland 56	

Lady Flash runner-up in McDonald's Classic

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

"We invite those who haven't seen us play to come out and give us a chance to get you hooked on Lady Flash basketball."

These words come from head coach Steve Cobb. The Lone Oak fans who came to Ballard for the McDonald's Classic Tournament to see the girls play know just what Coach Cobb is talking about.

With lots of hustle and great ball handling, the Lady Flash raced to a 66-38 win over Fulton City in the first round.

"The team came out Friday and really got after an outmatched Fulton City team," said Cobb. "We were able to play everyone, and all of the seniors scored, so we couldn't have asked for a better opening."

"The win made us a little more confident in our abilities and it also gave everyone a chance to play," said the girls in a team response.

Senior Melanie Sims led Lone Oak with 15 points, and fellow senior Robyn Midyett and sophomore Sarah Steele chipped in with 11 each.

The Flash had a harder time with Reidland in the championship game. "We couldn't buy a basket," said Cobb. "We only hit two of our first 29 shots and you don't beat very many basketball teams shooting 6.7% from the field. As poorly as we shot, we still had a chance to win the game, so that's encouraging."

"We weren't in control," said the team. "We didn't play our type of game."

Despite poor shooting, the Flash cut a 16-point lead down to two in the third quarter. They were led by senior Caroline Steele with 15 points, along with Sims' eight.

"A lot of people came up to me after the championship game and said they felt like we outlasted Reidland," said Cobb. "Every player

competed to the edge of their ability, and that's what I had challenged them to do at halftime . . . to leave everything they have on the floor."


Of the players Cobb was pleased with, he said, "Sarah Steele did an excellent job off the bench for us. Jennifer Bristoe played some big minutes, as did Carrie Anderson . . . Of course, Caroline Steele, Melanie Sims and Robyn Midyett made the all-tournament team with their fine play, Kissha Peck had a couple of outstanding post moves in the paint and Eileen Johnston was one of the leaders in our comeback that fell short in the final.

"Susan Knott, Tara Wilkinson and Lee Ann Larrison need mention as well. They came off the bench against Fulton City and

all three hit the first shots they took . . . They're working as hard as they can in practice everyday to help make us a better basketball team."

The loss to Reidland did not, by any means, dampen the Lady Flash's spirits. "I think they realize the best team didn't win the McDonald's Classic," Cobb said. "But for some reason, Reidland has had this thing about beating Lone Oak. That mystique . . . ended on a rainy night in Ballard County, Dec. 4, 1993."

The Lady Flash are looking forward to a good year, with eight seniors leading the way. Of the team's overall performance in the tournament, Coach Cobb said, "I was proud of the outstanding effort given by everyone."



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Frosh, JV and Varsity Girls	Score	Corner
Freshmen	Varsity	O
Lone Oak 23	Lone Oak 67	r
St. Mary's 25	Fulton 35	n
Lone Oak 26	Lone Oak 44	e
Calloway 25	Reidland 52	r
Lone Oak 30	Lone Oak 69	
Reidland 10	Murray 84	
Junior Varsity	Lone Oak 51	
Lone Oak 25	Reidland 52	
Murray 32	Lone Oak 48	
Lone Oak 34	Mayfield 36	
Reidland 19		

Athletes of the Month

by Joel Kaunisto
Sports Co-Editor

With basketball season not even a month old, some players have already had to step up for the Lady Flash. One of those players is senior Melanie Sims and that is why head coach Steve Cobb named her the Athlete of the Month for December.

Sims is averaging 19 points, 7 rebounds and two steals per game.

Says Cobb, "Melanie does anything you ask her to do. She'll play inside, outside and she's not afraid to bang down low."

The team is off to a 1-3

start, but Sims is still optimistic. "We have kinks just like any other team, but we are working through these and are going to do great."

According to Cobb, her strongest points are "her enthusiasm for the game itself. She's the last one out of the gym."

Sims commented, "We have tons of potential like every year, we just have to use that potential to our advantage and do what we are capable of doing and that is winning this region."

Besides basketball, Sims also plays varsity softball and



Senior Chris Golightly

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

It's no surprise that senior Chris Golightly is the Athlete of the Month for December. After all, he is averaging 19 points, 14 rebounds and 3 blocks a game.

"Chris Golightly represents all we ask for in a basketball player at LOHS," said Coach Roy McKamey. "He is coachable, dedicated, a good citizen, a leader and a team player."

"I've tried hard to work with the whole team to make



Senior Melanie Sims

us the best team we can be," said Golightly.

What makes Golightly so special? According to Coach McKamey, "the way he has worked to improve as a person and basketball player each year that he has been at LOHS."

On his future, Golightly says, "I plan to continue to play in college (hopefully my basketball ability will earn me a great and free education) and then who knows what could happen. I just hope for the best!"

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PORTFOLIOS CONTINUED PG.4

student has achieved in that class and how much effort they put toward their work. An extremely bright student's portfolio should not have to be graded poorly because of the teacher's lack of preparation for that student.

One solution might be to let the students come up with ideas for their own portfolios, which could be a graded assignment. The teacher would then look over the papers and decide if any of these portfolio ideas are suitable for that class. If so, the teacher and the students could be saved a lot of heartache. However, teachers need to realize that the final decision is their responsibility, not the students'.



Mr. Franklin's calculus and precalculus classes created an overflowing mountain of approximately 2000 canned goods for three charities, which were Lourdes Hospice, the Resource Mother's Program and the Spouse Abuse Center.

Drama class presents Christmas play



LOHS drama class presents play to Lone Oak Elementary.

by **Crystal Galloway**
Beat Editor

On December 9&10, Lone Oak High School's Drama class performed in front of some pretty tough audiences, namely the local elementary schools, Lone Oak Elementary and Lone Oak

Hendron. The students themselves decided to put on the production "When the Toys Took Over Christmas," and most of the responsibility was theirs. Mr. Toy, drama instructor, said, "Trying to teach out of the book is frustrating, mostly because

the students can learn only so much from that. By taking this production into their hands, they are learning through first-hand experience what a real production is like. We can always have major school plays, but this is the first year we've done childrens' theatre and the students are having a great time with it."

The students decided to put on a play for elementary schools for many reasons. Rose Beth Hanrahan said, "Well, with little kids watching you we (the actors) aren't as nervous. They are very easy critics and easily impressed." Anjie Runge said, "It's a good way for us to get experience for larger productions." The actors and actresses learned that it isn't as easy as it looks. With only

one month to prepare, everyone was under a lot of pressure. Some common complaints were not having a technical crew, a very tough (never the less appreciated) director, not having enough time, and dealing with a lot of frustration.

Everything was democratic, students auditioned and class members voted on who should get the part. Not everyone got a part, but all of the students are helping out.

Overall, the play was a success. The children laughed and even cheered for the cast when it was over. the drama class had such a good time that they are hoping to preform again in the spring.

Senior Spotlight: Letia Miller



Letia Miller, senior

by **Julie Shelton**
Feature Editor/Advertising Manager

Letia Miller is so busy that I was lucky to grab a quick interview with her. Luckily the Varsity Academic Team was practicing in the newspaper room and I was able to catch her during her break.

What does Miller do to stay so busy? What doesn't she do? Not only is he an outstanding student, Varsity Academic Team member and Beta Club membr, she also holds part-time jobs at the Limited and the Kapok Tree. Miller has also just finished starring in the LOHS production of *Lizzie Borden of Fall River* and is now moving on focus on studying.

Miller attended Governor's School for the arts in 1992, has been a member of Footlights at the Market House Theatre for five years and was honored in Youth Salute. During Miller's "free time" she has traveled all across the United States and to five foreign countries and acted in a total

of 13 productions.

Miller plans to attend Stephen's College in the fall on academic and theatre scholarships.

"My dream is to be on Broadway. . . but let's be realistic. I'd probable like to manage a community theatre and produce and direct plays there."

Maybe we should get Miller's autograph while we have the chance. I suddenly feel like my life is meaningless and dull.

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Thanksgiving should be enjoyed, not mourned

by Mary Ellen Weber
Business Manager

The Sunday after Thanksgiving I was appalled by a feature done on "Sunday Morning with Charles Kuralt." It was about how Thanksgiving was bad and shouldn't be celebrated as such a happy occasion because of what the white people ended up doing to the Native Americans. Instead of giving thanks we should all apologize.

Whoa! Wait a minute! That makes Thanksgiving bad?!

I don't think so.

First of all, in spite of what eventually happened to the Indians, Thanksgiving was a very happy day. It was, and is, a time of celebration and thanks for all of our blessings. Please leave the eventual fate of the Indians out of it. Don't ruin this wonderful holiday.

While we are on the subject of the Indians however, I'd like to say something about that, too. First of all what happened to them was sad, but they are hardly the

only ethnic group that has ever been taken over by another.

Look at Britain. The British Isles were invaded by the Romans, the Angles, the Saxons, the Danes, and the Normans over a period of a thousand years. Each new group mercilessly exploited the ones who were already there. The Pilgrims left Britain in the first place because they were being disenfranchised and exploited there.

So there is no lack of victims. Every European group

that migrated in great numbers to America did so out of desperation. Native Americans have nothing on the Irish, the Jews, the Italian-Americans, the Huguenots, the Vietnamese, etc.

I'm not excusing the crimes against these people, but please don't blame me for something that took place in the 1800's. And please don't try to make me feel guilty about being happy and giving thanks on Thanksgiving. It won't work.

Carlito's Way is "Interesting"

by Gina Doughty
Feature Editor/Circulation Manager

This month I went to the movies. There were not many movies that I considered seeing at all. My choices were slim, but I opted to sit for two hours and thirty-five minutes of *Carlito's Way*. I could tell it wasn't a very popular movie because there was only one other person in the theatre besides myself and my comcomitant.

It was kind of a gangster-type movie set in the late 1970's. The main character, Carlito Brigante, is a smart criminal who just gets out of prison and he decides to "retire" from crime and clean up his act. His dream is to join his friend in the Bahamas and start a car rental place. All he needs is \$75 grand. In order to get the money, he has a slight partnership in a disco club. Although he avoids his old ways, he gets caught in many situations and instinctively kills people and such.

Even though he does bad things, I could see his good side.

The only things that bugged me about this movie was that almost all of the characters were mean and two-faced and that there were always girls wearing revealing clothing dancing to disco music. I mean, when somebody is getting their head blown away, it's not exactly an opportune time to show your friend the groovy new dance moves.

Other than that, it was good. I really got into it. The atmosphere that the characters in the movie created was intense. It is a complex movie. The audience was allowed to see the movie through Carlito's eyes and the occasional narration in Carlito's voice added to my understanding. Carlito's character made me understand how it is possible for people to live like that. The theme of this movie was that even though one has a good heart, you

have to do what you have to do to survive.

This movie is informative, romantic and kept me on the edge of my seat. My companion didn't enjoy it as much as I, but I am pretty sure that the fat guy who was in the theatre with us liked it.

Junior Rotarian

by Ashley Dillworth
Chief Photographer

December brings LOHS's Mary Ellen Weber as Jr. Rotarian. Weber, who has attended Lone Oak since kindergarten, has achieved many things in her lifetime already.

Weber is involved in many activities at Lone Oak. She is a member of Beta Club, Swim Team, FCA, reporter of SADD and President of Key Club. Weber participated in Girl's State this past summer. She has been an Honor Student all four of her high school years and an Outstanding Student for three



Mary Ellen Weber, senior

years and hopefully again this year.

Outside of school, Weber is Captain of the Paducah Swim Team, has active roles in the Civil War re-enacting, and a member of her youth group at Church of Christ. In her spare time, which she doesn't find often, she enjoys reading and watching the Atlanta Braves play baseball.

Weber plans to attend college but she hasn't quite decided where she wants to attend. "I've narrowed it down to six but I don't know which one I'll go to." The colleges are Center. (Continued on page 16)

Continued stories are cool

Junior Rotarian Continued from page 3

Transylvania, Hanover, Agnus Scott, Harding and Westminster. She would like to major in either history, English or speech therapy. If she majors in history or English she would like to apply it to being a librarian or teacher. "A lot of people think being a librarian would be boring, but there are a lot of interesting jobs, such as in museums," said Weber.

Weber has many hopes for her future and one thing that she wants to accomplish is making a difference in peoples' lives. She also wants to be happy. "I want to get a job that I like and be happy. I've met a lot of people who aren't happy with what they do."

Weber's closing thought is a piece of advice for all seniors: "Don't wish your life away."

Sorority backlashes

Dear Editor,

We have to say, after we read the article: "Kappa Phi Sigma tries to include everyone," we were appalled! Not because of that members of Kappa Phi Sigma have to say or what they stand for, but because the article was ever printed in *The Oak K*. Don't get us wrong, we encourage anyone to establish clubs or sororities, if they wish, however, Kappa Phi Sigma is no more school

related than Phi Alpha Delta. Phi Alpha Delta is a CHARTERED sorority that has been at Lone Oak High School for decades. Yet we are not a school related activity. For example on this year's Homecoming Court there were five girls that were members of Phi Alpha Delta sorority. When reading our activities we had been involved in during high school, certain members of the LOHS faculty refused to allow acknowledgement of our sorority. Therefore, by allowing the article, "Kappa Phi Sigma tries to include everyone," to be printed, the faculty has become very hypocritical! This article acknowledges four students of LOHS as members of Kappa Phi Sigma sorority, which is exactly what we were asking for in the list of activities for Homecoming! It also promotes this sorority, by saying it helps the community. Phi Alpha Delta Sorority is also involved in many charitable causes, but many people may not be aware of all our activities, because we are not able to have such articles printed in *The Oak K*, because it is school funded!

Tiffany Clark and Tara Potts,
Members of Phi Alpha Delta
(if we are allowed to say so.)

To Tiffany Clark and Tara Potts,

Your insight on the story "Kappa Phi Sigma tries to include everyone" was good. However, there are some things and policies of which you should be aware. *The Oak K* is not school funded. We do not sell the newspaper, we provide it free for all teachers and students. We get money by selling ads to businesses in Paducah. Journalism is simply a class of people who enjoy writing and want to learn more about writing and publishing a newspaper. We get story ideas by brainstorming, and we can only write and publish what we know about. The story on Kappa Phi Sigma was a student-interest story. It was something new and made an interesting story. *The Oak K* is not a biased publication, nor is it meant for debating purposes. We try to give ample time to every organization and club in the school, but because of deadlines, policies, etc., cannot publish everything.

Thank-you, Jenny Suitor, Editor-in-Chief

Advisor's note:

I must emphasize that no sorority is school-sponsored and since their activities are not school related, then they will not be covered in future issues of *The Oak K*.

Mrs. Campbell

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