

LOHS student testifies before House committee



Junior Mary Kate Garrott testifies in favor of why House Bill 215 should be passed. Courtesy of Public Information, State Capital.

by Jason Phelps
Opinion Editor

On February 1, junior Mary Kate Garrott, testified before the state House of Representatives Health and Welfare Committee urging them to approve House Bill 215, making the wearing of seat belts law in Kentucky. Garrott read about the possibility of a seat belt law and contacted her congressman to express her willingness to help in its passage. He then invited her to attend the committee's hearing on the bill.

Garrott spoke about the

accidents of two LOHS students. One, junior Brad Gordon, who was involved in an automobile accident in September and was wearing a seat belt. He was able to attend school the next day uninjured. Garrott explained how, two weeks later, junior Heather Krebs, received extensive injuries as a result of her accident. She was not wearing her seat belt.

"I was excited; I wanted it passed. It was important to me because it was so personal. In the middle of my testimony, I started to think of Heather and I had to

stop and contain myself. The idea that government should not impose restrictions on personal safety is outrageous. Those people do not know the facts or have a personal involvement."

Bureaucrats threw a barrage of statistics supporting the seat belt law, but it was Garrott's testimony that greatly assisted in its unanimous approval. She will be partly responsible for the thousands of lives to be saved. The bill has since been passed by the House and has not yet been brought to a vote by the state Senate.

If signed by the governor, driver's would only be ticketed if they had been pulled over for another traffic violation. Not wearing a seat belt would add \$25 to a ticket. The bill also transfers responsibility of underage passengers from parents to the driver of the vehicle.



**Welcome
Home,
Heather Krebs!**

Look for a feature on
Heather's Homecoming
in the March issue!

WHAT'S INSIDE :

SPORTS: highlights of Heath game; Fox breaks record

FEATURES: candygram sales; Co-Ed-Y ceremony

MISC.: congratulations; editorials; student spotlights

Junior Rotarian

by Gina Doughty

Feature Queen/
Circulation Manager

The Junior Rotarian for the month of February is Angela "Angie" Beth Moore.

Moore's parents are John and Phyllis Moore. Angie has been residing in Lone Oak all of her life. Moore has been an Honor and Outstanding Student all four years of her high school career.

Moore is the president of FBLA and a member of Beta Club, Key Club and SADD. She has been a class officer three years. Some of her awards/honors include Who's Who Among American High School Students and Youth Salute. She was voted Miss Senior and Most Likely To Succeed by her fellow seniors.

Her hobbies include swimming, playing the



Angie Moore

piano and reading. She attends Massac United Methodist Church and has participated in six community service projects. Last summer Moore was a 4-H camp counselor.

Moore says that her greatest influence throughout high school has been her older sister.

"I am honored to have been chosen by my teachers as Junior Rotarian. . ."

She received a scholarship to attend Transylvania University and will major in pre-medicine.

Student Spotlight

by Jenny Saitor
Editor-in-Chief

The spotlight shines on Maggie Largent this month for her achievements and busy life at LOHS. She is very involved in many activities and clubs, as well as other outside interests.

Largent is a varsity cheerleader, runs track, and is on the Lone Oak Girl's Soccer Team. She is also in choir, in which she made the 1993 SATB All-State Choir and First District Choir Performance for three years. Largent is a member of FHA, in which she is the president of star events, sargeant at arms of SADD, and the Beta Club.

When Largent isn't involved in something at school, she takes voice, piano, and gymnastic lessons. In her free time, she likes to roller blade, jog, and play volleyball. Largent also plays Paducah indoor, spring, and summer soccer.

Largent is not sure what she wants to be, but plans on attending either the University of Alabama or the University



Maggie Largent

of Kentucky. She is the daughter of Tom and Beverly Largent and has a brother, Tom. Her pets consist of a cat- Wenford, a dog- Bear, and 30 goldfish. She attends St. Thomas More, where she is a cantor.

Largent's goal in life is to not have any enemies. The biggest impression on her life has been the death of Shane Pearson. "It has made me realize that violence and evil are not just heard of on TV." The most important factor in Largent's life is her friends and family. "I wouldn't know what to do without them. They have always been there for me, especially my parents."

Weather slows candygram sales only slightly

by Ashley Dillworth
Chief Photographer

Every year FHA members worry that weather will be a hindrance in selling candygrams. This year, the weather was a problem but not as much as FHA members and sponsor, Mrs. Potts, feared. This is only the second time in 12 years that weather has been a problem. "We try to stay ahead as much as we can to keep down last minute preparation but the large volume of last minute sales did surprise us this year," said Mrs. Potts. If school

had not been cancelled for snow, sales would have been higher.

Last year KIRIS testing was scheduled for the same week FHA members were to sell candygrams. Though the FHA does not make much profit, the sale of candygrams is a learning experience.

Selling candygrams is the only money-making project that FHA will conduct for the school year. Other projects they participate in are Salvation Army Christmas stockings, Gifts for Christmas Angel tree and Items

for Spouse Abuse Center.

The price of candygrams did not increase so that every student could afford to send candygrams to friends.

"There is always a posi-

tive outlook toward candygrams. FHA members like to sell them and most everyone likes to receive a candygram," said Mrs. Potts.

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Around Town

by Mary Kate Garrott
Editorial Editor

All of it was for Heather. And the other victims. And so there will be no other victims.

I went to Frankfort on Jan. 31 to testify the next morning before a House of Representatives committee on Health and Welfare. They were to decide whether or not to send a bill mandating all occupants in automobiles to wear their seat belts. My position was to tell the personal, human side of the issue. Government officials, doctors and state police surrounded me and it could have been very intimidating. I knew though, that I had to do this—to tell my story, Heather's story, so that fewer families and friends would maybe have to suffer like we did.

Representative Richard Lewis called me back after I had called him and offered my help. He asked if I would like to come to Frankfort to testify. I was so hopeful that something good would come out of this that I said yes immediately. My mom and brother and I left on the 31st so we could be at the be at the capitol at 8:00 the next morning.

And there I was. Walking up the steps to the building. It was about 20 degrees and it had snowed and iced a little the night before. I was really dressed up—my mom said that my usual uniform of jeans and sweatshirts

would be somewhat inappropriate—so I slipped a little going up with my flats on.

We found where I was supposed to be and found Mr. Lewis. He led me up front to sit with the others that were to testify. I tried to relax and take deep breaths. Everybody else went before me. Mom always told me that you save your best for last. I wondered if this were the situation—not necessarily the best testifier, but the best one to tell the facts, not the numerical or statistical ones, but the heartache facts. I could do that.

I got through it pretty well. I had to stop once and regain my composure because I was telling about how Heather had spent 88 days in ICU. It just brought back such memories. Those days where they said that she wouldn't make it through the day. The days we went to the chapel and prayed like we never had before. The days we went in to see her and she was totally unresponsive. It was hard there for a minute, but I thought about how she was doing then—better, walking some and a month away from coming home—and I went on.

As of today, Feb. 18, the bill has passed the House and been sent to the Senate. They passed it with some new amendments. So now it goes back to the House and is probable that it will pass again there. From there it goes to Governor Jones. In July, we should have a seat belt law. Finally. Thank God.-30-

The Oak K Staff

The Oak K is a publication of Lone Oak High School, distributed monthly to all students, faculty and advertisers free of charge.

The newspaper is designed by staff members using the Macintosh desktop publishing system and is printed by the Benton Tribune-Courier, P.O. Box 410, Benton, KY, 42025.

Its purpose is to provide journalism students' expression. Letters to the Editor are to be under 250 words in length and signed by the author. The Oak K reserves the right to edit all letters for publication as long as the meaning is not altered. The newspaper is to inform and entertain readers in a broad, fair and accurate manner on all subjects that affect the audience. Final authority for the content of the newspaper rests in the hands of the principal.

The Oak K
225 College Avenue
Paducah, KY 42001

Editor-in-Chief
Jenny Suito
Photographer/News Editor
Ashley Dillworth
Editorial Editor/Circulation
Gina Doughty
Features Editor/Advertising
Julie Shelton
Sports Co-Editor
Joel Kaunisto
Opinion Editor
Jason Phelps
Business Manager
Mary Ellen Weber
Beat Editor
Chrystal Galloway
Staff Writer
Jennifer Grimes
Staff Writer
Sandra Marshall
Advisor
Kay Campbell

ANESTHESIOLOGY OF PADUCAH, P.S.C.
2507 BROADWAY
PADUCAH, KENTUCKY 42001

Vratislav V. Kejzlar, M.D.
Joel Lillevig, M.D.
William J. Pitman, II, M.D.
Michael D. Finn, M.D.

502-442-8228

Julie's trip down memory lane

by Julie Shelton
Feature Editor/Advertising Manager

I was staring at a wall in the computer lab, racking my brain about what my editorial should be about this month, when I realized I was gazing at a picture of the newspaper staff. It's your average yearbook picture: black and white,

people in trees, everyone-smiling-type thing, and I have seen it a million and one times, but this time it looked different.

It was as if I were looking at it twenty years down the road. I saw Jason Phelps as an eccentric kid whom I loved to pick on, not because of our political differences or because I

didn't like him, but because he was my friend. I looked at Mary Kate and Ashley and Shannon, and instead of remembering how loud they could be or how they were continuously arguing, I thought of what good friends they were — best friends. And I thought of how I admired Mary Ellen and Jennifer for being the

quiet ones, not because they didn't have a lot to say, but because they knew to save it for a more appropriate time. Then I cracked up thinking of Joel, our strong male, who was forced to leave the room when the rest of us had our "girl" talks. And I realized that

please see Family p.8

My Memory of Brian by Nicole James

Why did Brian
have to die?
We don't know
exactly why.
There is a rea-
son for every
death.

To this one we
didn't know
quite yet.
In this world it
happens every
day

At different
times and in
different ways.

It's hard to
accept the fact
of death
When it comes
so soon and it's
final then.

It's very hard to
say "Good-bye"
To a person
when they die.
When they
Move on and
when you stay,
you
Search for an
explanation
somehow,
Someway.

You feel as
though from
yourself you're
Missing a part.
Then you stop
and
Remember that
Brian is forever
In your heart.

TO BRIAN ANDERSON:

You were a very true friend to me and I will now try to endeavor to explain to you and let you see That you'll be my friend forever. Through every single word we passed, I saw a beauty in your eye and since a short time those words did last, I never said good-bye. So now I sit here all alone because there's nothing I can do. I sit here wait- ing by the phone. I'm still waiting to hear from you. I know I'll never hear your voice. I know I'll never see your face, but, honestly, I have no choice; I have only time to waste. Every now and then I turn around, I can see you standing there. I know how crazy that must sound, but life is so unfair. I just want to hear your voice again or see your smiling face. You were so faithful to your friends, You had that touch of grace. All these memories I will save. But now, I'll say good-bye and lay this poem upon your grave and try very hard not to cry. . So, now it's important and you must know, even though these words are few, All your friends will bless your soul, and I will always love you.

-Chae Johnson



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Congratulations Governor's Cup Participants !

The following students attended Governor's Cup :

Laura Denison: Eng. Comp., Science test; Susan Bongiolatti: Eng. Comp.; Craig Jackson: Eng. Comp., Art; Julie Shelton: Art; Don Presley: Quick Recall, Math test, Art; Laura Johnson: Math; Adam Bracey: Math and science test; Mary Ellen Weber: Social Studies test; Jason Hornbeak: Quick Recall, General Knowledge, Social Studies; Shannan Sams: 4th Place in Social Studies, Science; Letia Miller: Quick Recall; Susie Streckas: Quick Recall, General Knowledge

US History, World Civ. Competition at Murray

LOHS World Civ. Team won second place at MSU Feb. 23. Team members include: **Shannan Sams, Drew Rudd, Joel Kaunisto, Laura Jarboe, Susan Bongiolatti, Adrienne Gleeson and Craig Jackson.** US History Team members include: **Mary Weber, Hunter Housman, Brandon Mullen, Eric Free, Greg Cannon, Laura Denison, Ronnie Gandhok, Kyle Wallace, Angie Moore and Letia Miller.**

Co-Ed-Y holds service for new officers in library

Co-Ed Y members recently installed officers in a candlelight ceremony in the library at Lone Oak High School. Each of the eight members in the club holds an office. The officers are Susie Streckas, president; Misty Fort, vice-president; Amy Mandrell, secretary; Mary Howard, assistant secretary; Brandon Arant, treasurer; Sarah Cannon, assistant treasurer; Mike Martin, chaplain; Misty Czerwien, activities director; Mr. Nall, sponsor; Mrs.



Front row-left to right: Mary Howard, Sara Cannon, Mike Martin, Misty Czerwien. Back row-left to right: Mrs. Metzger, Misty Fort, Susie Streckas, Brandon Arant and Mr. Nall.

Metzger, sponsor. The club meets each month and would gladly welcome new members. The annual blood drive, which is scheduled for April, is our club's biggest project

for the year. The club also voted to donate to the Shane Pearson Memorial Scholarship fund.

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Rematch with Heath results in one win, one loss

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

For the second time this year, the Lady Flash defeated Heath in an important district game. The 55-43 win gives Lone Oak a 3-2 record in the district, placing them second.

"We can still end up in a tie for first place, or the worst we can finish is second," said Coach Steve Cobb.

"This was our tenth victory of the season . . . and any Lone Oak victory over Heath in any sport is always good," said Cobb.

The Lady Flash were led by Robyn Midyett's 14 points and 11 rebounds. Kissha Peck, Melanie Sims and Caroline Steele added 10 points each. In addition, Peck pulled down seven rebounds.

Cobb cited the job done by Midyett and Peck on the backboards as a key to the win.

"Another key was Eileen Johnston," said Cobb. Johnston wasn't planning to play due to her sore ankles, but Steele had three quick fouls in the first quarter. "She (Johnston) did a great job taking over ball handling duties, hit three of five shots from the field and scored eight points." Cobb called Johnston's effort "another in a series of gutsy performances this season."

Lone Oak trailed by three at halftime, despite Steele's foul trouble and Sims' lone point. The Lady Flash responded by outscoring Heath 34-19 in the second half.

Said Cobb, "This team has come a long way in terms of maturity and mental toughness, and that is going to help us down the stretch."

The Lone Oak guys fell to the Pirates by a score of 58-53. They were led by Eric Fox's 17 points and SheRon Minter's 15. Despite an injury in the third quarter, which prompted some recovery time, Chris Golightly had 8 points, 14 rebounds and 4 blocks.

Even with the loss, the Flash have a 19-4 record overall, 5-1 in the district, which gives them the number one seed in the district tournament.

"It's always disappointing to lose, especially when it's a home game," said head coach

Roy McKamey. "But it is great having the best district record. These guys have worked very hard!"

The game was even in almost every aspect. Both teams had the same number of field goals (20), the same number of three pointers (3) and the same number of free throws attempted (19). The difference was that Heath made 15 free throws, and Lone Oak made just 10.

Looking ahead to the end of the season, McKamey said, "I hope that our students, faculty and members of our community will get behind this group of young men come tournament time, because they truly are special!"

Fox breaks record

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

Although the game Lone Oak played against Providence might have been boring, one thing about it certainly caught everyone's attention. Junior Eric Fox scored a school-record 52 points in the 102-48 blowout.

"We unfortunately don't have accurate records," said Coach Roy McKamey, "but the best I've been able to find is Bennie Brown with 42 points."

For the game, Fox shot 18-24 from the field and 6-12 from three-point range. He also hit 10 of 13 free throws.

"He had 18 or so in the first four minutes, and 29

by halftime, so we gave him extra minutes... They (his teammates) knew he was having a special night," said Coach McKamey.

Fox scored above his average in several games leading up to the Providence contest. Of Fox elevating his game to another level, Coach McKamey said, "With Chris being injured, all the players were expected to pick up their game."

The most points by an individual player in a game isn't the only record the Flash could end up breaking. Four more wins to reach a total of 25 and this year's team will have the record for number of wins in a single season.

Enough is Enough!!

by Joel Kaunisto
Sports Co-Editor

Am I the only one who is sick of hearing what Nancy Kerrigan or Tonya Harding is doing every time I turn on the TV?

Yes, it was a vicious act which should have been covered in the media, but not on the news every night for a month.

I feel as if I've been to Harding's house after seeing so many clips of her walking to her truck. **And she never even says anything and they still show her walking to her truck, getting in and driving away! It's ridiculous!!**

They even showed her reaction to her truck being towed. Is this something I want to see on the national news?

We don't even know the facts. We don't know what she knew, when she knew it or

whether or not she helped plan the attack. We just know someone was a few sandwiches short of a picnic when they came up with this ever-so-brilliant scheme.

Then came the business with the United States Olympic Committee. The USOC tried to keep Harding from representing the US in Lillehammer and she sued them. Is that a little odd to anyone else? Someone attempted to disable a competitor so that she could skate in the Olympics and she's the one suing!

In my opinion, Harding should have withdrawn from the Olympics, no matter whether she helped plot the attack or not.

And now Harding has reportedly been offered a six-figure sum to appear in Playboy magazine. As if we haven't seen enough of her already. #4

Shannon Speaks: Down with showboating!

by Shannon Hart
Sports Co-Editor

There's only one thing in the sport of basketball that I absolutely despise, something I refuse to tolerate, and that is unsportsmanlike conduct, which includes all of the following: trash talking, any form or display of arrogance, showboating, showing off, strutting around after a dunk, Player A rubbing it in Player B's face when Player A has just schooled Player B, etc.

There is no place for this in basketball, or any other sport.

I would rather have a rosterful of nice, polite guys that are pretty good basketball-wise than a team of cocky jerks that are great.

All college basketball teams today have at least one or two players that feel it is absolutely necessary to strut around with a "me bad" attitude. They consider trash talking to be right on up there with free throw shooting and passing.

Why call the opponent names when you've scored on them? Why yell or laugh in their face when they've

made a mistake? What's the point? Why not channel that energy into improving the way you're playing?

The reason I've never liked teams such as Michigan and Arkansas is because of their attitude. Jalen Rose posing for the crowd after he's made an (in his opinion) awesome play does not sit well with me. And the Hogs are just as bad, if not worse. Players dancing on the press tables after a win and bumping chests during the game infuriates me. And their coach sets a bad example.

I'll never forget when Nolan Richardson refused to shake Rick Pitino's hand after his own team won. He just threw his fists in the air and ran off the court. How respectful.

With younger players looking up to the college and pro athletes of today, attitude is going to become a bigger and bigger part of basketball.

(And, yes, I am very well aware that Rodrick Rhodes laughs at his opponents too much and that Andre Riddick hangs on the rim!)

Athletes of the Month: Brandon Moore and Robyn Midyett



by Jennifer Grimes
Staff Writer

6'3" sophomore Brandon Moore was chosen Athlete of the Month for February. He averages 7 points, 5 rebounds, and 4 assists per game. Moore has this to say about being Athlete of the Month, "It really suprised me because there are others that deserve it."

Moore and Coach McKamey agree that the best

parts of his game include dribbling and passing. However, Moore does feel that his shooting skills could use some improvement.

Brandon Moore has been playing football for the past five years, but it's basketball that he would like to continue to pursue after high school. Moore would like to play basketball for a big college in the future.

Moore has this to say about his team's performance, "I think our team is the best around. Just a little more work and we will be great when tournament time comes."

Coach McKamey thinks that Brandon is a good person as well as a very good team player. He says, "When Brandon plays well, the rest of the team plays well."

by Mary Ellen Weber
Business/Advertising Manager

Senior Robyn Midyett averages 10.6 points a game and leads the Lady Flash in rebounds with an average of 7 a game. She also leads all starters by shooting 44 percent from the field. For these and other accomplishments, she has been named Athlete of the Month for February.

The stats, however, do not tell the whole story about Midyett's contribution to the team. "Robyn is a team player. As a coach, there is no higher compliment. She would gladly sacrifice all individual honors for a team victory, and that is important to our success. She has worked hard on her low post moves and has become very effective working around the basket. She also has a very smooth touch from the 15-foot in," said head coach Steve Cobb. He also said, "Robyn has improved in every facet of the game."

Midyett said, "I feel that we have improved with each game." She also said, "Throughout the year the



Lady Flash has had several hardships but we've managed to keep our heads up and spirits strong. I feel like we have more than a team but a family. No matter how our season ends we will all know that we gave it our best."

Besides playing basketball, she also enjoys playing softball and raquetball.

As for being chosen as athlete of the month Midyett said she feels, "Honored, as a senior it will be the last opportunity for me."

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Investigative reporting pays off

by Jennifer Grimes
Staff Writer

Upon hearing that several students with a grade point average above 3.5 would not be attaining Honor Student status, I proceeded to investigate the reason why this was occurring.

At first it was thought that even if a student had a 3.5 grade point average, they would not be considered honor students unless they were also going to achieve the comprehensive diploma. To achieve the comprehensive diploma several of the harder

classes at Lone Oak High School must be completed including precalculus.

A large number of seniors had never heard of this procedure for picking honor students. Several students were discouraged because they had very high grade point averages, but had not wanted to take precalculus this year. They knew they would not be eligible for the comprehensive diploma, but they felt that their spots as honor students were secure. The news of not becoming an honor student

disheartened and angered them.

As a reporter for the newspaper, I felt that this should be looked into further. If this was truly the correct procedure for selecting honor students, why weren't they notified of these proceedings before they went into effect? Where is it documented in the Lone Oak High School Curriculum Guide that Lone Oak High School honor students must achieve the comprehensive diploma to remain as such?

After speaking with a school

guidance counselor and the school's principal, it was discovered that indeed these were not the correct proceedings. The '92-'93 Lone Oak High School Curriculum Guide states that students with a 3.5 grade point average, earning any of the three diplomas will be honor students. Needless to say these students were overjoyed at this discovery. Now the record is set straight for the future classes of Lone Oak High School.

Family continued from pg. 3

even though Sandra and Chrystal were new to our staff, they were just as special because they have strong personalities that taught the rest of us to be a little more open-minded.

And in each smile I saw the person friend who made my high school years special.

They made me laugh. They made me cry. I despised the very sight of them and yet it was they with whom I couldn't wait to share my latest news. Looking at this picture made me think of Gina Doughty and Mrs. Campbell and how they were both absent the day the picture

was taken and how Gina never came to school anyway. And I remembered how we all used to drive Mrs. Campbell crazy, but deep down we knew she loved us and she always said we were a family.

As I looked at each face and studied their fixed smiles,

I began to laugh and cry all at the same time. Even though we all had our differences, high school wouldn't have been the same without them, and I hoped they knew how much they meant to me. And I appreciated them all a little more.

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