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EDITORIALS

have some self-respect, drop the cheating! 6



FEATURES

Queen-Bee and Co. 8



SPORTS

land of the giants 10



overall.

Lone Oak placed in both team events. The future problem solving team of **Justin Young** (12), **Barbie Liles** (12), **Matt Upshaw** (12) and **Erin Malmquist** (10) placed second. The quick recall team, otherwise known as the varsity academic team, continued their winning ways and finished first in the double elimination tournament. Quick recall team members are **Trey Swacker** (12),

won first place for social studies. In general knowledge, **Amy Chapman** repeated her first place performance with **Josh McGuire** took 2nd **Shelley Skaggs** placed second in English composition. "This is one of the largest groups we've ever sent to regionals. We have a real chance to win first overall," commented Mr. Toy.

All winners will advance to the regional competition February 28.



Amy Chapman walked away with three first place wins, including one team.

DECA dominates regional competition

*Sara Ryan
Circulation Manager*

On January 26 the DECA Club loaded up a bus and headed to Murray State University for the DECA Regional Competition.

First on the agenda was the announcements of last year's Regional DECA officers. Then officers were

selected for this year. **Jennifer Hayden** (11) was chosen as the Region I DECA Secretary.

Each person attending had been chosen to participate in a certain event. Several students placed in many different events and will advance to state competition. Those students are: **Grant Gagnon** (12), 4th place Advertising Layout; **Stephen Lech** (12), 2nd place DECA Creed

Presentation; **Jenny Boles** (12), 2nd place Entrepreneurship Written Project; **Ashley Emery** (12), 3rd place Entrepreneurship Written Project; **Jennifer Hayden** (11), 2nd place Entrepreneurship Participating Presentation; **Suzanne Dyson** (11), 2nd place Marketing Fundamentals; **Shane Williams** (10), 4th place Sports Entertainment Marketing; **Brett Vandermeulen** (10), 3rd place Sports Entertainment Marketing; **Michael Rudd** (10), 3rd place Web page Advertising; and **Russ Eason** (12) and **Jonathan Frankel** (12), 1st place Web Page Advertising. The state competition will be held in Louisville on March 22-25.



PICTURED

DECA club members pose for a picture. In total, eleven members placed at the regional competition.

Project Graduation preparation is in full swing

Ashley Small
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Hey seniors, it's that time of year again. Time to eat free food, stay out till 6:00 a.m. and win lots of MONEY! No, we aren't making a class trip to Player's Casino, it's time for Project Graduation!

The annual after graduation celebration hosted at LOHS is designed to keep graduates in a substance-free, fun environment.

While there are no plans set in stone as of yet, some of the favorite activities from the previous years will make a repeat, such as the volleyball tournament, karaoke machines and a casino, just to name a few.

Whether it seems like it or not, Project Graduation is an extensive undertaking. Committees are already in place to begin planning for the games, prizes and the food that will be offered to the graduates free.

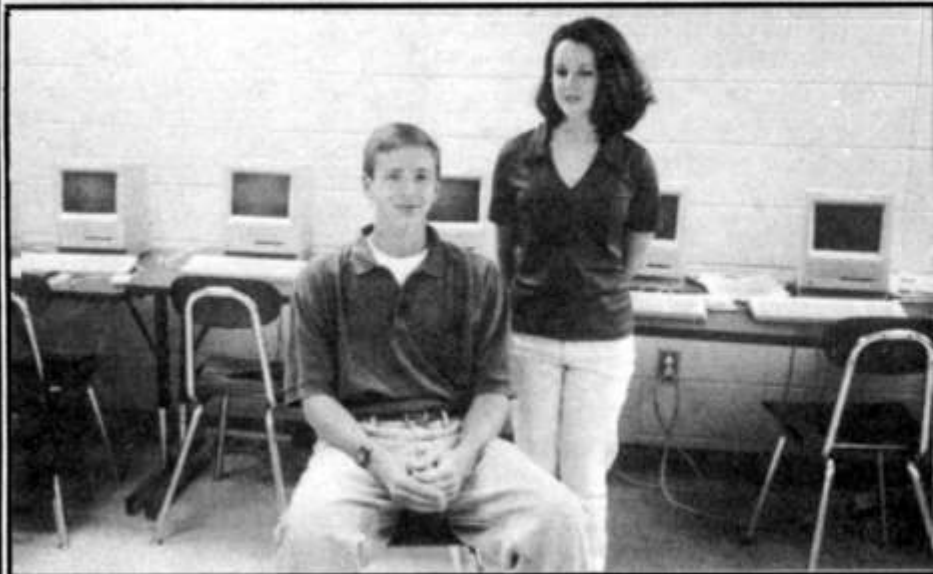
Students are expected to do very little of the actual preparation for the event. If students want to, they may submit designs for the Project Graduation t-shirt during the first week of April. Also, students are asked to pre-register for the event, but pre-registration is not a requirement in order to participate.

There are only three simple rules to Project Graduation. First, graduates must arrive and remain alcohol and chemical free for the

duration of the event, they must arrive between 11:00 and midnight to register, and finally students must agree to remain at Project Graduation until it is over (around 5:30 or 6:00 a.m.).

According to Mr. Toy, the teacher-coordinator for the event, "Generally, Project Graduation is all you could want to do for six to seven hours. I'm very encouraged by the parents who are working on this event. They are doing an outstanding job!!!"

Two LOHS students chosen as National Merit Finalists



Matt Upshaw and Jackie Allshouse have been selected as National Merit Finalists.

History buffs successful again

Suzannah Stoll
Coroner

LOHS's student history buffs and experts rose to the occasion once again this February on History Day.

Mr. Neel took 22 students to Murray State University to compete in four different social studies categories: U.S. History team and individuals and World Civilization team and individuals. The team members consisted of the top eight students in each category.

LOHS students competed with schools from all over Western

Kentucky (Region I). Students were selected by their individual history teacher to participate in this event.

The U.S. History team placed second while **Amy Chapman** (9) placed first in World Civilization and **Trey Swacker** (12) placed 4th in U.S. History.

"LOHS's U.S. History team has won their category the last five years. They also did a tremendous job this year. I continue to be impressed with their knowledge of history and their ability to stay composed in a pressure situation," said Neel.

Weldors keep tradition alive

Megan Williams
News Editor

The LOHS welding team is on the way to earning their 10th state championship. The newly formed team of **Jamie Cook** (9), **Casey Lynn** (10), **Greg Seay** (11) and **Nathan Churchwell** (11) made a clean sweep at the Purchase Region welding championship. Their road to victory began as they defeated Heath, Marshall, Fulton, Ballard, Graves, Calloway, Carlisle and Hickman Counties. Their final victory came when they defeated Reidland by a margin of 12 points.

In addition to the team championship, **Seay** and **Cook** tied


for the regional individual championship.

This victory at regionals has earned the team the right to represent the purchase region in the state championship finals in Louisville at the State Fair.

"We all worked really hard and it paid off at regionals. We're handling the pressure of carrying on the winning tradition pretty well," said Seay.

Lone Oak also had **David Johnson** (12) to compete in the Purchase Region Oxy-acetylene Welding contest at Murray State. Johnson won the Regional Championship over Reidland by 25 points.


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NEW!

CHICKEN
SELECTS




"Those who do not remember history are doomed to repeat it."

"It Happens Every Summer" destined to be a hit!

Emily Williams
Editorial Editor

With auditions complete and cast members chosen the annual play is now in full swing. February 9-11 Ms. Underhill held auditions for parts in this year's play *It Happens Every Summer*. The lucky new cast members are: **Kelly Reeves** (Jennifer the all-american intern), **Josh Watkins** (the flamboyant, flirtatious photographer), **Emily Rigdon** (Mrs. Woodruff, Editor in Chief), **Angie Sales** (Gretchen, Art Editor), **Erin McGavie** (Larae, Fashion Editor), **Barbie Liles** (Gert the receptionist), **Jackie Allhouse** (Flippy Wonder), **Frances Owen** (Annabelle, a girl with many boyfriends and a fiance), **Christine Alonso** (Marge, an Editor), **Suzannah Stoll** (M.K. Roberts, an intern), **Tracee Werner** (Andrea, an intern), **Jennifer Karnes** (Olga, an

intern), **Ashley Chappell** (Bitsy, another intern), **Bethany Shelton** (Charity, an intern), **Vince Carter** (Pudgy, a country singer), **Justin Young** (Zachary, one of Annabelle's "guys"), **William Mills** (Kenyon, another one of Annabelle's guys), **David Ham** (Count Marcello, yet another one of Annabelle's loves), **Blake Weeks** (Custis, Annabelle's unfortunate fiance, and also body doubling as Rocco), **Christen Green** (Bernice, and Editor), **Sunil Manchikanti** (playing both M. Rene and Perc), and finally, **Kim Woodyly** and **Val Hawks** as "party guests."

In a nut shell, the plot is that a bunch of college kids intern at a local fashion magazine, *Debutante*, and about the comedic romance that ensues. "Its like a soap opera", said junior Tracee Werner. "Even with the set-backs we've had



Members of the cast rehearse their scene to make it perfect for opening night.

the play is coming along really well and it is going to be good," said Kelly Reeves, who plays Jennifer.

Practice for the play began immediately and crew meetings are soon to be

scheduled. If all goes well, the dates for the play will be March 27 and 28 at 7:00p.m. Tickets will go on sale March 9 and will be \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students. Don't miss it!

LOHS art students successful in regional competition

Kelly Reeves
Staff Writer

Many talented students from LOHS have turned in their artwork to be judged for the Art Regional Competition.

Young artists turned in artwork from Owensboro west to Fulton County totaling in 11 area high schools. Some of the categories include watercolor, pencil

drawing, printmaking, graphic design, ceramics, sculpture and photography.

If a participant wins first place or the Juror's Award in the regional competition, the winner then goes on to the KAFA All-State Show and the winner of that may win a \$500 scholarship. There may be cash prizes in regional competition as well. The artwork that won the Juror's Award or has won first,

second or third place has an exhibit in Murray displaying their work on March 1.

Lone Oak artists were very successful this year with 92 pieces displayed in the exhibit. **Adrian Hubbard**, **Derrick Riley**, **Matt Humphrey** and **Sunil Manchikanti** all won 1st place awards in the competition. **Emily Williams**, **Matt Humphrey**, **Derrick Riley** and

Scott Rix won 2nd place awards in the competition as well. Other students such as **Allan Ramsey**, **Cheryl Rothwell**, **Derrick Riley**, **Emily Clark**, **Frankie Block**, **Matt Humphrey**, **Omar Sosa**, **Paul Stout** and **Rebecca Eason** got in the exhibit with various artwork. **Allan Ramsey** received the prestigious Juror's Award.



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For cryin' out loud, get some manners LOHS!

Show respect, smoke outside!

Megan Williams

News Editor



We all know that smoking cigarettes is harmful to our health, but for their own reasons, some teens still choose to do so. Several students, both male and female, risk not only their health but also the chance of being punished by the school administrators to smoke during school each day. The most popular place to smoke for females at LOHS seems to be the women's restroom located across from the cafeteria.

This is a very inconsiderate act that is harmful to every person who enters the restroom. The smokers are subjecting everyone in the room to harmful chemicals that can be very serious for people who suffer from asthma or allergies. In addi-

tion to the health problems related to smoking, the smoke smells bad and it is absorbed into the clothing and hair of anyone who comes into contact with it leaving them with a smelly reminder of their trip to the restroom.

Also, the smokers usually leave their ashes all over the stalls creating a dirty mess in the brand new

SMOKE-
FREE

restroom.

Smoking cigarettes is a person's own choice, but subjecting non-smokers to smoke is not a smoker's decision. The restroom as well as the rest of LOHS is supposed to be a smoke free environment so let's keep it that way!

Leave the !@#%!'s at home!

Suzannah Stoll

Coroner



When you sit down to eat lunch, what is the topic of conversation? Tests, girlfriends/boyfriends, social events or maybe it's just a time to unwind. None of these things come to mind during my lunch break. . .

As I set my tray down at the table, I am overwhelmed by the rude and obnoxious behavior at the tables around me. Not only do I see this behavior, I also get an earful of burping, swearing and degrading remarks about students and faculty. Does a student need to act and talk in such a way to make their point across? I don't think so. Appropriate English would be sufficient.

Is this the language that proves teenagers are mature and growing

into responsible adults? This behavior only shows immaturity and a lack of socially accepted conduct. It doesn't belong in the cafeteria nor in the hallways at LOHS. There is a time and place for everything; the lunch periods in the cafeteria are not the place for derogatory language and uncouth behavior. (For those of you who only use words with *****'s, ask your English teacher to help you **augment** your vocabulary!!)

There are "No Smoking" signs in most public places; do we need a "No Foul Language" sign posted at LOHS for the majority of students? I resent the fact that this is the way students try to get attention. Only negative attention is attained if you ask me. I, for one, am not in the least bit impressed. Not many people enjoy spending their lunch break in this kind of atmosphere, so if you desire to behave in this manner, leave it at home.

Define Irony

Lucy Jackson

Features Editor



There are a million decisions one makes, or doesn't make, about their own personal morals and where they stand on different issues. We are free people and we can THINK anything that we want about anything, but some people push their own opinions too far and go to extreme lengths in the attempt to, in some way, prove a point.

Unfortunately, in some of these instances, people are hurt and even murdered because another person is trying to "do good" by making some dramatic statement.

The latest incident where some erratic person has tried to save the

world through useless violence, the bombing of the abortion clinic only a few weeks ago in Alabama.

I find this occurrence totally ironic and twisted. How can someone justify bombing a clinic to save the lives of the unborn babies that are in it?

Whether a person is pro-choice or not is their own decision, but this sort of violence does nothing but end more lives.

In the United States, it is legal to have certain types of abortions and there are clinics where people can go. A person, of course, doesn't have to agree with the decisions that other people make about their own bodies, but regardless, we all have the freedom to make that decision ourselves.

No single person has the right to take that freedom away especially by something as horrible as a bombing. No point is made, no one feels enlightened or inspired, people are simply hurt and the cycle continues.

Letter to the Editor

Unlock the doors and let students back in

Dear Editor,

There are some things about Lone Oak one just cannot complain about, such as those royal purple cabanas, the cute pigeons, the lovely appearance of our new school as seen from the road, and those impeccable Beta Club signs that pop up every month (heh). However, there is one obnoxious obstacle that I am doomed to encounter at least daily. Months after the lock-down at our school we are still held prisoners. Why?

I supplement my schedule with classes at PCC, as many seniors do. When I return to school, it is either invariably freezing, raining, or sleeting, and I am always carrying too many books or

wearing Birkenstocks. I either beat on the door hoping someone will walk by, or I give up and walk around the whole school to the front doors. Most irksome to students are the doors between the D and E buildings which create twice as much traffic on the main stairwell. People heading to a class in E building have no time for anything but to rush straight to their class and are often late, especially for poor Mr. Light.

There is seemingly no reason for this nuisance to occur any longer. The "bad people" we are trying to lock out are going to find a way in eventually if they really want to. Please, stop locking the doors and start letting us students in!

*Emily Rigdon
Senior*

Clinton's "affairs" are the country's affairs

Kelly Reeves
Staff Writer



Okay, as a journalist I know it's supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. I also know better than to believe everything that's said about a public figure. But in order to join in the debate that we hear everywhere from the Dairyette to the dog pound, let's assume that President Bill Clinton hasn't exactly been faithful to his wife.

Reports say that President Clinton has had 14 affairs with 14 women, committed perjury (a felony) and denied all of it.

What's odd to me is that one week after the scandal became news, some people were ready to impeach him. One week after that, the President's approval rating soared higher than ever. I might be crazy, but I wouldn't approve of any man who did all that, especially the President of the United States of America.

If President Clinton can cheat and lie to the woman he supposedly loves, he's certainly not above cheating and lying to a country of people he doesn't even know. Does the fact that he is President mean that he can live with a totally different set of standards and morals? Obviously morals has nothing to do with politics, but we elected the leader of our great country to have moral as well as political values.

In a recent Associated Press story, people from several foreign countries wondered "What all the fuss was about?" These people were from countries (France, Mexico, etc.) where presidential infidelity is public knowledge and in some cases, something to brag about. Is that what we want our country's morals to stoop to? So everyone can brag about his or her mistresses? If we don't start setting some better examples (starting with our President), that's where we're headed.

Many people say the President's sex life has nothing to do with his office or his work. Debatable. But he has reportedly committed perjury. Tell me that doesn't affect his line of duty as our political leader. As the nation's chief law enforcement officer, does that mean

he's above the law himself? Last time I checked, perjury (to give false testimony under oath) was against the law.

The people who can vote (not me, yet) need to take a stand and proclaim that President Bill Clinton is making a mockery of the U.S. by falling fast as our country's leader and taking our morals with him. All voters seem to be doing, however, is supporting him more.

In the meantime, I hope that President Clinton can refrain from having any more sexual affairs. I just hope that he has learned his lesson about morals, lying and cheating. And if he hasn't, then shame on him.

Keep those commitments

Ashley Small
Co-Editor-in-Chief



Over the past several months Paducah has experienced some of its worst tragedies, probably in its entire history. From the December shootings at Heath to recent teenage fatalities, our community has certainly had its share of pain and loss.

But are we missing the bigger picture here? These events, as horrible as they seem, are warnings to us! When we experience such losses in our lives everyone is going to "quit drinking and driving," "quit using drugs," "get their lives right with God" or "just be a better person." And for a few weeks maybe

everybody does, but then something happens. The emotions die down, our routines get back to normal and call it human nature or lack of self-control, but people slip right back into their old lifestyles.

Now I'm not saying our community shouldn't begin the whole healing process, but we can't all stand around licking our wounds forever. We have to move forward. Those who have died would want that. But if moving forward means forgetting what has happened in the past, then those we love have died in vain.

We are young now and in our eyes immortal, but living in this community this past year should certainly have dispelled that theory. Look around, these tragic events serve as huge, neon billboards to us...to you and me. So that we don't have to follow down the same road many of our friends have. And in the case of the Heath shooting, though the victims could have done nothing to prevent what occurred, their deaths still remind us that no one knows the time of their own death. We should all be ready!

All of us have experienced the loss of friends at some point in our lives. Did you make commitments then to change some aspects of your life? Have you followed through with them? If you haven't, there is no better time than now to take what was meant for bad and use it for good!

Where does Clinton stand at LOHS?

Lucy Jackson
Feature Editor

Do you believe what President Clinton says about his affair with Monica Lewinsky?

Natalie Hall (9) - No, because of the lies he's told in the past.

Casey Brantley (10) - No, I think that he's been involved in some kind of scandal ever since he stepped into the Oval Office. I just can't believe he was re-elected.

Leigh Ann Summers (11) - Yes, even though I don't believe anything else he says. Who would be stupid enough to have an affair when they know they are going to get caught.

Jon Hughes (12) - I don't really care if he did or not. It happens everyday.

If the president had an affair, do you think it affects his ability to run the country?

Jody Suhrheinrich (10) - Just because he happened to have sex with someone other than his wife, doesn't mean he is any less

competent to run the country.

Jason Hill (11) - Yes, because he would have a lot of distractions concerning his affair and would be unable to concentrate on our country.

Angj Sales (12) - Yes, because it would prove him to be a dishonest leader.

Do you think that President Clinton's personal life is the business of the country?

Leigh Ann Collins (9) - Yes, because he's the leader of our country and he should be a role-model. It's our right to know what's going on.

Nathan Roe (10) - It doesn't really matter what I believe because it seems the media has total control over what the country's business is.

Stacey Thrasher (11) - If he's willing to take the responsibility of running the country, he has to be willing to have his personal life exploited to the nation. So, yes, it is our business.

Kelly Buie (12) - No, I believe it is between him, his wife, and the woman he supposedly had an affair with.

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GALS. GASOLINE

Cheaters never win and winners never cheat

Tracee Warner

Staff Writer



Every day when I walk into my algebra class, I hear a distinct voice from across the room saying, "Jon* do you have those AP US history worksheets finished?" And his reply is, "Yes, don't you ever finish your own homework?" However, he always eagerly walks over and hands Emily* the three pages of worksheets of which she has only answered five of the questions. My friend, who sits behind me and is also in AP US History, leans up and replies, "I worked two hours on those things last night."

You may be saying, "So what? What's the big deal?" Well, the big deal

is that while some people are out there busting their rear-ends for a decent grade, other people are just getting the answers from their classmates (and usually end up making better grades than the ones who do their work).

Sometimes the people who are handing out their work say, "Well if I don't help them, they won't pass this class." If these people can't handle the work load of the classes they're taking, they just shouldn't take them, or at least go to tutoring.

I'm not saying that it's wrong for someone to ask for help on a question that is puzzling him/her. However, I am saying it's wrong for someone not to answer any of the problems/questions and then come to class expecting his/her peers to have the homework completed and waiting for him/her to copy. That's just pathetic.

What's even worse is the people who

allow these slackers to completely copy the entire assignment. Do they have such low self-esteem that they think they have to let people cheat, just so they'll be their friend? Come on, that's not a friendship. Any slightly intelligent person should realize that.

There are several solutions to this problem. Solution #1 - when someone asks for your homework, DON'T GIVE IT TO THEM!!! Why should they get credit for **your** work?

Another solution would be for the "copier" to either switch classes and go to a level they can handle, or go to after-school tutoring. There are a lot of people who would be willing to help you, and they're not going to make fun of you if you can't do something.

Why not even try talking to the teacher, I'm sure they'd be happy to help. I think that might be what they get paid for.

*Names have been changed.



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Art class keeps LOHS creative

Emily Williams
Editorial Editor

Most students may not realize how much work art class actually requires. Sure, it has a great deal to do with painting and drawing, but it is also so much more.

For instance, any freshman will tell you that the first year of art isn't as easy as crayola crayons and magic markers. From day one it is a strenuous routine of worksheets and lectures in an extensive study of art history, criticism and appreciation. Students also practice basic art exercises (such as gesture drawings) to hone their skills and perfect their proportions.

"The work is difficult at first," said sophomore Brandon Hall.

"It paid off in the end, though, because now we know what we are doing and Mrs. Hayden gives us the freedom to work independently" countered senior AP art student Matt Humphrey.

Once the foundation of good art knowledge is laid, the fun begins. Although the art room is currently minus a kiln and some other basic instruments, Mrs. Hayden creatively manages to cope with the situation. This year the art students have concentrated on acrylic painting, screen printing, and charcoal drawings.

The hard work is evident as the art students continue to dominate in such competitions as Teen Spirit, Women's Club and, most recently, the Regional Art Competition.

1997-98 Art Award Winners

Womens Club Art Competition

- * Rebecca Emason
- * Adrian Hubbard
- * Emily Williams
- * Emily Rigdon
- * Allan Ramsey
- * Matt Humphrey
- * Jessica Buckelew
- * Amanda Hall

Regional Art Competition

- * Adrian Hubbard
- * Derrick Riley
- * Matt Humphrey
- * Sunil Manchikanti
- * Emily Williams
- * Scott Rix
- * Allan Ramsey --
(Juror's Award)



One of, art student,
Andrea Lowery's creations.



Mrs. Hayden is
busy training the
next Picassos.



Sophomore art students pose as fellow students sketch them.

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Stoll "steals" title as Junior Rotarian

Kelly Reeves
Staff Writer

Suzannah Stoll is a shoe-in for March's Junior Rotarian honor. There are very few people with as many awards and involvements under their belts as Stoll. If you've ever met her, you'll know that she has a very unique personality that you won't soon forget.

Aside from Stoll's personality, she has many achievements and honors to be proud of as well. She was a Girl's State delegate, a National Award Winner in the U.S. Achievement Academy and won third place in written proficiency and poem recitation in a Spanish competition. Stoll is an Honor Student

and an Outstanding Student. She was also honored as an Alternate for Toyota Summer Exchange Scholarship program and was chosen to usher at last year's graduation ceremony.

School activities are a big part of Stoll's life as well. She has been a school play cast member, a member of the journalism staff, an academic team participant, the Biology Club president, a member of the marching band, an FCA member and a member of the pep band. She also participated in band solo and ensemble and bowled for a Special Olympic team.

Our community is lucky to have Stoll as an active teen. She has done everything from tutoring a Mexican student to

delivering meals on wheels.

Stoll is also an active member in her church, and youth group, LOGOS, and has led children's sermons.

However, Stoll is not all work and no play. She enjoys outdoor activities such as volleyball, rollerblading and fishing. She is also excited about attending Florida State in the fall and majoring in major motion pictures and film studies.

On receiving this honor Stoll says, "I wish a larger number of seniors could participate in this since it's such a community honor."

"Being chosen as a Junior Rotarian is better than watching Elvis in concert! (Oh, Elvis is really dead?)" Stoll says.



Senior Suzannah Stoll

African American innovations abound

Suzannah Stoll
Coroner

Who invented ice cream, or the potato chip or even the guitar? Does anyone have a clue? If your answer is "I don't know" to any of these questions, keep reading to learn about an important part of black history.

Innovations such as the refrigerator and the traffic light, created by Kentuckians of African descent,

were among the varied exhibits that were on display in the traveling Black Inventions Museum at the Cherry Civic Center the first of February.

While the exhibit was here, the town of Paducah had the opportunity to "ooh" and "aah" over many of these inventions that have contributed to everyday life. A few that have captivated American society are the typewriter, super soaker water gun, cellular phone, fire extinguisher

and the elevator.

Various presentations were available to those who attended; a video on the harshness and realities of slavery was shown, and a display of inventions before and after the 1700's could be viewed.

The display marked the museum's first trip to Kentucky. It's been seen by more than a million people in twenty-six states and three countries.



Lone Oak High School 1998 Basketball Homecoming Court



Homecoming Queen, Ashley Small

Trademark Club is born

Megan Williams
News Editor

Last month's club meeting day brought about the first meeting of the newly formed Trademark Club. Sponsored by Ms. Elliot, the club was formed by a group of students who just couldn't seem to find their niche in any other club.

At their first meeting the club displayed their school spirit by making posters for the homecoming game. They also discussed future projects which include bowling with the special education students and reading stories to preschoolers.

"The Trademark Club is getting students involved in activities that are beneficial to the community as well as fun," said member Jody Surheinrich (10).

Congratulations to Jonathan Shelby for winning last month's crossword puzzle contest!

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African-Americans celebrate their heritage in February

Ashley Small
Co-Editor-in-Chief

What first began in 1915 as one week set aside to celebrate and increase the awareness of African Americans' achievements has since then been expanded to an entire month and has come to be known as Black History Month.

Carter G. Woodson, who for many is known as "the father of History," is the founder of this month-long celebration. While not recognized all across North

America, February has traditionally been observed as Black History Month. It was selected in part because it included the birthdate of Frederick Douglas, the famous escaped slave, who went on to begin the abolitionist newspaper, *The North Star*. He, along with such greats as Harriet Tubman, were some of the first champions of black awareness.

But this month is not just set aside to remember such greats as Malcolm X, it is also a time to look at current black history makers, such as Dominique

Dawes, who in the 1996 Summer Olympics, was the first female African-American to win a gold medal in gymnastics. It is a time to remember the great people who have struggled and fought so that African-Americans could and would receive the recognition they deserved.

Dr. Martin Luther King once said in what has become his most famous speech, "I have a dream that my children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their

skin but by the content of their character."

Today King's dream is getting ever closer to becoming a reality, largely in part due to recognitions such as Black History Month. And remember, even though February is coming to a close, that doesn't mean the message of Black History Month has to, also. All people are equal, no matter what race or nationality.



Mrs. Durham, teacher of the month of Feb.

Dawn Durham February's teacher of the month

Sara Ryan
Circulation Manager

Mrs. Durham, a more recent addition to the LOHS faculty, has already attained the honor of being named Teacher of the Month.

"I feel honored to be selected Teacher of the Month, especially since I've only been teaching here for a year and a half," said Durham.

Mrs. Durham is the director of the LOHS

Choirs and the advisor to the Student Council. She is married to the band director at Marshall County Middle School (quite the musical couple). They have a three and a half year old daughter named Megan with another baby on the way!

Before her move to Lone Oak Mrs. Durham taught in Ownesboro. She was the choir director at Owensboro High School and also taught voice lessons at Kentucky Wesleyan College.

In her free time Mrs. Durham enjoys playing softball and singing in the Paducah Symphony Chorus. She is a member of Broadway United Methodist Church where she sings in the choir and plays the handbells.

It's obvious why Mrs. Durham was selected teacher of the month. Senior choir member Jon Cargill says, "Mrs. Durham is dedicated to getting the job done, yet she still knows how to have fun."

Wonder no more -- the truth about St. Patrick's Day

Emily Riggs
Sports Editor

St. Patrick's Day. It's probably thought of only to be a holiday of wearing green and pinching people. But like every other holiday, there is a story why this day exists.

St. Patrick's Day is an Irish holiday to honor Saint Patrick, the missionary acknowledged for converting Ireland to Christianity. Oddly enough, Saint Patrick was not Irish. He was born (as history sources say) around 373 AD in either Scotland or Roman ruled Britain.

Kidnapped at the age of 16 and sold to slavery in Ireland, he was able to locate his strength in his

faith. Once he escaped, he went to France where he became a priest and later a bishop. At the age of 60 Patrick traveled to spread the word of Christianity. He used the shamrock to symbolize the Trinity. The sermons represent that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity.

The St. Patrick's Day custom did not become a custom in the United States until 1737, when it was first celebrated in Boston. Wearing green became a part of St. Patrick's Day because the color represents spring, Ireland, and the shamrock. Leprechauns are also associated with this day, but the reason for that is unknown.

The things that are considered lucky

on this day of fun are finding a four-leaf clover, kissing the blarney stone (the stone on the wall of the Castle tower in the Irish village of Blarney), and of course, wearing green.

Pinching because of the fact that you don't have green on was thought of by school kids who thought they would start pinching other students if they didn't wear green.

So, for all the questions you may have had about the history of St. Patrick's Day, worry no more, and thank the little kids who created the annoying pinch.



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PGA disputes Martin's use of a golf cart

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Writer

Though I am a sports buff, there is one area that particularly doesn't drive my interests—golf. Based on raw skill and a lack of physical contact, it doesn't exactly match what I'm looking for in a sport.

I'm not going to give a review of the month in golf, or report on the money leaders. There is, however, a problem in golf that really interests me. Or should I say angers.

If you like golf, play golf, follow golf, or even just watch *Sportscenter*,

you know what happened in the game of golf. A professional golfer, Casey Martin of the PGA, recently had a trial for the debate of his using a golf cart during tournaments. The PGA declares that Martin, a disabled pro, has an "unfair advantage" when he uses a golf cart to go from one hole to the next tee. Martin, who suffers from Klippel-Trenaunay-Webber syndrome, has a shriveled right leg caused by the circulatory disorder. He says that he would rather walk, but it would be too painful. A couple of weeks ago, because of his inability to walk, which the PGA calls a

"fundamental" part of the game, he was on trial and in jeopardy of being excluded from the Nike tour. Just last week, he won the trial and is now able to compete without controversy.

The whole dispute, pardon the Johnny Cochran for a moment, was an outrage. The man is disabled here. Not only should the PGA salute him because of his excellent skill under certain conditions, the issue shouldn't even have been in question. In fact, most of the golfers on the tour prefer to walk, and so does Casey. He would walk, but the pain would be so great that it would

be hard to concentrate on the game. During his trial in Eugene, Oregon, Martin's attorneys contended that because of the limp he has, he exerts more energy, and a cart provides no advantage. They also used the Americans with Disabilities Act to help their case.

By now, everyone knows that people with disabilities are equal and deserve a chance just as much as everyone else. Throwing Martin off the PGA tour would have been insane and inappropriate. If a person can play a game, you should let them in no matter what the circumstances.

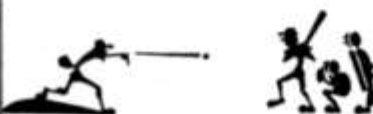
Baseball Brief

Tracee Werner
Staff Writer

Lone Oak's baseball team is beginning to prepare for the season. Coach Mizell hoped to have had try-outs on February 15 at 2:30 on the home field (weather permitting). There are going to be five returning starters: center fielder-Jon Mizell, junior; 2nd basemen-Tim Burrows, junior; short stop-Shawn Yarbrough, sophomore; and pitchers-Micah Holland and Dustin Barret, both juniors. The first four home games are in March.

Schedule for March

March 24	Massac Co.
March 27	Hickman Co.
March 28	Marshall Co.
March 31	Carlisle Co.



Last game is a nail-bitter



Emily Riggs
Sports Editor

Lady Flash started the game off right as Amanda Mitchell scored the first two points of the game. Lone Oak's strong attempt to end the regular season with a win was a good one, but in the last seconds of the game they fell short two points, losing 44-46.

Although Lone Oak did not win in the end, their defeat was not put to shame. They worked hard and played with heart. Graves County and Lone Oak took

turns taking the lead throughout the game. The last few seconds were crucial and every second counted. With 33 seconds left in the game, hoping to take the lead, Ashley Emery made her free-throws to allow Lone Oak a one point lead, 44-43.

There is no doubt that this game was a nail-bitter, with three seconds left, Graves County made their way to the foul line, and Lone Oak's one point lead no longer existed; Graves stole the game winning, 44-46.



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Softball Brief

Lucy Jackson
Feature Editor

Even though the cold weather is still coming, LOHS athletes are already preparing for spring. Believe it or not, softball players have already started practicing and building for the upcoming season. Starting in January last year's team decided to get together for a practice every Monday. The pitchers and catchers also practiced 3-4 days a week to get a head start.

Tryouts will start February 15th and hopefully end by March 10th. The season will begin the 24th of March. Coach Roof will be coaching the team this year. He coached softball or baseball for 19 years at Heath, Graves County, Tilhman and St. Mary.

"I'd like to see us as number one and Reidland somewhere as long as they're behind us," said Roof when asked about the upcoming season.



Lone Oak players (from left) Jon Shelby, Justin Gosa and Mitch Flood wait as Matt Hopper (35) tries to block a Pirate shooter.

Flash regular season ends with loss

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Writer

The boys basketball team finished their regular season on Thursday, February 19, facing the challenging task of playing Graves County.

Their state ranked opponents were only up by six after the first in a slow period for both teams. Then, the Eagles blew it wide open. A 17-6 second quarter advantage for Graves County gave them the edge heading into halftime, 31-14.

The Flash never recovered as the homestanding Eagles outscored them 23-10 in the third to lock up the victory. Lone Oak outscored Graves in the final period, but by then it was already over. The final score showed the loss for Lone Oak, 67-38.

Tops for the Flash in scoring was Jon Shelby with 15, followed by Ryan Dunn with 7.

The Flash finished the regular season with a record of 10-14.

The 2nd district tournament started this week on Monday, but was unavailable to cover at press time. The Flash hosted the tournament this year, and their first round opponent was the Reidland Greyhounds. The other two teams in the second district, Tilhman and Heath, participated in the other first round game. If the Flash were to win, they would play the winner of that contest

and the winner would be declared district champion. A full review will be included next month on the results.

Purple Flash Box Scores

Lone Oak	14	30	38	48
Livinston Central	4	15	23	25

Lone Oak Scoring: Cargill, Dunn 8, Flood 6, Gosa 3, Heath 4, Hopper 6, Miller 2, Powell, Shelby 11, Walter 2, Yarbrough 2, Bazzel 2, Williams 2.

Lone Oak	18	33	42	67
Crittenden County	25	36	54	70

Lone Oak Scoring: Cargill 2, Dunn, Flood 2, Gosa 23, Heath 17, Hopper 6, Powell 2, Shelby 9, Walter 6

Lone Oak	8	14	24	38
Graves County	14	31	54	67

Lone Oak Scoring: Bazzel, Cargill 4, Dunn 7, Flood 2, Gosa 3, Heath 1, Hopper, Miller 3, Phelps, Powell 2, Shelby 15, Walter 1, Williams, Yarbrough.

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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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