

## Beta Club sponsors successful career week



Nancy Ruoff, cosmetology teacher, speaks to students about her career.

by Jenny Sutor  
Editor-in-Chief

The Beta Club sponsored a career week for the students of LOHS. Many people from the community came to speak about their careers. They included Dan Reagor, business executive; Mayor Montgomery, politics; Steve Jackson, attorney; Cal Sisto, broadcasting; Ann Bongiolatti, CPA; Dick McNeil, firefighter; Rick Robertson, financial consultant; Dwight Swann, realtor; Judy Howe, Matrin Marietta; Nancy Ruoff, cosmetology teacher; Ms. Underhill, teaching; and a health care professional. Students learned about each career and the education involved in becoming a professional.



Dan Reagor, fire fighter tells students about his career.



Steve Jackson speaks on his career as an attorney.



Jeremy Felker accepts the trophy for the Lone Oak boys team winning second place in the Second District.



Donnie Stone shoots in the Lone Oak and Graves County game in the First Regional game.

### ***What's Inside:***

**News: 1-3**

**Sports: 10-13**

**Center: 8-9**

**Editorials: 4-5**

**Features: 6-7; 14-16**

**NEWS:** Quad-State band; winners of art and history contests; Governor's Cup

**FEATURES:** Student teachers; Spring Break poll; Band member/Artist of month

**SPORTS:** Highlights of District/Regional tournaments; Spring sports previews

**CENTER:** Spring Break advice for day-trips for those people staying here

**EDITORIALS:** Academic standards are lowered for extracurricular activities

## New program to help students make the transition from School To Work

by Jason Phelps  
News Editor

On Tuesday, February 28, a panel of local professionals assembled in the LOHS cafeteria to speak to the junior class on subjects ranging from how to apply for and maintain a job, ways to become more successful, and advice on choosing careers. Made up of a construction executive, a lawyer, a business owner, and a hospital administrator, the panel members in turn gave ten minute speeches to the class. The panel was put together by a new government program, School to Work. Created by a federal grant, the program's purpose is to aid in the transition of this area's students between high school and the world of work. Murray State and West Ky Tech are housing the program's facilities and helping to coordinate its efforts.

The School to Work program is implementing three major programs for

this and next school year. The first is a new curriculum for grades 4-8 that deals with decision making skills and economics. Called Choices and Changes the materials for the curriculum are provided on request to area elementary and junior high schools. The program is also developing a school based enterprises program in schools. By providing funding for entrepreneur operations such as LOHS's cafeteria bookstore, the program hopes to assist schools in creating ventures such as restaurants, child care centers, repair shops, banks, and other smaller experiences. The third program, designed for teachers, would pay for substitute teachers and allow classroom teachers to take temporary jobs ranging from one to five days in a field of their choice. It is hoped that this will better enable our teachers to educate students on the job market in the field of study.

## Talented students attend quad-state

by David Carmichael  
Opinion Writer

The 47th annual Quad-State High School Band Festival was held on Saturday, February 25. Held at Murray State University, the festival drew in a very large crowd. Many members from the Lone Oak High School Band contributed their playing skills in this performance, but had to work hard to even participate in the event.

Students interested in Quad-State sent in resumes while Mr. Light, director of the band placed them in order of playing ability. Those who were selected include: Kristie Wilkinson, Katie Swearingen, Jackie Allshouse, Leigh Ann Mullen, Erin Powell, Laura Clausen, Drew Rudd, Adam Resnick, James Perry, and Cliff Jenks.

The students reported to the Murray State music department on Thursday to try out for placement in one of the three

concert bands. The top players were placed in the symphonic band, and the rest were placed in either the gold or the blue bands. Wilkenson, Powell, and Jenks were selected for the symphonic band.

The bands rehearsed Thursday night, all day Friday, and had a clinic for each section, led by one of the music professors at Murray State. Friday evening, they were entertained by the Murray State Wind Ensemble with guest soloist Byron Stripling (trumpet player- very outstanding), and by the Quad-State Soloist of the Year, Adam Jeffery (saxophonist for RHS). Saturday, the bands rehearsed again from 9-11:30 a.m., and presented their concert at 2:00 p.m. in the Murray State Fieldhouse.

"Quad-state was a good experience for all concerned this year, and we look forward to participating again in the future," said Light. Congratulations to all who attended!



Quad-state participants: Laura Clausen, Cliff Jenks, Katie Swearingen, Adam Resnick, James Perry, Erin Powell, Jackie Allhouse, Drew Rudd, Leigh Ann Mullen, Kristie Wilkerson.

**Congratulations!**

## The ~~Othe~~Oak~~off~~ Staff

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Its purpose is to provide journalism students' expression. Letters to the Editor are to be under 250 words in length and signed by the writer. The Oak K reserves the right to edit all letters for placement as long as the meaning is not altered. The newspaper attempts to inform and entertain its 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.

## School Play Update

by Sandra Marshall  
Business Manager/Beat Co-Editor

Lone Oak High School's play this year is a three-act comedy by Donald Payton called *Rest Assured*. The plot stems from the high and mighty attitude of a miserly corporate socialite involving the marriage of his daughter to the son of the local meat cutter.

Rehearsals are going on now and performances are tentatively scheduled for April 7-8 beginning at 8 o'clock. Tickets can be purchased from any cast member or at the door. Anyone who would like to help with set building, costumes or makeup should contact Ms. Underhill.



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Typewriters, IBM compatible and Macintosh computers are available for public use. Printing is 10cents per page and requires a library card or driver's license.



## Winners of the K.A.E.A. Regionals Beam with Pride and Artistic License



Participants: First row- Windy Reeder, Jason Burgess, Jessica Buckalew; second row- Angela Raines, Eli Knight, Aaron Nelson, Brent Adams, Todd Meadows and Abbey Martin

by **Shawna Renee Williams**  
 Distribution Manager/Beat Co-editor  
 "The purpose of this competitive exhibition is to recognize, encourage and reward excellence in Kentucky art students, art teachers, and art programs at the high school level and to bring a higher degree of understanding and sup-

port and cooperation between secondary and college art faculty and community programs."

From Feb. 22-March 9, 1995 students from all over the Bluegrass flocked to the Eagle Gallery at the Fine Arts building at Murray State University to display their art works and wait for judg-

ing that will send them on to KAEA recognition full of opportunities and scholarships. Seven 1st place Best of Show and thirteen Best of Category awards that will go on to the all-state Exhibition and a 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention are allowed in all of the categories including painting and watercolor, pencil and ink drawing, pastel, crayon, charcoal, mixed media, printmaking graphic design, fiber arts and textile designs, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, and photography. The All-State Exhibition will be held April 16-May 13 at the Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

The Purchase Pennyrile Regional High School Art Competition was a great success for Lone Oak with 13 participants and 10 winners for the KAEA (Kentucky art Education Association) Regional at Murray second only to Tilghman High School. The talented participants were Brent Adams, Jessica Buckalew, Jason Burgess, Eli Knight, Abbey Martin, Todd Meadows, Aaron Nelson, Angela Raines, Allen Ramsey, Windy Reeder, Kelly Sanders, Brian Smith, and Josh Wood. Winners who will go on to All-State are:

1. Handmade median, pastel and charcoal-Angela Raines
2. 3rd place watercolor-Windy Reeder
3. 3rd place textiles-Aaron Nelson
4. 3rd place printmaking-Jessica Buckalew
5. 2nd place pastel/charcoal-Josh Wood
6. 2nd place fiber arts-Eli Knight
7. 2nd place ceramics-Abbey Martin
8. 1st place pencil drawings-Angela Raines
9. 1st place mixed media-Allen Ramsey
10. 1st place sculpture-Brent Adams

Once again the artists of Lone Oak High School have made a name for themselves and their school while their parents beam with pride, friends envy, scholarships smell of sweet promises, and Mrs. Hayden cries with joy and sadness at her "little prodigy dears" growing up too fast. Congratulations to all who participated and knock 'em dead at All-State.

## The Winners of Governor's Cup Attend Regionals

by **Shawna Williams**  
 Distribution Manager/Beat Co-editor

February 24 and 25, not two weeks after the grueling district Governor's Cup testing at Heath High School, the regional competition was held at Tilghman High School. Out of the original eleven who went to district, eight went on to regionals. The participants were Aaron Nelson, Laura Jarboe, Shannan Sams, Brett Ryan, Patrick Kaufman, Stephanie Getz, Shawna Williams, and Craig Jackson. They competed with nine other high schools in such fields as general knowledge, language arts, quick recall, social studies, science, and English composition.

February 25 showed the results of the tests. Three fellow Lone Oakians won their place and are now going on to the State competition, March 12 at Louisville. In general knowledge, Aaron Nelson placed 3rd and Laura Jarboe placed 4th. Shawna Williams came in 3rd place in English competition. Smiling like the Cheshire Cat, Mr. Toy, their director, exclaimed at having the largest number of his students going on to State, when Lone Oak usually only sends one person a year.

Congratulations Aaron, Laura, and Shawna and many good lucks at State!

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## Lowered academic standards in extracurricular activities a step backwards

by Joel Kaunisto  
Sports Co-Editor

I wish to comment on the McCracken County School Board's decision to lower the academic standards from a 2.0 grade point average to a 1.6 to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

I don't feel this is a good idea. A person with a 2.0 grade point average has a C average. That is not quality

work. Extracurricular activities are a privilege, not a guaranteed right.

I think students should receive an all-around education, however the academic portion is the most important aspect of this education. If a person has less than a 2.0 GPA, in my opinion they are not learning the necessary information to excel in that subject or are not yet responsible enough to handle the assign-

ments for their classes. This means that they should concentrate on their grades first, then sports or other activities.

By allowing students to participate with only a 1.6, the school is saying that it is okay to let one's grades drop to participate in a sport. This should not be the case. Grades should come first. I have participated in sports throughout my high school career, but my grades

have not suffered for it.

Part of high school is learning to manage one's time effectively. If someone cannot manage both academics and other activities, they should get back to basics by not participating in that activity and concentrating on academics.

## KERA monster eats high school students' sanity

by Sandra Marshall  
Business Manager/Beat Co-Editor

Psst. Hey, Lone Oak upperclassmen. Yeah. You. Is anybody out there as fed up with portfolios as I am? (By the way, if you do, send them to us as letters to the editor because it's going to be hard to top the level of hostility and hatred that I feel for the little devils and I'm sure we'd all love to hear to it).

Do you remember that guy you dated, who was a senior when you were in eighth grade? Or your babysitter? Or the characters in movies like *American Graffiti*? They never did portfolios. They went to school (sometimes) and took English and math and home ec and quietly graduated with no tri-

level diploma or KERA—believe it or not, there was life before KERA. So why us?



Okay. Granted, we all need to learn how to write more effectively but—hello!—how

does one write a heartfelt three-page piece about the hypotenuse of a thirty-sixty-ninety right triangle?

Oh, wait. Am I getting ahead of myself? It's very possible that some of you out there in Lone Oak Land don't even know what the portfolios are. So I'll explain—my version, that is. The initials KERA are actually a code to fool all of us that are subjected to it. It is really BEPM, which stands for Big Evil Purple Monster—a mutant creature who loves to snack on wasted paper and whose existence is sustained by bad vibes that exude from miserable seniors everywhere. This is why just when we think we're caught up and nothing else can possibly go wrong, suddenly the KERA monster calls together

all of our teachers and wham! (burst of cosmic energy) we walk into school and realize that everything imaginable is due in final type-written, gold-plated form—tomorrow. Or else. You flunk. You don't graduate. You have to surrender your first-born to the KERA gods. Whatever. Something really bad.

Well, anyway, there is but one way to conquer that monster—and that is to locate some courageous high school student who will go off on a mission to the farthest corners and deepest caves of the universe to find the KERA monster and slay him. It's our only hope.

Knight in shining armor, where are you?

## A response to "Morals headed downhill, students fed up," *The Oak K* February 1995

by Jason Phelps  
News Editor

If you are intelligent enough to decide that something is "immoral" for yourself, why can't you let other adults make that same decision for themselves? The new sexuality, the use of colorful language, and the way students relate to each other at our school are not "immoral" they are adult decisions we each make. The world of LOHS is based upon status, who has money, who has friends, it's a tough world and the value system doesn't show signs of changing. The cut-throat world of business and ugly social situations such as divorce, abortion, young pregnancy, AIDS, are not easy situations, a person can't just accuse the world of being too mean and ask that people say "Hi" to strangers. Sometimes problems don't have solutions, sometimes situations don't work for everyone. Decide who you want to be in life, decide what you want to look like and who you want to be and defend yourself with your life. Anyone who hates you because of who you are fight with your heart against them. Work to advance yourself, have a good time with your friends and those you love, and leave everyone else alone.

## Staff writer's response to Jason's response

How "adult" is it to be promiscuous or to use foul language when and where one pleases, regardless of who might be listening? If you think the use of "colorful" language is an adult decision, then perhaps you miss the meaning of adult.

An "adult" response would be one that is considerate of other people. I was raised by the Golden Rule - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. I do not like to hear foul language in public; it is rude, inconsiderate and boorish - showing a complete lack of manners as well as a lacking vocabulary, not to mention a lack of self-control.

More and more I'm concerned by the attitude many young people have that they just don't care what other people think, so they don't care if their actions or words are offensive.

This attitude mirrors a lack of self-esteem. If you don't care what others think, then you really don't have much self-respect. The two go hand in hand, whether you realize it or not.

In my opinion, the writer of the article "Morals Headed Downhill" was simply asking for a little consideration, which in turn would make the world a lot nicer place to live. What's wrong with that?

## Around Town: What do you do when your hero has AIDS?

by MK Garrott  
Editorial Editor

We all have people to whom we look up. Athletes are popular role models. Pro or college, retired or rookie, sports people have always caught the public's eye.

When Magic Johnson announced three years ago that he was retiring from the NBA due to the discovery of HIV in his body, people were surprised, angry and saddened. With this announcement came the inevi-

table question of how he contracted the virus. It was revealed that he had been somewhat promiscuous, a real ladies' man. This revelation disappointed many long-time followers, somewhat understandably. But other "fans" stopped supporting Magic because he had gotten the AIDS virus. They associated the disease with homosexual men and that was bad to them. The one-time All-Star lost some support due to the ignorance and insensitivity of a few people.

This could become the case with the best Olympic diver in history, the only man to ever win two gold medals at consecutive Games. Greg Louganis recently disclosed the fact that he has full-blown AIDS, resulting from unsafe homosexual activities. When Louganis was on the diving board, nothing could stop him. Many thought he was invincible. We admired his ability and lots of people swooned over him. Then came the report of his homosexuality. This

fact alone caused many to lose interest, to push him away. And now that he has AIDS, this could become even more of a problem for him.

People are scared. And we can't blame them—AIDS is scary. But a tragedy like getting HIV or AIDS is cause for giving all the support you can. If you called yourself a fan during the good times, the glory days, then be a real fan when others back away. Be strong when your role model really needs you. -30-



# Seniors request increase in college days

**Jenny Sutor**  
Editor-in-Chief

When seniors are applying for colleges, it is often helpful to visit the colleges to see them first hand. A college tour often means meeting with an admissions counselor, a tour of the campus, visiting with the students, teachers, and coaches, and sitting in on a class. In order to do all of these activities on a college tour, they need to be done on a weekday Monday through Friday.

There are open house days on weekends, but students do not get to see everything that goes on during a regular day or to visit classes. Since most of

these college visits must be made on a weekday, why is it that we only get one college day that is excused and not counted against us?

I believe that students who really need to tour several colleges should have the opportunity to do so without being counted absent. These students are deciding upon their future. Seniors should be given four or five college days. This could be divided into two college days in the first semester and two or three college days in the second semester. One reason we only get one college day is because seniors have a reputation for not being responsible and for taking advantage of college days to skip school. The school should draw up a form that students would take with them

to have an official from the college sign. This way, the school has proof that the college day was used as intended and students are regulated on how many days they have taken.

"I think college days are great if students utilize them. The purpose the college days serve is beneficial to students if they will be responsible in taking college days," Mr. Rushing said.

Specific guidelines would need to be drawn up regarding college days. Students should be required to make up all missed work and a limit should be set up on the number of days a student is allowed to miss at one time. Students should notify LOHS of the intended college day several days in advance and

be responsible for getting the form for the admissions office.

All of these absences should be excused and students should not be counted absent. This gives seniors plenty of opportunity to see colleges firsthand and experience everything that goes on during a regular day. If given the opportunity, seniors would use these days responsibly and if guidelines are set up, they would follow them to ensure the privilege of other college days. This way, students get to tour more colleges and the school has proof of the college days as they are allowing students the opportunity of experiencing college life.

## "But I say we crank up the Calypso control."

**Shawna Renee Williams**  
Distribution Manager/Beat Co-editor

"They say the universe is bound to blow  
But I say we crank up the calypso control  
Apocalyp, apocalyp, apocalypso  
Now I'm no dancer as dancers go  
But this is one step that you need to know  
Apocalyp, apocalyp, apocalypso  
We'll be dancing when we go"  
-Jimmy Buffet

All I seem to hear anymore is the remorse catastrophe of the tragic teenage life living in a harsh world of patronizing superiors, fickle relationships, college horror, career blues and the painstaking loss of innocence. I know it feels as if we are stuck in this unsympathetic purgatory and that our lives are filled with detrimental moments and a whirlwind of time, but, to overuse a cliché, sometimes

you have to stop and smell the roses.

The idea that prompted me to write this was that I too, was complaining of the self same things. Each day I dreaded waking up when the alarm clock shoved me out of the loving arms of my antique bed. I slouched through the hours with my head down, cynical, unhappy, whining. But then an angel, a dear, dear friend, reminded me that in spite of my irritability, clumsiness, coldness towards others, at times, and antisocial ways, I was still loved and wanted. Tears sprang to my eyes and I looked up to the world, the sky, the love. I realized it was spring and the energy of blossoming sunlight, warmth, growth, began pulsating through my veins. Many months I had wasted with a sullen outlook. Sure, my life's not Utopia. I still have what seems like too little time for all my needs, a dull, frustrating job, problems with my social life and quarrels at home but I can either fall into that self pitying trap again or I can breathe in deep the cool, damp air

and realize that beauty I do have. A victory, a completion of a chore, a delightful book to sit down to, an outstretched hand in the dark always ready to draw me near, a concerto of Chopin or a catchy tune on the radio, good conversation, a pleasant cup of coffee. True, there's something romantically tragic about the gloomy, neurotic life. But it is a dead end road and there's nothing pretty about whining and self pity.

It doesn't take much. Look around and find some small, simple idea or security-blanket object to cling to on those lonely, white nights when pressures, deadlines, insults, losses, and tears have overfilled your well. When you've reached your kneebreaking quota take comfort in something sweet and personal to you, be it a pair of flannel pajamas, a copy of Casablanca, the seam-worn armchair, your favorite poem, the voice of your best friend, an innocent little kiss, a "grassy knoll", or yourself.

Call me sentimental, say the budding lilacs have chemically affected my usually rational, realistically pessimistic brain, say I've mixed some wires, say anything. I don't care anymore. The ancient Eastern philosophy revolves around the idea that the key to bliss and happiness is in simplicity which they show with their quiet lifestyle and their harmonious haiku. Take a mental inventory and more than likely you'll find that there's very little in life you really need to be content and fulfilled. Good night.

"Give the future enough thought to be ready for it- but don't worry about it. Live each day as if you were to die next sunrise. Then face each sunrise as a fresh creation and live for it, joyously. And never think about the past. No regrets, ever."  
-Robert A. Heinlein

## Students become Taxi service

by Jason Phelps  
News Editor

Those of us who started driving early in our sophomore year spent month after month carting our friends back and forth to school and all over the city. Friends who refuse to work or are too stupid to pass a driver's test expect us to drop them by the mall or take them home from school. Totally without compensation we become a personal taxi service out of the goodness of our hearts.

Last night at 12:15 a.m., as I give a friend a ride home to her apartment on

12th or 4th or whatever street, it occurs to me (as my vision is impaired by pelting sleet and my tires periodically lose traction with the road,) that I am gullible. Can you picture my squinty-eyed-self driving in a mixed bag of "insurance premium busting" precipitation, in pitch black darkness, my body emitting world's most powerful aroma—McStink, grease dripping from my chin, and my tired arms aching as I hold the steering wheel? I've got to start taking showers and sleeping, develop the ability to say no, and get a backbone.

People with cars shouldn't be afraid to ask for just compensation and shouldn't have to ask. Having a car does not make you the savior of the car-less and having a friend who drives does not entitle you to rides-on-demand.



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## Lone Oak High School Welcomes Student Teachers

by Sandra Marshall  
Business Manager/Beat Co-Editor

One of Lone Oak High School's student teachers this semester is Lisa Chapman, a graduate of Heath High School and Murrury State Univeristy. She is currently teaching under Mr. Toy, who was her freshman English teacher when she was in high school and who, she claims, was a major influence in her becoming an English teacher. As she states, "His teaching style helped me to attain a love for literature and writing. I chose to student teach at LOHS so I could work under Mr. Toy."

In addition to student teaching here, Chapman also works at Ruby Tuesday's. In her spare time, she likes to see movies, read good books and hang out with her

friends. Her favorite short story author is "probably O. Henry." She goes on to relate, "I enjoy his stories because they usually have some satirical irony or a surprising twist. But now I am finding a knowledge for the works of Shakespeare because I'm getting to teach *Romeo and Juliet* and *Julius Caesar* this semester."

Her new-found love of Shakespeare just goes to show her own application of the philosophy of someone she looks up to: Michelangelo. "I am still learning."

by Sarah Wallis  
Advertising Manager

Mr. Phillip Holmes, is a 21 year-old student teacher for Mrs. Wyatt. He attended Reidland High School and graduated in 1990. After graduation, he went on to Murray State University where he presently majors in Business

Education and minors in Health. Mr. Holmes lives in Murray but after he graduates in May of 1995, he would like to live and teach somewhere in the Paducah area. When asked where or what area of business he would like to teach he replied, "It doesn't matter, I just want a job." Mr. Holmes enjoys all sports, reading and swimming in his spare time.

by David Carmichael  
Opinion Writer

Phil Kilby is Mr. Baker's current student teacher. He says he chose teaching as a career because he enjoys being around teens and is fascinated by the process of learning. Kilby says his wife, a former teacher, inspired him most to become a teacher. He was also encouraged by one of his teachers, David

Botinsky. "...he was a teacher who stood out as a model to me. He was dynamic, full of energy. He somehow made everyone work hard, and almost enjoy it. To this day, I am still impressed with the force of this man's teaching," he said. Mr. Kilby has been married for nineteen happy years, and has four children, ranging in ages from two to fourteen. He has attended SIU-Carbondale and Murray State University. Let's all welcome his addition to our staff.

Welcome to the  
Student  
Teachers!!!

## Band Member of the Month- Kristie Wilkerson

by Molly Harper  
Opinion Editor

The "Band Member of the Month" for March is senior Kristie Wilkerson. "Krisite is an excellent flutist; she is a fine leader and is very interested in whatever is going on in the band program," said Mr. Light.

Kristie had been in band all four of her years at LOHS. She has been the leader of the flute section since she was a sophomore. Many of you have probably seen Kristie during the summer, banging drumsticks together and whipping freshmen into shape. She has been a member of 1st District High School Band and a member of the Quad-State High School for the last three years. However, band is not the only activity she is involved in, she is a member of both the soccer and softball teams.

When asked who influenced her life



Kristie Wilkerson, Band Member of the Month.

and musical style, Mr. Light said. "I think that her sister has a lot to do with her interest in music. She was also a member of the Lone Oak Band. Also, her parents have been very supportive of her involvement in music."



"Our Carribean Beauty" Juan Manuel Pinto, Children's Division Gold Prize Winner, UNEP International Photographic Competition on the Environment 1991-92



### You Too Can Make the Earth Pretty as a Picture

The crisis of the environment has become a political rallying point for today's world-conscious citizen. The importance of this issue as well as its personal repercussions have caused people all over the world to unite in working to reverse the damage that we have inflicted upon our planet in the past fifty years. Now is your chance to get involved with one of the premier projects aimed at alerting the world about these issues.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is holding its second annual International Photographic Competition on the Environment. The theme of the competition is "Focus on Your World" and it aims to help raise awareness of both the splendor and devastation of the environment. Photos should reflect either one of these contrasting viewpoints.

The competition is divided into three categories: professional, amateur,

and children (under the age of 16 on January 1, 1994). You can win part of \$67,000 in cash prizes plus other exciting awards. The winning photographs will go on tour to various cities around the globe. UNEP hopes that these pictures will help make others aware of their responsibility to the environment.

Your photographs should be strong, well-focused images that speak to viewers. The judges are not looking for technical genius, they are looking for your honest observations on the environment.

The competition runs from September 21, 1994 to April 30, 1995. All photographs must be taken after January 1, 1994. There is no fee for entering, and entrants can submit up to three photographs. ■

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## Artist of the Month: Dallin Birch

by Shawna Renee Williams

Distribution Manager/Beat Co-editor

Seventeen year old junior, Dallin Birch has been nominated as Artist of the Month for this month of March. Born in Idaho Falls, Idaho he has also lived in California, and now here. He has two brothers and one sister.

Dallin says he's been drawing since he was "old enough to hold a crayon in his hands." His favorite things to draw are people. He likes to draw things that look good to him. He claims that there are no hidden meanings in his artwork. This young artist's favorite media is pencil and graphite drawing with a special talent and emphasis on shading. "Highly decorated and intricate works are common traits of his works," states Mrs. Hayden. He admits to having won several art awards in elementary school. His favorite artist is the renowned M.C. Escher and his mentor, who has helped him along the way, is his father who is also an artist. Dallin is not sure if he's going to pursue art as a career. He is not sure if there's any money in it and he has a few other career ideas running around

Picture  
Not  
Available

Junior Dallin Birch chosen Artist of the Month for March in his head. Before wrapping up the interview, this quiet, shy, modest young gentleman looked up from the table and in a calm, matter of fact tone informed me that, "Whatever bubbles, bubbles up."



Artwork by Artist of the Month Dallin Birch.

## Junior Rotarian: Ryan Bivin

by MK Garrott  
Editorial Editor

An athlete and a scholar, senior Ryan Bivin has been chosen by the teachers of LOHS as Junior Rotarian for March. Each Wednesday, Bivin attended a meeting with the Paducah Rotary Club, having lunch and listening to various speakers.

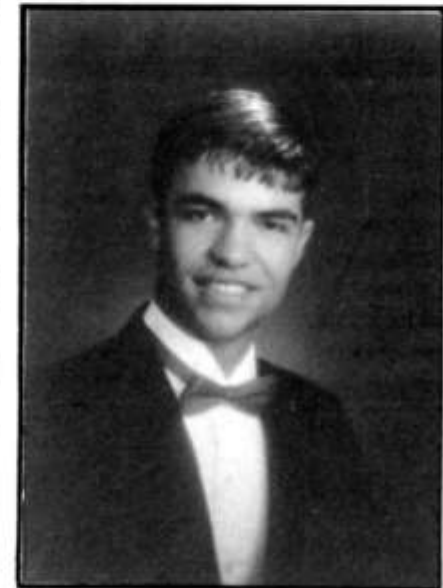
"I feel honored that my personal qualities as a student have made a positive impression on the faculty. I'm very thankful to have been chosen for the honor," said Bivin.

A three-year honor student and an outstanding student, Bivin has had to sacrifice some things, "such as sleep," to maintain his high GPA.

Bivin said, "I just try to get through the best I can."

Adding to his busy schedule is school sports. Bivin is a four-year varsity starter in baseball and a three-year varsity starter in basketball. He is active in BETA Club and has been nominated to attend the United States Naval Academy.

"Playing sports has given me the strength and determination to achieve my desires.



**Junior Rotarian: Senior Ryan Bivin** I have also learned that whatever I want, I must earn, because success isn't just handed to you," said Bivin.

After graduation, Bivin plans to attend an undecided university and play baseball.

## History Competition Participants and Winners

Last month an academic team of the most historically knowledgeable minds of LOHS competed with area schools in the 1995 West Kentucky History Competition. The list of the participants in Lone Oak's first place U.S. History triumph are as follows: Brandon Mullen, who also placed first in individual competition, Shannan Sams who also placed fourth in individual competition, Susan Bongiolatti, Patrick Kaufman, Brett Ryan, Amber Walker, Jason Sykes, Josh Miller and Maggie Largent. Also competing from Lone Oak was a team representing World Civilization, Christine Hohenstein, Drew Rudd, Joel Kaunisto, Adam Resnick, Trey Swacker, Autumn Pate, Katie Dracy, Julie Simms and Emily Rigdon, congratulations.



Participants Jason Sykes, Drew Rudd, Brett Ryan, Julie Sims, Amber Walker, Joel Kaunisto, Susan Bongiolatti, Josh Miller, Shannan Sams, Greg Cannon, Emily Rigdon, Adam Resnick, Autumn Pate, Patrick Kaufman, Brandon Mullen, Christine Hohenstein, and Trey Swacker.

**Patronize  
The Oak K  
Advertisers**

# We're on a Road to Nowhere, but

You've waited all of your teenage life for this moment. You're sixteen, have a car and money, and it's Spring Break. No one can stop you from spending a wild, nutty, non-supervised week in Cancun with your best buddies. That is, except your parents, who can and inevitably will. Let's see, the car is in their name, you have saved less than \$200, and really need to finish high school which will be hard to achieve from a Mexican prison. Realistically, even though we whine about our responsibility, our maturity, and swear we will drive the speed limit the whole way; it is completely understandable why our parents won't let us take any trips that involve sleeping at a rest stop somewhere in

usually takes (depending on what psycho is driving), and what are your best gas station buys.

First, you need to decide where you and a gaggle of friends are going the next free day you all have. Make sure everyone is off, from experience we know that you usually get back two hours later than planned. Do you want to go somewhere

**Chrystal Galloway**  
Features Editor

with a great view, a nice hiking trail, lots of cool stores, a neat tourist attraction, or some kind of amusement park? Do you want to spend an hour on the road or four



What mine and Sandra's weekends tend to resemble

Alabama. Face it, lack of supervision is generally the final ingredient for disaster. Unless you're a senior, because parents who don't let their soon-to-be shoved into real life kids have at least one good memory before they die should be killed and eaten. However, if you are a junior or just anyone whose parents won't go on vacation for Spring Break, there are actually some OK four-hours-away-or-less places to go. Not necessarily for Spring Break, but any pretty Sunday that one has free. Not only can we give some examples of places, but why they are cool, where to go, what head shops to look for (for those less worldly, a place where you can buy all kinds of Haight-Ashbury memorabilia and other odd such things), how long it

"Sometimes it's a little better to travel than to arrive."

Robert M. Pirsig, *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

hours on the road? Do you want to blow a lot of cash or do the cheap thing? Consider these circumstances well before you begin your trip. Now that you have a good idea of what kind of place you want to go, here are some more ideas of quick getaways.

**Carbondale:** Hey, it's a change of scenery. Carbondale lies northwest of here, about 60 miles or so, and it is very scenic drive. Probably the biggest reason to go there is University Mall, which has some cool shops such as Spencers, an interesting bead store, a gourmet coffee shop, some very exotic clothing boutiques, and a really cute pet store. However, those rent-a-cops are very violent about the non-smoking rules at the mall; one of our friends lost a hand. A couple other cool shops you should check out are PipeDreams and Beachbums. Also in that area lies Devil's Kitchen Lake, which would be a cozy picnic area. If you can actually find Devil's Kitchen, it

is a great place to go rappelling.

**Murray:** Though many doubt the overwhelming excitement of Murray, it really is an OK place to go for a short day trip, only 42 miles away. One pretty cool attraction is Terrapin Station, a used CD/tapes store. They also have some cool stickers, posters, buttons, and T-shirts. If you are a literary type, check out the campus bookstore, where you can find more stickers, posters, books, etc. For lunch, consider stopping by the most unpronounceable restaurant ever, Paglia's, for some yummy pizza and pasta. If you'd like a keepsake or two, drag your friends and a camera to the neat sculptures on campus for some interesting pictures.

**Garden of the Gods:** This trip is entirely a nature/scenery/hiking type of journey. After an hour or so drive, you reach probably the most beautiful countryside for miles. Garden of the Gods is mainly a look-out, picnic, hiking spot, all of which are mucho fun. The rocks overlook a deep, green, lush valley for miles. Also, there are all kinds of caves to explore, rock faces to climb, and shady grassy spots for napping and relaxing. If it's summertime or a holiday, there are sure to be vendors at the entrance to the park that sell things like gyros, funnel cakes, and hand-carved walking canes.

**St. Louis:** It may sound impossible, but St. Louis is only about three and a half hours away. Plus, consider the fun and excitement you could have. You could go to a *real* zoo, have a wild and crazy time at Six Flags (give Bugs a smooch for me) or check out the OmniMax Theatre, which is an unexplainable movie experience. Also, St. Louis has a Union Station, filled with tons of great stores. If you do go, you have to go up in the arch, unless you're



A real woman pumps her own gas. Sandra (on the right) and I

Poet Maya Angelou in a speech on the universality of all the world's peoples: "Whether I come from Birmingham, England or Birmingham, Alabama, I want someplace to party on Saturday night."

## Killer Road-Tripping Muzak

1. Grateful Dead
2. Violent Femmes
3. Tom Petty
4. *Realtiy Bites* Soundtrack
5. Melissa Etheridge
6. Dead Milkmen
7. Nine Inch Nails



A kooky friend climbing rocks at Garden of the Gods. He fell and died. (It's a joke.) We're leaving Kentucky



# ad to Nowhere, but we'll have some fun

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really scared of heights. The Botanical Gardens are definitely a beautiful sight, and a great place to have a picnic. Some cool shops to look for are the Fallout, Hullabaloo, Altered Skates, Ciseros, and Other World.

**Kentucky Lake:** Probably the most wonderful, fun type, closest place one could find and the one your parents are most likely to let you go. It's easy to find, less than half an hour away, and it's a nice place to become one with nature. Not only are there gobs upon oodles of flea markets, bait shops, and overall interesting stuff on the way, including Candy Land, but there are so many places to go once you get there. You can check out Kuttawa Cliffs, Ky. Dam Village Beach or something like that, Maggie's Jungle Golf, WonderWaters, etc. Be sure to attend the Hot August Blues Festival at Ken Lake.

**Louisville:** There are many reasons why Louisville is one of my favorite cities within driving distance, though driving time varies from two to four hours. An extremely cultural city, Louisville is the home of the Kentucky Center for the Arts, a beautiful building which holds several theatres, a symphony hall,

"People are so afraid of dying that they are killing themselves with boredom."

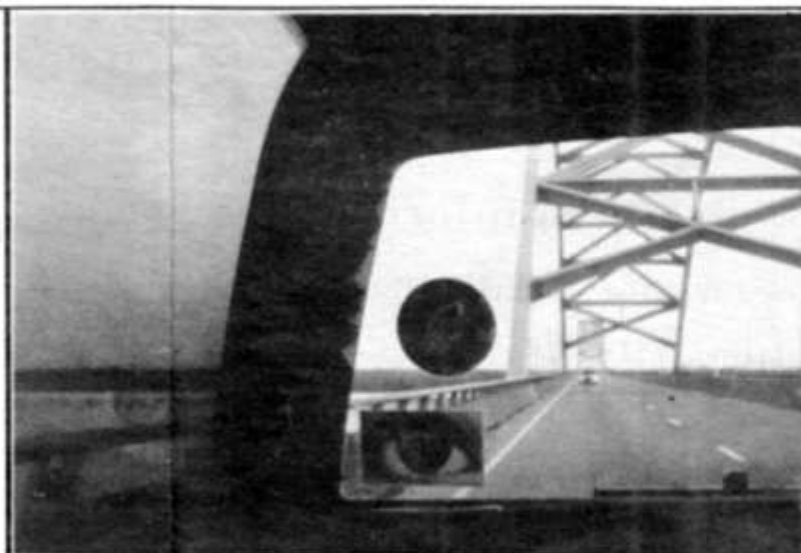
EASYRIDER '78

a cozy little cafe, an art gallery, etc. For those who are more interested in other types of enjoyment, you must prowl around Bardstown Road, a haven for little shops such as Grateful Threads, Ear-X-Tacy, Twice Told Coffee Shop, etc. Right down the street lie Stone Mountain and Electric Ladyland, two incredible head 'n' s. If you have the time or permission, consider checking out one of the raves held on random weekends, if you have the nerve.

**Mammoth Caves:** For five bucks, you can tour the crystal formations of caverns that were hundreds of years in the making. Traveling hundreds of feet into the depths of the earth, sights and sounds become a new and mystical thing. The different tours include simple walking tours, hiking tours, and underground spring boat rides. The drive is about 140 miles, but worth the experience. The caves are open all year around, and there are many other sights above ground to



A kooky friend climbing rocks at Garden of the Gods. He fell and died. (It's a joke.)



We're leaving Kentucky at last!! On my window are stickers bought at assorted shops.



A collage of high-speed road trip stran

# we'll have some fun on the way



with only the speed limit between us and insanity.

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enjoy.

Now that you've been given an idea of where to go, prepare for your journey in true road trip fashion. Make sure that your day of escape is going to be 65 degrees or warmer, so that you can be really comfortable under any circumstances. The official uniform of a road

you are going south. Be sure to pick up either NeHi Blue Creme Soda or Snapple's Kiwi Strawberry Cocktail, the must have road trip drink. As for victuals, I opt for Slim Jims and Skittles, maybe a bag of Munchos in there somewhere. Be sure to stock up on other "must have" addictive type things,



The illustrious Travel Center, where all of your needs can be fulfilled.

tripper includes pulled back hair, a tanktop, jeans (ripped or otherwise) sunglasses, and shoes that can be removed easily. Don't forget that couple of layers of flannel, to be shed as soon as you hit the first truck stop. Speaking of truck stops, the next thing to do is to stock up on road trip goodies. The place to go is Pilot, off of Exit 3, or Southern Pride if

like...uh, caffeine. Once you've achieved the necessities, plus maps, flashlights, money, extra clothes, tapes and CD's, and have acquired a full tank of gas, you're ready to hit the road. Have fun, take pictures, and drag a few cool people home with you. So long, this article has prompted Sandra and me to drive to the Bahamas, again. Have fun road-tripping



A collage of high-speed road trip strangeness: road signs, necessary evils, assorted mad occasions, etc.



## Lone Oak Purple Flash downed by Tilghman in district final

by Shannon Hart  
Sports Co-Editor

After defeating Heath for the third time this year, Lone Oak fell to Tilghman in the district championship game. Even with the loss, the Flash advanced to the regional tournament.

At halftime, Lone Oak was ahead of Heath 24-18. But the Pirates outscored Lone Oak 17-8 in the third quarter to claim a 33-32 lead. Then Eric Fox took control, scoring seven straight points at the beginning of the fourth.

Lone Oak took a 42-39 lead with four minutes to go. The Flash then sandwiched a Jeremy Felker jumper and a Ryan Bivin three-point play around a Heath basket, and Bivin, Fox and Englert iced the game by combining to sink ten straight free throws. For the game, Lone Oak shot 17-19 from the charity stripe.

Fox led the Flash with 23 points, and Bivin scored 20. Englert contributed eight points, while Felker and Donnie Stone chipped in with

five apiece.

With the win, Lone Oak improved its record to 17-10, before facing the Tornado in the final. The Flash fell behind 29-19 in the second quarter, but put together a 14-4 run, which included three three-point plays by Fox and a basket by Chad Kirk, to tie the game 33-33 at halftime.

Lone Oak took a 39-38 lead in the third quarter, but Tilghman scored eight straight points to take a lead it would not relinquish.

After exploding for 17 points in the first half, Fox was held scoreless in the third quarter, and hit only two free throws in the fourth for his only



Jeremy Felker and Heath's Nick Marana fight for the ball during the opening tip.

Photo by J. S.

points of the second half. But Felker stepped up to score six points in the third quarter and help Lone Oak pull within four. Tilghman took a six-point lead into the final period.

By shutting down Fox in the second half and outrebounding Lone

Oak 30-22, Tilghman won the game 63-53 to claim the district crown.

Fox's 19 points led Lone Oak, while Felker had 13 and Bivin 11.

**WAY TO GO  
FLASH!**

## Lady Flash falls short in district tournament opener



Eileen Johnston drives to the basket while Heath players come in to defend.

by Andy Harris  
Sports Writer

The Lone Oak Lady Flash were eliminated in the first round of the Second District tournament by Heath in a low scoring affair, 45-37. Both teams shot horrendously from the floor. Lone Oak shot a mere 18 percent (10-53), while Heath wasn't much better at 28 percent (15-53). The Lady Flash could have easily made up the eight-point deficit

from the line, but hit only 16 of their 33 free throw attempts (48 percent).

Head coach Steve Cobb was pleased with his team's defensive effort. "Everyone did an outstanding job (of defense), and we didn't foul. I was disappointed in our shooting because we had worked so hard trying to improve in that area. You don't beat too many people hitting 18 percent," he said.

Kristie Garrett led Lone Oak in scoring

with 12 points, while Eileen Johnston struggled from the field but managed to hit five of nine free throws, and score 7 points. Kara Fox led Heath with 14 points.

"Kristie Garrett had an outstanding game," said Cobb. "Eileen Johnston played her heart out, as did everyone that got into the game. I was very proud of our team's effort."

Heath led by as much as 10 points in the fourth quarter at 39-29. Lone Oak cut the lead to four points with under a minute to play before the Lady Pirates put the game out of reach.

Despite a disappointing 5-18 record this season, Coach Cobb sees nothing but good things ahead for next year. "The players have a tremendous attitude and resilience, and they will work extremely hard in the offseason to im-

prove. We are ready to get started," he said.

**Heath 45, Lone Oak 37**

Eileen Johnston 1-8, 5-9 7; Kelly Sanders 3-16, 0-1 6; Sarah Steele 0-5, 0-0 0; Kristie Garrett 2-5, 7-10 12; Sarah Phelps 0-4, 0-0 0; Danielle Roberts 2-3, 2-4 6; Constance Edwards 1-2, 0-2 2; Rae Ann Ragland 0-2, 1-3 1; Ashley Emery 1-7, 1-4 3; Kim Adams 0-1, 0-0 0

**Field Goals 10-53; 3-pointers 1-3** (Garrett 1); **Free Throws 16-33; Rebounds 31** (Steele 7); **Assists 4**

### Congratulations

to

**Eric Fox**

and

**Kelly Sanders**

for being selected to the

**All-District**

and

**All-Tournament**

**teams!**

Photo by A. H.



# Let's hear it for the girls

by Sarah Wallis  
Advertising Manager

Saturday, March 4 at 7:40a.m., LOHS Varsity Cheerleading squad departed for the KAPOS cheerleading competition starting at 10:00a.m. to be held in the Marshall County gymnasium. The category LOHS chose to compete in was Region Boys Varsity Traditional which had a certain criteria that had to be followed. The squad had to perform a gymnastic cheer, a nongymnastic cheer and a pom routine. The gymnastic cheer ended up in the tragic fall of Tauzzia Meriwether. Tauzzia is now on crutches for six weeks with a torn ligament in her knee and is unable to compete in the state competition. "We recovered well from the fall and our spirit was not weakened," Kristen Seabaugh said, "we were all proud of our performance, especially on the pom routine, it turned out to be our best ever."

The months of long and hard practices paid off for LOHS cheerleaders because they brought home not only the first place title they strived to win in Region Boys Varsity Traditional, but also the very honorable K-Pep Award. The K-Pep Award is voted on by all squads in the region, so LOHS was very surprised and honored to be chosen.

The squad will progress to the state level that will be held March 18, in Lexington, Kentucky. Instead of spending this crucial time before the event perfecting their cheers and routine, LOHS Varsity Squad will have to spend this time reconstructing their formations since Meriwether is unable to compete. The girls agree that this will be a good experience especially for the underclassmen to know what will be expected next year. The squads undampering spirit will hopefully lead them to bring home yet another victory.



Bottom row: Jamie Lyles, Tauzzia Meriwether, Kristen Seabaugh, Suzanne Churchwell, Angela Lyles, Julie Burnette, Casey Powell Top row: Deanna Masden, Amy Bowling, Star Ballowe, Ashley Accord, Misty Anderson, Amy Kelly

## Graves County romps Flash in first round of regional tournament



Eric Fox defends a Graves County player as Tony Englert looks on. Picture by J.S.

by Andy Harris  
Sports Writer

Graves County demonstrated the concept of height advantage against Lone Oak in a first round blowout in the regional tournament first round. The Purple Flash, whose tallest player is 6-1, were dominated by Graves County's endless barrage of inside players. Six-foot-eight center David Holman scored 16 points, and a pair of 6-4 forwards, Jacob Wooley and Michael Don Burnette, scored 18 and 12, respectively.

Head coach Steve Dreher called the loss "embarrassing." "They (Graves County) made us play their game. They turned it into a half-court game and pounded it in on us. We missed some easy shots early on which caused us to have trouble with our press which caused even more problems for our offense. It was kind of a Catch-22."

The Eagles got off to an incredible start in the first quarter, jumping out to a 20-0 advantage. Lone Oak never recovered from their nightmarish first half in which they hit a grand total of three field goals, and trailed 33-11. Graves County led by as much as 35 points at 71-36, before the Flash went on an 11-1 run to end the game at 72-47.

Lone Oak was helpless against the Eagles' onslaught. Graves County dominated on the boards, holding a 36-14 advantage. They also held a decisive shooting advantage, 58 percent to 28 percent. Despite scoring 18 points, Eric Fox struggled from the floor, shooting 5-14. Ryan Bivin also struggled with his

shooting touch, but managed to score 11 points.

With 1:15 remaining in the game, sophomores Cameron Icard, Keith Deaton, Josh Long, Justin Duncan, and Kyle Sanderson, and Nathan Taylor entered the game. With the starters on the bench, this group of players put on a three-point shooting clinic for Graves County. They sparked an 11-1 spurt that made the game more respectable. "The sophomores played with enthusiasm and were relaxed," said Dreher. "They were a bright spot in a dismal night."

Lone Oak finished the year at 17-12. Graves County went on to be defeated by eventual champion Marshall County in the second round. Arch-rivals Tilghman and Marshall played in the championship game, with the Marshals winning 63-48.

It was the first time in 14 years that Lone Oak had been to the regional tournament two consecutive times. But this tournament, however, was one that Flash fans won't want to remember. "I'm trying to forget all about it to tell you the truth," said Dreher.

**Graves County 72, Lone Oak 47**  
Eric Fox 5-14, 8-8 18; Donnie Stone 0-6, 0-0 0; Jeremy Felker 3-11, 1-1 8; Ryan Bivin 3-11, 4-4 11; Tony Englert 0-2, 0-0 0; Jake Sanders 1-4, 0-0 3; Chad Kirk 0-1, 0-0 0; Kyle Sanderson 0-1, 0-0 0; Justin Duncan 1-1, 0-0 3; Keith Deaton 0-0, 0-0 0; Cameron Icard 0-0, 1-2 1; Josh Long 1-1, 0-0 3; Nathan Taylor 0-1, 0-0 0; Mark Adams 0-0, 0-0 0; Jon Cargill 0-0, 0-0 0  
**Field Goals 14-50; 3-pointers 5-20; Free Throws 14-15; Rebounds 14**

## Track team hopes for record year

by Joel Kaunisto  
Sports Co-Editor

After qualifying six athletes for the state track meet last year, coach Tony McGroarty is as enthusiastic as ever this season. McGroarty said, "I am looking forward to the best track season in Lone Oak's history."

Three of the six who qualified for state are back this year, Sarah Steele, Shae Houser and Courtney Pace. Steele went to state in the 1600 meter run, Houser in the 100 meter dash and long jump and Pace, an eighth-grader this year, in the shot put.

In order to qualify for the state meet, an athlete must finish in the top two

places in an event at the regional track meet. Lone Oak competes in one of the toughest regions in the state, with perennial state title contenders Tilghman and Fort Campbell.

The team's first meet is April 11, with regionals on May 20.

McGroarty expects this year's team to be led by Jenny Suito, Bobby Trapp, Josh Miller, Shae Houser, Sarah Steele, Greg Cannon, Sara Cannon and Stephanie Getz, to name a few.

McGroarty also feels that everyone on the team has a good chance of going to the state track meet, a lofty but attainable goal.



## Athletes of the Month: Ryan Bivin, Tony Englert, and Kristie Garrett

by Andy Harris  
Sports Writer

For the first time in *The Oak K's* history, two people were honored as Athlete of the Month in basketball. March's Co-Athletes of the Month are seniors Tony Englert and Ryan Bivin.

Tony Englert has been a little known asset at point guard for the Purple Flash this year. His unselfishness has caused the limelight to overlook him. He only averaged 3.3 points per game this year, but was among the First Region leaders in assists and free throw percentage this year, dishing out 6.4 assists per game and shooting 70.5% from the stripe.

Englert says his best qualities as a basketball player include his ballhandling, leadership, and passing. "I improved this year by making fewer

turnovers and getting people the ball at the right time," he said.

The limelight, however, hasn't missed Ryan Bivin. He is second on the team in scoring at 13.9 points per game, first in steals with 62, and among the First Region leaders in field goal and free throw percentages, 50.9% and 74.8%, respectively.

Englert called Bivin "a very athletic player that gives many teams trouble." He also added, "He provides the team a spark that gets everybody pumped up and ready to play."

Coach Steve Dreher said that the one thing Englert and Bivin have in common is leadership. "Tony was our cerebral leader, and Ryan our emotional leader," he said.

by Joel Kaunisto  
Sports Co-Editor

Junior Kristie Garrett has been named the Athlete of the Month for March.

Garrett averaged five points and three rebounds per game, but led the Lady Flash in scoring in their final two games against Graves County and Heath with 12 points in each.

Said head coach Steve Cobb, "Kristie's value to the team can't be measured in stats though. When she sensed the team needed a pick-up, she was the one who tried to spark us, whether it be by scoring, rebounding, taking a charge or whatever. She is the type of player that coaches love because she is willing to sacrifice and do anything in order for her team to win."

Garrett missed all of her freshman season and half of her sophomore season due to a knee injury.

Cobb also said of Garrett, "She is probably one of the most improved players on the team. Her work ethic is outstanding, she is very coachable, and her enthusiasm for the game is contagious."

Garrett commented, "We were really a young team this year but next year we should really start off doing well. We'll surprise a lot of people."

Cobb apparently also looks forward to next year. "Like a lot of our players, Kristie is determined to improve her game. I look for her to really work hard in the off-season and be one of our team leaders next season."

## Mizell anticipates regional championship

by Shannon Hart  
Sports Co-Editor

With only two seniors graduating last year, the 1995 Lone Oak Purple Flash baseball team returns most of last year's roster, plus Jeremy Taylor, who transferred from Massac. For these reasons, head coach Jim Mizell looks forward to a successful season.

"Last year's team was 17-13, and this year's team has the potential of winning 20 or more games," said Mizell. "This team is much deeper in pitching but is

limited in the number of games that can be played."

As of March 7, players were still trying out for the team, so the roster was not set at press time. Mizell said, "We are still going through tryouts, but there should be a large number of seniors who will provide leadership." Not only does Mizell expect leadership out of his seniors, but he also expects them to help the team win the regional championship.

"At the present time we are picked as one of the top two teams in the region,"

said Mizell. He said Calloway County, Murray and Reidland are also expected to be competitive.

Mizell looks at last season as a preparation and practice for this year's team. "We had last year to get to play together and grow together into a good baseball team," he said. "Now we have Jeremy Taylor back home at Lone Oak."

Another strong point of this year's Flash is their fielding, which Mizell called "one of the finest outfields in the state." As for weakness, Mizell said, "I can't

think of any team-wise except we have lost senior Ryan Johnston because of a school-related injury."

Mizell said the Flash have the potential to be an outstanding team. "This year's team could be one of the best teams in the school-rich history of baseball. I hope we play up to our ability and make the community proud of us. We want to set a good example for the youth of this area, hoping that someday they would grow up to be like us."

## Tennis team prepares for winning season

by Jenny Suitor  
Editor-in-Chief

The Lone Oak Tennis Team is enthusiastic about the upcoming season. Coach Larry Heflin expects each team to do well and reach top places in both regionals and state. With many good players and leaders in the state, Heflin said the leaders of the girls team are seniors Nicki Edwards and Dana Swann.

Heflin believes the girls team's main strength is "excellent depth and we also have two of the best doubles team in the state." The boys team have the strength of "excellence balance among the players." He believes the younger girls on the team have "raised the level of their games to a point where they are competitive with older girls throughout the state." Heflin believes the boys team has matured greatly over the year and hopes they will become very competitive.

On the boys team, seniors Jeremy Case and Brad Gordon will be the leaders in singles and juniors Jeremy Williams and Ryan Payne will be the top doubles team. Their toughest competitors will be

Murray, Heath, and Tilghman in the region and St. X and Henderson County

at state level. Heflin hopes the team will go undefeated in regional dual matches,

win the regional team title and the regional doubles title, and wants the top five to finish at state.

The girls team will be led by junior Rebecca Holland and sixth grader Sarah Suitor in singles and senior Nicki Edwards and freshman Jamie O'Hara as the number one doubles team. The number two doubles team will probably be senior Dana Swann and junior Abby Brazzell. In the region, Tilghman will be the toughest competitor for the girls and Russell, Sacred Heart, and Henry Clay at state level. The goals Heflin has for the girls team include: being undefeated in all dual matches, winning the regional team title, winning the regional and state doubles title, and the state team title.

Heflin believes the boys team can finish somewhere from first to fourth in the region, depending on how they improve during the season. "The girls have an excellent chance to repeat as regional champions and are capable of winning their fourth consecutive state title." Good luck this season LOHS tennis!



Senior Nicki Edwards smashes a backhand in a recent practice.

## Shannon Speaks: Will the 'Cats cut down the nets in Seattle?

by Shannon Hart  
Sports Co-Editor

Well, it's March. And we all know what that means—March Madness, a time of upsets, buzzer-beaters, exhilarating wins, crushing losses, broken dreams, and dreams come true. So what does March Madness hold in store for the Kentucky Wildcats? This is a question that will remain to be answered for quite some time, but in my opinion, this is the year for the 'Cats to go all the way for the first time in 17 years. Why, you ask? Well, keep reading.

As past Rick Pitino-coached teams have done, the 1994-95 Wildcats are peaking at the right time, the last few weeks of the regular season. As of March 1, they had won two games included in a tough three-game road swing. One of the wins was a 20-point pounding of Alabama, who was then ranked #20. Heading into the last two games of the regular season, Kentucky is beating their opponents by an average of 19 points per game. Three of the

losses on their 20-4 slate have been by a combined five points.

The Wildcats are so balanced in terms of talent, it is impossible for teams to zero in on just one player. If opponents do make this grave mistake, they are going to get burned. Whether it be Tony Delk, Rodrick Rhodes, Walter McCarty, or Jeff Sheppard, players who have proven their ability to step up when needed, someone will carry the load.

This **does not mean** UK has no go-to guy. They have several. But when the game is on the line, Tony Delk is the one who will make it happen. He can be depended upon to hit the big shot or create it for someone else. Having several players who are capable of being the designated "go-to guy" is much better than having just one. With just one, he can be shut down, and the game is history. Boom. Team is knocked out of the Big Dance. This will not happen to the Wildcats.

To those who bemoan UK's inside game: true, Andre

### If Kentucky hits on all cylinders...the Wildcats will be unstoppable.

Riddick usually gets into early foul trouble, limiting his contributions. But when he does play, he can be a monster, blocking and challenging shots. Jared Prickett and McCarty can also do damage close to the basket. And Mark Pope has really been coming on in recent games. He is the Wildcats' best rebounder and has started to score and block shots more consistently.

Now for the point guard position. I still think Anthony Epps should be starting, but Jeff Sheppard is very capable of running the offense. The experience he has gotten (example: the last seconds of the Arkansas game) will help him as the Wildcats head into tournament play. With Epps providing a spark off the bench, this point guard tandem is good enough to lead Kentucky all the way into April.

Yes, the offense has been

lackluster at times, and Rhodes has his 0-for-9 games, but the Wildcats have shown how deadly they can be in wins against Florida in Gainesville (83-67, which was more of a blow-out than the score would indicate), Syracuse (77-71) and Notre Dame (97-58)—no, the Fighting Irish aren't exactly championship contenders, but UK still executed a near-perfect game. Kentucky also proved their mettle in losing to UCLA 82-81 in December, and in a 94-92 loss to Arkansas in Bud Walton Arena.

The point is, if Kentucky hits on all cylinders, the rest of the 64-team field better watch out, because the Wildcats will be unstoppable.

With the parity in college basketball today, I see a lot of upsets taking place in this year's tournament, though I don't think any of them will happen to UK. For all the above reasons and more, I think the state of Kentucky will be celebrating big-time come April 3.

## Let's play "replacement" ball

by Andy Harris  
Sports Writer

"Stepping up to the plate, Ken Oberkfell. Pedro Borbon winds up for the pitch, ..." If you think a starting lineup of Jim Presley, Dan Gladden, Bob Uecker, Leon Durham, Steve Finley's grandmother, and Bob the UPS man is pretty sorry, just imagine if this was the National League All-Star team.

Yes, replacement baseball has become a reality. What has been compared to one big fantasy camp, will hardly be a fantasy for many fans, it will be more like a nightmare. The

inability of both sides of this issue to give an inch has brought them to this point. The idea of actually using replacement players is insane. The owners realize that there is absolutely no chance of this tactic working, but they refuse to step down from their egotistical pedestal.

The players also understand that replacements aren't the solution for the owners. They can laugh to their hearts content, the trouble is, though, that they won't be laughing all the way to the bank. The owners are counting on the fact that the players will come crawling back

for their jobs on April 15, whenever they miss their multimillion dollar paychecks.

Baseball could take a lesson from hockey. The NHL and its players were more concerned about the fans and saving their season than the financial aspects of the game. I think the major problem with Major League Baseball is its lack of a commissioner. If it weren't for Gary Bettman being the head man in the NHL, there would have been no hockey season. There may be no resolution in the baseball dispute until someone is allowed to take charge themselves.

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## Accessory assault is the hottest misdemeanor of 1995

by Molly Harper  
Opinion Editor

Every year, at about this time, some junior and senior girls fall victim to a mental illness as contagious as tuberculosis, as devastating as yellow fever and as annoying as a "Very Brady Christmas." It's "Prom Fever," AAUUGGHH!!

This form of total and complete psychosis seems to be the most widespread in bridal shops and tanning salons. Around January, these places are frequented by girls with feverish gleams in their bloodshot eyes accompanied by their mothers (who are armed with checkbooks.) They scratch, spit, gouge, and wrestle other girls to the ground for the perfect dress. (The moms, not the daughters) I'm not lying, last weekend at a bridal shop, I was nearly strangled to death with a black lace garter for a pair of gold sequin earrings. (When did violence

become part of the Prom tradition? Okay, besides the highlight of the evening, when your dad meets you and your date at the door three hours after you were supposed to get home.) I've given up looking for shoes, (I'm not risking a spiked heel becoming one with my skull) so, don't be surprised to see a pair of royal blue Converse high tops poking out from under my gown, okay?

Then of course, comes the search for the perfect date. He has to be Prince Charming, Romeo, and Fabio all rolled into one, right? Just one question: where do you find this guy? My prom date is already decided, I'm going with my boyfriend. However, this does not help any of my single friends. For the last three weeks, my phone has been wearing a thin spot into my earlobe because they've all been calling me, expecting me to be able to reach into the cushions of my couch and find them the perfect man or woman! (Which is fine if they

want to go to the Prom with a lint ball.)

Take my advice, if you ask a friend, make sure that you both understand that the other may find a date in the next two months. So far, because of this kind of misunderstanding, three of my friends aren't speaking, and two others will see each other in court next month.

Speaking from experience, going to the Prom is fun. You get to dress up, get showered with attention, and see everybody look better than they have all year. But, it is not, repeat, NOT a magical, fairy-tale night of romance and adventure. It will NOT affect the rest of your life, (unless, of course, you get drunk, throw up on your date, and get called "Stinky" at your 20th reunion or you're a character in the movie *Carrie*) it will not go on your transcripts, there will not be a quiz later. You will live if you don't go.



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# Expert Advice on Prom '95

by Sandra Marshall  
Business Manager/ Beat Co-Editor

Prom season is slowly rolling around again and in the midst of all the pre-prom confusion, I on behalf of the Oak K staff would like to offer you a few words of wisdom on such brilliantly profound topics as

### Where to Eat (or Where Not To Take your Date)

\* Applebee's, O'Charlie's, El Chico, all of these (and pretty much any place with waitresses and idm lights) are okay.

\* However, though famous for hamburgers since 1934 and staffed with waitresses, Steak n Shake is still not classy enough to go in your prom attire—unless of course one or both of you work

there.

\* If you do, for some reason, occasionally befriend any of the above-mentioned Kurt Cobain worshippers, you might want to go to Denny's to make an appearance—after all, there are always lots of interesting people present clad in dog collars and leather, idly chatting about philosophy and vampirism.

\* Oh yeah. Speaking of those weirdo characters. Females, I guess we all know that Patti's on the Pier or the Olive Garden would be nice. But let's get real. If your prom date is living in his car in that soccer field behind Denny's (and we'll talk more about that later), be content with McDonald's. He probably spent his last welfare check and robbed three banks to rent the tux. Be happy with him on prom night. The cops might come

after him the next morning.

\* Otherwise, avoid any other restaurants with names containing syllables/words such as Mc-, Burger-, y's, or Pizza.

\* Unless you and your date have a very funky sense of humor, also steer clear of truck stops—anything named Truck-Pride-Leroy-Plaza-Hut-Southern-Downhome-anything.

\* Don't eat Chinese. It's too messy.

\* Don't eat Japanese or anything not of fully cooked. That exotic fish dinner's not worth dying for.

\* Guys: while a nice picnic (in the soccer field behind Denny's—see, I told you I'd get back to that) is sweet and romantic, when wearing heels and skimpy velvet dresses and it's twenty below outside and our ankles are freezing in the three feet of mud, uh...not to be rude, but...Skip it.

\* Anything downtown (C.C. Cohen's, Cynthia's, Stacey's, Whaler's Catch, Club Be Boné) is just the epitome of coolness. However, if you venture to one of these places, you might want to be armed and be dropped off at the front door by the limo. Chances are, if you park your car there, you might no longer possess hubcaps or speakers or an engine when you return.

### A Mildly Related Topic: How Much Prom Costs

Now that I've mentioned all of these yummy restaurants, you're probably wondering: Just how much does all this

cost? Well, most of the places that I mentioned even mildly favorably are approximately \$20 per person, give or take a ten or so, mostly depending on what your tastes are and what kind of hog you eat like.

Some other very approximate prices are these:

—Guys, a tux costs anywhere from \$60 - \$100, if you rent one for a night.

—Girls, you can get a dress for \$50 or \$500, whatever makes you happy. You can also get matching shoes, stockings, handbags, garters, jewelry, backless, strapless push-up bras if you so choose.

—There are all kinds of pictures that people will want you to be in—\$4 to around \$30, depending if you want a single, solitary picture or package.

—Regardless, your minimum cost will be \$12.50 per person (the costs of tickets).

But don't press that rusty razor blade to your wrists yet—prom doesn't have to cost a fortune. Shop around for a good dress. Check out the sales. The 2nd Time Around (on Kentucky Avenue) has some beautiful stuff—cheap. It really doesn't matter what you do or where you go. All that matters is that you go with someone you'll have a good time with—and then do that.

You can rent a limo or take the bus, eat somewhere horribly expensive or find a soup kitchen. As Troy said in *Reality Bites*: "A couple smokes, a cup of coffee, a little conversation. Just you and me and five bucks."

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## Country superstars Loveless, Gill entertain for 3 1/2 hour show

by MK Garrett  
Editorial Editor

Two of the biggest names in country music came to SIU Arena on March 4 and put on one of the best shows around. Patty Loveless started things off and sang for about 45 minutes before handing the show over to superstar Vince Gill. He performed for two and a half hours—straight through—no set changes, no costume changes, just singing and playing his guitars.

The voice of Patty Loveless, along with wonderfully written songs, made her part of the night fabulous. She wore

the familiar waisted jacket and her trademark auburn hair shined under the lights. The vocals sounded especially good during the heartbreaking "Here I Am," and the upbeat, "I Try to Think About Elvis" It was ironic to hear when Loveless introduced her band that the drummer was from Paducah.

After a 30 minute set change between acts, Vince Gill came on stage at 9:15 p.m. and told the audience then that many performers ask "How long do I have to sing?"; but he likes to ask "How long can I sing?" Both songs from old, old CDs (which probably were first put

out on 8 tracks) and titles from newer releases dominated the evening. Gill, dressed in an untucked flannel shirt, jeans and boots looked as though he'd just been woken up off the bus, but nevertheless put on a great show. He played 8 different guitars in the set that was a garage-type scene. The set gave the impression of a down home jam session in which Gill and some buddies had just gathered around to play some country music. He left stage once making many think he was through, and those who were unlucky left the Arena. But after staying gone for less than a minute,

Gill returned and sang for another hour. At one point he said to the crowd, "I'm not tired. Are you tired?" At 11:15, many were tired and wondered how long he could go on. Weren't his fingers about to fall off from playing those guitars?

The price of tickets, \$21.50, was very reasonable. Considering the names and the quality of performance, the audience got an excellent show for the money.

## Spring Break: a time to catch your breath

by Sarah Wallis  
Advertising Manager

"Breath, it's such an easy word to say but sometimes a hard thing to catch! It seems breathing is the only thing I have time for between papers, portfolios, novels, scholarship applications and work. What else can they possibly throw in my face?"

If this is a thought that comes to your mind every time a teacher expects you to do work, relax, you aren't the only one. If you're like me, you are saving all of your tension to release the last weekend in March/first week in April.

Some may celebrate Spring Break in different parts of the country, but we are all celebrating the same thing, a break from the everyday worries and frustrations of school!

Here are some plans and advice from your fellow classmates and teachers from a poll we took about

Spring Break:

1. What do you plan to do for Spring Break?

"Party in Panama City with 13 of my closest friends!"-Amber Walker

"Go to Myrtle Beach with my best friend, Teri Dawes."-Shannon Settles

"I plan to go fishing in Texas in several lakes around Dallas."-Jason Sykes

"Rest, relax and enjoy."-Mrs. Wyatt

"Rest and relax with my family and friends; they are having two baby showers for me that week."-Mrs. Farmer

2. Whom are you going to spend your time with on Spring Break?

"Construction workers."-Coach Norris

"Albert Norris."-Mr. Griffith

"Coach Mizell, Baseball team, and my wife."-Mr. Massa

"Harley Davidson!"-Mr. Toy

"Probably people I don't know."-Wesley Griffith

"No one in particular, some of us have no lives."-Brian Moore

"All the girls I meet on the beach!"-Patrick Fletcher

3. Have you had any Spring Break humorous or embarrassing incidents?

"Anytime I'm in a bathing suit, it's humorous for everyone, but me!"-Ms. Masden

"One time, I was laying out and my brother decided to squirt me with his new water gun. After receiving the shock of the cold water, I decided to get up and chase him. As I chased him toward the ocean, I tripped and fell flat on my face, in the water!"-Kristy Hopper

"One Spring Break, when my children were little we went to Florida, my youngest was a counter, so he decided to count gas stations all the way down to

see how many we passed. When we returned to home, his grandmother asked how the trip went. In a most serious way, he told her we "passed gas" all the way down to Florida! Children, aren't they cute!"-Mrs. Dempsey

"You don't have enough column space!"-Jim Toy

4. Anything further you would like to add...

"Have a blast, but be careful and use your head!"-Kelly Humphrey

"I love Florida!"-Patrick Fletcher

"I hope everyone has a very enjoyable Spring Break!"-Mrs. Wyatt

"Have a great Spring Break!"-Marcus Johnson

.....  
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Spring Break**  
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Seniors Joel Kaunisto, Jenny Sutor, Josh Miller, Sarah Wallis and James Perry pose in some of Mister Penguin's prom attire.

Photo by M. K. G.