

THE OAK K

The Official Publication of LOHS ♦ Volume 55, No. 3, November 1996



Beta Club has been very active in the community, from trick-or-treating for canned goods to raking leaves. See page 3 for story.

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FFA excels in leadership and teamwork at State

by Megan Williams
Staff Writer

The FFA has had many successful seasons, but this summer was one they will never forget. Along with a state championship in welding, the FFA received numerous individual and team awards throughout the summer. For Danielle Vinson, Michelle Lowery, Tiffanie Bridge, Jeb Neff, Willie Gholson, Scooter Jones, Jeff Shaffer, Clint Lawrence, Russ Hurley, Matt Thomasson and Matt Herndon, the summer began with a trip to the State FFA Convention held at the Galt House in Louisville. The trip turned out to be more than just a chance to attend the convention. The FFA received the Kentucky Gold Emblem Rating, the highest honor a department in the state can earn. This award is based on the excellence of activities and awards won during the past year. In addition to this honor, Lone Oak was also awarded the Gold FFA Foundation Award in honor of their support of the State FFA Foundation.

"We were very proud to win these two awards," said Jeb Neff.

These two team awards were not the only ones the FFA were given at the convention. Many individuals were recognized and honored as well. Willie Gholson received



FFA State participants Matt Thomasson, Clint Lawrence, Jeff Shaffer, Russ Hurley, Willie Gholson, Tiffanie Bridge, Scooter Jones, Jeb Neff, Michelle Lowery, Danielle Vinson and Matt Herndon.

an all-expense paid trip to St. Louis for the American Institute of Cooperatives Convention. Michelle Lowery won 4th Place in the state in Nursery and Landscape Impromptu Speaking; Jeff Shaffer, 3rd in Ag. Mechanics and Technical Systems and 4th in Home and Community Development; Jimmie Rodgers, 3rd in Nursery Operations and 4th in Speciality Crops; Charlie Stevenson, 4th in Poultry Operation; Robert Purcell, 3rd in Speciality Animals; and Matt Herndon, 3rd in Turf Grass Management.

Tiffanie Bridge, Jeff Shaffer, Jess Thompson, Ryan Smith and Matt Herndon received the highest award available to individual competition, the State FFA Degree Award. Also, Scooter Jones and Michelle Lowery were selected to the State FFA Courtesy Corps.

After the FFA left the convention, eight members headed to the Kentucky State FFA Leadership Training Center to work on developing leadership skills. The members

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Academic team wins MSU President's Academic Invitational tournament

First championship since 1984

by Anu Manchikanti
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On October 29th, the Lone Oak academic team won the Murray State University West Kentucky President's Academic Invitational. (The questions were almost as hard as the title.) Players on the tournament team were Anu Manchikanti, Zach Miller, Trey Swacker, Lee Titsworth, Julie Thrasher and Brent Turner. For the first time since 1984, Lone Oak won the single-elimination tournament in which 24 teams participated, from local Paducah schools to schools from farther east in the region, such as Madisonville-North Hopkins, last year's dominating champion.

Hopes were down going into the tournament. "We never expected to win," said Turner, the team's captain. The team drew a bye for the first round. In the second round, they faced Christian County,



Lone Oak's championship tournament team

defeating them with a score of 40 to 17. Next, they played Marshall County, a favorite in this tournament, in a heart-stopper, with a score of 28 to 27. The quarterfinals brought Murray to the stage. Down by one at halftime, the team came back and prevailed by 4 points at 34 to 30. In the final round,

Calloway started with four easy points, but Lone Oak came back quickly. The championship score was 30 to 19.

Tournament team members cite hard work and faith when asked about their excellent playing. "We're not so serious - we just play to have fun," said Titsworth. And, of course,

Garcia the Dancing Bear, the team's mascot, was there at all times, bringing the team good luck.

With this victory comes a \$1000 MSU scholarship that will be split among the seniors attending Murray. But even more than that comes the prestige that Lone Oak is one of the best teams in the region and has the ability to beat any obstacle that faces them.

In regular season play, the academic team defeated both Carlisle (24-22) and St. Mary (25-22). The team also beat Graves, 27 to 7. On the same day, they fell to Reidland, with a score of 21 to 26. On November 4th, the team played Heath and Marshall County, with respective scores of 26 to 25 and 19 to 21. This home meet concluded the team's regular season.

Next, the academic team will play in the West Kentucky Academic Bowl on January 15th and also participate in the Knowledge Master Open on December 4th. Their next goal? To improve their 14 wins to 21, breaking the past record. And it looks like they are well on their way.

Ghostout '96 attempts to save lives by discouraging drunk driving

by Lucy Jackson
Staff Writer

Signs decorated our school and raised the curiosity of the entire student body. Then, on October 25th everyone found out exactly what Ghostout was. Starting first hour, every thirty minutes a student or teacher was taken from their classroom by a policeman and the Grim Reaper. By the end of the day, nine friends, teachers and classmates were missing from school. Gravestones decorated the front hall with the names of the missing persons written beside the somewhat spooky R.I.P.'s. Taken that day was Jason Lilly, Tereza Kejzlar, Kelly Smith, Jon Camp, Donnie Stone, Mr. Toy, Jennifer Lambert, Brent Golightly and Josh Reeves.

An assembly took place sixth hour. As the entire school piled into the gym, everyone knew that the mystery of Ghostout would soon no longer be a mystery. It began with Jerry Ward Beyer, former county coroner and president of Roth Funeral Chapel, who explained the effects of alcohol-related accidents. He took the audience through a day in his job, walking to the door of an unsuspecting parent who was about to be

informed that their child was dead because they were in a car wreck where alcohol played a role.

The lights then went off and Kenny G set the mood for the drama, coordinated by Kristy Smith, Chad Morreau, and Ryan Morreau. The nine participants who had disappeared throughout the day walked slowly across the gym floor, each holding a lit candle that symbolized their life. As the

The point of Ghostout was to call attention to how drinking can destroy one person and affect the lives of everyone who loved and knew them.

police man, the Grim Reaper and two paramedics walked to each person, Chad Morreau read something about them, whether it be about a sport they excelled in or an aspect of their personality for which they were famous. As the description of each person was read, the Grim Reaper put out the candle that the person was holding, and the paramedics laid them down and covered their body with a sheet. As the last



The Grim Reaper takes Mr. Toy away.

person was laid down, Kristy Smith read a poem having to do with a young girl being killed by a drunk driver. At the end, nine covered bodies lay across the floor. The gym was quiet, and the effects of the program were obvious. Students were crying and others simply sat in complete stillness.

The point of Ghostout was to call attention to how drinking can destroy one person and

affect the lives of everyone who loved and knew them. Hopefully, someone will think twice about drinking and driving after imagining how it would be if one of the nine people on the floor had really died and been gone from our lives for more than one day. Whether or not this program was successful is only known by those who now choose not to drink and drive.

Letter to the Editor

The Friday, October 25th, assembly at Lone Oak High School offered more to students than 45 minutes without class. It offered a lesson in drinking and driving that these teens will not forget and neither will I.

I was fortunate to participate in this powerful assembly. Because I was the county coroner for so many years, I was asked to explain some of the effects of alcohol related vehicle accidents. Along with my input was a very effective drama coordinated by Lone Oak High School students Kristy Smith, Chad Morreau and Ryan Morreau. This group put my statistics into reality. I would be foolish to try and describe to you exactly how these young people demonstrated the harsh reality because first, it would take up too many pages and secondly, I could never do it justice. But it was a moving and educational performance by all who participated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kristy, Chad, Ryan, the teachers, the students, the police, the Mercy Regional and all involved for allowing me to participate in such a positive message. It was an honor for me, and I hope we all keep standing against Drinking and Driving.

Sincerely,
Jerry Ward Beyer
President, Roth Funeral Chapel

FFA excels in leadership and teamwork at state

Continued from page 1

learned how to execute their office in the club, leadership in speaking and the operations of the local, state, and national FFA. They also participated in the State FFA Quiz Contest. Once again, they were victorious, with Becky Bridge tying for first place.

As summer came to an end, the FFA still had one more event to conquer. In early August they began preparing for the competition at the Kentucky State Fair. Lone Oak was victorious again in Tobacco

Grading, Meat Identification, Individual Welding and Team Arc Welding. Nathan Churchwell placed 6th in the Auctioneering contest, and Rebecca Seay won 1st place in Dairy Showmanship.

The FFA hopes to be as successful this year as they were last year. They plan to participate in many competitions.

"Beginning in January, we will be participating in 13 speaking contests, parliament procedure contests and proficiency contests," said Mr. Wood. Congratulations and good luck!

The Oak K

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Coroner	Ann-Meredith McNeill
Circulation Manager	Estee Cheah
Business Manager	Emily Williams
Staff Writers	Lucy Jackson
	Emily Riggs
	Megan Williams
Sponsor	Mrs. Campbell

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Congratulations to Julie Enck for being named LOHS volunteer of the year in The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program

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Lone Oak High School's artists excel in competitions

by Emily Riggs
Staff Writer

Each year the art class enters at least four competitions: The First District Women's Club; Teen Spirit, sponsored by Yeiser Art Center; The K.A.E.A. Regional Art Competition; and the Paducah Women's Club spring competition.

The following students have received first place awards in the District Federation of Women's Clubs Art Competition this year: Ann-Meredith McNeill- First Place, photography; Allen Ramsey- First Place, basket weaving; Amanda Hall- First Place, drawing; and Grant Clouser- First Place, weaving. "I was disappointed because I received an award for weaving when my project was a hat," stated Clouser. Only one entry was allowed in each category per school. In the past eight years, students from Lone Oak have had the highest representation in the K.A.E.A. Regional Art Competition. There have been first place



Above is a photograph by art student Ann-Meredith McNeill.

awards in the areas of drawing, jewelry, painting and print making.

Allen Ramsey won first place in the Federation of the Women's Club's State competition last spring for a woven basket.

All first place winners' works will travel to a state competition in the spring. This year Lone Oak had three first place awards and one second place award.

The Paducah Women's Club Art

competition is held each spring and fall. It is open to all age levels, including adults. There is a two dollar entry fee for each entry. Ribbons and money are given as awards.

The Kentucky Art Education Association Purchase/Pennyrite High School Art Competition is made up of 14 categories. Every art student participates in this competition. Students do not have to be enrolled in an art class to compete. A total of \$1000 is given in awards. Mrs. Hayden, head of the art department, encourages all students to enter the Yeiser Art Center "Teen Spirit" competition. "The most important aspect of the competitions is seeing the work of the students being viewed by the public," says Hayden. Lone Oak students have had the highest number of participants in the Regional Show and several have won awards. The entry fee is one dollar per entry. All juror's awards and first place award winners art work will appear in the all-state exhibits in March.

Beta Club keeps active

by Ann-Meredith McNeill
Coroner

The Beta Club has been very active since the beginning of school and will continue their schedule of helping the community until the end of the year. Members earn points doing various duties throughout the year such as working with Headstart Preschool children at HLOES, helping at the Literacy Center and aiding the elderly at Parkview Convalescent Center, along with monthly duties. They have been making an

frightening elementary schoolers with the HLOES Halloween party has also been a way to earn points; as senior Zach Miller said, "I had kids running away from me, crying."

In less traumatic activities, members raised money and signed up to stay out late to work at the November's annual Telethon of Stars, the proceeds of which goes to the Easter Seals Center. The Beta club will be earning extra points with teachers as well during National Educator's Week, November 11-15. They will be bringing lots of goodies to



Beta Club members attempt to stay up all night at the Telethon. Photo by A. Manchikanti

effort to preserve history by writing Jim Edgar, Governor of Illinois, to save the Crenshaw House, which was an old slave quarter. Other October services include raking leaves and joining forces with the Key Club to trick or treat for canned goods.

teachers throughout the school during flex time all week long. The infamous Beta Convention looms in the near future of December, where club members can perform wild and crazy skits, compete in a talent show and experience a real campaign.

Club News

Art Club-the Teen Spirit art exhibit will be open November 24th through December 29th. They will have a guest speaker at the next meeting, local artist David Brown. Mr. Brown specializes in design and drawing. Keep selling magazines to raise money for the Chicago trip! Entries in the "Hot August Blues" t-shirt design contest are being taken until January 1, 1997.

Beta- The next meeting will be November 20th.

CO-ED -Y- Members don't forget to keep collecting canned goods for your sponsored family. You can drop them off in Mr. Werner's room.

FBLA- Members, will be selling drinks at the basketball games when the season begins in late November. They will be taking a trip to Smyrna, TN to tour the Nissan Plant on December 10th. Hospice baskets will be filled and distributed to patients of Lourdes Hospice.

FHA- Members will prepare personal care baskets for the women at the Paducah Spouse Abuse Center. Members also will serve at the LOHS Fall Sports Banquet

Compiled by Ashley Small

Choir makes music in Murray

by Anu Manchikanti
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Quad State Chorus recently met on October 4th at Murray State University. Senior chamber choir members that attended were sopranos Jennifer Atherton, Erin Powell, Jessica Thomas and Jennifer Vorbeck; altos Laura Clausen, Amanda Crouch, Stephanie Robinson and Julie Thrasher; tenors Daniel Bailey, Jon Camp and Jason Hurt; and basses Chad Morreau, Lee Titsworth and Aaron Watkins.

The day consisted of "practice, a lunch break, more practice, a dinner break and the performance," said Thrasher. In conjunction

with the MSU Concert Choir, the high school students sang "Gloria Patri," "Helglia" and "Haecist Dies." Independently, the Quad State Chorus sang "The Prayer of the Venerable Bede," "The Last Words of David" and "Festival Cantus."

Thirty-eight high school choirs from five states—Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri—participated in this honors choir. Students were selectively chosen to go to learn about music and put together a high-quality performance, producing a resonant blend of music. They were directed by Dr. Bradley Almquist, a music professor at Murray State University.

The Colonel's march their way through another year

by Estee Cheah
Circulation Manager

The Lone Oak Kentucky Colonel Marching Band recently attended and competed in the KMEA Regional Quarterfinals for Class AAA. The Colonels were geared up and ready to go by the end of the week, but

unfortunately Mother Nature was not on their side. It was a rainy week, and that weekend was no exception. The field, as would be expected, was a mud pit.

At the designated time, the Colonels marched proudly onto the field despite the conditions. With the odds against them, they performed a spectacular show. After

the performance, with mud in their eyes, they showed definite Lone Oak pride while marching off the field.

The Colonels were confident of their performance that afternoon and felt they would place high enough to make State, but after the results were tallied, the band placed 13th out of 18 bands.

"Though the band members were devastated, this experience will no doubt make us come back stronger than ever next year," said Mr. Light.

For students who still haven't got a chance to catch the Colonels, they will be appearing in the annual Christmas parade downtown.

Business students learn the interview process

by Megan Williams
Staff Writer

Last month, twenty-eight seniors in Mrs. Harper's Office Procedure and Cooperative Education class were interviewed by local business men and women as a class project. This exercise helps students to prepare for actual job interviews in the future.

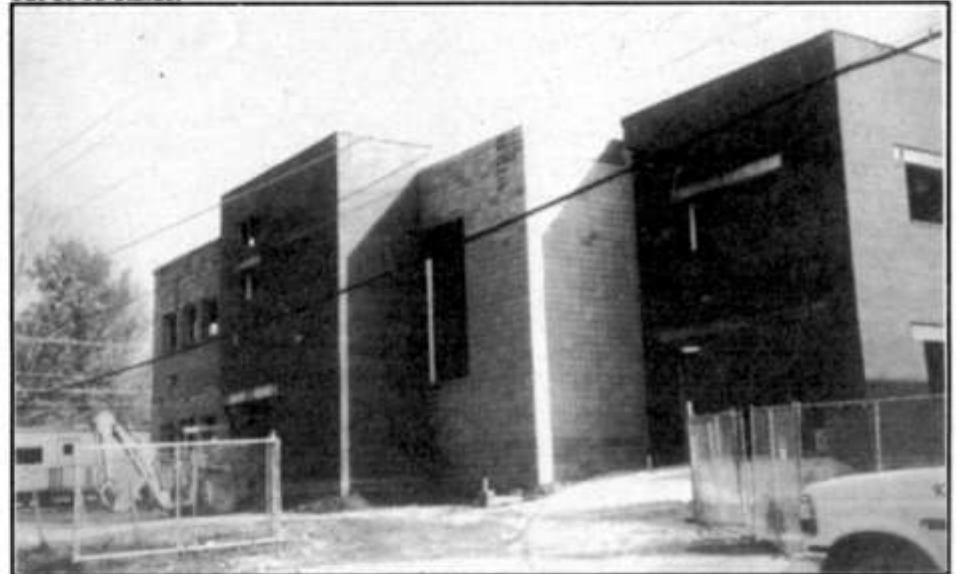
"This unit was designed to build self-confidence in the student and to market their skills and accomplishments through an interviewing process," said Mrs. Harper.

Some of the people whom the students were interviewed by are Sheila Roberts, Legal Secretary; Tom Fusco, Administrative Assistant for McCracken County Schools; Rick Robertson, Investment Representative for Edward Jones, Inc.; Mark Link, Vice President of Peoples First; and Larry Payne,

Health and Safety Manager at Lockheed Martin.

Students prepared for three weeks before the interview by creating a distinct, professional resume and a letter of application before heading off to their video taped interview. Then their resume and letter of application were reviewed and edited by their interviewer to show the value of the student as a potential employee. Since the students were only interviewed for five minutes, they had a short time to speak to their audience, imagine their objective and represent themselves as a desired, valuable employee. They were then evaluated on appearance, attitude, manners, and job application.

"We learned a lot about the interviewing process through this project," said Kristy Smith.



Construction work continues

Emily Williams
Business Manager

Students have seen construction workers infiltrating their classrooms and hallways ever since the beginning of this school year. No class has been excluded from the headache inducing drills and pounding hammers that the infamous workers have brought with them. As rumors run rampant about the progress (or lack of progress) of the construction, one can't help but wonder, "Just what is the real deal?"

Nobody knows more about the where's, what's and when's of the construction situation than Principal Wallace Adams. According to him, the wiring and plumbing of the new building are already done except for the few final touches. The suspended ceilings, floors, doors and windows are set to be done in only a few weeks, and painting, for

the most part, is already finished. Furniture for the building is set to arrive sometime in the beginning of December.

E-building should be brought to its long awaited completion by our return from Thanksgiving holiday. All that it lacks are those minute little details that would make class operation a little less awkward (like doorknobs on the doors).

For the most part things seem to be going right on schedule. Mr. Adams seems confident that if no set-backs or surprises arise, "students can expect to be moved into the new building after their return from Christmas holidays." With the old portion of the building being tore down relatively soon, students can only pray that "after Christmas" is an accurate prediction, because if not we may end up having classes on the parking lot.

Zero tolerance is enforced

by Lucy Jackson
Staff Writer

Several things have changed at LOHS since that magical bell rang that set students free for those beloved few months of summer vacation. One of these things happens to be the drug policy. This may sound familiar, or maybe not, but Lone Oak now has a policy of zero tolerance pertaining to drugs and alcohol, and, believe it or not, it has already been enforced. Although the policy has been in effect since the beginning of the year, some students haven't taken it all that seriously. Three expulsions have already taken place, due to the fact that someone was violating the school's drug policy. "We've had violations and expulsions as a result of those violations. I think

it's a good policy. We're going to take extra measures to enforce it, such as locker searches and probably a search by the sheriff's department and dogs in the parking lot," stated Principal Adams.

The policy reads as follows, "any student violating the drug and alcohol provisions in the Student Code of Conduct will be expelled. This will include activities on school property which are outside of the regular school hours and which are not sponsored by the school district." These activities range from ballgames to dances, but this is just one major part of the policy; it doesn't just affect students during school hours. Obviously, students should pay close attention to this policy because it is in effect, it is being enforced and the consequences of violating it are high.



Office Procedures and Co-op Classes participate in Job Interviews '96



Stacy Strong interviews with Mark Link, VP of Commercial Loans at Peoples Bank

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Love, Hate and Hormones: is it really that bad?

Emily Williams
Business Manager

I like being a teenager. Okay, before the inevitable onslaught of horror-filled gasps and enraged face-slapping ensues in an attempt to bring me back from some idiotic stupor, allow me to explain myself (and, yes, this may be my first semi-positive article to date). I'm not saying that I *always* like being a teenager *all* of the time. It is never thrilling to be surrounded by the angst-ridden, tumultuous outbursts of hormone-addled youth at every single moment of every single day. What I am saying is that for all of our whining and complaining, it really isn't so bad.

Think about it, who else can play the suffering martyr and bring about the sympathetic hand-holding of others then turn around and scream obscenities at those

same people because they threaten the individuality we hold so dear? Is it our pubescent right to kick and scream about the injustices of the world and harass innocent passers-by in front of City Hall with a plethora of indignant proclamations? Maybe. But, nonetheless, we are forever excused from all of this nonsensical silliness because of the simple fact that, hey, we're only teenagers. And I like it!

Adolescence is the time when we strive to separate ourselves from the faceless mobs we so aptly call society. Whether it be self-expression through writing, drawing, singing, dancing, or dying your hair three shades of purple, we all find our outlet. Not only is it a time to discover yourself but it is also a time of unforgettable memories. Cherish forever those silly things your parents grounded you for (like that time your best friend decided it

would be an excellent idea to fall through the sunroof of your car). Recall that first serious boyfriend whose skin always smelled like Noxema and whenever he kissed you pink hearts and music notes danced around head. And always remember those carefree days when nothing could go wrong as long the music was loud and the summers were hot (and you made it in by curfew with no visible hickeys).

Even the seemingly bad things aren't really as tragic as we think. Everyone goes through those missanthropic phases of ostracism. That is no reason to cry yourself into a deep dark hole for the remainder of your high school days. Trust me, when you see that those electric bills aren't going to magically disappear and you actually have to concentrate on starting a big scary career you will realize that high school was, well,

fun.

So stop complaining o ye psuedo-tortured souls. No more do I want to hear about how much being a teenager makes you want to puke up your Debbie cakes and rank government-issued meat. Instead, let us think about all of the happy things involved in our teenage years. Because what would we have to look back on when we are old and bored if not the stupid mistakes, embarrassing moments, best friends, crazy boyfriends, and reckless stupidity of our convivial youth? It is a time of independence and the ever-enlightening realization that we are smarter than our parents and the only hope for our corrupt nation is us because *we are the future* (and all that jazz). Furthermore, being a teenager is the oh-so-important stage in life when the proverbial third eye opens and we (gasp!) grow up.

When does cutlery become a weapon?

by Megan Williams
Staff Writer

Are school officials over-reacting to incidents in their school? Recently, across the country, several students have been expelled for accepting over-the-counter drugs and the latest account, possession of weapons. An 11-year-old student in South Carolina was suspended from school and threatened with expulsion and arrested for the possession of a weapon on school grounds. The student included a smooth-edged knife in her lunch box to cut a piece of chicken for lunch. After a friend told her it might not be a good idea to have a knife at school, she asked a teacher if it was all right and found herself leaving school that day in a police car. The student never even took the knife out of her lunch box. Was involving the police a necessary action? According to the school, the principal was only carrying out their policy of calling the police when a weapon is found. Although the girl did not receive expulsion, she is still on probation and faces another court appearance.

While the girl should not have had a knife at school, I do not think that it was necessary for the police to become involved. The teacher and the principal should have looked farther into the situation before calling the police. The girl had no intention of harming an individual, and even asked permission to use the knife after she was afraid it might not be appropriate to have a knife at school. I understand that the school must follow their policy, but in this incident I do not think that this knife was a weapon. Knives are weapons when people intend to harm someone with them, not when they are using them as eating utensils. I do not think that the girl should have been arrested when she didn't even take the knife out of her lunch box.

Public schools are under great pressure to improve discipline and promote a safe learning environment, but sometimes schools are taking this to the extreme. This whole incident could have been avoided if the teacher would have calmly explained that knives are not allowed at school. School officials should look into the situation before drastic measures such as arresting a student should be made.

America can learn much from Europe

by Ann-Meredith McNeill
Coroner

As most of you know, if you've been good and reading *The Oak K*, Emily and I embarked on the trip of a lifetime over the summer and unleashed our insanity all across the Old World. We got to see churches older than this country, traipse around the land of our ancestors and shop like maniacs. We also were able to squeeze in some educational stuff, cultural differences and the like. We learned exactly why Americans are perceived as obnoxious loudmouths (I felt like Gilbert Godfrey at a library most of the time), why Europeans don't eat much fast food (five bucks for a burger and a Coke and even more if we wanted catsup!), and how pathetic America's environmental standards are compared to Europe's.

Munich, Germany is the city that stands out when I think of beautiful, heavily populated cities in Europe. Being the first major one (pop. appx. 3 million) we visited, I was expecting smog and grime and yucky city stuff, rats and such. Yet somehow it holds three million people and still manages to have nonexistent air pollution, minimal litter, and, as far as I can remember, very little if any graffiti (incidentally, the graffiti in Rome was abundant and the death penalty is enforced for that crime). Munich's centuries-old buildings were well-maintained and there were flowers and trees lining even the most hectic business areas. It amazed me how much pride they had and the amount of time they had to have put into keeping their cities and countysides practically flawless.

I'm not trying to be unpatriotic or anything but America sure could learn quite a bit from Europe when it comes to being good environmentalists. I'm also not trying to be

a preachy tree-hugger because I know I don't do nearly enough to help restore the beauty of this land. However, I think America could use a little help from the government and follow in Europe's footsteps. Case in point: recycling is mandatory in Germany, and there were recyclables receptacles all over the place. Also, the German government employs people who would otherwise be on a welfare-type program by paying them to keep the cities clean. Another innovation that they have come up with is conserving electricity through escalators. As Em and I were strolling around the subways, we noticed that all the escalators weren't moving. Thinking that it was a weird coincidence that they were all broken, we stepped on them. To our delight, they sprang to life and magically whisked us up, up and away! (So we're easily amused, what's wrong with that?)

It just infuriates me that Americans have managed to ravage the land they fought so hard for in such a short amount of time, and European land, which has been trampled on for thousands of years, is for the most part still intact. The government of America needs to step down from their pedestal and look at other parts of the world for influences that would benefit this country-environmentally, economically and socially. Every country has its problems (Germany relies solely on nuclear power) but if this country, the so-called "melting pot," could incorporate some of the better laws and policies, maybe LA could lose its ever-present black cloud of smog and some locals around here could swim in the lake without fear of God-knows-what lurking in its murky waters. I may sound like the idealist, but I believe it could happen if people would just realize what they are doing to their country.



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WebTV: a boom or bust in the world of technology?

by J.R. Young
Features Editor

I constantly get questions from people asking me if there is any way they can get on the Internet without plunking down a grand for a PC. Until now, the answer has been no. Now, however, the future has arrived—and the future has only a \$300 price tag!

WebTV, created by a small Californian company, may be the big news in television instead of the much delayed DVD technology (which would allow CDs to hold around 25 times as much data). So what is WebTV? Exactly what it sounds like, a device that connects to your television and allows you to access the Internet. With so many people wanting to jump online, but fearful of spending a thousand or more for a PC, WebTV is the perfect solution. With a reasonable price (not much more than most hi-fi VCRs), it seems that WebTV may be

the gadget of the nineties.

After purchasing a unit, produced by both Sony and Phillips Magnavox, customers head home and plug the system into their TV in a process nearly identical to that of a VCR. The catch? You'll need a phone jack nearby to run a phone line into your WebTV box.

Next up, the price of monthly service. Unfortunately, WebTV only allows you to access through one of their service providers, which may or may not be located locally. If there is a local provider, then you'll spend \$20 (actually \$19.95) a month for unlimited access—an extremely reasonable price compared to most PC Internet providers.

So what does WebTV offer you? The nicest feature is the allocation of four e-mail addresses, assuring that just about everyone in your home can have his or her own, a definite plus over PC service providers which

almost always only grant you one. You'll also find yourself surfing the web at a brisk 28.8bps, the current industry standard. When you turn on your system and log on, you'll be greeted with a home page cluttered with links to WebTV sponsors, plus ways to check your e-mail, search the Internet and even a list of your favorite links (a la Netscape's bookmarks). Indeed, WebTV is extremely user-friendly, and most people will be "surfing the net" in no time.

Okay, so the price sounds great, and you're ready to rush out to Wal-Mart and buy yours—not quite so fast. Don't let that \$300 price tag fool you. You'll definitely want to plunk down another \$70 for the optional wireless keyboard. Without it, you'll be entering web addresses through a point and click on screen keyboard (which gets old after about five minutes). Another purchase you may have to eventually look into is a printer. Seeing all the web has to

offer is great, but eventually you'll probably want a copy of "Top Ten Shakespearean Insults," and without a printer you'll be copying it by hand. Fortunately, the system does include an expansion slot for adding such a peripheral. This port also allows for future expansion to a faster modem connection such as ISDN, ADSL or cable modems.

So is WebTV the future? Maybe so. It definitely has come the closest to bridging the gap between PCs and televisions. PC Internet users should pick right up on using it with no problems, and those people new to the Internet will find it more like playing a video game than using a computer (which may or may not sound comforting to some). Definitely a step in the right direction, there is no doubt WebTV will find itself under the Christmas tree of many families. After all, even the North Pole has a page on the Internet.

Justin's Jabberings

by J.R. Young
Features Editor

There are few major things that I find troublesome in my life. Perhaps that is the reason I find it strenuous to pen editorials. At the very core of the editorial tradition is the art of complaining, something I find myself less than skilled at (I'm such a swell guy!). Sure, like most I find myself at my wit's end whatever I get stuck behind a freshman incapable of navigating the hallways, or when I find *Highlander* pre-empted for *Xena: Warrior Princess*. Does any of this translate into a major editorial event? Hardly.

That's why Mrs. Campbell (barring a crushing shoot down upon submission of this article) has graciously given me this space each month to liberate my teen angst. I know, I know, you're thinking, "No, he's going to tell us to listen to Bob Dylan, read TUA and watch even the bad Monty Python films!" It's reassuring to know that your peers think highly of you. Oddly enough, none of the above topics have entered my mind, but rest assured that more such infamous *Oak K* articles will reveal their hidden horror during the year. No, I figure I'll use this space monthly to pass on my infinite knowledge to you—the reading public. Without further ado, let the ranting begin!

American Eagle Outfitters (AEO), has for years been one of my favorite clothing stores. Renowned for their unique one-of-

a-kind T-shirts, you can imagine my surprise when I walked into a store this summer to find it transformed into a GAP wanna-be, not that the GAP is bad, oh—all right, the GAP is really bad! Indeed, more and more I find myself seeing the counter culture of America—not that AEO is much for counter culture, but that story irks me—being pushed into the mainstream. Oddly enough, this shift of mainstreaming individuality has found itself focused on fashion.

The saddest example of all this is Calvin Klein. CK (as complete strangers refer to the designer as if they have him over for tea on Tuesdays) has turned himself into a cultural icon and yet still maintains that he's all about individuality. Teens are bombarded by print and radio ads stressing how individuals dress in CK clothes and perfume. Yes, you can be yourself if you rush out to the mall and buy CK products with your friends! It's like a modern day gold rush to the Promised Land with teens screaming, "If I have those clothes, I can finally be myself!" Even the inane executives at Tommy Hilfger don't use this as a sales ploy!

Of course, even as I write this, there are probably floods of teens pouring into malls, snatching up these Holy Grails of fashion. But maybe, just maybe, I do make some sense. Then again, maybe I'm just that bitter old columnist that the staff should stuff back behind the filing cabinet next to the month-old stale box of cookies. After all, I'm just a guy.

Every time I close my eyes

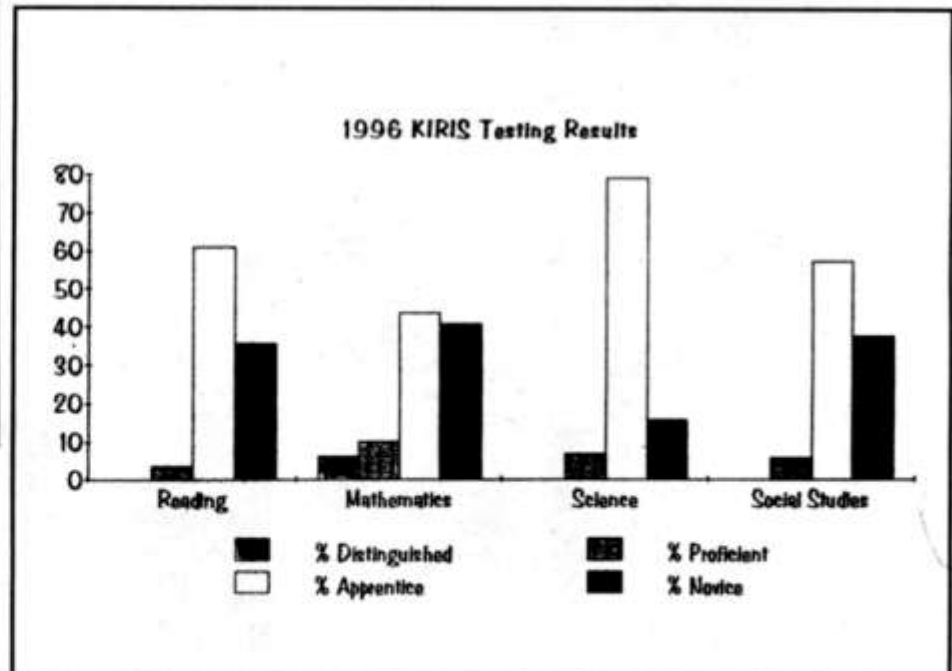
*Every time I close my eyes,
Your vision takes me by surprise,
Ever since the early years,
You've been my laughter, love, and tears,*

*I've dreamed of you one day noticing me--
You can't see my inner side--just my looks you see,
I've dreamed of one time feeling your kiss,
But this I will just have to miss.*

*I hear the whispers in my ear,
Telling me you'll soon be near--
I feel your touch that's so divine,
Saying you'll soon be forever mine,*

*But alas, it is but only a dream,
Because you never noticed the real me.*

--by Dianna Dumbacher, grade 12



Results of '95-'96 juniors KIRIS test. Graph shows percentage of students in each category.



Happy Thanksgiving



Lone Oak High School Entertainment Poll



Nineteen ninety-six is almost ready to screech to a halt and everything that was once popular will remain a valuable memory. *The Oak K* staff came up with an awesome idea to poll LOHS students on whom they felt was hot and who was not. Randomly selected classes were given the option to take the poll and give the staff an idea on the entertainment industry. The poll had questions varying from favorite actors to best dressed celebs. The results of the poll reflect the overall image of the student body. Some of the results were quite interesting. Superstars such as the flamboyant Dennis Rodman seem to catch student's eyes. The scents of CKone by Calvin Klein and Tommy by Tommy Hilfiger attract students as well. Students also enjoy lounging in jeans (preferably Gap) and sweatshirts.



The Oak K staff also hopes to give the students additional information about the stars. The Smashing Pumpkins, who were voted as one of the favorite bands, is giving a concert on January 21, 1997, at 7:30 in the SIU Arena. Leonardo DiCaprio, who racked up a large amount of votes in the Favorite Actor category, has finished an upcoming movie and will be coming to theaters soon. Girls, take note! For those that couldn't get over Claire Danes's spectacular performance in *Romeo and Juliet*, she is also appearing in the film *To Gillian on her 37th Birthday* which is already playing in theaters. Calling all Michael Jordan fans, he is starring as a non-animated character in his first movie, *Space Jam*. His co-stars are Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck and the ever-so-sexy LoLa Bunny. Jim Carrey and Sylvester Stallone were among a few of the worst actors, but that doesn't stop them. Carrey is starring in *Liar, Liar*, another one of his rubber-faced comedies for which he was paid over 2 million dollars. Stallone is once again saving lives, but this time in a tunnel in the movie *Daylight*.



So, after long, endless hours of tallying up the votes- the results are in!!! Keep in mind that all the results represent the majority, so if your favorite band or actress did not appear in the top three, please don't be upset. The poll is strictly for entertainment purposes only and is not meant to be taken offensively. Now, kick back, relax, and view the final results of the following.



Entertainment Poll Results

Favorite type of Music

1. Rap
2. All kinds of music
3. Alternative

Favorite band/group

1. Bone-Thugs-N-Harmony
2. Bush
3. Blackstreet
Smashing Pumpkins
Peace by Peace

Favorite Solo Artist

1. 2 Pac
2. Celine Deion
3. Mariah Carey
Daniel Bailey

Best Music Video

1. Down Low- R. Kelly
2. It's All Coming Back To Me- Celine Deion
Crossroads- Bone-Thugs-N-Harmony
California Love- 2 Pac and Dr. Dre
3. Pledge Allegience to the Lamb

Worst Music Video

1. Head Over Feet- Alanis Morrisette
2. Macarena- Los Del Rio
Sweet Dreams- Marilyn Manson
3. You are not Alone- Michael Jackson
I Only Wanna Be With You- Hootie and the Blowfish

Best-Dressed Celeb

1. Demi Moore
2. Gwyneth Paltrow
3. Alicia Silverstone
2 Pac

Favorite Athlete

1. Michael Jordan
2. Dennis Rodman
3. Emmitt Smith

Artist you wish would retire

1. Michael Jackson
2. Hootie and the Blowfish
3. Van Halen

Number of CDs owned

Most people said they owned between 20 and 50 CDs.

Hours of T.V. watched a week

1. 10 hours
2. 5 hours
3. 3 hours
15 hours

Favorite Channel

1. MTV
2. NBC
3. HBO

Favorite T.V. Show

1. ER
2. Friends
3. Days of Our Lives

Worst T.V. Show

1. Married with Children
2. Family Matters
3. Roseanne

Favorite Cologne/Perfume

- Cologne
1. Tommy
 2. Cool Water
 3. Hugo Boss
- Perfume
1. CK one
 2. CK be
 3. Tommy Girl

Favorite Actress

1. Claire Danes
2. Sandra Bullock
3. Reese Witherspoon

Favorite Actor

1. Leonardo DiCaprio
2. Keanu Reeves
3. Brad Pitt
Tim Allen

Worst Actress

1. Cindy Crawford
2. Madonna
3. Roseanne

Worst Actor

1. Shaq
2. Jim Carrey
3. Sylvester Stallone

Best Movie

1. Romeo and Juliet
2. Friday
3. Independence Day

Worst Movie

1. Twister
Coneheads
2. Mission Impossible

Number of People that Surf the Net

Yes- 16
No- 66

Favorite Sport

1. Basketball
2. Football
3. Soccer



ALANIS MORISSETTE

A closer look at standardized testing: SAT, ACT, and more

by Anu Manchikanti
Co-Editor-in-Chief

ACT, SAT, PSAT - that lovely mix of standardized tests. If you're a sophomore or junior, you might be very confused about what tests to take and when to take them, so here's the lowdown.

The American College Test (ACT) consists of four sections - English, Mathematics, Reading and Science Reasoning. The ACT is graded on a scale of 1 to 36 and given five times a year. This test is accepted by most colleges and generally required by state schools.

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is made up of three sections of each Verbal Reasoning and Mathematics, along with an additional, ungraded experimental section. The SAT composite scores range from 200 to 1600. The SAT is needed for admission to Ivy League schools and prestigious private schools. Though it is not required for many schools in the North, they tend to view these scores more favorably than the ACT.

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) is administered only once a year. Mainly, it serves as the qualifying test for National Merit Semifinalists. Juniors with high scores are eligible for this scholar-

Dates to Remember		
	Regular Deadline	Late Deadline
ACT		
December 14	November 15	November 29
February 8	January 10	January 24
April 12	March 14	March 28
June 14	May 16	May 30
SAT		
January 25	December 20	January 2
March 15	February 7	February 19
May 3	March 28	April 9
June 7	May 2	May 14
SAT II- January 25, May 3, June 7; same deadlines apply as SAT		

ship program. To become a Finalist, Semifinalists must confirm their PSAT scores. This test is also the first cutoff for Kentucky Governor's Scholars. The PSAT is not looked at by colleges as an admission factor.

The SAT II's are individual subject tests. Possible tests include writing, math, American history, chemistry, Spanish, etc. These tests allow colleges to comparatively look at

students, considering the major variation in classes across the country. Most colleges do not require the SAT II's for admission, but they might for placement. Most likely, the

same schools that require the SAT are those that consider the SAT II's. Check with individual colleges to be sure.

So when should you take these tests? Studies show that the highest ACT scores come in April of your junior year. Truthfully, it depends on the individual. Do whatever you feel is right. It's a good idea to take the ACT in June of your sophomore year so you will have ample time to prepare for the next date and find out early what your strengths and weaknesses are. A good time to take the SAT is the second semester of your junior year. Take the PSAT as a sophomore for practice; that way, you'll be prepared for your junior year when it counts. Dates for the SAT II's vary. For instance, if you are taking a foreign language test and are taking no more than two years of the language, take the test immediately after the course is over. It's a good idea to take a history test immediately after the class so the information is fresh on your mind. My best advice is to take the tests early and hope for a worry free senior year!

Don't forget the SAT!

by Andy Harris
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On a wet, rainy day in late October, throngs of students flocked to PCC to take the ACT. But on a bright, beautiful and sunshiny morning on a lovely autumn day, almost no one showed up to take the SAT.

What's wrong with this picture? Everyone has completely forgotten the SAT! Ever since we have entered high school, we've been trained like robots to take the ACT, completely oblivious to the fact that the SAT even exists. But when I talk to students outside of the state of Kentucky, they hardly know what the ACT is. But you can see a glimmer in their eyes when the SAT is mentioned.

Don't get me wrong, the ACT is an important test, but I think people are underestimating the power of the SAT. It holds an incredible amount of weight with colleges. "The SAT is important for students wanting to go to private or prestigious schools," says guidance counselor Sharon Reeves. She

named the Ivy League schools and Washington University in St. Louis as examples.

If what I've said shocks you, hold on, I'm not done yet. Many of the top colleges also require—yes, I said require—you to take the SAT II Subject Tests just to be admitted. If you're wondering what the SAT II is, see Anu's article. Many colleges want you to take the Writing and Mathematics portions of the SAT II, plus a subject of your choice. They are used to determine what level classes you need to take in college.

I'm not bashing the ACT; it is also important. Some schools won't even accept your SAT scores unless you submit your ACT as well. According to Mrs. Reeves, the ACT is accepted by 99% of schools across the country. You may think the ACT is the only test on earth, but don't forget the SAT. Don't wait until it is too late. The opportunity has probably passed for seniors, but for everyone else, there is still hope. The best advice I can offer is that ANYONE who isn't sure where they want to go to college, please take both tests. It's better to be safe than sorry.

Scholarship Info

PCC Scholarships	GPA	ACT	Award
	no min.	30+	\$1500/year
	3.80-4.00	no min.	\$1500/year
	3.60-3.79	21	partial
	3.40-3.59	23	partial
	3.00-3.39	25	partial

The following scholarships are available through PCC development office:

- Cole Lumber Company- dependents of Cole Lumber Co.
- Nat Dortch, SR.- majoring in geology or science
- Harper Industries, Inc.- dependents of Harper Industries
- Instrument Society of America/Paducah Sector- majoring in engineering
- Elmer E. and Lottie M. Robinson- majoring in engineering
- John T. Smith Minority- outstanding African American
- Western Rivers Corporation- graduates of area high schools
- Westvaco Foundation- dependents of Westvaco
- Youth Salute- top 10 finalists in Youth Salute Program
- James Theodore Carter- majoring in humanities
- Kenny Carpenter Memorial Scouting- associated with scouts or people who serve
- Dick Fairhurst Memorial Academic- grades and financial need are considered
- Charles L. Humphries- financial need
- Lone Oak Lions Club- academic potential, activities, financial need; Lone Oak student
- Port of Paducah Propeller Club- financial need
- Clifford Wayne Sullivan Memorial- financial need

Murray State University Scholarships

- Presidential Scholarship- National Merit semi-finalists/finalists or ACT above 27 and top 5-10% of class
- University Scholarship- National Merit semi-finalists/finalists or Governor's Scholars or minimum 27 on ACT and rank in top 10% of class
- John W. Carr Scholarship- Governor's School for the Arts participants or valedictorians or salutatorians or leaders with minimum 23 ACT and top 15% of class

R.C. Easley National Scholarship Awards- for American high school seniors who exhibit scholastic excellence and outstanding character. Eligibility Requirements- has been accepted into a four-year academic institution; GPA of at least a "C" or higher at time of application; SAT or ACT required. Deadline is February 1.

For Washington University and University of Kentucky scholarship information, see Mrs. Reeves.



Mrs. Masden wins inaugural "Teacher of the Month" award

by Jason Carroll
Sports Editor

If you have ever wanted to know more about your teacher, then you should enjoy this new feature "Meet the Teacher." In deciding on a teacher, I asked several fellow students, and it was a unanimous vote for Debbie Masden.

Masden began her career as a teacher 25 years ago. She has taught everywhere from Purdue University to Eastern Kentucky University, teaching computer science, all ranges of Calculus, and courses in teacher education. Just before teaching at Lone Oak, Masden taught at Montgomery County High School. There she taught many sorts of mathematics for grades 9-12 and was a coordinator, developing resources for other math teachers like newsletters and other helpful tools for teachers.

Masden came to Lone Oak from Montgomery County with her husband Dann Masden, a minister at First Christian Church. The two have been married for 23 years. They have two daughters, Mandye, who goes to Transylvania and is 20 years old, and Deanna, who attends University of Kentucky and is 18 years old. While most of her time is consumed with teaching, working at the church and taking care of her daughters, she tries to find time to enjoy life. She loves the summertime when she can ride the boat they own and go water skiing. She loves nature, white water canoeing, hiking, watching the ocean and gathering shells. Mrs. Masden also enjoys reading, going for

walks and likes the challenge of crossword puzzles. And, when she finds time, Mrs. Masden collects pitchers and cookbooks. But most of all, she loves the UK Wildcats and *NYPD Blue*.

As a high school student, Masden was a straight "A" farm girl. While she didn't like high school as a whole, she did enjoy being editor of the yearbook because of many of the responsibilities. She credits the influence to be a teacher to Mr. Whaley, her 7th and 8th grade English teacher who taught her everything she needed to know about grammar, and Mrs. Pigg, her high school math teacher. Masden, given the opportunity, would like to go back in time and go to medical school. However, at the time, she had recently married and didn't think they could financially afford medical school. She suggests to all students, "Don't close any door on yourself." Instead, she says to make the best of opportunities, to never be lazy, and don't wait until your senior year to worry about your GPA.

When Masden was asked about the special way she teaches, at first her face turned red, then she tried to explain it in that way only Masden can. She says that she tries to look at the lesson as if she were the student, consider what the class should know and explain it in a way she, as a student, could understand. She also likes to incorporate calculators, hands-on tasks and real-life situations, such as $f(x)=\text{Frank}$, to help the students learn.

Mrs. Masden believes the student body at Lone Oak holds great potential but lacks a



Mrs. Masden enlightens her AP Calculus class about derivatives. Photo by A. Manchikanti

key element, school spirit. She feels that there should be teacher-parent-student pride in the school. Asked if there was anything she could change about her classes, it would probably be two things. First, that all her classes have access to computers and mathematics software. In such a case homework and tests could all be given over the computer. And second, she would love to have

fewer students in her classes in order to better work individually with students.

While she enjoys all her classes, Masden finds her AP Calculus class to be the most challenging and exciting because of student motivation.

Lone Oak High School is lucky to have Mrs. Masden.

Manchikanti named Junior Rotarian

by Lucy Jackson
Staff Writer

This month's Junior Rotarian is Anu Manchikanti, and there is not much of a question why. With the help of her outgoing personality, she has had many achievements throughout her years at LOHS. She is Beta Club President, Key Club President, Biology Club vice-president, Student Council corresponding secretary and Physical Science Club reporter. She is also a member of FBLA and the Art Club. When Anu was but a little freshman, she won first place at regionals and state in Spanish I (Written Proficiency) at the foreign language festival and was also secretary of her class. Her sophomore year, she was class vice-president. Anu is co-editor-in-chief of *the Oak K* and a senior editor of the yearbook. She is on the academic team, participated in the Governor Scholar's Program, and also might just be our Valedictorian, considering it is her senior year, and, so far, she has maintained a perfect 4.0 throughout high school.

Obviously, Anu is a very busy girl, yet she still has time to work at Mr. Bulky's (ask her if she has any gummy worms) and Express. Outside of school, Anu lets her nature girl shine through by spending time camping.



Junior Rotarian Anu Manchikanti

Quite famous for her basement, Anu provides a place for her friends to go and have a little bonding time when the happening town of Paducah runs out of places for them to go. She also is a big fan of the Beatles. "George is my favorite," she admits. As for her future dreams and aspirations, she hopes to attend NYU and major in journalism. With everything that she has accomplished so far, this all seems very possible.

Emily Williams
Business Manager

Students know senior Ann-Meredith McNeill as the black-clad hipster who has an opinion on *everything*, including this brief bio, but little do they know that she is also a photographer extraordinaire. "I was thoroughly shocked to be chosen for this honor, after all Ms. Hayden and I have been through, I am glad we have found a middle ground and equally glad that she thinks of me as a proficient photographer," said McNeill.

McNeill has nothing to worry about for she has received nothing but enthusiastic raves from art teacher Ms. Hayden, who said this about the budding prodigy, "Ann-Meredith has grown as an artist developing style, composition, and unique subject matter. Her vibrant personality brings a creative flair to her work."

McNeill certainly has no lack for creativity. Besides winning first place in the Dis-

McNeill attains art honor

trict Federation of Women's Club Art Competition for a striking black and white photo, she already has a whole new slew of ideas for this month's Teen Spirit competition. She has also begun to conjure up new fundraising possibilities such as a crafts sale in which students could make jewelry and other items to sell and other interesting ideas like a rummage sale which would all be for the Art Department's benefit.

As for her plans in the future, McNeill hopes to attend an art school, specifically somewhere "not in Kentucky." McNeill would like to go into audio production and have photography as a possible minor. However, for now, her goals after high school consist of travelling around the country with her boyfriend and experiencing the world. She stresses that college is definitely a long term goal and that for right now she is happy just being a teenager.



Ann-Meredith McNeill, senior

Dedicated welders forge on at new location

by Megan Williams
Staff Writer

State Champions six years in a row! That's quite an accomplishment for the LOHS welders. Lone Oak not only earned a sixth state championship in welding this summer, but also won the state individual welding contest. The welders spent many hours in their welding shop at Lone Oak last year preparing for what would be their sixth state championship. Hard work paid off as they won many awards this summer. The team is already busy practicing for this year's regional competition to be held on Dec. 4, unfortunately, not in the comfort of their own shop. Due to construction, the welder's shop is in the process of being built and will not be ready until mid-December. In order to hold onto their state title, the welders and Mr. Wood are spending each evening and even Saturday mornings at

Reidland High School perfecting their welding skills.

"Our shop will not be ready until December 16, and the regional competition is going to be Dec. 4, so we must practice at Reidland to get ready for the competition," said Mr. Wood.

As the FFA is preparing for the regional competition, the new welding team is being chosen. Students who are interested in trying out for the team are invited to practice, and others are eliminated so that only the very best welders will remain preparing for the competition.

"The practice at Reidland has really helped my chances of making the welding team," said David Wilhelm. Both the team and Mr. Wood show extreme dedication to the sport for taking time out of their busy schedules to practice each week. Good luck with this year's competitions!



Shown in front are FFA President Kristie Broadbent, the four award-winning welders Russ Hurley, Matt Thomasson, Clint Lawence, and Josh Bardin along with Welding Judge Ryan Dinkerfelt. In the back are Welding Judge John Smith and Lone Oak welding instructor Harold Wood.

WLOH Announcements: Another way of spreading the news

Ashley Small
Editorial Editor

Some of you may remember in the last issue we revealed that the *The Oak K*, wasn't the only news source here at LOHS. I know this is shocking, but along with the *TUA*, there is yet another way of making sure every student is equipped with the events of this school.

If you haven't guessed it yet, it's WLOH (school announcements). With its dearly loved *Senor Sock*, and maybe the not so loved but certainly expected signature "Hello" of Cari's. These are just a few things that come to mind when I think of the morning announcements, but I learned very quickly that there is much more hard work put into them than we would have guessed.

At the beginning of class the director gets together with the camera operator, the announcers and the cue card people to finish the plans for that day's

announcements. Next, they have to take about 30 minutes of class time to prepare the cue cards, and they normally do not get started on the actual filming until eight o'clock. Along with filming the morning announcements every day, the students of Mr. Wolverton's first hour class also do huge amounts of outside class work. Each student is expected to have a video project every two weeks that they have to film and edit.

Mr. Wolverton explains his class as, "Student directed and student centered, I'm basically just a censor. This class is different, the kids do all the work."

Students who wish to participate in this class next year need to be people who have great attendance (especially first hour) and you must have had no disciplinary problems with in the last year. This class is very different from any other in this school and students who are interested should be ones that are self-motivated and enjoy teamwork.

LOHS 1996-97 Class Officers

SENIORS:

President: Nikki Key
Vice President: Amanda Crouch
Secretary: Amy Stewart
Treasurer: Tonya Traylor
Reporter: Dana Sowash

SOPHOMORES:

President: Jennifer Hibbs
Vice President: Ashley Canup
Secretary: Elizabeth Rigdon
Treasurer: Heather Cook
Reporter: Melanie Vinson

JUNIORS:

President: Andrea Parker
Vice President: Ashley Emery
Secretary: Amy Newman
Treasurer: Jennifer Dunn
Reporter: Angela Rubenacker

FRESHMEN:

President: Emily Riggs
Vice President: Bethany Wright
Secretary: Lindsay Culp
Treasurer: Natalie Trussel
Reporter: Valerie Hubbard

SUN FIT TANNING

3921 Lone Oak Road
554-4096

"Best Tan in Town"
4 level tanning, starting at \$2.75



Parker's Drive-In

2921 Lone Oak Rd. 554-7602

Large
Hamburger, Cheeseburger
or Chili Cheese Dog \$2.69
With Fries - tax

Starnes BBQ Sandwich & By The Pound



Robert Bever hard at work filming the next great edition of the WLOH Announcements

Patronize the sponsors of the Oak K!

Poppy Z. Brite creates horror tales for the 90's

Ann-Meredith McNeill
Coroner

"He drifted to the window and pulled aside the heavy draperies. The city gleamed far below, green and white and immaculate. The crazy pattern of streets was a puzzle that wanted deciphering... Zillah smiled a small secret smile. The city was delicious. All cities were delicious. They only had to wait until nightfall."

From *Lost Souls* by Poppy Z. Brite

At twenty-seven years of age, Poppy Z. Brite has accomplished more than most of her peers. She has written three incredible novels, one collection of short stories, along with being the sole focus of numerous Internet sites. The New Orleans native is renowned by authors twice her age as "one of the greatest horror writers of our time" and has a slew of fans patiently waiting for more.

"So what kind of psychotic storytelling am I getting myself into?" one may ask.

Well, if you like vampires, hackers, ravers, and morbid children in black, it's all here. *Lost Souls*, her first novel, tells of three vampires, scouring the countryside of America and doing what vampires do best, pillaging lives of the innocent. It would take forever to explain the entire plot, so let this be said: the dark, foreboding aura that comes through in her writing instantly intrigues the reader, along with the fact that her development of characters makes the reader actually care about them, even the "bad guys." Also, a warning needs to be issued: die hard Anne Rice fans will read this and be angered because the vampire customs are not the same. However, this book should be read by all vampire enthusiasts because it offers a 90's version of these creatures of the night and offers some of her most beautiful prose to date.

Her next novel, *Drawing Blood*, is set in the fictitious North Carolina town of Missing Mile, where part of *Lost Souls* is also set. Some may think this novel is another vampire

story, but au contraire. This is a twist on the classic haunted house story. It's a hazy, lazy summer, the kudzu is growing in abundance and a young man's murdered family has come back to visit him and his newfound love. It may sound like a cheesy storyline, but once again, Brite's unique writing style makes readers sit on the edge of their seat in anticipation.

Brite also has a collection of short stories entitled *Wormwood*. This book is great for aspiring authors because it shows her development as a writer (some of the stories were written when she was only seventeen!) It also has some anecdotes of Ghost and Steve, two of the main characters in *Lost Souls*. Although she didn't write anything but the prologue, *Love in Vein* is worth reading also. Brite edited this vampire-filled conglomeration of short stories and it encompasses every type of vampire imaginable.

Exquisite Corpse, her latest novel, is the tale of a relationship between two serial

killers. This book is not, repeat, not for the faint of heart. Brite's forte is her descriptiveness, and in this book it can get kind of sickening. This book doesn't seem to be focused on the characters, the emphasis is more on their actions, which devotees may not like. All in all, the story is well written, but is unable to provide a connection of novels past between reader and character. The main characters are amoral sociopaths incapable of emotion towards anything except their passion for murder, and that makes it hard for the general public to relate.

She may not be a literary genius, but at any rate, Poppy Z. Brite is the closest thing to an American writing goddess. Her gothic accounts of modern life are unflinching; they never shy away from anything "taboo" and draw the lucky victims (readers) into a not-so-fantasy-worlds and leaves them in the afterglow of a story that is perfectly told.

Read

You might learn something

Students "mask" their personalities in Mr. Toy's class

by Estee Cheah
Circulation Manager

Most everybody at one time or another has encountered Mr. Toy, his unique way of teaching and how it affects the learning ability on his students. One of his latest schemes in his teaching is masks. Yes, masks, but these aren't just ordinary masks that serve no distinct purpose except to make a good Halloween motif. They symbolize a particular student in one way or another. Students were assigned to create a mask which reflected something about themselves. The day the masks were due, a vast array showed up, varying from ones that were shaped like a megaphone to one like a masquerade butterfly.

The students from each English class voted on which masks they wanted to represent their class. The masks chosen were quite extraordinary. Daniel Hall, Beau Franklin, Robert Downs and Lisa Graham were all individuals who had their masks selected.



Pictured with their masks are Daniel Hall, Beau Franklin and Lisa Graham. Daniel Hall made a mask that was very unique in its own way. "Moon Through the Window" is the best name for this certain mask. It is a haiku that symbolizes the last thing that a man sees, which is a moon through a window.

The mask with the three monkeys on it belongs to Beau Franklin. The monkeys

display a certain idiom which is see no evil, speak no evil, and hear no evil. The mask is shaped as a totem pole and decorated with newspaper clippings to support his theme.

Lisa Graham is the third creator. Her mask is more personal, and it symbolizes herself and the moods that vary throughout her day. The colors-black, red and silver-reflect her creativity and things she takes interest in. The last mask is made of plaster and was created with deep thought. Robert Down's mask might look ordinary, but it means so much more. Like Graham's mask, it stands for the person he is. The three colors used- green, black and white- are a large part of his heritage. The green stands for Ireland, where his grandparents were from, black stands for the Native American war-paint and white is for righteousness.

When asked how he feels about the masks, Mr. Toy answers proudly, "I am very impressed by the hard work and creativity that went into these masks."

Goals 2000 helps freshmen

by Emily Riggs
Staff Writer

Goals 2000 is a program designed to help freshman students adjust to high school. Jim Mitchell is the Goals 2000 coordinator, whose job is to coordinate activities that are planned for the freshman class, and he makes sure that all freshman know where they are going. Mitchell is always busy thinking of ways to make it easier for freshman.

All freshman are assigned to a study hall for the entire first semester. This was to help freshman adjust to the new school and give them a chance to keep their grades up. Senior tutors were hired to help those student who needed or wanted help. The tutors work during the 30 minute study period. They work with 25 or more students each day.

Teachers are also there to aide students when help is needed.

Each study hall class nominated a student to represent that particular study hall group. These representatives meet with Mitchell and come up with activities for the freshman class. October 24th, before the freshman football game, a bonfire was held to kick off the spirit for the game. Free food and drinks were served. Other things discussed are student I.D.'s, basketball games, volleyball games, and a possible skating party.

Part of the Goals 2000 program includes a news letter called Spotlight 2000. Spotlight 2000 is written for freshman students and parents. The letter includes short news articles about fellow freshman classmates to give recognition for their accomplishments. The letter will highlight all areas of freshman

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Girls basketball team is sure to score this season

by Andy Harris
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Coming off an 11-12 record last year and a trip to the regional tournament, the Lone Oak Lady Flash is looking to further improve on last year's success.

"We haven't set team goals yet, but I'm sure the players want to get back to the regional tournament," said head coach Steve Cobb. "Only this time (the players want to) go as district champions, and perhaps even take it to the next level."

Lone Oak returns four starters from last year's squad, including the two leading

scorers, Amanda Mitchell and Kelly Sanders. Mitchell led the team in scoring, 11 ppg; rebounding, 7 rpg; blocked shots, 49; and field goal percentage, 55.1%. Sanders was the only other player to score in double digits, with 10 points per game, and the top free throw shooter at 72%. Assist leader Ashley Emery and Sarah Beth Phelps are the other returning starters. Gina Halstead, Kim Adams and Brandy Gifford will see lots of playing time and will battle for the fifth starting spot.

With all the returning players, experience will be a major asset for Lone Oak. "We have several players who've been together

three or four years. They know our system and play together well," said Cobb.

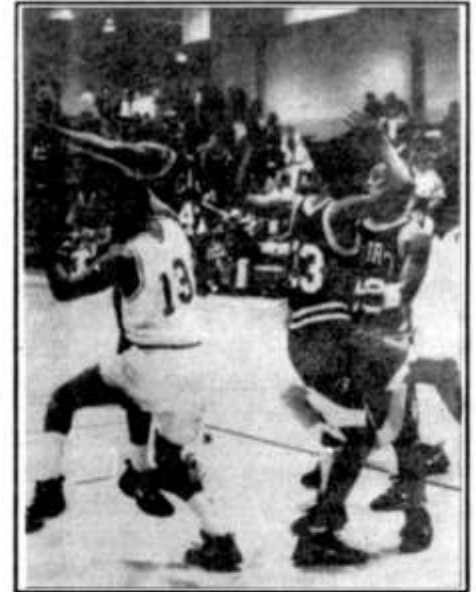
The two major keys to success for the Lady Flash will be taking care of the basketball and staying out of foul trouble. Lone Oak committed 18 turnovers per game last year, a number that will have to come down. And for the Flash to go deep in the regional tournament, Mitchell must stay out of foul trouble. If not, the rest of the team will have to step it up in the rebounding department.

As for Lone Oak's top competition, Heath returns everyone off last year's team and will be a tough district opponent. Murray is probably the regional favorite, along with

Calloway County and stalwarts Marshall and Graves Counties.

If everything works out as planned, look for Lone Oak to take their rightful place among the region's elite teams. "I'm very pleased with the attitude and intensity of every player—freshman through senior—in our practices so far," said Cobb. "These young ladies have shown us they are not afraid of hard work and are committed to doing the things necessary to become an outstanding basketball team."

Good Luck Boys & Girls Basketball



Donnie Stones grapples for the ball

Boys basketball sure to improve

by Jason Carroll
Sports Editor

Get ready to rumble, the LOHS basketball season is about to begin. With a returning cast of Donnie Stone, Josh Long, Kyle Sanderson and Justin Duncan, this team has promise to overcome last season's woes of a 3-20 record.

"We have more experience and size than we had last year," said boys head coach Craig Wallace. "Everyone has had a good preseason so far, so things definitely are looking better."

Lone Oak's experience should help this team to be more successful. The players are less nervous, more relaxed, and therefore more focused. Most of this year's team has run the offensive and defensive drills so

many times that things are almost automatic.

Coach Wallace's goal for this season is to have a winning record, do well in district, make the regionals and have everyone improve throughout the season. In order to accomplish those goals, Wallace believes the team will have to show consistent hard work, stay healthy and have a great deal of luck.

The Flash had a good summer, despite Russ Peck's shattering experience, with a varsity record of 10-5 and a JV record of 12-3 at Transylvania training camp. Wallace said, "The guys have worked really hard and showed tremendous attitudes both on the court and off."

It's going to be a great season. Good luck, Lone Oak Purple Flash.

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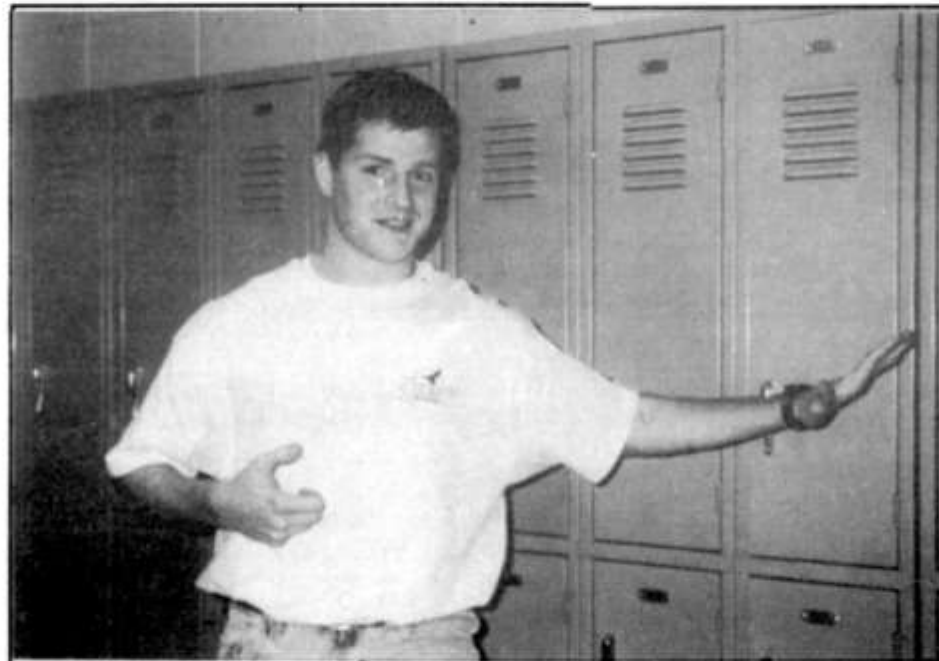
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Ryan Beyer saves senior night for Lone Oak football

by Bob Carroll
Sports Editor

Fulton City 12, Lone Oak 23

Senior night at Lone Oak had nothing to fear with the heroics of Ryan Beyer in a Lone Oak victory 23-12 over Fulton City. The Purple Flash started strong with big runs from Jason Moore, who scored a touchdown for Lone Oak in the first quarter, followed by a two-point conversion pass from Nathan Taylor to Chad Norton. However, Fulton City's following kick return quickly became a score for the Bulldogs with a 90-yard run down the field. After a Lone Oak fumble, Fulton City converted a 32-yard pass play for a touchdown. After a failed two-point conversion, the score was 12-8 at halftime, Fulton City's favor. But Lone Oak came on strong in the fourth quarter with a Beyer 64-yard touchdown run. This was followed by a safety that gave Lone Oak the lead, 17-12. A short 4-yard run by Beyer gave Lone Oak the victory, 23-12. He ended the night with 147 yards rushing and two touchdowns. Kyle Sanderson threw for 78 yards, 48 of which were caught by Brandon Bahr. Lone Oak's defense held Fulton City to just two total yards in the first quarter and a pathetic 11



Ryan Beyer does his impersonation of the Helsen Trophy

total rushing yards. Lone Oak rushed for an amazing 310 yards to end a two game losing streak.

Hopkinsville 45, Lone Oak 0

Lone Oak faced stiff competition against Hopkinsville and fell in defeat, 45-0. Hopkinsville's first score came with seven

minutes left in the first quarter. Two rushing touchdowns by Hopkinsville, one being 51 yards long, and a 35-yard field goal put Hopkinsville up 24-0 at half-time. Hopkinsville had three more rushing touchdowns in the second half to make the score 45-0, the first time Lone Oak has been shutout this season. However, the final score did not show the true effort the Purple

Flash put forth in this game. Kyle Sanderson played a spectacular game, throwing for 105 yds and rushing for 19 yds. In addition, Lone Oak held one of the state's top ranking quarterback's to just 4 of 13 passing for 83 yds. Brandon Bahr ended the game with 38 yds rushing and 57 receiving. Nathan Taylor caught four passes for 41 yds.

Murray 18, Lone Oak 6

Lone Oak ended the season with a loss to Murray, 18-6. Lone Oak allowed Murray to get a big start in the first half, giving up 18 unanswered points, and was unable to come back in the second half. After a Lone Oak punt, Murray returned the ball 86 yards on the next drive. Lone Oak was stalled on the six-inch line on one drive. The Purple Flash came in and scored in the second half with a Jason Moore run for 5 yds. Overall, Lone Oak's final game of the season was great, with 275 yds, 18 first downs and stunning defense in the second half, but the Flash couldn't score when the time came. Kyle Sanderson and Jason Moore combined for 123 yds, and Taylor received 34 yds.

**Basketball Season
Begins
December 3rd**

Sorry Wildcat fans, there'll be no NCAA title this year

by Bob
Sports Authority

It's that moment we've waited for ever since the Kentucky Wildcats cut down the nets in the Meadowlands. That's right, it's college hoops time again. So get ready with those mute buttons because Dick "Oh Baby, shutup" Vitale is on his way. And just in case you want to fill your brackets early here's a list of the way Bob says things are going to be:

#1—UCLA Bruins- Don't laugh. Just as the team two years ago, this team is loaded with talent. Toby Bailey and Charles O'Bannon's experience will lead this team to another championship.

#2—Kansas Jayhawks- With Jacque Vaughn's injury keeping him out through January, don't expect big numbers from KU early. But when the crafty point guard returns, look out.

#3—Cincinnati Bearcats- A team who may deserve a higher ranking, but may also lack a main ingredient at the point guard position. D'Juan Baker, who is currently expected to start, just won't be the effective player they need.

#4—Kentucky Wildcats- Sorry UK fans, there will be no repeats this year. Long gone is the Speedy frontcourt of McCarty and

Walker and on to the days of Jared Prickett and Nazr Mohammed. An upside is NBA prospect Ron Mercer, along with an awesome alignment of guards, led by Anthony Epps and Derek Anderson.

#5—Villanova Wildcats- Freshman Tim Thomas should come up big for the "other" Wildcats of basketball. Center Jason Lawson is truly an underrated ball player who will lead his team to many victories this season.

Other great players in the coming college season are Jacque Vaughn, depending on his injury, and Charles O'Bannon who seems to be following in the footsteps of his brother. Now if this crop of talent doesn't light your fire, then your wood is wet!

#6—Wake Forest Demon Deacons- Yes, I understand that it takes more than a strong big man, Tim Duncan, to be a versatile team. That is why the Deacon's Sean Allen and especially underrated guard Tony Rutland make this an all around team.

#7—Well, from this point on, your guess is as good as mine. A few suggestions begin with Massachusetts. Even without Marcus Camby, this team is strong, with Edgar Padilla and Carmello Travieso. A point

which was proven last season when Camby had fainting spells and the Minutemen continued to win. Another Wildcat team, Arizona, ranks high on my list, with incoming talent such as Michael Dickerson. My final highlight team is, surprise, the Arkansas Razorbacks. There is no Corliss, or Scotty, but there is a Kareem and a Derek. As in Kareem Reid and Derek Hood, two awesome players who are returning this season

enough, let's talk players. There is no doubt, Tim Duncan will go first in the NBA draft. This will only be reaffirmed by a strong finish by the Demon Deacons. Now UK fans, it's your turn to cheer with another top ten pick in forward Ron Mercer. This will be the year Ron Mercer turns loose and we'll see him become the scoring machine he's capable of being. I can't see him staying after this season. And, if Cincinnati has the season expected, Danny Fortson is top five pick material. The kid looks like a tall football player at a stout 6' 7" and 260 lbs. He averaged over 20 points last season and could bring a National Title to the Bearcats. Other great players in the coming college season are Jacque Vaughn, depending on his injury, and Charles O'Bannon who seems to be following in the footsteps of his brother. Now if this crop of talent doesn't light your fire, then your wood is wet! It's going to be a great season.

Andy's Top Six

1. Kentucky
2. Murray St.
3. Western Kentucky
4. Louisville (even on probation)
5. Morehead St.
6. Chicago Bulls

to lead the Hogs to success.

Now, how about those teams who really "rank" high in the rankings. The Utah program is #1 in the overrated department, followed by a Syracuse team that lost their best player yet somehow is ranked in most Top 10 polls. And by far the biggest "joke" is Fresno State. I'm sorry Fresno fans, it takes more than a bald guy chewing a towel to go far in the NCAA.

But I think I've vented on the teams long

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- candied yams
- pumpkin pie
- Pilgrim
- Indian
- Mayflower
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- Dressing
- Stuffed
- Gobble
- Fall
- Leaves
- Family
- Holiday

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F	A	L	L	Z	U	C	O	R	N	U	C	O	P	I	A	P

Romeo and Juliet take the stage once again in new film

The tragic love story is better than ever

by Estee Cheah
Circulation Manager

Romance these days has gotten so stale that it's almost nonexistent and remains a fairy tale for most girls. (Believe me guys, you can learn a lot from this.) Nowadays, romance has gone out the window, and what's left is pig-headed guys yelling across the room, "Hey, we're going out this weekend." Girls, do we see something wrong with this picture?

Fortunately to the rescue is *William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet* to save the day. In this version, Romeo and Juliet aren't dwelling in the olden days. The story is revised to a heart wrenching modern day, pop version of the passion-filled play. The movie hit theaters on November 1, and on opening night, it was a sold-out success.

Leonardo DiCaprio stars as Romeo and Claire Danes as his Juliet. Their performance is absolutely superb, which adds tremendously to an already awesome movie. Danes is so angelic that she brings Juliet to life and can make anyone smile when she talks about Romeo. DiCaprio does a fantastic job, and heck, he could make anyone smile.

The movie was filmed in Mexico last spring and was directed by Baz Luhrmann. Everything in the movie was planned perfectly right down to the last second. The music was great at setting the mood, and it reflected the lovers. "It was quite possibly the most intense experience of my life!" Danes replies on her take on the movie, according to *Seventeen* magazine's interview. Make sure to watch out for the love-at-first sight scene that'll quicken your



pulse and make you fall in love along with them. I must say, it is a tear-jerker, so be sure to bring a box of tissue, especially if you're a softie.

All in all, the movie is one of the best movies I have ever seen. The only problem for some people might be that the characters speak in Elizabethan Age language (which, believe it or not, is considered modern English) that could be hard to understand at times, but the story isn't hard to follow. This movie is worth the \$5.75 (yes, the price on the tickets rose again.) It brings new meaning to the word "love," and its power to conquer all.

What would William Shakespeare say?

by Staff Writer

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet manages to make a mockery of the original class in two short hours. Granted, it does have its moments, but overall, the movie is kind of ridiculous. The initial scene, where the audience is first introduced to the feuding Montagues and Capulets, resembles an L.A. gangfight rather than a duel between two wealthy families. The camera work and added captions are nerve-wracking. The movie doesn't get any better as it moves on.

Unfortunately, one of the worst aspects of this film was the audience watching it. Through half the film the words, "I don't understand why they are talking like that!" echoed through the theater. Not to mention the fact that the entire middle school population filled most of theseats, and every time Leonardo DiCaprio made an appearance they all swooned in their chairs.

I know that you can't make a movie that pleases every one, but I'd almost bet that somewhere, right now Shakespeare is busy turning over in his grave!



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