

*"If you have to leave this world, then I guess there's no better way than just after saying Amen." -- Larry Wilson*

## *In Loving Memory...*



**Kayce  
Steger**



**Nicole  
Hadley**



**Jessica  
James**



**Our Prayers Are With...**

*Melissa Jenkins*

*Shelley Schaberg*

*Hollan Holm*

*Craig Keene*

*Kelly Hard*

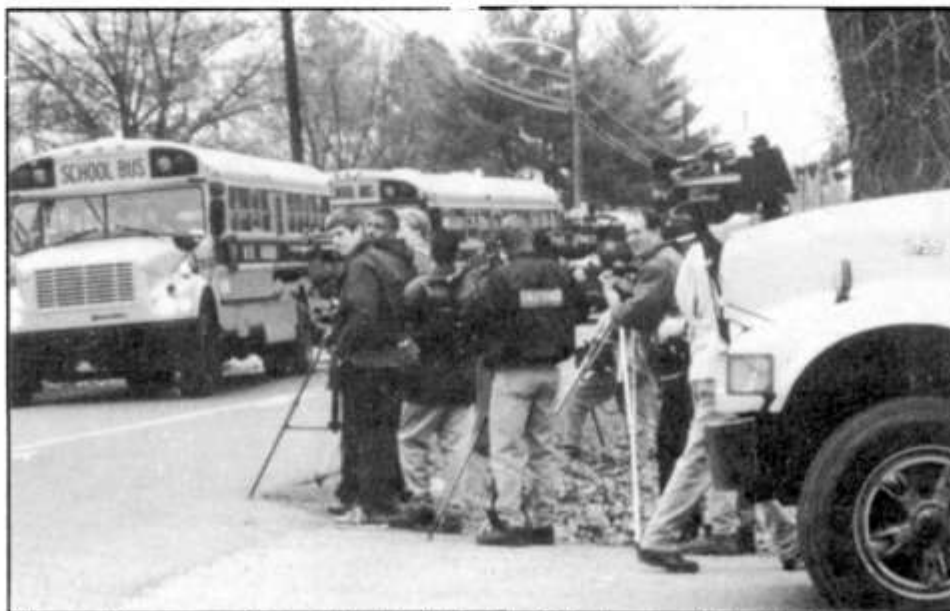
# Heath shooting leaves community stunned

Ashley Small  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

December 1, 1997 began much like any other Monday morning, but by the end of the day the magnitude of the events which had taken place at Heath High School echoed around the world.

At 7:40 in the morning Michael Carneal, a fourteen-year-old freshman at Heath High School, opened fire at an informal prayer group, killing three - Nicole Hadley, Jessica James, Kayce Steger and wounding five - Kelly Hard, Shelley Schaberg, Melissa Jenkins, Craig Keene and Hollan Holm.

Authorities are trying, with much difficulty, to understand what motivated Carneal to commit such a heinous crime. Carneal appeared to have no target when he began his



The media swarmed Heath High School within hours of the shooting.

shooting spree. According to one 16-year old at Heath, interviewed by the Paducah Sun, "Some of the people who were shot were his friends."

Carneal did tell other individuals that, "Something big is going to happen." and even issued warnings to other students not to attend the prayer meeting on Monday. Authorities

aren't sure if Carneal did or did not tell others specifically of his plans.

As of press time several interviews had taken place, but no other arrests have been made in conjunctions with the murders.

As the community awoke Tuesday morning still in shock, LOHS received its own scare when a teenager, not a student at LOHS, was found with a loaded gun on school property.

The tragedy at Heath left everyone throughout the community and nation shaken and a bit more aware that Paducah is not immune to "big city" crime. An LOHS senior captured the whole week when she said, "It's not just about the tragic loss of lives, but we've also lost our sense of safety, our sense of security, and our sense of 'It can't happen in a small town like Paducah. Now when I walk down the halls I'm afraid!'"

## School Board Chairman shocked and saddened by Heath tragedy

J.R. Young  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The following interview was conducted with Larry Wilson, Chairman of the McCracken County School board, the day after the shootings at Heath. The questions were asked by J.R. Young and are followed by Wilson's answers.

**Q: What was your first reaction to the news of the shooting?**

**A:** It was a shock at first. I couldn't believe something like that was happening in Paducah. Then it turned to sadness, for the families of those shot, and the students and teachers of Heath.

**Q: What was your reaction as a parent?**

**A:** We send our kids off in the morning and expect them back at 2:30 or 3:00. There's some kids who are never coming back home.

**Q: Looking back now, do you think there's anything the school board could have done to prevent this tragedy?**

**A:** I don't think there's anything [the board] could have done.

**Q: What about metal detectors?**

**A:** I don't think they're that reliable. For example, someone could go through with a gun in their boot. When the machine went off and they were questioned, they could just say it was the metal clasps on the the boot. Most people would simply accept that.

**Q: If this turns out to be religiously motivated, do you think schools should ban prayer meetings?**

**A:** They should never ban prayer meetings. Students need prayer and should only pray more now.

**Q: How do you feel about how the media has handled this?**

**A:** I have avoided a lot of press, especially the national press. They want to sensationalize the story. The local media has been really sympathetic and caring in their handling of the incident.

**Q: What are your views on the students being arrested at Lone Oak the day after the shooting for having marijuana and a gun on them?**

**A:** As society changes and life is devalued, we'll have to take a serious look at doing something to keep people like this out of school.

## LOHS students and faculty asked: In light of the Heath shooting, what security measures should be taken?

"Metal detectors, armed guards, and locked doors at all times would help improve security, but won't solve all the problems."

-- Kim Telle (12)

"Stricter punishment for students who violate school rules."

-- Bethany Wright (10)

"Doors should be locked once students have arrived. I think having a police officer in the halls would be beneficial in prevention."

-- Mr. Baker, History teacher

"Employ one security guard to ensure our well being."

-- Nick James (9)

"None - It was an isolated incident."

-- Phil Sisto (12)

"I.D.s should be worn and a security post would help to eliminate unwanted visitors."

-- Ashlee Bryan (9)



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## Beta Club members attend convention in Louisville

Staff writer

The 57th Annual Kentucky State Beta Convention was held at the Galt House Hotel on December 5-7. This year, approximately fifty Betas from Lone Oak and about 3700 total attended the event along with chaperones and sponsors.

The main goal of the trip was to get the candidate representing Lone Oak, Josh Watkins (11), elected as State Beta President. The slogan the club used this year focused around the whole super hero theme, "Super Josh." Watkins' speech was followed by rigorous campaigning. He found support from many friends along the way.

Any school who had suffered a loss in their club was encouraged to go to the stage and light a candle for their fellow classmates. State Vice-President, Autumn Pate lit a candle in memory of the



"Super Sunil" and the group show support through a skit. three Heath students.

The highlight of the evening was the officer election. All candidates were to give a two minute long speech to be followed by a one-minute skit. The LOHS

dents competed in various academic competitions and in the quiz bowl. The quiz bowl students were chosen to compete in the quiz bowl finals. Julie Sims (12) and Jackie Allshouse (12) also submitted a scrapbook. Estee Cheah (11) represented LOHS by competing in the special talent contest with a lyrical dance.

Also occurring at this particular convention was the installation of the new state officers. Unfortunately, Watkins was defeated. Awards were given out for academic excellence in all the competitions.

"Beta convention taught me a lot about campaigning for a office," said Jesse Wilkes (10).

"Our group of students heard great speeches by the best and brightest students in Kentucky. In general, I had a good and fun time," said Beta club sponsor, Mrs. Thompson.

## Teen Court prepares for trials

Megan Williams  
News Editor

Some teen offenders may find themselves in a courtroom at the mercy of their peers this January. About 30 students from LOHS and neighboring schools are a part of a program called teen court.

The teen court meets each Monday night at the courthouse under the direction of Judge Donna Dickson, two local defense and prosecuting attorneys as well as a bailiff. The teens take positions as defense and prosecuting attorneys, bailiffs, court clerks and jurors in mock trial situations to prepare for the real trial.

"Teen Court is a positive influence of

peer pressure and is educational for all students involved. It provides a hands on civic lesson for students," said Mr. Roe, LOHS counselor.

The students will be responsible for determining the sentence of a previously convicted first time teen offender. They will hear minor juvenile cases such as shoplifting, truancy, harrasment, minor drug offenses or minor traffic offenses. Sentences the teen court may give an offender could be community service or writing a letter of apology to the victim of their crime.

"Being a part of the teen court has been a good educational tool to help further my education of the law," said Mandy Langston (10) who hopes to one day become a prosecuting attorney.

## Academic team ties school record



Academic team members Amy Chapman (9), Jackie Allshouse (12), Bryan Garner (11), Trey Swacker (12), William Mills (11), Phil Sisto (12) and Josh McGuire (11) huddle around the computer. After losing their championship at the Presidential Invitational, the academic team came back strong and won the West Kentucky Academic Bowl.

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## All-District...All right!

**Suzannah Stoll**  
Coroner

Not ten, not twenty, but twenty-two out of twenty-four LOHS band students were selected for All-District band.

"This is the biggest percentage of students to make All District band. I'm very proud of each and every one of them," said an enthusiastic Mr. Light.

Nervous, but hopeful students from LOHS and neighboring counties headed to Caldwell County High School on November 18. Each student played their prepared piece on which they had worked long and hard and then had to sight read a score the judges had for them. After the judges put their heads together for final deliberation, the following students were chosen for the All-District Senior band: (Seniors) **Jackie Allshouse, Scott Bryant, David Carmichael, Autumn Pate, Phil Sisto and Trey Swacker.** (Juniors): **Nola Goehman, Jonathan Light, Josh McGuire, Will Mills, Andrea Ramey, Elizabeth Rigdon and Carrie Sisto.** (Sophomores): **Monty Breneman, Jackie Jenks and John Presley.** Those selected for the Freshman band are: **Chris Barkett, Daniel Green, Caleb Huff, Courtney Jones, Kim Sheer and J.C. Warren.**

Congratulations to the LOHS band; it has reaped success in yet another endeavor.

## O'Hara nets full ride tennis scholarship to Northern Kentucky

**Lucy Jackson**  
Feature Editor

On October 26, senior Jamie O'Hara accepted a scholarship to attend and play tennis at Northern Kentucky University. She went on to sign the official papers on November 12.

Not only will she be able to play college tennis, but she is receiving a full ride and many other benefits. The scholarship entitled O'Hara to a four year full ride and if necessary, a fifth year. She will also get a private room in a suite and will receive pell grant money. All of her medical bills, tennis clothes and equipment will be paid for. She will also receive spending money.

Northern is located in Highland Heights, Kentucky, which is across the Ohio River from Cincinnati.

"The campus is fairly compact with approximately 12,000 students. The tennis team is in its rebuilding stage," said O'Hara.

O'Hara felt that she was most influenced by her mother, although Coach Heflin and Coach Poore also influenced her a great deal in her decision.

"I decided to accept because it was an offer no one could refuse, and it isn't that far from home. I was definitely surprised by their offer. I had a feeling I would get a scholarship, but nothing like this."



While surrounded by her tennis teammates, Jamie O'Hara signs a letter of intent to NKU.

## TCIM to hold Christmas Dance

**Emily Williams**  
Editorial Editor

The Choice is Mine (TCIM) club is sponsoring the first ever Christmas dance outside of school. It has been years since the last out-of-school dance was held and the excitement is wall-to-wall.

"We just wanted to have a winter dance that we could sponsor annually

for the school," said senior member Jessica Buckelew.

The dance will be held at the Executive Inn in Ballroom D from 8:00 to 12:00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale for \$10 for single and \$15 per couple. The attire is formal/semi-formal and is to be substance free.

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READING WRITING MATH SAT/ACT STUDY SKILLS COURSES FOR CREDIT

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

The newspaper is designed by staff members, using the Macintosh desktop publishing system, and printed by the Benton Tribune Courier, P.O. Box 410, Benton, KY 42035.

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 or all subjects that effect the audience. Final authority for the content of the paper rests in the hands of the principal.

### The Oak K

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## The tranquility of small town life shattered forever

J.R. Young

Co-Editor-in-Chief



The tragedy at Heath High School has affected all of McCracken County unlike any incident in recent memory. It shattered the tranquility of small town life, and brought us together at the same time.

Three lives ended on Monday, December 1. Countless other lives will never be the same again. No matter where people lived or who they were and weren't friends with, it affected us all. We lost friends or church members or family or simply peace of mind. Most of all, a

community lost its innocence.

The loss of innocence may be the most lasting legacy of all this. Who among us will forget the terror Monday morning? The shooting happened across the county from us, but it felt like it was within our own halls. Many students were in tears while others found themselves in a state of terror. We walked the halls to see teachers guarding the doors. Teachers kept students locked in the classrooms. Students were stopped and questioned on why they were in the halls between classes. If that morning's incident wasn't enough to scare students, then what was happening around them was. And just when we thought it was all over, two days later we arrived at school to find police guarding the hallways.

Time will pass, and slowly life in



Photo by J.R. Young

Students arrived at school Wednesday the 3rd to find policemen patrolling the halls.

McCracken County will return to some sense of normality. The signs of sympathy will come down, and the white ribbons will disappear from people's clothing. But the week will forever be a part of everyone's memory. The image of Heath High

School that morning will haunt us forever, and so will the tension at our own school. Maybe that's for the best, because while it is important that we move on, it is just as important that we never forget.

## Protect your SSN

Tracee Werner

Staff Writer



A social security number is the nine digit code that the government uses to identify each citizen of the United States. Everbody has one. Should yours fall into the wrong hands, you could be in big trouble—especially here at LOHS.

The last four digits of a student's social security number is his/her pass to eat lunch and is also that person's Internet password. This is a bad idea.

The first few days that the school used this system, everyone's name and social security number were posted in the lunch line for those who didn't know their numbers. That made it easy for anyone to find out what someone else's number is. Again—not a good thing.

A student who had a grudge

against another student, or who merely wanted to play a senseless joke could have written down anyone's SSN for later use. Although the numbers were only posted the first day, even typing in the digits in the presence of other students could present a threat—especially to Internet access. A person could use another person's SSN to get into a **FORBIDDEN SITE** and get the innocent party kicked off the Internet. Students have also been told that once they've been kicked off the Internet, there's nothing that can be done.

Even the government has gone to great lengths to ensure the privacy of one's SSN, by changing driver's license numbers to an entirely different number.

The fact that one's SSN is his/her internet password isn't the problem. The problem is the fact that it was posted and can easily be figured out by watching someone type it in. Perhaps the school system should rethink this concept and possibly assign a special number for each student's "cafeteria access."

## Get off the parking lot and get a real life!

Ashley Small

Co-Editor-in-Chief



A couple of weeks ago, during sixth hour, I happened to look out the window onto the parking lot. And guess what I saw? Aside from the obvious—cars, something else caught my eye—people. Now why is this so important that I felt compelled to write about it? Because it wasn't just a few people. No, it was twelve people! And this wasn't just a one time situation. Everyday, like clockwork, people accumulate during sixth hour in the parking lot.

At first I thought that it was just trade school students, but in an interview with Mr. McKamey, who patrols the parking lot during lunch, he stated that many of the people are old graduates of LOHS or they have dropped out of school. He also said that on the first day of school, he had to "run 15 people off campus who were not presently Lone Oak students."

Okay, one question — what in the world are you coming back here for?!?! I am seriously confused. Most people can't wait to graduate from high school

and move on into the real world. And for those who didn't graduate— isn't the point of dropping out of school so that you don't have to come back here?

I suppose the greatest problem I have with people loitering in the parking lot is that countless times students have checked out and tried to leave school. Yet before you can leave the school building, some teacher interrogates you on whether you have gone through all the proper procedures. And how many times has Mr. Rushing announced that all trade school students and co-op students are to leave immediately and not stand around in the parking lot? But the people who don't even go here are allowed free reign over it!

I've been told that we are supposed to be getting a fence put around the parking lot eventually, but I wouldn't suggest anybody holds his breath.

With the heightened concern about security at county schools, shouldn't someone be patrolling the parking lot now more than ever! To me, if LOHS students can't legitimately be out in the parking lot, why should anybody else? We're the ones who have to go to school here! You, graduates or drop outs, are free, so go to work, go to college, but just go!



# "Santa Claus" never was and never will be real!

Jacob Mitchell

Sports Writer



You know the story. A giggling fat guy travels around the world in one night on a sleigh led by eight tiny reindeer, lugging around a bag o' goodies for all the children of the world. We sing about him, think about him, and long for him 364 days a year. It's not Mr. Rushing, it's Santa Claus.

You know about him all of your pre-teen life. He's your hero, your idol, your favorite person in the world. He serves up presents on Christmas morning faster

than the ninja turtles serve up crime reduction. You've been told about him all your life. How he performs the miracle of delivering boxes of hopes and wishes, and you even sit on his lap and tell him what you want before time so he can get a list of what to tell his elves to make. Oh, what a glorious time to think that such a hero exists. You think that in all of the troubles of the world, one jolly man exists who for one night brings happiness to one and all.

Then you wake up early one morning and find your parents placing shiny wrapped packages under the glowing tree, and they see you and a look of a deer in headlights appears.

That is when your heart cracks in two. You'd heard it from the "mature" kids at

school, but for some reason, you kept the faith. And then, you found out the real truth of how it is really your parents after all, and Santa was made up all along.

Is this a crock or what? Are parents so caught up in Christmas tradition that they miss the whole point of the holiday? Obviously, it is to celebrate the birth of Christ (and if you have half a brain you realize that Christmas comes from Christ), not to gloat in the giving of presents. If parents would stop giving the idea that Santa exists, there would be less heartbreak and more focus on the true meaning of Christmas from kids.

Let's get one thing straight—It's not that I think that kids shouldn't have something to look forward to, but the

parents are lying. Kids grow up trusting mainly their parents, and when they figure out that it is all a sugar-coated myth, it is often very depressing. It can ruin the excitement of the holiday, and maybe even ruin the outlook on Christmas forever. If parents would start out with the idea that there is no Santa and that Christmas is a holiday celebrating the birth of Christ, then there would be no breaking of the saddening news. So listen up parents and parents-to-be—STOP GLORIFYING SANTA AND START GLORIFYING CHRIST. After all, it's not Santamas.



## Should parents tell their kids there is a Santa, or not?



*'No. Parents tell their kids not to lie and then lie to their kids about Santa.'*

*--Cheryl Rothwell (11)*

*'What do you mean, there's no Santa?'*  
*--Jon Presley (10)*



*'Yes. Because without Santa, Christmas wouldn't be fun for little kids.'*

*--Allison Light (10)*

## Santa is, too, real!

Emily Riggs

Sports Editor



In my experience as a little kid I remember every Christmas trying to stay up as late as possible to catch that amazing, wonder man...Santa Claus. I would always wake before anyone else to see the milk and cookies half gone and the very present I asked for that year. Christmas was my favorite holiday and I admired Santa more than my own father.

Santa Claus is a legacy, Christmas would not be the same without him. He is a figure that all kids learn about and look up to. Who else do you know that delivers presents to millions of kids in one night? It gives them hope and something to look

forward to. As a child, imagine if Santa had not been there every Christmas to get you that expensive present your parents could never afford, but had to because you asked Santa for it.

Maybe the true meaning of Christmas has been lost, but that is not on account of Santa. It's all because parents tend to look over the fact that they need to tell their kids the real meaning behind Christmas. As long as there is an understanding why Christmas is actually celebrated, there shouldn't be a problem.

Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Toothfairy and even the Sandman are all part of one's childhood, just like learning to ride a bike. They may be made up, but it's all part of childhood. Being full of excitement, creativity, and imagination is what makes being a kid so much fun; childhood would not be the same without these fictitious characters.



## Unsolved mysteries of grilled cheese, anarchy and churros

Lucy Jackson  
Features Editor



In the attempt to find a decent editorial idea, I, for once in my life, came across all sorts of things I felt could work beautifully. Since I was unable to narrow my ideas down to just one, I decided I would simply make a compilation of the little things that have come to tear at my existence.

I will begin with the terrible injustice that I was faced with only weeks ago in *The Oak Tree Cafe*. Scanning the cafeteria, I noticed that some kids had grilled cheese, one of my personal favorites. Nearly starv-

ing, I decided to stand in the treacherous line for an eternity in order to get something besides my usual meal of saltines and chocolate doughnuts. I reached the cashier and was forced to face the tragic reality. The silly sandwich of only bread and cheese was going to cost me an entire dollar. I didn't even have that much money with me and so I asked if they weren't fifty cents. The woman said that they were only fifty cents if they were being served with soup. What was this, just because I didn't have stupid soup I had to pay twice as much? I left the line broken hearted and without my grilled cheese.

My next item of concern is the sporting of Anarchy shirts, as well as the placement of the symbol on backpacks, folders, etc. I am assuming that the people who choose to express themselves by wearing the sign

are uninformed of what anarchy would actually mean. Of course, the idea of complete freedom and no government might sound exciting to a teenager locked inside the walls of LOHS, but if one looks at the whole idea realistically, they should see that it is not the brightest idea, and that anarchy would only result in complete madness, disorder and death, and we would actually all be under the rule of the person with the most weapons.

My final piece of discussion has to do with everybody's favorite place to be, Taco John's. I was there the other night and I noticed that the little advertisements on the tables for churros (cinnamon doughnut-like deserts) said, "Mexican doughnuts don't have holes." This statement is entirely wrong. The churro is cylinder shaped and so there actually is a

hole completely through the middle. What person decided on this catchy phrase? I am a little unsure, but they either are unfamiliar with their shapes or have never seen an actual churro.

In order to put an end to all this craziness, I have come up with a few ways to put the above problems out of existence. First, all who find the pricing of our beloved grilled cheese unreasonable, do the hardest thing in the world and give it the shaft until lack of demand forces the price to be brought down to a quarter. Next, don't flaunt anarchy signs unless you really think being at the hands of the entire world without any protection would be fun. And finally, whenever you pay a visit to Taco John's, pick up a comment card and tell the world and the mastremind who created it, how incorrect the churro advertisement is.

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# Merry Christmas to all

## "A Dysfunctional Christmas"



**J.R. Young**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Christmas comes but once a year,  
Ushered in by eight tiny reindeer,  
Stockings hung from the fireplace,  
Relatives shouting, "Get out of my face!"

Then little cousin Sue sees dad's  
mounted deer head,  
And with shriek screams out,  
"Rudolph's dead!"  
From under the tree comes a spark so bright,  
It's Kitty again; she's bit the lights.

Uncle Jim and Grandma,  
Try to increase the turkey's thaw,  
Into the oven at five hundred degrees,  
A big glaring fireball is all that we see.

On the couch sit three old men,  
Coughing and wheezing as they hold  
their guts in,  
It's a *Wonderful Life* plays on all but  
one channel in the box,  
Uncle Ted shouts, "Amen! Thank  
God for Fox!"

So as they wish normal TV had a  
pause,  
They wager their bets on who's the  
World's Most Dangerous Santa Claus,  
And from one of the bedrooms comes  
a shout and a crash,  
As little Billy takes his controller and  
begins to bash.

"I can't lose at *NBA Shootout*! I own  
this game!"  
And Josh looks on with his haircut so  
lame,  
Big brother Dave can only laugh at the  
geeks,  
He's been practicing for the past six  
weeks.

And as the night comes to an end,  
And bedtime preparations begin,  
From atop the roof comes a clip and a  
clap,  
With shouts of, "Santa!" from all of  
the saps.

In their PJs they rush outside,  
The snow leads to frostbite and they  
nearly die,  
But up on the roof everyone focusses  
their gaze,  
To the best Rent-a-Santa that can be  
found on notice of two days.

His suit doesn't fit, and he smells a  
might strange,  
Looks of guilt all the parents  
exchange,  
"Mommy, why doesn't Santa speak  
English?"  
And with that, the awe is quietly  
finished.

All the mothers rush their kids back in  
the house,  
While the dads dispose of the  
misguided louse,  
Out to the curb they carry his load,  
Taking back the shrubbery he  
obviously stole.

Inside the kids are already in bed,  
While visions of N64s dance in their  
heads,  
The parents enter the den with their  
heads hung low,  
How to assemble half the toys, they  
do not know.

By four in the morning, all is quiet,  
In the den, Mattel emblems fill one's  
site,  
When from the doorway comes a roar,  
"Santa's been here, and he brought the  
whole toy store!"

In an instant the room is filled with  
wide eyes,  
The absence of Tickle Me Elmos  
brings a few cries,  
But all in all, happiness abounds,  
Except for the parents, who awake at  
the sounds.

And so Christmas comes and leaves  
each year,  
And to the wall dad adds another deer,  
And so each year runs its course,  
For better or worse.



## Help spread the h

**Ashley Small**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief



your help, now more than ever!

The Christmas season is now  
upon us — time to curl up in  
our warm homes with family,  
friends, food and gifts! But is  
that really how everybody in  
Paducah sees the holiday  
season? Not everyone is  
blessed with such comforts,  
and while this is the season of  
"giving," there are still many  
people who will spend their  
holidays on the streets, in  
shelters, bedridden or in homes  
which lack such necessities as  
proper food or clothing.

So, now that I have made all  
you fortunate ones feel guilty,  
here are just a few places  
around Paducah that do need

\* **Hope Unlimited** - needs  
volunteers to donate time in their  
"Clothing Closet" - organizing  
and pricing clothing. Monday  
thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. to  
4:00 p.m. (442-1166)

\* **Martha's Vineyard** - needs  
people to help prepare and deliver  
meals, especially during the  
holiday season. Anyone is  
welcome to come by between 8:00  
a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday thru  
Friday and some Saturdays. If  
you are bringing a group to help,  
call in advance at 575-0021.

\* **Paducah Cooperative  
Ministries (PCM)** - needs  
individuals or groups to set up



The BetaClub fills up an entire trunk with toys for needy kids in Paducah.

dippin'  
dots

Flavor  
of the  
Month

Candy Cane

Ice Cream of the Future





## CHRISTMAS

# Christmas to all and to all a good

## Help spread the holiday cheer

Ashley Small  
Co-Editor-in-Chief



The Christmas season is now upon us — time to curl up in our warm homes with family, friends, food and gifts! But is that really how everybody in Paducah sees the holiday season? Not everyone is blessed with such comforts, and while this is the season of "giving," there are still many people who will spend their holidays on the streets, in shelters, bedridden or in homes which lack such necessities as proper food or clothing.

So, now that I have made all you fortunate ones feel guilty, here are just a few places around Paducah that do need

your help, now more than ever!

\* **Hope Unlimited** - needs volunteers to donate time in their "Clothing Closet" - organizing and pricing clothing. Monday thru Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (442-1166)

\* **Martha's Vineyard** - needs people to help prepare and deliver meals, especially during the holiday season. Anyone is welcome to come by between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Monday thru Friday and some Saturdays. If you are bringing a group to help, call in advance at 575-0021.

\* **Paducah Cooperative Ministries (PCM)** - needs individuals or groups to set up

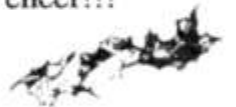
bins where cans, soup, peanut butter and other non-perishable items can be left. This is a great idea for clubs around the school and for families to participate in! If you have any questions you can call - 442-6795.

\* **Salvation Army** - needs bell ringers between November 28 - December 24, everyday except on Sunday. Workers donate only two hours of their time between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. If you are interested contact Melissa Gullo at 443-8231.

I always thought that since it was the holidays, organizations would be crammed with people trying to do "goodwill towards men," but according to Linda at

the PCM, "Many people think that the month of December would be our biggest months, but it is not and we are running very low!"

We have a great deal to be thankful for and it is only right to share what we have with those who are in need. Maybe you don't want to volunteer at one of these places, but the United Way told me that they help 17 charitable organizations just here in Paducah. So check with your church or call United Way - 442-1691 and find out how you can help spread some of that Christmas cheer!!!



The Beta Club fills up an entire trunk with toys for needy kids in Paducah.



FBLA members spread Christmas cheer by making Hospice baskets.

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dots



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# and to all a good break

## e holiday cheer

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Members of the Art Club deck the halls for the holidays.

## Terms to make you giggle

### CHRISTMAS LAYMEN'S TERMS

*Suzannah Stoll*  
Coroner

**\*Christmas\***

Yule be home for this

**\*Presents\***

Synonym for introduces

**\*Carols\***

More than one Carol

**\*Relatives\***

Type of pronouns

**\*Snow\***

Opposite of yes

**\*Elves\***

King of Rock and Roll

**\*Three wisemen\***

Huey, Dewey, Louie

**\*Wreaths\***

Aretha Franklin's  
nickname

**\*Lights\***

Anti-burglar device

**\*Holly\***

A carburetor brand

**\*Tree\***

Factoring device

**\*"Silent Night"\***

Opposite of noisy night

**\*Santa Clause\***

Newest English clause

**\*Reindeer\***

Kin to raining cats and  
dogs

**\*Sleigh\***

Violent act

**\*Bah humbug\***

Member of the bug  
species

**\*Wassail\***

No longer a sail

**\*Spruce\***

What men do prior to a  
date

**\*Cookies\***

Step two in the process  
of cooking vowels

**\*Mistle toe\***

Person missing a toe

**\*Noel\***

Cousin to Parallel

**\*Season\***

Adds flavor to food

**\*Shephard\***

UK basketball player

**\*Chestnuts\***

Nonstop chess players

**\*Winter\***

Opposite of loser



FBLA members spread Christmas cheer by making Hospice baskets.



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## Look out Broadway, here come the LOHS choirs!

*Concert Choir**Chamber Choir**Freshmen Girls Chorus*

*Sara Ryan*  
*Circulation Manager*

Throughout the years there have been many types of choirs that have performed at LOHS - swing choirs, ladies and mens choirs, and acapella choirs. Today if you roam the halls of E building during second, third, or fourth hour you will hear the melodic voices of the Freshmen Girls Chorus, Concert Choir, and Chamber Choir under the direction of Mrs. Dawn Durham.

The three choirs meet daily, rehearsing the music for their next performance, perfecting their breathing and sight reading skills and having fun!

For those who wish to be in choir, the process begins in eighth grade when hopefuls audition to be placed in the Freshmen Choir. The next year those who wish to be in Concert Choir are promoted. To be in Chamber Choir students must try out for placement in the elite chorus.

The choir annually attends several festivals such as First District Chorus and Quad State Festival. Several students each year are selected to participate in the Kentucky All-State Chorus. This year ten out of the 12 students who tried out for a position in the All-State Chorus were chosen.

Recently the three choirs performed their Christmas Concert "Sing We Now of Christmas," at Lone Oak First Baptist Church. Several different styles of music were sung by the choirs. There were traditional Christmas carols such as "O Holy Night," "Carol of the Bells" and "Ding Dong Merrily on High." Some pieces that were non-traditional carols included "The First Noel/Pachelbel's Canon," "Candlelight Carol," and "What You Gonna Call Yo' Pretty Little Baby."

In the next few months the choir will compete in the Spring Concert Festival. If the choir is given a superior rating they will be eligible to attend the state competition in Louisville. The choir will also perform a Spring Concert sometime in May.



The Chamber Choir performs at their Christmas Concert



Dawn Durham, Choral Director



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## Sims chosen as last Teacher of the Month for '97

Kelly Reeves  
Staff Writer

The final teacher of the month for 1997 has been chosen, and it's no surprise to see that Mrs. Sims has received the honor. Sims has taught functional resource classes at LOHS for five years. She has also taught special education in Tennessee and other schools in Kentucky.

Mrs. Sims loves working with students. The growth and progression of the students is most fulfilling to her as far as aspects of teaching. "The small gains are often ones that matter most," she says.

Working on her master's degree, Sims is an active representative of McCracken County Education Association and sponsors the Key Club at LOHS.

On a personal note, Sims is "blessed with a terrific husband and a precious daughter, twenty months old." Exercising, water-color painting, and crafts are some of her hobbies.

Mrs. Sims is a great teacher who really cares about her students. She is a deserving member of the Teacher of the Month Hall of Fame.

"I am excited and I think it is a tremendous honor to be chosen as Teacher of the Month!" said Sims.



Mrs. Sims helps one of her students.

photo by K. Reeves

## Cargill adds Jr. Rotarian to list of achievements

Megan Williams  
News Editor

Senior Jon Cargill, a very accomplished athlete, can now add Junior Rotarian to his list of achievements.

Cargill is offensive and defensive tackle for the varsity football team and has played for three years. He was recently selected to the All-Star football team. Cargill is also a four year member of the varsity basketball team and a three year member of the varsity track team. Last year, his shotput distance of 47 feet and 10 inches set a new school record.

Cargill is also a member of the chamber choir and was selected for the All State Chorus. A member of the FCA, BETA and TCIM clubs, Cargill attends Lone Oak First Baptist Church where he serves as President of their high school choir.

When he's not playing football or singing, he enjoys surfing the net



Senior Jon Cargill

or playing basketball. As for his future plans, he hopes to play football for a four year college and major in computer programming.

"This is an honor and a surprise that I am glad to receive," said Cargill on being selected as Junior Rotarian.

## Hey, is that my shadow?

Emily Riggs  
Sports Editor

On December 2, students from Tilghman participated in their second "shadowing" experience after last week at Heath. Eight students, male and female, from Tilghman High School were chosen to shadow or follow a student from LOHS all day. In return, December 9 Lone Oak students shadowed students from

Tilghman.

The idea originated from Tilghman and Heath's principals hoping to allow county students and city students to interact.

"It's a neat experience to be a part of Lone Oak's student body for a day. It has given me the chance to meet new people and experience a day at a different school," said Caroline Carliss, a participant from Tilghman High School.



Several "shadowers" pose while in journalism class at LOHS.

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# Super Wal-Mart is the supreme being of retail

**Emily Williams**  
Editorial Editor

I know what you are thinking. I can see it on your face. You are shaking your head and wondering, "Why, oh why, is she writing about Super-Walmart?" Well, its simple; Super-Walmart is the supreme deity of retail. I, along with all the other searching souls enter into its holy chapel in pursuit of that panacea de jour.

One day it might be bobby pins, the next day it might be Bondo, whatever the problem, Super-Walmart has the answer! I go there all the time. They have anything and everything I could

ever need: picture frames for five bucks, power steering fluid for a dollar, and those yummy custard-filled doughnuts made fresh every day.

Whoever invented the almighty Super-Walmart should be awarded the Nobel Prize. It is a truly ingenious place. Just think—where else can you find a beauty salon, an optometrist, a pharmacy, a photo lab, an auto mechanic, and a McDonalds all in one building that is open 24-hours a day? You can't!!! And that is why people come from as far off as Illinois to take the free-samples of potato salad communion and worship at the altar of the Express check-out line. And that is why Super-Walmart reigns.



Who could ask for anything more!

## Top ten cereal slogans

**Jacob Mitchell**  
Sports Writer

Cereal is a big part of everyone's day. Most everyone always confides in the colorful box of sweet corn or wheat or whatever. Although it is what is in the box, including the toy, the commercials you see for this essential food are often what sells them. In tribute to these breakfast buddies, I have compiled a list of the top ten cereal slogans of all time.

10. KIX-KID TESTED, MOTHER APPROVED
9. FOLLOW MY NOSE TO THE FRUITY TASTE OF FROOT LOOPS
8. HOW DO THEY CRAM

ALL THAT GRAM? (GOLDEN GRAHAMS)

7. CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THAT GOLDEN CRISP

6. HONEY COMB, HONEY COMB, ME WANT HONEY COMB

5. I GO COO-COO FOR COCOA PUFFS

4. LUCKY CHARMS-THEY'RE MAGICALLY DELICIOUS

3. SILLY RABBIT, TRIX ARE FOR KIDS

2. I DIG 'EM (SMACKS)

1. FROSTED FLAKES—THEY'RE GRRRRREAT!!!!!!

## Great music for any mood

**Lucy Jackson**  
Feature Editor

Music. It is everywhere and most of us come in contact with more than several times a day. It can be inspirational, fun or heavy; it can make you want to dance or put you to sleep. The only problem is, sometimes you just can't find exactly what you want to listen to when you're a certain mood. For these cases, I have provided a list of excellent music choices. So kick back, or jump around, or do whatever you feel like doing and make sure to have some perfect music in the background.

**Red House Painters** (*Songs for a Blue Guitar*) - This is my favorite band in the entire world. The music is so beautiful and Mark Kozelek has a strange but awesome voice. They use a lot of piano and violins, but the way they put them together with the guitar makes for a really interesting sound. Most of the songs are completely filled with emotion. The best part about this band is their

lyrics. The words used are so perfect they're like poetry. I would recommend this band for those troubled romantic times when you just want to lie in the floor and think, or maybe cry.

**Ida** (*Tales of Brave*) - If your in the mood to daydream, this band's light, yet personal sound is for you. This album is great and although it's kind of soft it has some very intense songs. There are two guys and two girls in this group so the singer is often changing and it gives the disc a lot of variety.

**The Afghan Whigs** (*Black Love*) - In the mood to let out some inner anger or perhaps just jump around a bit? This one's for you. The music is awesome and this album all flows together so well it's like one huge masterpiece. If you're really into music, I promise you will appreciate this CD. Greg Dulli's voice is excellent and the lyrics will get you pumped up. The music shows the amount of talent this band really has.

### Top Ten Christmas Films

10. Prancer
9. The Santa Clause
8. Scrooged
7. A Charlie Brown Christmas
6. Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer
5. Miracle on 34th Street
4. It's A Wonderful Life
3. The Grinch Who Stole Christmas
2. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
1. A Christmas Story

### Gene Boaz Photography



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## "Remember When"

**Tracee Werner**  
Staff Writer

Granny—

Remember when I was a little girl who you always read to?

Remember when you taught me to read?

Remember when I spent the night and we'd kick Grandpa out into the other bed

because I was afraid to sleep by myself?

Remember when we'd play school and office?

Remember when you told me

you'd live to see and play with my grandchildren?

Remember how you'd buy me everything under the sun?

Remember when I told my Bible school teacher

you were my best friend?

Oh, I remember well those days, but there's one that sticks out in my mind.

I remember the day you died.

It was just four years ago.

How I miss you now.

Granny, I'll never forget our days together.

I'll love and miss you always.

# Christmas festivities celebrated all over the world

**Estee Cheah**  
Business/Ad Manager

While Christmas is known by everyone, not everyone knows how it actually came about. Here are several things you might or might not know about Christmas and also some end-of-the-year festivals.

## Christmas:

**When.....**December 25

**Why.....**to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ

**How it's celebrated.....**people spending time with loved ones, exchanging gifts, the myth of Santa Claus

**Did you know.....**that nobody really knows the exact date Jesus was born? Dec. 25 was the date Pope Julius I picked 1,600 years ago.

## Hanukkah:

**When.....**December (begins Dec. 23 this year)

**Why.....**to celebrate the Hebrew's victory over the Serians and the reclaiming of the holy Temple in Jerusalem

**How it's celebrated.....**each night for eight nights, observers light candles, sing, eat, give gifts and play games

**Did you know.....**the special candleholders used during Hanukkah are called menorahs and the favorite

food during the holiday is potato pancakes called latkes?

## Chinese New Year:

**When.....**late January/early February (begins Jan. 28 this year)

**Why.....**to celebrate and to get off to a good start for the coming year and to pay tribute to the gods and honor ancestors

**How it's celebrated.....**houses are decorated with narcissus flowers and oranges, family and friends gather, and firecrackers are lit everywhere

**Did you know.....**elders or those who are married give red envelopes full of money to friends and relatives who are

not wed? everybody also buys new clothes to wear for the new year?

## Kwanzaa:

**When.....**December 26 - January 1

**Why.....**was initially celebrated in 1966 by professor Maulana Karenga who wanted a cultural holiday to connect African-Americans with their past

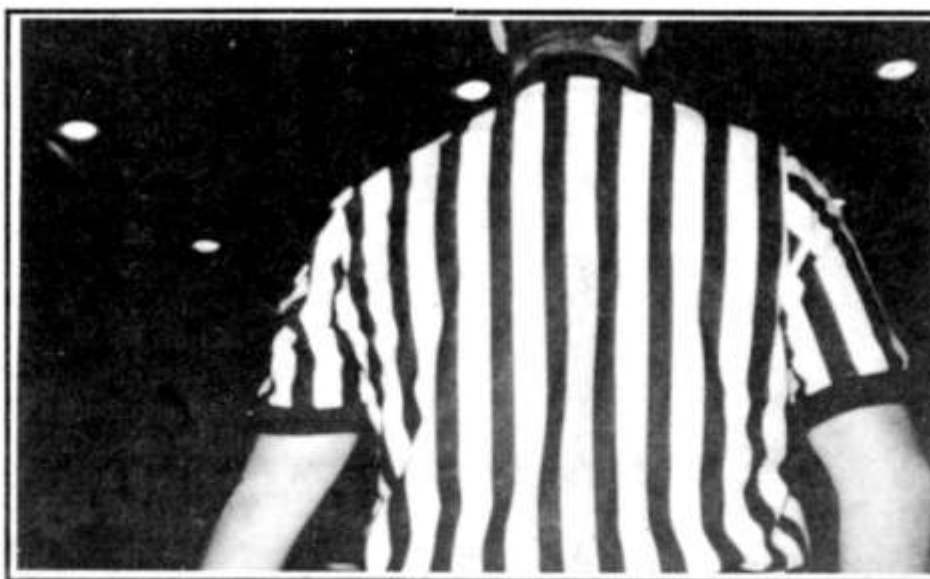
**How it's celebrated.....**each night a candle is lit to honor the *Nguzo Saba* (seven principles, which include unity, faith and creativity. They also have prayers, gift exchange, readings and traditional foods for the celebration

**Did you know.....**that Kwanzaa means "first fruits of the harvest" in Swahili?

## PICTURE PAGES



A few mocha highballs later, this really doesn't look so weird.




Foot Locker employees' new spring collection.



Coach McGroarty's early recruiting efforts for the track team.



Always resourceful, the lunch ladies know just what to do when it begins to rain animal carcasses.





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## Fall Sports Banquet

Most valuable player: **Jenny Boles and Les Miller**  
 Best offense: **Brandy Gifford and Les Miller**  
 Best Defense: **Candice Dupree and Brent Dupree**  
 Hustle Award: **Julie Berens and Jason Carnine**  
 Shane Pearson Award: **Whitney Nall and Cartney Mitchell**  
 Coaches award: **Whitney Nall and Russ Peck**  
 Sportsmanship award: **Julie Stewart and Michael Plewke**  
 Most improved: **Megan Heine and Robert Hughes**



The West Kentucky conference East/West All-Star Football Game was held on Saturday, November 29. The west side won 10-3. The following students were nominated and voted on by West KY Conference Coaches.

- Brandon Bahr
- Vince Carter
- Jon Cargill
- Alternate-Kyle Slankard



Sara Angelly aggressively goes up for a lay-up.

Photo by E. Riggs

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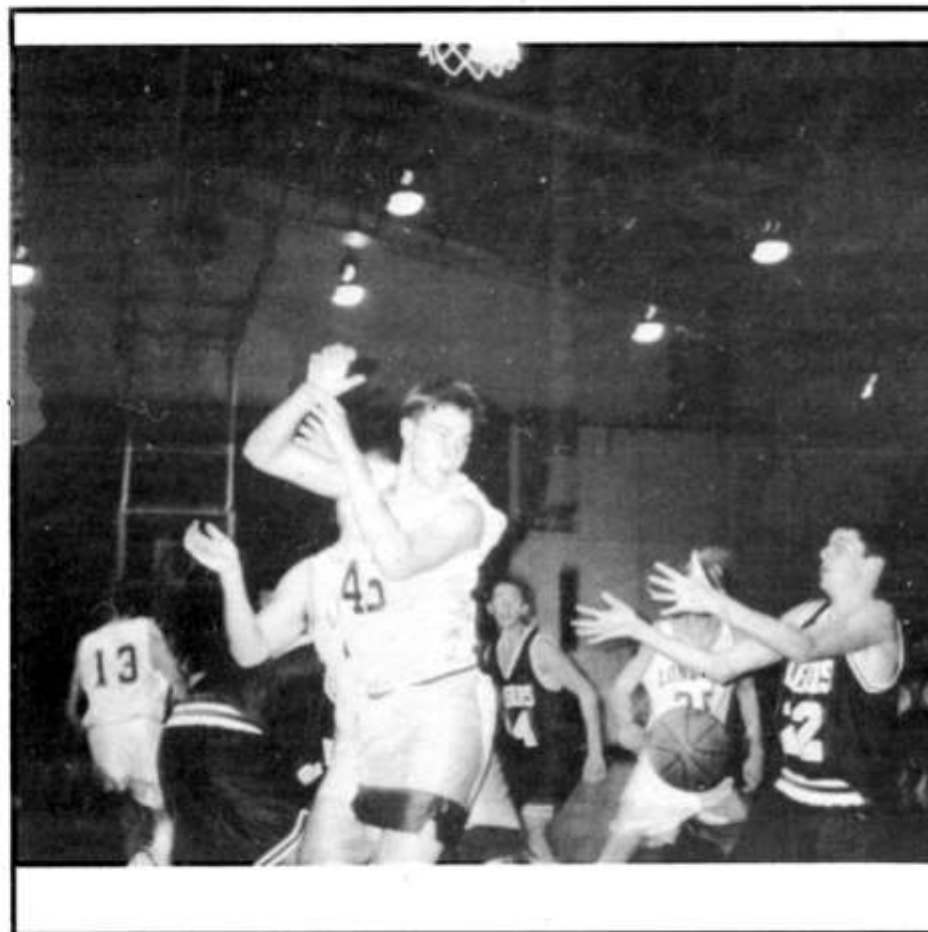


Photo by: L. Jackson

"Whoops! There it goes!" as Jonathan Shelby (45) turns to see the ball.

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### Spotlight Athlete Latrell Sprewell

Nobody has hands like  
 him in the NBA, and P.J.  
 Carlesimo has the choke  
 marks to prove it.

McDONALD'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

## Girls put "Mac Attack" on competition

Emily Riggs  
Sports Editor

With one win behind them (Dawson Springs), the Lady Flash opened and ended the McDonald's tournament with confidence. In both games, Lone Oak was off to a slow start and things got a little sloppy in the middle, but as usual in the end the Lady Flash pulled through with two wins, beating Carlisle County Comets 59-37 and Ballard Bombers 55-51 to take the trophy.

During the tournament, Heidi Seltzer's height worked to the advantage for Lone Oak as she recovered several bad passes. Lone Oak seemed a little shaky, fumbling the ball around, but was able to maintain possession. The Comets had no trouble breaking Lone Oak's full court trap defense, but

when Lone Oak used it against Ballard, it worked to their advantage.

The last few minutes of the championship game were crucial. Lone Oak's win was put in the hands of Seltzer and Amanda Mitchell as they sunk their free-throws to give Lone Oak the lead with over a minute left to play.

### McDonald's girls basketball All-tournament team

Emily Koehler, Ballard Memorial; Ashlee Vinyard, Carlisle County; Katie Sullivan, Heath; Tracy Harris, Ballard; Lisa McClain, Ballard; **Kim Adams, Lone Oak; Amanda Mitchell, Lone Oak; Brandy Gifford, Lone Oak; Jaime Papenfuss, Ballard; Heidi Seltzer, Lone Oak (MVP)**



Photo by E. Riggs  
Lady Flash onlookers Sara Angelly (15) and Tonya Stamper (25) anticipate a rebound as Heidi Seltzer shoots the ball.

## Purple Flash take tourney in overtime



Photo by E. Riggs  
Purple Flash defenders Jon Shelby (45) and Mitch Flood try to strip the ball away from an Eagle ball handler.

Jacob Mitchell  
Sports Writer

Winning the first game of the four-team McDonald's basketball tournament for the Lone Oak boys ended up an easy victory. The championship, however, proved tough for the Flash.

Junior Mitch Flood sank two free throws with 1.1 seconds remaining Friday night to force overtime at 55 all, and they outscored Saint Mary 12-9 in the extra period to take the victory and the championship, 67-64. Flood led the team in scoring with 20 points, while fellow junior Jonathan Shelby poured in 18. Also scoring in double digits for the Flash was sophomore Ryan Dunn who finished the night with 10.

Lone Oak set up the championship

game with a win against Christian Fellowship the night before. Although the Flash struggled in the early going, down the stretch they pulled away with a 69-42 triumph. Flood was again the leading scorer with 14, as Shelby netted 13 and junior Carl Walter added 10.

### McDonald's boys basketball All-tournament team

Brad Wurth, St. Mary; **Mitch Flood, Lone Oak; Levi Woolridge, Reidland; Luke Crider, St. Mary; Tim Klatt, Christian Fellowship; Carl Walter, Lone Oak; Ben Warren, St. Mary; Justin Gosa, Lone Oak; Charles Hosea, St. Mary; Jon Shelby, Lone Oak (MVP)**

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