

"The only constant is change."

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The Oak "K" at 500

It has been nearly fifty-six years since *The Lone Oak Enterprise* became *The Oak K*. In that time, over five hundred students have served on the staff, and several different teachers



have served as advisers. There have been scandals and cries of censorship, and there have been shining moments in which the paper rose above the simple level of high school newspaper

to something much more important. Throughout it all, one thing has remained constant--the search for a great lead...



Enigma no More!

the untold story of The Oak K's name

behind the scenes of *The Oak "K"* pages 16 & 17

Four Beta Club members face lengthy punishment

Kelly Reeves
Staff Writer

It is not a normal policy of The Oak K to cover stories about students' punishments. However, since this violation of school policy has caused so much controversy in the school system and has proved itself to be such a newsworthy subject, we have decided to cover this incident.

Four LOHS Beta club members face spending the remainder of the school year in Alternative School after an alcohol-related incident at the state Beta convention.

The four were among 46 LOHS

students attending the convention December 4-7 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville.

School officials accused the four of being in possession of an alcoholic beverage, a violation of school policy.

Two of the convention chaperones drove the students home immediately following the incident.

The students were assigned to Alternative School until their expulsion hearing December 16. Sources say the hearing resulted in the four being placed in Alternative School for the entire second semester of the school year except for the last two weeks of school. The last six

days were excluded from punishment because they were in Alternative School the last two weeks of the first semester awaiting their hearing.

Prior to the 1996-97 school year, the McCracken County School Board voted to implement a zero tolerance policy. That policy states that any student proven to be under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol will be expelled for a specific length of time. Prior to the 1997-98 school year, however, the school board amended the zero tolerance policy by changing the "WILL BE" to "MAYBE" expelled.

"We have just tried to be fair to everyone involved," said School

Board member, Connie Smith.

Mrs. Metzger, sponsor of the Beta club said, "It was an unfortunate incident and I regret that the students had to learn a lesson the hard way."

Two of the students have reportedly transferred to another school. A spokesman for St. Mary High School says they do not accept students who have been expelled from other school systems.

Because of this violation of school policy, LOHS, along with some schools in the same situation, may not be able to attend the convention in years to come.

Band and choir members prepare for state festivals

Sara Ryan
Circulation Manager

On February 4, fifteen of the best musicians at LOHS will head to Louisville for the Kentucky All-State Band and Choir Festivals.

The students will stay in Louisville for three days where they will rehearse for several hours a day with other talented musicians from around the state. It's not all work and no play, however. There is plenty of free time to shop, eat at some of Louisville's best restaurants, and socialize with the other 800 students attending the festival.

Those students from Lone Oak selected to participate in All-State Band are: seniors **Jackie Allshouse, Scott Bryant, David "Big Dave" Carmichael** and **Phil Sisto**, and junior **Elizabeth Rigdon**. Carmichael was chosen as first chair baritone in the entire state, and Phil was chosen as second chair saxophone in the entire state.

Those students from Lone Oak selected to participate in All-State Choir are: seniors **Jon Cargill, Andrea Parker** and **Sara Ryan**, juniors **Michael Crouch, Jonathan Light, Frances Owen, Josh Reeves** and **Carrie Sisto**, and sophomore **Shay Barnes**.

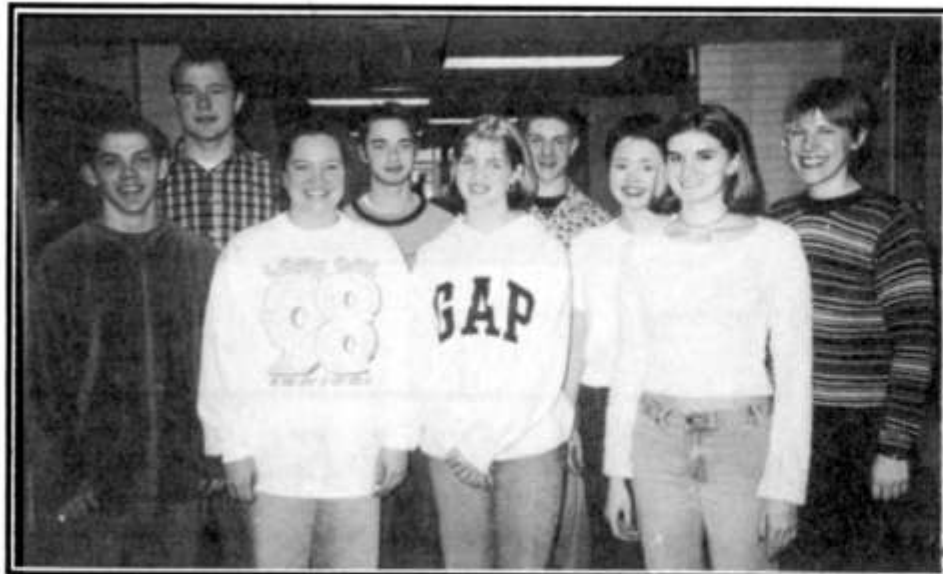
Pictured _____

All-State Band participants

L to R: **Phil Sisto, Jackie Allshouse, and Elizabeth Rigdon.**

Not pictured:

Scott Bryant and David Carmichael



All-State Choir participants

L to R: **Michael Crouch, Jon Cargill, Sara Ryan, Jonathan Light, Shay Barnes, Josh Reeves, Frances Owen, Andrea Parker, and Carrie Sisto.**

The BookCellar opens its doors to aspiring writers

Ashley Small
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Since its opening earlier last year, The BookCellar has been one of the most unique places around to find good books and to drink good coffee. To add to its matchless atmosphere, The BookCellar recently opened the floor to the young writers of Paducah. On Wednesday, January 14, area students submitted their work. If it was chosen they were then asked to read their writings on Friday, January 16.

The night of the big event found The BookCellar filled with people of

all ages leaning on bookshelves, sitting on the floor and sipping coffee as students from surrounding colleges and high schools shared their poems and short stories. Mandy Langston (10) and Brandy Clein (9), two LOHS students, were among those selected to read to the diverse audience.

"I was nervous at first, but then I thought about what a good experience this is for a person, such as myself, who is interested in writing and acting," said Langston of her experience.

Governor's Cup participants look forward to district

Megan Williams
News Editor

Several students ranging from 9th to 12th grade are preparing to test their knowledge of English, math, science, social studies and history at the 1998 District Governor's Cup. The mind-challenging event will be held at Paducah Tilghman. There are eight different groups of competition and each will be held on one of three dates.

The Future Problem Solving competition will be held on January 30. In this competition a team of four students are asked to develop a problem within a

given scenario and then develop a solution to the problem.

On February 13, the Composition and General Knowledge competitions will take place. These students will be asked to write a composition on a given topic in a certain amount of time. The General Knowledge competition is comprised of a written test over all four main subjects.

February 14 is the date set for the Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Quick Recall and Science competitions.

Quick Recall is a double elimination academic tournament while the other four categories consist of a written test.

The top two students in each category will advance to the First Region Governor's Cup competition.

"I'm very optimistic about our chances at Governor's Cup this year. We have set a high goal to win both First District and First Region," said Mr. Toy, sponsor of the Governor's Cup participants.

Future Problem Solving: J.R. Young (12), Matt Upshaw (12), Barbie Liles (12) and Erin Malmquist (10)

Composition: Emily Williams (12), Kevin Brandt (12) and Lindsey

Fesmire (12)

General Knowledge: Amy Chapman (9), Josh McGuire (11) and William Mills (11)

Math: Trey Swacker (12), Les Miller (11) and Matt Upshaw

Social Studies: Amy Chapman, Emily Rigdon (12) and Kevin Brandt

Science: Jackie Allshouse (12), Jeff Heath (11) and Traci Smith (11)

Language Arts: Shelly Skaggs (12), Suzannah Stoll (12) and Trey Swacker

Quick Recall: Trey Swacker, Amy Chapman, William Mills, Josh McGuire, Bryan Garner (11) and Jackie Allshouse (12)

The dramatic side of LOHS

Lucy Jackson
Feature Editor

As spring gets closer, so does the time for Lone Oak's thespians to take the stage and show their talents. This year the school play will be *It Happens Every Summer*, a comedy written by David Rogers. The play is set in New York City in an office where guest editors have come from the university to work on a women's magazine called *Debutante*.

Tryouts should start near the end of February when Ms. Underhill, the director, receives the scripts. The cast is large with 13 female parts and 7 male parts.

So, if you are an aspiring actor/actress, pay close attention to the announcements and look for flyers in the halls.

For those who have a little stage fright, but would still like to be involved with the play, there are all sorts of back stage missions such as makeup, hair, costumes, etc. that one could work on.

"We need as many people helping as possible," said Underhill.

Mr. Pope's classes will also be building the sets which will be a big help in the production, and donations of office furniture are greatly appreciated from anyone who has a file cabinet to spare.

Tentative dates for the performance are March 27th, 28th and possibly a matinee on Sunday the 29th, and it's sure to be, as usual, an excellent performance.

Candy grams, candy grams, get your candy grams!

Tracee Werner
Staff Writer

That's right, it's almost candy gram season again, and the FHA is busy getting ready to sell them to all those love-struck LOHS students who want to let that special someone know just how they feel. But candy grams aren't just for couples, you can even send one to a special friend.

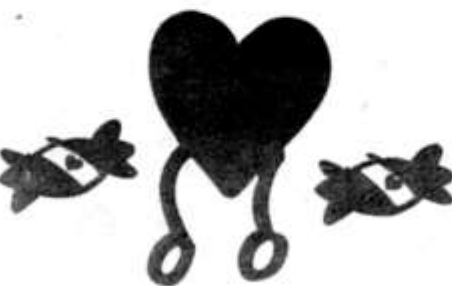
For the freshmen who may not have a clue, candy grams are suckers that one orders from any FHA member during "Channel 1 Time" to send to a friend, boyfriend, girlfriend, etc. (They're also good to give to teachers when your grade is slipping.)

When ordering the sucker(s), a person can also decide on a cool little verse to tell the recipient(s) how much they mean to him/her. The candy grams will be sent to the recipients before Valentine's Day during first hour.

There's also good news for those students who're thinking, "Boy am I tired of Luv Pops." Mrs. Stubblefield and Mrs. Hawkins have found a new kind of sucker, but I'm not at liberty to divulge any details. Don't worry, those of you who like the Luv Pops, they will be making a repeat appearance this Valentine's Day.



Christy Mc Kendree and Melissa Morris get a head start on putting candy grams together, while sponsor, Mrs. Stubblefield observes.



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

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LOHS continues its trek towards the 21st century

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

The renovation at LOHS has not only affected the school structurally, but now the technological area is starting to take form. The tech department has undergone a total overhaul, that is to say from nearly nothing last year, to one full-time staff member and several teachers and students who work with the school's technology this year.

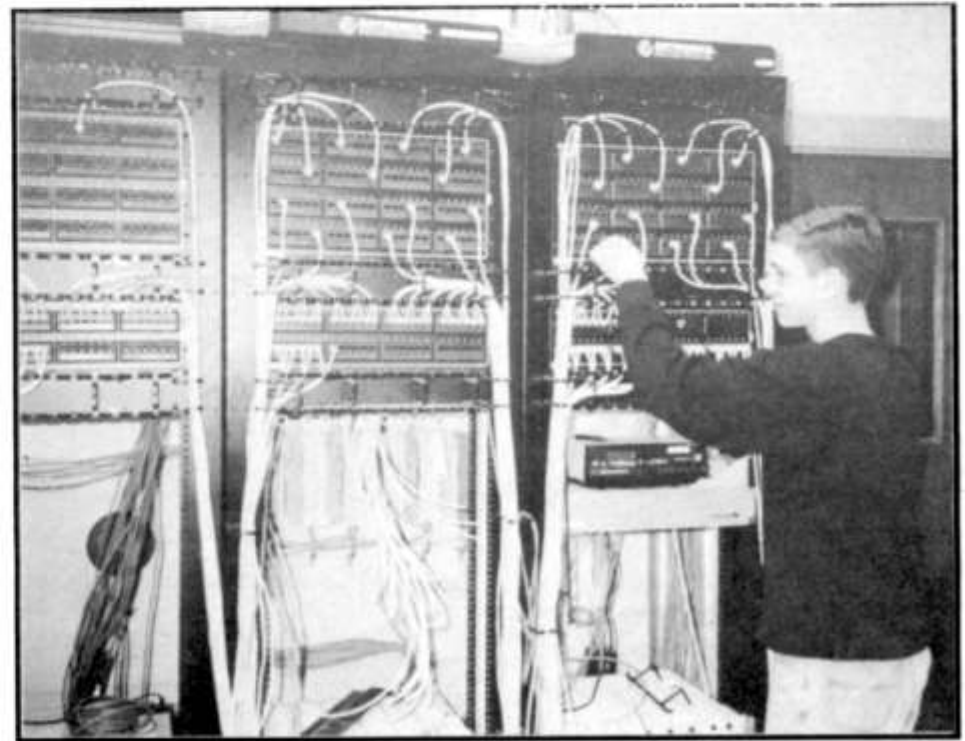
Over Christmas break all the rooms in the school were wired into the school's connection to the Internet and into a school wide network. Several computers were also upgraded during the period, including all of Mrs. Wyatt's computer lab. During the first two weeks of January several upgraded computers were distributed to teachers around the school. Just about every classroom in the school now has a PC in it running Windows 95, Office 95 and Netscape Navigator.

By early February all the computers in teachers' rooms should be wired and ready to surf the Internet. This will allow students to do research not only from the library, but from just about anywhere in the school.

Mr. Baker, one of the teachers who already has the Internet up and running in his room, commented, "I think this will be a valuable resource for my students. Plus, it will allow me to find new sources for my teaching."

Glenda Record is the new Computer Software Technician for all of Lone Oak's schools. Her office will be located at LOHS in what used to be affectionately referred to as the "wiring closet." She will oversee all the technology work done at LOHS.

The latest word on email is that students should use Hotmail (www.hotmail.com). All this technology will hopefully provide students with many new opportunities.



Matt Upshaw is working hard in the wiring closet.

Photo by J. Young

Wood is on his way to stardom

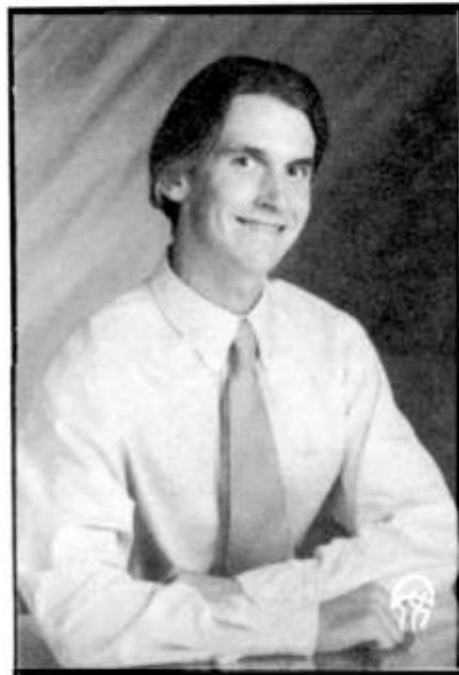
Ashley Small
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Most of us saw Danny Wood making his acting debut in last year's school play *The Perfect Idiot*, but since then Wood has broadened his acting horizon by earning a role in PCC's *Romeo and Juliet* last November. And now he has landed the part of the main character, James Trotter, in another PCC play *James and the Giant Peach*, which will be performed on February 21 and 22.

The play has required a lot of Wood's time and effort. Practice for the play is every weekday from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Even though the practices are long, he says the toughest part has been "portraying a seven year old child. It's really much more difficult than you'd think."

According to Wood, putting on a play takes "...lots of participation and input. Those in the play who aren't core characters get to do several different tasks. In one scene, the peach is floating in the ocean and a few sharks are headed toward us, putting James and his insect friends in a state of panic. The sharks are a culmination of about 10-15 cast members all working together to make just one scene."

Sounds like *James and the Giant Peach* is going to be a "must see." But if any of you Danny Wood fans happen to miss it, don't worry. I imagine we'll be seeing



Senior Danny Wood

a lot more of him. He plans on **definitely** pursuing acting after high school.

"I plan on eventually going to N.Y.U. to major in theatre. And after that, who knows what I'll do!" said Wood.



Matchmaker, matchmaker make me another match

Emily Williams
Editorial Editor

Lone Oakers prepare! It's almost that time of year again, the time of year where students empty their pocketbooks and shell out hard, cold cash to prove their love to boyfriends and girlfriends. However, some LOHS students may find this age-old holiday lonely and depressing. Thank goodness Key Club / Media Club are here to the rescue!

This Valentine's Day the Key Club and the Media Club will be sponsoring Data Match for those in need of a "special someone." Some of you may be wondering, "Is it really worth it?"

"Of course it is!" said Key Club vice president, Emily Rigdon, who encourages all students to participate.

"And won't it be fun to see who you match up with?" said Rigdon.

The Data Match questionnaire will be given sometime around January 27. The results are expected in February 14. Costs will be \$3.00 for matches in your grade only and \$5.00 for the entire school.



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School board needs "alternative" to A-school

Emily Williams

Editorial Editor



Recently the McCracken County school board voted in favor of sending four Lone Oak High School students to Alternative school for an entire semester as punishment for having alcoholic beverages at an overnight Beta convention. The decision was finalized at a board meeting on December 16 and came as a shock to both students and teachers.

"I think the punishment was too drastic, I mean, teenagers make mistakes. I couldn't believe that they (the board) were actually going to cause them to miss an entire semester of school, that can't be good for their education," commented sophomore Sarah Settles.

This is not the first time such drastic measures have been used to "get a point across." Four Heath students were also recently sentenced to Alternative school for a whole semester after a similar offense.

To me, it seems as though the board is trying to make an example out of the incident. The message

POLL: *What was your reaction to the punishment given to the four LOHS students caught with alcohol at the BETA club convention?*



'I oppose the fact that it hasn't been enforced all year.'
-- Matt Upshaw (12)



It is unfortunate that the students are having to spend the remainder of the year in A-school.'
-- Ms. Sweatt



'Being sent to A-school for the whole year was way too harsh.'
-- April Stearns (11)



'It was just a matter of time before students got punished for it.' -- Tereza Kejzlar (12)

serves to instill in students the fear that the "zero-tolerance" policy will be enforced regardless of academic status. It would seem to me, however, that in the school board's attempts to prove themselves anti-

favoritists, they have done the exact opposite. For instance, "trouble-making" students who are caught smoking or sniffing glue are generally given a smack on the hand and sent back to the playground. Often times no punishment is issued at all.

Also, what good will it do the four students to lose an entire semester of school? What lesson is that teaching them? A-school, and even In-School Detention, can have devastating effects on a student's grades. Sometimes even only 20 days at Alternative School will send a person's grade plummeting. Bad grades don't teach them a thing about not drinking, it makes them less educated, which is even worse!

The solution is simple. Find an "alternative" to alternative school. Believe me, I am not saying that these students should be exempt of any consequence, not at all. Give the persecuted students some orange jumpers and make them clean-up after school everyday. The sheer humiliation will be punishment enough. Community service is another constructive option. I simply believe that there could be a better way to "teach them a lesson" without jeopardizing their education. After all, isn't that what schools are supposed to be most concerned with, or am I wrong?

Students' most valued possession faces extinction

Megan Williams

News Editor



A new committee formed to improve the county schools' safety and security is considering banning every student's most valued possession, backpacks. While many may consider backpacks a fad, they are an essential necessity to many students. Backpacks hold everything from books to lunch money and make the day a little easier for everyone. Banning backpacks will only result

in more tardies and lost homework.

Even with construction nearly complete it is still difficult to make a trip to your locker and get to class before the bell rings. Students carry two to three books in their backpack so they don't have to rush through the crowded hallways and can make a stop at the restroom if needed. Without backpacks students would have to make twice as

many trips to their locker risking tardies. Backpacks keep homework and supplies organized preventing students from having to carry loose books and papers that can easily be misplaced. They also prevent assignments and books from becoming wet on rainy days.



Banning backpacks could prevent a student from carrying weapons or drugs to

school, but coats can just as easily conceal prohibited items. And what about purses and gym bags? Will these be banned as well? Teachers may argue that backpacks are a nuisance in classrooms because they block aisles causing a potential safety hazard. This problem can easily be avoided by keeping backpacks underneath the desks.

Backpacks help students stay organized and make their daily load of books a little easier to manage. Other safety precautions such as identification tags, security guards and metal detectors are costly but more efficient. The safety committee should look to other options before banning a student's most valued possession.

Please "Cabinet men" come to the rescue!

Ashley Small

Co-Editor-in-Chief



The three year renovation of LOHS was scheduled to come to an end by October 1997. Well, October has come and gone and while most students are enjoying the remodeled and up-to-date classrooms, some students (specifically the science students) are not!

Many of you may have noticed that four classrooms in the new wing stand

completely empty. While at the other end of the hall single classrooms have been divided into two classrooms by bookshelves. And there you will find the science students of LOHS crammed!

"We have to go out into the hall to work on group projects because there is no room in the class," said senior Whitney Nall on how her Anatomy class has dealt with the lack of room.

I'm not writing this entirely out of pity for the science students. I mean anyone who has lived through the renovation has had their own share of small rooms, drilling, jackhammering and so on. I write this more out of simple frustrations!

I had the opportunity to walk through the new classrooms with Mr. Rushing

and they look great. A Chemistry teacher's dreams are housed in those four rooms. So what exactly is the hold up then? Cabinets. Yes, that's right!

"A student could kick one of the pipes and gas would leak out into the room."

Someone, somewhere forgot(!?) to include in the blueprints cabinets which cover the gas pipes!

This is an essential thing, since according to Mr. Rushing, "A student could kick one of the pipes and gas would leak out into the room."

You might then ask why someone

doesn't go and just nail covers up. But we all know that would be too simple. No, the "Cabinet Men" are from out of town and until they come much of the other work which must be completed before students can use the rooms must be left undone.

Chairman of the Schoolboard, Larry Wilson, was "very concerned" after making a visit on January 5 to see how the rooms were progressing. But even with his added push to get this final construction project completed, Mr. Rushing doesn't foresee us in the rooms until at the very earliest February 1st.

So for now all you science students can do is sit, crammed in your half-sized rooms wishing and hoping that the "Cabinet Men" will come to your rescue!

Beware the dreaded step!

Lucy Jackson

Features Editor



Monday through Friday students come to LOHS to seek education and pursue their dreams. With the new facilities, getting around and going to class isn't so bad anymore, at least physically, so what is the downfall of the new high school: the advanced technology, the purple desks, or the *Oak Tree Cafe* cabanas? No, I'd have to say it's one very small mistake that haunts me everyday that I walk down the front staircase. That's right, the dreaded step that is too small and misshapen, the step that everyone has to fight in order to keep from losing essential body parts.

All students have faced the obstacle of getting from floor to floor by using the stairs next to the office, and each time I find myself doing so, I either concentrate immensely on the step that I have come to despise, or I take a little spill right in front of the student body and experience that infamous high school nightmare. Now, this may not seem all that important, but for a teenager searching for some sort of identity behind the locked doors of their high school, falling down is one of the worst crises that can happen in the hall.

Not only has this step caused many an

embarrassing moment, but it is also tampering with the safety of the student body. No telling the law suits that could arise from accidents due to this construction mishap. Students' well-being is being put on the line everyday and all because of one tiny step.

I think that it would be in the best interest of the student body if this step was immediately repaired. It couldn't be all that complicated a procedure and it would lessen the chance of an accident on the already dangerous staircase. If repairing the step is not an option, I think a sign indicating that you are arriving upon a hazardous location would be helpful. Until something is done though, the only thing to do is to be aware of the step and be careful when coming in contact with it.



Goals, they're grrrrrrreat!

Estee Cheah

Business Editor



There are many things I find sad in this world. I find a love story, like the *Titanic* sad. I find homeless children without a warm, loving home sad. I find sitting home on Saturday night without a date sad. But what I really find sad is kids without goals.

For the past month, I've learned a lot of things like how your life and everything you once took for granted could disappear in a single instant. But the thing that keeps me sane and pulls me through is knowing that my dreams await on the other end. To me, everyone has to have dreams to "pull them through" one time or another.

In my opinion, a common goal for most kids would be to graduate from high school. Unfortunately, there are kids out there who feel graduating is unnecessary.

I have actually witnessed a middle-schooler say, "I don't plan to go to college. I don't even plan to go to high

school."

Excuse me, but what is up with this madness? Where exactly do these people think they'll be headed three years from now? I may be going out on a limb to say they probably won't get much farther than serving burgers and fries at McDonald's.

Goals and dreams build character and are a part of who you are. Having something to look forward to and to work towards makes a person more dedicated and determined. Goals are important no matter what age you are. You could be two years old wanting to speak your first complete sentence, or you could be ninety years old wanting to spend more time with your grandchildren. Without goals, life could become tedious and meaningless.

Kids are such active people, they can achieve anything they want. People without dreams just sit there and wait for some opportunity to hit them on the head instead of going and striving for those opportunities.

Sometimes goals are hard to achieve. However, it is better to set goals and strive to achieve them and fail rather than not setting them at all. At least you know then that you failed trying. In other words, it is better to "reach for the stars" than reach for nothing at all.

Goals - Go for it!

Nobody likes a big-mouthed creature... ...Quiet please for the feature

Tracee Werner

Staff Writer



Everyone has probably, at one time or another, had the great privilege of going to the movies and being stuck in front of the seemingly most talkative person in Paducah. It's not just that small talk before the movies or during the credits. They're the one's that decide it is their duty to announce to the

unlucky schmoe behind them what *they* think is going to happen next in the movie.

These people seem to think that everyone in the theater really gives a rip about their opinions. Or even worse is when they've already seen the movie and feel the need to "warn" the people around them what's about to happen. Um, hello, I'm sure if these people really wanted a summary of the movie, they would have asked a friend and saved themselves the \$5.75.

Of course, they aren't *really* talking to the person who just happens to sit down behind them, but they might as

well be. The person they *are* talking to probably doesn't really want to hear their annoying voices throughout the movie, either. It's like they don't realize how much their voices carry. Duh. Besides the actors on the screen, they're the only ones talking. These "talkers" also seem to know they're annoying, because it's like, the harder a person tries to tune them out, the louder they seem to get.

I have, however, come up with a few easy solutions to this problem. First of all, if you just so happen to be one of these people who talks constantly, I have a bit of advice: **STOP!!!** Trust me, it's

not a difficult task — just shut your mouth. There is also a solution for the talkers' poor victims — get there early and find a back seat. Finding a back seat ensures that no one will be able to sit behind you. Plus, if the people in front just can't seem to shut-up, you are now in a position where you can peg them on the head with your popcorn, M&M's, or whatever happens to be on hand, and will get the point across (and shouting "Shut up" is just so rude); however, I would only suggest this as a last resort. Getting kicked out of the movie would only defeat the purpose.



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New Prom Dresses!



Titanic is everything but a "sinker"

Megan Williams
News Editor

The devastating destruction of the "unsinkable" Titanic has influenced and set the stage for an incredible love story between a socialite and a lowerclass passenger in the film, *Titanic*.

Titanic is the story of the search for a rare diamond buried under the sea among the wreckage of the Titanic. Instead of finding the diamond, the search crew discovers the story of a beautiful relationship between a wealthy, prestigious woman (Kate Winslett) and a poor artist (Leonardo DiCaprio).

The young woman finds herself suffocating in an atmosphere of parties, fancy dresses, money and an unloveable fiancé (Billy Zane). Aboard the Titanic she attempts to end her life only to be stopped by the young artist who convinces her

otherwise. And here the relationship begins. The couple faces many trials but their love for each other continues to grow and blossom until they are both willing to sacrifice their lives for one another. Each finds excitement, happiness and a reason to live through their relationship. *Titanic* is an incredible story that shows just how powerful true love can be.

While the main plot of the movie is fictional, many parts are factual. Footage of the actual wreckage is shown and the replica of the Titanic is built to 90% scale from the original plans.

The three and half hour long film features a powerful ending full of surprises and twists that leave the viewers on the edge of their seat. *Titanic* displays brilliant acting performances and is a "must see" for the romantic or history lover.



"You
jump,
I
jump."

"Make
it
count."

Rape: is it closer than we think?

Kelly Reeves
Staff Writer

Rape. We hear the word everyday. But do we really understand how close to our homes and communities this problem really is?

The number of reported rape victims have increased within the past year, according to the Rape Crisis Center. Here are some startling statistics about rape that everyone needs to be aware of:

National Statistics:

- 1 in 4 women are sexually assaulted
- 1 in 12 reported victims are male
- Kids
- 1 in 5 girls are sexually assaulted before their 18th birthday
- 1 in 7 boys are sexually assaulted before their 18th birthday
- 90% of all sexual assaults go unreported
- 80% of all sexual assaults occur

between people who know each other

Local Statistics:

- Fiscal Year 96:296 new victims
- Fiscal Year 97:471 new victims
- 149 reported victims in McCracken County
- 71 reported victims in Graves County
- 53 reported victims in Marshall County
- 14 reported victims in Livingston County

Everyone, men and women both, need to be aware of the chances of being sexually assaulted. If you would like to report a rape or just find out more statistics or facts you can call the McCracken County office at (502)442-5797, the Calloway County Satellite Office at (502) 753-5777, the 24 Hour Crisis Line at (502)442-7273 or the Toll Free Number at 1-800-928-7273.

Movies coming soon to you

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

By now everyone knows about the impending release of *Godzilla* this summer, but there are some other big films coming soon to a theater near you.

Fahrenheit 451

Sean Connery and Mel Gibson are both rumored to star in this modern adaptation of the classic Ray Bradbury tale of censorship in which firemen burn books.

Hits Theaters: unknown

Prediction: Two of Hollywood's best actors teaming up with one of science fiction's greatest writers has got to be a good thing!

Indiana Jones 4

Harrison Ford and Sean Connery will both reprise their roles, while Steven Spielberg is said to be directing. Look for either Kevin Costner or Tom Selleck to play Indy's brother. Plot centers around the search for the lost continent of Atlantis.

Hits Theaters: 1998

Prediction: All the Indy movies have

been good, and this should be no exception. Lets hope that Selleck is chosen as the brother.

Superman Lives

Director of the first two *Batman* films, Tim Burton brings his dark vision to the Man of Steel. The problem? Nicholas Cage is set to star as Superman!

Hits Theaters: summer of 1999

Prediction: Cage as Superman? No thanks, I'll save my six bucks.

Source: *Cinescape*

Gene Boaz Photography



709 Bleich Road
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Atherton chosen as January's Junior Rotarian

Tracee Werner
Staff Writer

Lea Ann Atherton gets off to a great start in 98 as LOHS' first Junior Rotarian of the year. In addition to Junior Rotarian, Lea Ann has had many other achievements as a student at LOHS. She represented LOHS as a HOBY ambassador, was a TLC delegate and the Girls State Delegate. She was selected to attend the Issues '96 Leadership Conference, then elected for the Issues '97 Planning Committee, and has now been elected Co-chairman of the 1998 Conference. She was also a Youth Salute

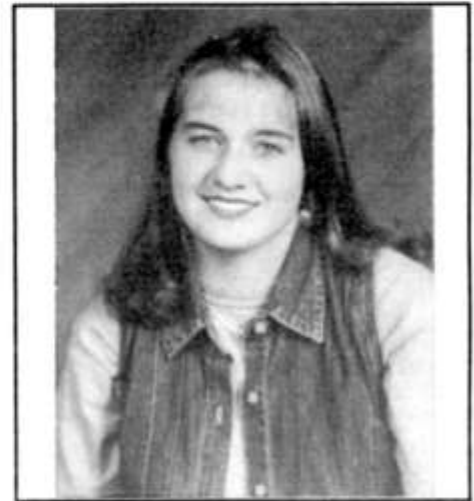
Participant and selected as Who's Who Among American High School Students. In addition, she is currently President of FCA and The 4-H Teen Club, and a member of the Beta and Tennis Clubs. She has played on the tennis team for seven years and on the varsity team for five of those seven years.

Lea Ann is very involved not only in school, but in the community as well. She was a two-year member of the Paducah Sun Teen Panel. She is also very involved in her youth group at Lone Oak First Baptist and has helped with a lot of children's ministries at her

church as well as with other churches.

Lea Ann is not all work and no play, but enjoys playing tennis, participating outdoor activities, and just hanging out with her friends. She says that throughout high school she has learned that, "you have to get your priorities straight and make time for those people that you care about. Friendships are relationships that last forever!"

"I am honored to know that I was selected. It's a great feeling to be able to stand back and realize that all the hard work that has been put forth the past four years really has paid off," said Atherton.



January Junior Rotarian, Lea Ann Atherton.

Campbell is added to Teacher of the Month Hall of Fame

Emily Riggs
Sports Editor

"I appreciate Student Council's vote of respect in naming me Teacher of the Month. I'm humbled by the honor!" Mrs. Campbell, who teaches English IV and Newspaper, has taught for 16 years, 11 of those at LOHS.

"I view teaching as a way of serving and as an opportunity to be a role model for young people. I'm very aware of the responsibility I hold to the hearts and minds of my students. Sometimes my high expectations are frustrating to the students, but I believe that challenging them to strive for something higher and better helps them in the long run."

Campbell resides in LaCenter with her husband Don. Their four children are "all grown and on their own." She enjoys a variety of activities outside of school: golf, running, skiing, nutritional fitness and travel, which has taken her to Germany, France and England.



Mrs. Campbell

As a member of the LaCenter Methodist Church, Campbell maintains an active role as Lay Leader where she often helps lead worship service. She also sings in the choir and a gospel quartet.

"This has been my best year ever in teaching. I attribute that to the smaller class load and to the personable students who have to put up with me!"

Till We Have Faces is a must-read!

Emily Williams
Editorial Editor

Till We Have Faces: A Myth Retold is a phenomenal masterpiece from C.S. Lewis, author of such well-known favorites as *The Chronicles of Narnia* and *The Hideous Strength*. *Till We Have Faces* is a modern translation of the classical Greek myth of Cupid and Psyche, the God of Love and his mortal lover. Interestingly enough, the book can also be related to Lewis's own life and his own lost love, his wife, Joy, who died only four years after their marriage and inspired Lewis to re-write this myth.

Told from the point of view of Orual, Psyche's sister, the novel gives the reader a new perspective on the tale and invokes in the reader a new sympathy for Orual, who is commonly portrayed as the malevolent adversary. Lewis is a master of emotion and

through Orual the reader travels a long and painful road that constantly invites his/her own opinions and conclusions. Many times Orual pauses and asks the reader to make his/her own surmise of her implied jealousy and ill-will. "You, who read my book, judge between the gods and me," she implores. The timeless message, things are not always as they seem, appears in numerous instances.

This book was my first C.S. Lewis experience, and from what I have read so far, it will not be my last (plus I finally found a writer who uses parenthesis as much as I do!). I urge everyone to read this excellent, magnificent, splendiferous book! I simply can't say enough wonderful things about it. Chock full of love, hate, jealousy, some blood and guts and loads of philosophical ponderings, it is sure to please anybody's literary palette. Bon appetit!



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The Oak K returns to the secret mountain temple

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

After last year's predictions fiasco, in which five staff members disappeared to never be heard from again, we decided to do it again! Okay, so we're not the brightest group of yokels at LOHS, and considering we're repeating an article idea from last year, we're not too creative, either. So we all, except for Riggs whom we gave the wrong directions to, again traveled to that far away mountain temple which houses the Mystical Magic Eight Ball of Mysticality.

1997's Correct Predictions

1. Dan Akroyd, Jim Belushi and John Goodman finally begin work on *Blues Brothers 2000*.

- The film was shot, sans Belushi, and hits theatres February 6. Expect for it to be the highest grossing comedy of the year.

2. Techno pop finally hits big, led by European band Prodigy.

- Prodigy came out of nowhere to burst onto the American rock scene and has one of the biggest albums of 1997. This year won't be quite as successful since all of their CDs have been banned from retailers!

3. Ralph Reed resigns after being spotted at a Joe Ezterhas film festival.

- Ralph Reed did resign from his position in the Christian Coalition, but still no word on why. This year Reed will find a new job and then quickly resign a week later. Says Reed, "I thought it stood for The National Association for the Advancement of Christian People!"

4. The Chicago Bulls win their second straight world championship...again.

- They repeated the back to back championships, and this year they'll make it three in a row...again.

5. Emily Williams will quit Steak 'n Shake realizing all her friends are gone.

- Emily did quit, and then was rehired, and then quit again. She says it's for good, but we're not holding our breath.

6. Emily Riggs will write her first REAL feature.

- Riggs did it. Now, how about writing a REAL feature that people actually read?

Entertainment

1. *Titanic* sets a record for the most Oscar nominations in February. Kevin Costner's *The Postman* stuns many critics when it is nominated for best picture. It loses to *Titanic*.

2. Teen-sadistic-form-of-hellish-torture-group Hanson refuses to appear on *The Tonight Show* after a back stage incident. Says Leno, "I told them, sorry little girls, but you have to use the other restroom!"

3. Eric Estrada is deported.

4. *Seinfeld* will go off the air to the highest ratings ever in TV history.

5. A Kramer spin-off will fill the void left in NBC's Thursday nights.

6. El Nino will be offered a sitcom on the WB Network.

7. Lila McCann emerges as the year's hottest country star.

8. DVDs become commonplace at rental stores and millions upgrade at Christmas.

9. *Godzilla* rules the summer box-office. It grosses over \$300 million in the US alone.

10. Film trailers for the *Star Wars* prequel will hit theatres in December.

11. *Ellen* will be renewed for another season, not because it is funny.

News & Politics

12. Ted Kennedy...well, you know.

13. While working on particle transportation technology, a German scientist creates a momentary wrinkle in time. The cover of that week's *Time* features U2's Bono.

14. Human cloning experiments fill the news, but all are reported as horrible

failures. One success occurs, but kept secret for the next five years.

15. El Nino will produce the hottest summer on record in the United States.

16. O.J. Simpson tells *Newsweek* that, "Even if I did kill my wife, it would have to be because I thought I could get away with it! I didn't want the trial no more than anyone else!"



17. Bill Clinton's dog Buddy is banned from the White House after what comes to be known as Watergate 2 through 227.

18. Bill Clinton will end up in some sort of scandal...this was a whole lot funnier before the whole Tripp deal.

19. An Iraqi pilot with an itchy trigger finger will fire at American pilots triggering an international incident. War will be averted diplomatically, or at least postponed.

Sports

20. The NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves are offered a new stadium and move to New Orleans.



21. Hulk Hogan returns to the WWF.

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America...

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FEB. 6

"The
blues
are
back!"

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Blues Brothers 2000

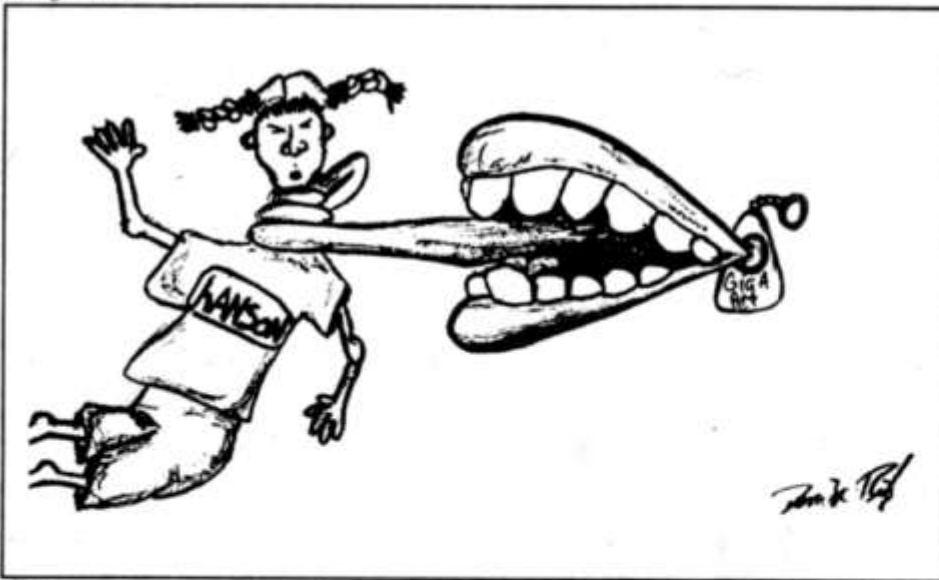
Example to once again consult the Magic Eight Ball

- 22. The Baltimore Orioles win over one hundred games and go on to win the World Series in six games.
- 23. The New Orleans Timberwolves are offered an even newer stadium and move to Nashville.
- 24. The baseball all-star game will, in a fluke, be snowed out in a blizzard caused by El Nino.
- 25. Metal detectors are installed on the sidelines of all NBA stadiums.
- 26. Nobody continues to watch hockey.
- 27. Tiger Woods repeats his win at the Masters and goes on to win the PGA Championship.

- 36. Realizing that the school is still too over crowded, preparations for another renovation project begin.
- 37. The ramp in the cafeteria hallway is replaced with stairs after nearly a half dozen fatalities are suffered from students trying to reach the top.

Business

- 28. Someone finally kills the ad agency employees responsible for ALL of Burger King's ads.



- 29. All Tamagotchi toys are recalled when a young boy in southeast Arkansas is eaten alive by one after not feeding it for three days.
- 30. Microsoft and Disney merge and launch MicroDisney in Seattle. Windows '98 upgraders are greeted by a two hundred page advertisement included with each copy, and no manual whatsoever.
- 31. Rupert Murdoch and Ted Turner place their global empires on the line in a bet over who will go belly-up first: Netscape or Apple Computers.
- 32. Johnson and Johnson will market the Home Pregnancy Stupidity Test. If you can't read the test, you're an idiot.
- 33. Apple introduces a new computer system which is not only voice activated, but runs at over 600 MHZ, and comes packaged with a revolutionary suite of office software. They lose another one percent of market share.
- 34. The new VW Bug takes off in sales and becomes the most popular car.

LOHS

- 35. LOHS switches to block scheduling like the rest of the county and all students suffer a torturous and inhumane four years of public education thanks to it.

The Oak K

- 38. Mrs. Campbell will quit as newspaper adviser realizing her best editors are gone.
- 39. Suzzanah, plus fresh watermelon, plus power tools, equals tragic accident.
- 40. Jacob is crushed when he learns that though his parents told him Santa wasn't real, no one ever bothered to tell him pro wrestling is fake, too.
- 41. Sister Sara will skip college in favor of opening a convent in her house.
- 42. Emily and a certain young man will break up, get back together, break up, get back together and so on...
- 43. Tracee becomes the heir to Emily, Ann, Chrystal and Sandra that Lucy never was.
- 44. Riggs will hijack a frigate transporting Walt Disney's frozen head. She'll keep it in her basement and eat a can of Planter's nuts each night in honor.
- 45. Estee is crushed when she learns that Leonardo DiCaprio is married and quits the newspaper staff saying, "There's nothing left to write about!"
- 46. Lucy accepts the fact that teachers are not evil, and sometimes she just can't make an "A."
- 47. Mrs. Reeves will return to her roots and take over as newspaper adviser after Mrs. Campbell quits. Kelly will suspiciously be named Editor-in-Chief shortly after.
- 48. Megan will continue her progressive speech therapy, and finally go completely off on Riggs' inane features.



- 49. It will be revealed that Ashley has the finest set of pearly whites in all of Lone Oak.
- 50. Justin will finally finish his endless supply of nuts on New Year's Eve and proceed to pass out and go into a coma.
- 51. The Oak K will be around for another 500 issues.

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Girls go from ordinary to dazzling!

Suzannah Stoll
Coroner

They're just dazzling, dawling! This describes five of our LOHS students after their dramatic make overs. Words cannot describe the feeling that Tasha Arnold, Judy Fields, Katie Harris, Heather Robinson and Misty Stephenson, students in Mrs. Elliot's class, felt after having their hair and nails fixed in the latest fashion craze.

The five lucky students recently made an excursion to the Paducah Area Vocational School. The main beautician at the vocational school was LOHS's own Misty Skinner, so they knew they were in good hands. Skinner, along with the other hairstylists, gained more experience toward their vocational training while cutting each girl's hair.

Now the girls were ready to sit back and be pampered.

First on the agenda: their hair. As they sat back talking to the new people they had met, their hair was cut and trimmed.

"I really liked being treated like a queen. I'm thinking 'bout gettin' my hair frosted later on," Harris said about her experience.

Second on the agenda: their nails. Their nails were buffed, trimmed and polished with vivid red's. Never had their nails looked more beautiful.

Sitting still was hard to do as they watched in amazement as each head of hair and set of nails was transformed into a style completely different.

"This was both a fun and educational experience. It taught them hair management, and they met new friends in the process," said Elliot.



Look who's nifty! These girls look spiffy! Clockwise L-R: Misty Stephenson, Heather Robinson, Judy Fields, stylist Misty Skinner, Tasha Arnold and Katie Harris.

Photo by: Suzannah S.

Five greatest TV shows

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

Okay, so I know the very idea of this article is going to spark disagreements, but this is my opinion—deal with it! The way I look at it is: if I could only watch reruns of five shows for the rest of my life, what would they be?

5. **MASH-** All right, so most teenagers have never watched this show before, does that mean it isn't great? There is no other in history that captures both drama and comedy and makes such an enjoyable mix.

4. **Seinfeld-** How did a show about nothing make the top five? Well, it's not the deepest show. In fact, it's pretty shallow! Still, there are few shows that are as funny if not funnier the fourth or fifth time you see them (I laugh harder at George's fiance dying each time I see that episode).

3. **The Wonder Years-** In my

opinion, there is no better drama about life than this. Who cares if it is just about kids! The themes of each episode can be applied to your life even now. Plus, isn't it just a little humorous to watch on TV what your childhood was pretty much like?

2. **Saturday Night Live-** So maybe I cheated with this pick. SNL is not a TV show in the traditional sense, but it's still my second favorite. Just give me all the Belushi era tapes and I'll be in Heaven! Heck, you can even throw in some of the lame new episodes, too!

1. **The Twilight Zone-** No, this isn't number one simply because I'm a sci-fi fan, though that probably had something to do with it. Quite simply put, there never has, nor will there ever be, a series that forever changed the face of television like this did. Even today the parables told in each episode ring true to a society far removed from that simpler time...in the *Twilight Zone*.




Artistic photo by Allan Ramsey




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The crossword clues are all based on movies old and new. Some are pertaining to events or characters in the sequels, but only answer with the name of the first movie. Also, quotes from movies are used which are in quotation, and key words are italicized. Remember, the first one to turn the correct answers in to Mrs. Campbell gets \$10 worth of Movie Bucks. You may use a separate sheet of paper- just be sure to number your answers. Sorry any relatives of the newspaper staff are not eligible to win. GOOD LUCK!



Across

- 1. The best you'll receive _____
- 4. The *Westside* love story is based on this classic tale _____
- 7. Most sequels in the *ring* _____
- 10. Four *small girls* with big hearts and dreams _____
- 11. The chauffeurs daughter comes back from Paris for the boy next door _____
- 12. "I'll make them an offer they can't refuse" _____
- 16. Eddie Murphy's multiple appearances at once make up this comical movie _____
- 17. "Slippery little suckers" _____
- 19. Liquid men _____
- 22. "Just tap it in, give it a little tappy, tap, tap, tappy" _____
- 23. "I've only been a woman 24 hours and I'm already having hot flashes" _____
- 25. Woody leaves the bar for the court _____
- 27. A love story in two dimensions with Whoopi in the middle _____
- 29. Costner in *Camelot* _____
- 30. Terrorists take President hostage in flight _____
- 31. "That'll do pig" _____
- 33. "This is your dance frame, this is mine... no spaghetti arms" _____

Down

- 2. Fishing with bad moods _____
- 3. Shooting at the *stars* _____
- 5. _____ pants on fire
- 6. The heart of the ocean _____
- 8. The movie with the longest title ever _____
- 9. Molly Ringwald puts lipstick on in a different way _____
- 13. The creators of ET and Darth Vader joined forces to create this man who faced many challenges. Like, eating monkey brains and crawling through a tunnel of bugs. _____
- 14. Four women *set* to living the high life, and rob banks for money _____
- 15. Mel Gibson gets a little blue in the face _____
- 18. Hunt tries to win her man back in this love story with a *twist* _____



- 20. A movie with great *difficulty* to live through _____
- 21. Ormond and Pitt perform in this western love story _____
- 24. "There is a place on a woman you can touch to drive her crazy...her heart" _____
- 26. Culkin is crying over the third _____
- 28. Orion's Belt _____
- 32. Three jealous wives are out for revenge on their husbands _____

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Pro-wrestling: kings of the ring

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Writer

Whether you like it or not, you've got to admit one thing: wrestling is hot. Known around the world as the "fake sport," professional wrestling has picked up where it left off during its reign in the late 80's.

The two main wrestling organizations, the World Wrestling Federation (WWF), and World Championship Wrestling (WCW) are gaining back fans that got bored with the sport a few years ago.

In the WCW, a fairly new group of bad guys, the New World Order, have taken over the sport and added spice to the wrestling world.

Their bad attitudes and unfair ringside antics have gained the hatred of all the WCW members. This has led to rivalries that have revived the sport, including Sting and "Hollywood" Hulk Hogan, Lex

Luger and "Buff" Bagwell, The Giant and Kevin Nash and various others in the mix.

The WCW has some of the finest wrestling competitors in the world, including newly joined member Bret "The Hitman" Hart, madman Bill Goldberg, tough-as-nails Chris Benoit, and "bustin' my chops" Diamond Dallas Page.

The WWF has some excitement brewing, too, with the brash defiance of the group DeGeneration X. This "fraternity," comprised of Shawn Michaels and Hunter Hearst-Helmsley along with their bad-woman manager Chyna, have shown much arrogant bravery.

Additional excitement comes from the Kane/Undertaker rivalry. Kane, 'Taker's brother, is challenging him and beating on him at every possible opportunity, but Undertaker refuses to fight a member of his own family. This should lead to some exciting matches if Undertaker will

step into the squared circle with him.

Another big spark for the WWF is the absolute tough guy "Stone Cold" Steve Austin. He has turned the WWF upside down with his exciting style and attitude. His signature move, the Stone Cold Stunner, is one of the most recognized and deadly moves in the sport.

If you have lost interest with wrestling in the past but are truly a fan at heart, now is the time to get back into it. It doesn't get any better than this! Here is a list of the events televised weekly so you can catch up on all of the happenings of the wide world of wrestling.

WWF

Sunday

- WWF Superstars

10:00-11:00 am on USA

Monday

-Raw is War

8:00-10:00 pm on USA

Saturday

-Live Wire

9:00-10:00 am on USA

-Shotgun Saturday Night

12:00 midnight to 1:00 am on UPN (Channel 4)

WCW

Sunday

-Worldwide Wrestling

12:00 noon to 1:00 pm on UPN

-WCW Pro (Not always televised)

4:00-5:00 pm on TBS (Channel 59)

Monday

-WCW Monday Nitro

7:00-9:00 pm on TNT (Channel 35)

Thursday

-Thunder

7:00-9:00 pm on TBS

Saturday

-Saturday Night

5:00-7:00 pm on TBS

One Liners

- * Shin : a device for finding furniture in the dark
- * Boycott shampoo --Demand the REAL poo!
- * If you choke a Smurf, what color does it turn?
- * Laughing stock --cattle with a sense of humor
- * For Sale: Parachute
Only used once, never opened, small stain.
- * Wear short sleeves! Support the right to bare arms!
- * Why do psychics have to ask your name?
- * I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.

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CONGRATULATIONS 6TH HOUR!

All A's for the second nine weeks and the semester. I am proud of you!

--Ms. Sweatt

- * Stacy Adams
- * Wesley Boyarski
- * Tim Burrows
- * Angela Dejarnett
- * Jessica Fortney
- * Nola Goeham
- * David Hamm
- * Rebecca Herrington
- * Jennifer Hibbs
- * Lorrie Keeling
- * Lori Larrison
- * Sunil Manchikanti
- * Josh McGuire
- * Will Mills
- * Paul Mitchell
- * Brigid Mooney
- * Frances Owen
- * Jason Ramage
- * Elizabeth Rigdon
- * Carrie Sisto
- * Leslie Sither
- * Kim Smith
- * Sarah Stoll
- * Brandy Tapp
- * Janie Toy
- * Donna Unici
- * Melanie Vinson
- * Blake Weeks
- * Callie Wexler
- * Tracy Smith

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Yearbook staff helps LOHS make memories

Suzannah Stoll
Coroner

Memories, memories, come get your memories! This year's memories are compiled by the 1997-98 yearbook staff, under the leadership of Ms. Sweatt. They are a hard working, talented group of individuals. From the selling of ads to mailing the layout disk to the publisher, they make every effort to put together a book of memories we will cherish the rest of our lives.

Many elements go into making a successful yearbook. Each student begins by selling ads to local businesses. Then they are assigned an individual section (i.e. clubs, golf, cheerleaders). Once the assigned section is distributed, the layout process begins.

Headlines, ads and photographs are laid out by hand on a sheet of paper. Each student might work and work until the page is impeccable. These deadlines are dreaded, but sanity and motivation usually prevail just in time to meet the deadline.

The yearbook is not just for the staff's benefit, it affects the entire student body. The staff work diligently day after day to combine as many events, quotes and photographs as they possibly can into each page.

1997 brings about two new innovations: technological advances for layout and a yearbook competition. This year, for the first time, two computers are currently being used to complete the layout process whereas in years past, the staff has had to do it all by hand. Now, with the new computers and the Adobe Pagemaker software, laying out each page is easier and less time consuming. As good as this sounds, the two computers have to be shared by fourteen staff members.

Also this year, the staff members may submit a couple of pages for competition. With all of the talent that the staff members possess, the submitted pages are bound to get some positive feedback and awards in the area of competition.

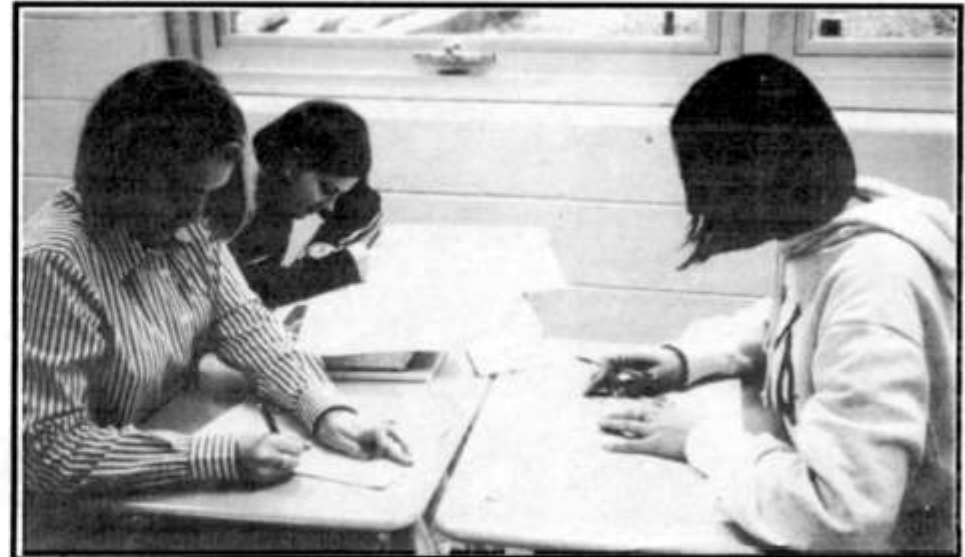
As did her predecessor, Ms. Sweatt takes pride in watching the staff grow in self-discipline as they master each new job assignment.

"The staff is outstanding! They strive for excellence and insist on perfection. It has been a joy working with these extremely talented young people. Regardless of the task, they always succeed," said Ms. Sweatt.

As their year-long process to complete a successful yearbook continues through the spring, one thing is for sure: the hours of blood, sweat and dedication will be appreciated by almost 900 LOHS students come this September.



The staff members are getting the hang of how easy the new computers make the laying out process.



Natalie, Beth and Tereza work diligently to get their pages completed by deadline.

The 1997-98 LOHS Yearbook Staff



First Row: Ms. Sweatt, Lori Keeling, Lea Ann Atherton, Lindsey Fesmire, Reagan Carfield, Jamie O'Hara, Sarah Warmack, Andrea Lowery, Josh Lomax, Matt Upshaw **Second Row:** Natalie Trussel, Jodi Oster, Beth Mason, Ben Thompson, Tereza kejzlar, Scott Bryant



Ms. Sweatt -- Yearbook Advisor



Matt Upshaw -- Editor -in-Chief



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***We've come a long way

A month in the life of *The Oak K* staff

Sara Ryan
Circulation Manager

Attention: For those of you who think that journalism class is an easy "A" and the members of the class do nothing but sit around and gossip all period, please read the following article.

It all starts with the dawning of a new month. Twelve students that make up *The Oak K* staff walk into fifth hour raring and ready to go! It's

Article Assignment Day! This is the day when everyone is assigned two stories, a feature and a news. Along with an editorial of the writers own choice, this is what they must go out and get the scoop on within the next week.

One week later...

This is when our assignments are due. Everyone is running into the room frantically trying to get their article typed before the end of class. The stories must also be edited by

Mrs. Campbell and by one of our editors.

From the time we turn in our assignments until the paper is distributed the newspaper staff has to hit the grind. As soon as all the stories have been turned in, each staff member receives a page assignment. Our job is to transfer all of the articles assigned to that page from the writer's disk to our page and then design the page.

Next comes layout. Our page is

printed out and pasted onto special paper given to us by *The Benton Tribune Courier*, who prints the paper. It is then delivered to *The Tribune* where it is printed. The hot off the press *Oak K* is then picked up by Mrs. Campbell and counted and distributed by the rest of the staff.

By the time the last paper has been handed out the staff finds themselves at the end of the month. Thus begins the next issue of *The Oak K*!



Staff members Sara Ryan, Emily Riggs, Lucy Jackson and Ashley Small discuss ideas for their stories.



Staff members write and edit their stories.

Past staff members tell about their experience on *The Oak K*

Here are some things that past staff members had to say about their experience on *The Oak K* staff.

Juliana Mobley

Years on staff: 1985-86

Most memorable moment: going to the upstairs print shop (getting out of school!!!) and cutting the stories then rubber cementing them on the page to be printed

Shannon Hart

Years on staff: 1992-95

Most memorable moment: attending a journalism workshop at Mizzou.

Jerry Wallace

Years on Staff: 1974-75

Most memorable moment: As sports editor, I remember two thrilling basketball victories: over Tilghman in the regular season and the legendary comeback against a good St. Mary team in the District tournament.

Anu Manchikanti

Years on staff: 1995-97

Best thing about being on the staff: The friends I made--I still continue to keep in touch with them, and they are kindred spirits.



Here the staff is laying out their pages and preparing them to be printed.

...baby***

How did *The Oak K* get its name?

Lucy Jackson
Feature Editor

One of the many mysteries that lurks behind LOHS' history is the origin of *The Oak K*, our lovely newspaper's name. Although it has been a mission for quite some time, no one has yet to discover who named it or what exactly the name is supposed to mean. In search of an answer, I decided to roam the halls and ask the student body their ideas about where this crazy name came from.

Brent Dupree (12) - "Because it's an okay newspaper."

Elliott Goode (9) - "Oak is part of Lone Oak and K is for Kentucky."

Sara Puckett (10) - "It stands for the Oak Kids."

Mr. Whitley - "It's a play on words. If you ask me, the name of that thing ought to be *The Big Tree*."

Carl Walter (11) - "Who cares, just accept it."

Amy Chapman (9) - "Oak is for Lone Oak and K sounds good with oak... I didn't name it!"

Jesse Wilkes (10) - "It's not great; it's not spectacular; it's okay; 80 out of 100%."

Michael Fortney (10) - "Okra?"



Three finished products from 1997, 1948 and 1932.



The Staff of The Oak K's 500th Issue

Left to Right: Estee Cheah, Suzannah Stoll, Emily Williams, Emily Riggs, Lucy Jackson, Justin Young, Ashley Small, Sara Ryan, Megan Williams, Kelly Reeves, Jacob Mitchell, and Tracee Werner.

The Mystery of *The Oak K* is solved

Megan Williams
News Editor

For many years, staff members of LOHS's newspaper have hopelessly searched to find out how *The Oak K* received its name. They have interviewed teachers, past staff members and students and even studied old issues only to find a dead end. No

one has seemed to know what *The Oak K* means or how it became the paper's name until now.

A former staff member from 1954 unlocked the secret that has tormented *The Oak K* staff for decades. She said that *The Oak* portion of the title was inspired by the large oak tree that once stood alone on the lot now occupied by the Lone Oak Farm

Store. This same tree was also the inspiration for our community's name, Lone Oak. The single *K*, once printed in quotation marks, stands for Kentucky.

So the simple yet so complicated mystery has finally come to an end. Now future generations will no longer be troubled by the hidden secret of *The Oak K*.

Right: Former staff member Mrs. Ruth Lawrence reveals the mystery of *The Oak K*.



Where is the cat's meow?

Suzannah Stoll
Coroner

As the college basketball season comes into full swing, the UK Wildcats seem to lack that spark from years past.

The 1997-98 team lacks the intensity and drive that took them to the Meadowlands and to a National Championship in 1996.

Their pressing has dwindled to once in a blue moon, where in years past, we saw it constantly. Their ferocious defense wore the opponents out, but we have not seen a run away yet.

Where did the three point shots go? They are attempted very seldom and even then, they are frequently missed. The past couple of years, KY has premiered the three point shot and this year, it's all but disappeared from the game.

What happened to their ability to swoosh the ball at the charity line? KY has been a team where free throws have been a weakness. This year is no exception and maybe Tubby Smith will instill the importance of free throws by tournament time.

The Wildcats need a player to take charge and be a floor leader; someone to make things happen on the court. Someone like Jeff Brassow. He was the spark plug that ignited the team in his college career, even though he was never a star player. The cats don't have to have star quality players who score thirty points every game, but just someone to put the spark back into the team.

This year Jeff Sheppard is the likely to step up and take charge. He possess the leadership and has the umph that could take the Cats to a higher level.

The excitement and aggressiveness of this years' KY team is obviously not in place yet. Time is running out this season, but hopefully we will see the Cats claw their way back to another National Championship in 1998.

Lady Flash will prevail

Emily Riggs
Sports Editor

As the season is almost to an end the Lady Flash has held their record to nine wins and five losses with about ten games left. Though five losses have hindered the Lady Flash has still managed to maintain the number one seed in the District Tournament at the end of February.

Four of the five losses have been to teams ranking single numbers in the state (Marshall County #5 and Fort Thomas High Lands #6) and in the region (#2 and #3 teams unknown).

Lone Oak will host the District Tournament, the home court advantage should prevail. With this year's talent Lady Flash is sure to see fireworks.



Athletes Jenny Boles (10) and Kelly Smith (31) are ready for the rebound

Lady Flash Box Scores

Lone Oak	13	26	52	65
Reidland	0	12	17	32

Lone Oak scoring- K.Adams 13, S.Adams, Angelly 6, Boles, Emery 10, Fox, Gifford, Hicks 1, McClure 2, Mitchell 13, Seltzer 11, Smith 2, Stamper 5, Wright 2

Lone Oak	11	16	26	36
Tilghman	10	26	47	60

Lone Oak- K.Adams 6, S. Adams, Angelly 2, Boles 7, Emery 6, Fox, Gifford 4, Hicks, McClure, Mitchell 15, Seltzer 13, Smith, Stamper 4, Wright 3



'So far I feel like we (Lady Flash) have been okay as far as adjusting to the coach changes for the past three years. It's been a learning process'

-Coach Vaughn

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Photo by E. Riggs
Lone Oak players look to grab the rebound

Flash drops big game with District rival

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Writer

Even with a highly supportive and enthusiastic crowd that backed them to the final buzzer, the Purple Flash still fell to their arch nemesis, Paducah Tilghman 76-51 at home on January 13.

After doubling the Flash in the first quarter 16-8, the Tornado used a large run that put them ahead 39-16 at the half. In the third period, Lone Oak nearly doubled its scoring from the first half, netting 15, but Tilghman still managed 19 and at the end of the third they were up 58-31. Despite outscoring the Blue Tornado in the fourth, it wasn't enough to overcome the large deficit.

Although no Flash player reached double digits in scoring, all but one player that got in scored. The leading scorer was Jon Shelby with nine, followed by Michael Fortney with eight. Mitch Flood and Jeff Heath chipped in seven apiece.

On Friday, January 16, the Flash hosted their cross-town rivals, the Reidland Greyhounds in another district clash. Although the 'Hounds led through much of the first half, the third



Lone Oak player Jon Cargill (43) dodges a pass from Mitch Flood to Justin Gosa (11).

and fourth quarters showed the Flash rebounding as they outscored Reidland 10-8 in the third period. From then on it was all Lone Oak as they defeated their district foe, 42-38.

Tops for the Flash in scoring was Flood who contributed 16, and Justin Gosa added 10, eight of those in the fourth quarter.

The following night, Saturday Janu-

ary 17, the Flash traveled to the pint-sized gymnasium of the Christian Fellowship Eagles. The game was tight until after the first quarter, then the Flash blew it wide open. The final score showed an impressive victory 73-43.

Shelby led the Flash with 19 points, while Matt Hopper contributed 13.

The boys record is now upped to 8-6.

Purple Flash Box Scores

Lone Oak	8	16	31	51
Paducah Tilghman	16	39	58	76

Lone Oak Scoring: Cargill, Dunn 5, Flood 7, Fortney 8, Gosa 1, Heath 7, Hopper 2, Miller 2, Powell 5, Shelby 9, Walter 4, Yarbrough 1.

Lone Oak	18	38	51	73
Christian Fellowship	13	20	29	43

Lone Oak Scoring: Bazzel, Cargill 2, Dunn 7, Flood 8, Fortney 2, Gosa 3, Heath 5, Hopper 13, Miller 3, Powell, Shelby 19, Walter 7, Williams 4.

Lone Oak	9	18	28	42
Reidland	12	19	27	38

Lone Oak Scoring: Cargill 4, Dunn, Flood 16, Fortney, Gosa 10, Hopper 3, Miller, Powell 1, Shelby 6, Walter 2.

College gets "bowled" over

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Writer

As defined in Webster's Dictionary, the word "championship" is "a contest held to determine a champion." In terms of college football, championship could be defined as "a contest held to see who is the champion by a series of votes from armchair quarterbacks that have never put on a jock strap."

As any college football fan knows, The National Championship, the most desired prize in collegiate level football, is decided by a system of voting. Not like the NFL, which has a playoff sys-

tem, not like the NBA, NHL, MLB, or even college hoops. No, the collegiate football champion is determined by a vote taken among coaches, journalists and other sports reporters. Are they really crowning the best team in the nation?

This year is a model example of how the system is wrong for deciding the National Champion. Both the favorite Michigan Wolverines and the Nebraska Cornhuskers were undefeated. Does that mean that there should be a co-champion? Obviously, because in the Associated Press top 25, Michigan was ranked #1 in the final poll.

In the coaches poll, however, Nebraska was favored by a hair. That meant that a co-champion must be decided. Many people, mainly Michigan fans, are saying that the Huskers won in the coach's poll just because their head coach, legendary Tom Osborne, is calling it quits at the end of the year. This obviously leads to sympathy votes in which the coaches feel that Osborne should go out on top.

I'm sure that both teams have a bitter-

sweet feeling. The only reason that the Huskers didn't get the nod from the AP poll was because of their indecisive victory over Missouri in overtime November 8. They also squeaked out victories over Colorado and Central Florida.

Apparently, that led voters to believe Michigan to be the better of the two, even though both went the entire season without a loss. When you have two undefeated teams, you have to start looking at margin of victory, and that is not how it should be done.

The National Champion shouldn't be based on what the coaches and other sports writers think, it should be decided on the field. Next year, the #1 team is assured a shot at the #2 team, but that still doesn't solve the problem.

Until the NCAA adopts a playoff format, there will still be co-champions and more than one undefeated team. Just because the NCAA doesn't want to eliminate classic bowls like the Rose and the Orange isn't reason enough to have a team stripped of a national championship. The true champ may never be crowned.



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