



The Oak "K"

The Official Publication of LOHS

Volume 58
Number 6
February 2000

"It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself." —Eleanor Roosevelt

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Boys Basketball 11

Lady Flash hopes for regional championship

Jacob Mitchell
Sports Editor

The dream ride just keeps rolling for the Lone Oak Lady Flash, continuing a nearly unblemished season and having regional-power status. At a current record of 21 wins, three losses, the team is undefeated in district play at a perfect 6-0. Nearing the end of the season, the district and regional tournaments are clearly in sight.

"We feel that we are one of the top four teams in the region," said head coach Gerald Vaughn. The team's major competition is undefeated Marshall County, Graves County and Murray. The Lady Flash fit somewhere in the middle of these teams in terms of regional favorites.

Leading the ladies of LOHS is 1999's Purchase Player of the Year **Heidi Seltzer**. The junior is compiling outstanding numbers, and is near the top in several regional sta-

tistical categories. She is scoring 19.6 points per game, and pulling down an average of 12 rebounds a contest. Her inside game and the backcourt help from **Sara Angelly** (12), **Natalie Hall** (11), **Bethany**

Flash. Vaughn commented, "Each player is contributing to the success of the team—through team play and hard work."

The district tournaments begin Feb. 28 and go through March 4;

the tournament is held at Paducah Tilghman High School. Following the districts, the regional tournament is held at the Regional Special Events Center in Murray, March 8&9 and 14&15. A week later the state tournament is held in Richmond, March 22-25.

When asked about a possible match-up with Marshall County in the Regional tournament, Vaughn had this to say, "We feel like we can play with them if we should meet in the regionals. We are going to do the best we can."

Be sure to come out and support your Lady Flash as they continue on their journey to State.

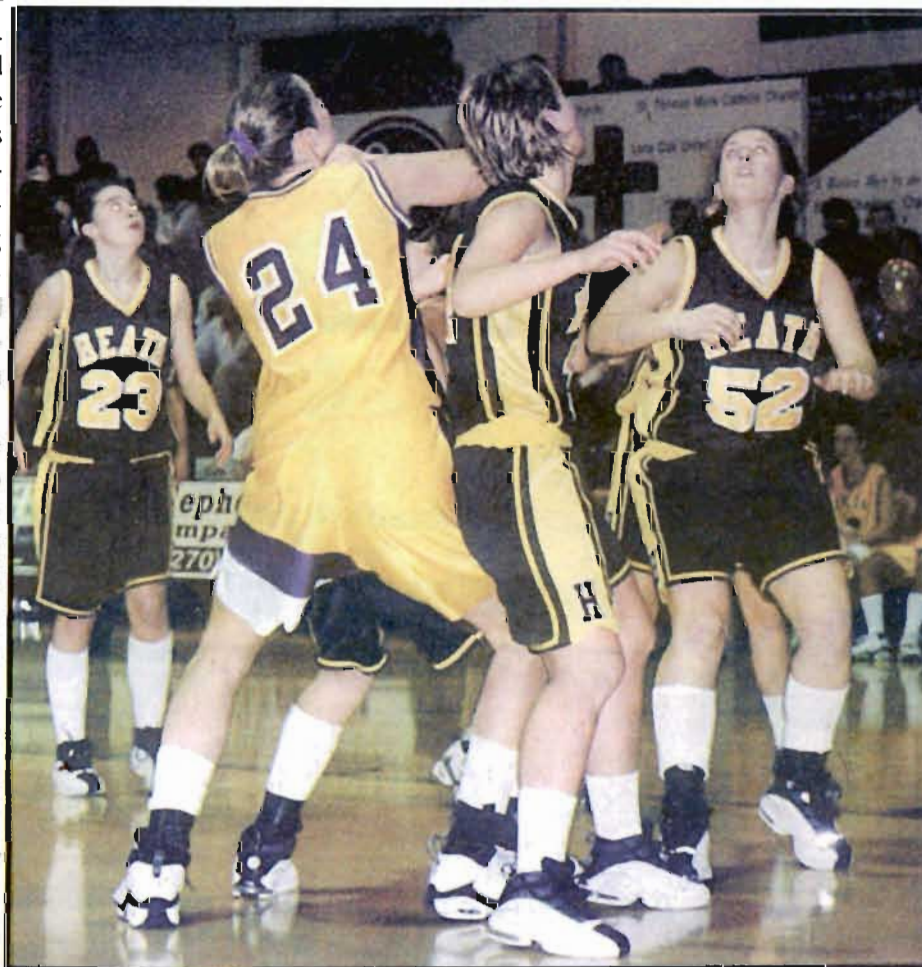


Photo by K. Reeves

Heidi Seltzer fights for a rebound against Heath.

Wright (12) and **Kim Fesmire** (11) have helped keep balance in the ladies' game. Hard work and defense have paid off for the Lady

"Everyone is working together to make our dream of playing in the state tournament come true."

—Bethany Wright

"We have had a successful season because of everyone's cooperation and support for each other."

—Amanda Fox

A-team takes districts, AGAIN!

Lucy Jackson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On February 12, LOHS reclaimed their title as District Champions in the Governor's Cup Competition. **Amy Chapman** (11) placed first in Social Studies. **Jay Swacker** (11) placed first in General Knowledge.

Rachel Wattier (12) placed second in Science, third in Mathematics and fourth in Social Studies. **Corey O'Brien** (12) placed third in Science. **Rebecca Huyck** (12) placed fourth in Composition. The Quick Recall Team placed first. The team is made up of **Jay Swacker, Amy Chapman, Brett**

Sanders (11), **Garret Wheatley** (11) and **Josh Woleben** (11). The Future Problem Solving Team consisting of **Erin Malmquist** (12), **Rebecca Huyck, Jesse Breneman** (11), and **Shay Barnes** (12) placed second. These students will advance to regionals on February 26 at Reidland High School.



photo by J. Suhrheinrich
"I need 200 mg of Saline, STAT!"
Doctor Vince Paegler and Doctor Brandon Ragsdill work tirelessly to save their cat.



photo by J. Suhrheinrich
Senior Doctors, Sara Angelly and Sally Sloan work alongside student teacher, Mr. Loveless on their cat, Chow Mein. Coach McGroarty's 4th and 5th hour Anatomy classes will be dissecting their cats until May. By studying the felines' muscles and organs, students are able to better understand human anatomy.



photo by J. Suhrheinrich
Our fearless leader, Mr. McGroarty carefully supervises Doctor Bethany Wright's exploration of the Pectoralis Major.

LOHS prepares for Project Graduation

Megan Williams
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Although it's only February, planning for Project Graduation is already in full swing. Parents met with committee chairman on February 10, to discuss plans and join committees. John and Veda Ragsdill are the head organizers of the event and any parents interested in helping should contact them. Project Graduation has been a night full of fun and prizes for seniors in years past, and this year will prove to be no exception.

Attention all artists

Jay Swacker
Features Editor

For those students interested in applying to the Summer Art Workshop at Murray State University, or are interested in scholarship opportunities, applications can be found in Mr. Parrish's room. The due dates for the Portfolio and Application are March 1st and 2nd (10 AM-4 PM)

All artwork to be entered in the Woman's Club of Paducah Art Competition should be submitted to Mr. Parrish on or before April 8th. For more information, see Mr. Parrish.



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LOHS Band performs at 2000 All-District

Andrea Ramey
Advertising Manager

On January 20-22, seventeen students were selected to attend All-District Band, which was held at Tilghman High School. The students that were chosen are: **Lara Fejes, Ryan Cathran, Kris Dunkerson, Judah Abernathy, James Curtis, Darla Simmons, Jessica Jones, Jessica Wallace,**

Daniel Garrett, Rebecca Huyck, Monty Brenamen, Brandon Ragsdill, Jordan Kinsey, Drew Farmer, Tim Murphy, Jackie Jenks and Leah Waddell.

Participants trying out for limited positions in the middle school band, freshman band, and senior high band are competing with 16 other area high schools. When selected, the students are given a folder of music to prepare

for the two and a half-day practice. At the end of the extensive rehearsal parents and community are invited to attend the concert in which the challenging music is performed.

Band members competing for Quad-State are selected on a referral basis. This year's participants are: **Allison Light, Rebecca Huyck, Ashley Hart, Kim Scheer, Brandon Ragsdill, Monty Breneman, Drew Farmer,**

Jackie Jenks, John Presley, Emily Goehman, Caleb Huff, Daniel Garrett and Jordan Kinsey. The rehearsals for this year's Quad-State, February 24-26, will be held at Murray High School.

Congratulations to all those selected to participate in All-District and Quad-State, and a special congratulations to **Daniel Garrett** for being selected for All-District, Quad-State, and All-State!

February Senior News:



Kelly Reeves
Editorial Editor

☐ Hendron Lone Oak Lion's Club Scholarship forms should be returned to Mrs. Reeves by Tuesday, March 21st.

☐ The Wal-Mart Competitive Edge Scholarship applications are in the guidance office. Criteria to apply: above a 27 on ACT, 3.5 or above GPA, has demonstrated community service and leadership skills. Deadline is March 1st.

☐ West Kentucky Technical College's Scholarship applications are in the guidance office. Deadline to apply is April 15th.

☐ The President's Student Service Challenge Scholarship applications are in the guidance office. Applicants must have contributed at least one hundred hours of service within the past twelve months in their communities. The deadline is June 30th.

☐ Students of families who are members of the Jackson Purchase Electric Corporation are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applicants must plan to attend a Kentucky University or Community College. Completed applicants are due to Mrs. Reeves by Tuesday, March 28th.



2000 Basketball Homecoming Queen and Court: Jordan Mills (12), Rachel LeNeave (11), Stacey Jarvis (10), Kelly Smith (12), Natalie Ellis (12), Amanda Bazzel (9), Lucy Jackson (12), Tasha Stevenson (12), Queen Sara Angelly (12), Andrea Spees (12), Charlee Sales (12) and Amber Lee Downs (12).



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 Microsoft Publisher 98 system, and printed by The Paducah Sun 408 Kentucky Ave., Paducah, KY 42003. Letters to the Editor are to be under 250 words in length and signed by the writer. The Oak "K" reserves the right to edit all letters for placement as long as the meaning is not altered. The newspaper attempts to inform and entertain its readers in a broad, fair and accurate manner on all subjects that affect the audience. Final authority for the content of the paper rests in the hands of the principal.

The Oak "K"

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Safety concerns overwhelm students



Jody Suhrheinrich
News Editor

I'm sick of it. I'm sick of feeling on edge every time I walk into this school. I'm sick of wondering what will go wrong today, and I'm sick of actually fearing for my and my friends' safety on a daily basis. It's bad enough that every day we are marched into the halls of LOHS like cattle, searched, tagged, poked and prodded (okay maybe not poked and prodded), but now it has become a common occurrence to find ambulances, police cars, and fire trucks outside the school walls. We have been herded outside in the cold due to bomb threats twice in three days. Drug dogs and state police have searched school property for weapons, drugs, and alcohol and found each. Is it just me or is LOHS starting to resemble a correctional institute more than a public

school?

Now, I'll admit I laugh and joke as much as the next kid during the familiar trek outside after the fire alarm sounds, but how many more times will we call wolf before the real thing confronts us? Tragedy has struck before and it will probably strike again. All of our fancy fencing, high-tech name-tags, strategically placed cameras, and thorough backpack searches

seem to be laughing in our faces right about now. I could be wrong, but I don't ever recall experiencing quite so many bomb threats and illegal possession incidents before all of our beautiful safety measures were implemented. It seems to be a double-edged sword since not only are we investing exces-

sive time and money into these precautions but we seem to be experiencing more threats to our safety than ever before.

"All of our fancy fencing, high-tech name-tags, strategically placed cameras and thorough backpack searches seem to be laughing in our faces right about now."

It's not right that a whole class of kids jump after mistaking a book dropping on the floor for a gunshot, or that when the transformer exploded on homecoming the attendants felt the need to move off the stage in

order to protect themselves from potential assassins. It's a blessing that all of the incidents thus far have been a false alarm or not a serious menace, but I fear that things are only going to get worse. I appreciate all the teachers and resource officers who are doing everything they can to keep us safe, but obvi-

ously we need a new game plan here. I hate feeling scared and not in control of what's happening to me and lately that seems to be the prevailing sentiment here at school.

I don't have the answers nor do I believe anyone else does, otherwise all of this wouldn't be happening, but I definitely don't think that tightly enforced control methods are the answer. Lately I'm starting to wonder if bright orange jump-suits and magnetic tracking devices are the next step. The more rules and constraint you place on a teen the more he or she is going to want to break free and do what's "rebellious." Now I know that anarchy isn't the answer either. Maybe the school board should consider trying to understand kids instead of trying to control them. I think that counseling sessions, peer mediation, and outcast outreach is a much more valid way to curb threats than ID badges and A-school. Whatever the answer may be I hope we figure something out soon so we can eliminate the fear and relinquish our laughter, education, and peace of mind.



Semester exams are out of date

Gene Boaz Photography



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Megan Williams
Co-Editor-In-Chief

They're big, they're bad and they're worth just enough to wreck your semester grade. You know what I'm talking about, it's those semester tests that haunt you all year long pushing you to make your nine weeks averages as high as possible. You're bombarded with massive amounts of information throughout the semester and then as the end rolls around you're given about a week to prepare for an exam covering 18 weeks worth of material that counts 20% of your grade. No matter what your nine

weeks averages are, if you don't score high enough on the semester test your grade for the semester is ruined.

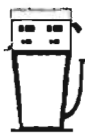
A week is not near enough time to adequately prepare for such an important test, and the elapsed 18-week semester gives students plenty of time to forget the first half of the semester's material. What could help students keep from forgetting that valuable information and improve test scores? Replacing the semester exam with two nine weeks tests is the simple solution. A nine weeks test would cover less information and reduce the time span between the test and exposure to the material. This would give students a better chance of remembering the information and scoring higher on the test.

The nine weeks test would also reduce the intensity of the value of the semester test. The two nine weeks exam scores could be averaged to develop one score that would be counted as 20% of the semester grade. This would give students a chance to improve the overall test score if one nine weeks test score was not as high as desired.

The nine weeks test would also rap up the grading period before the two-week break and reduce the stress and pressure put on the students by a semester test. Replacing the semester exams with two nine weeks exams would give teachers an opportunity to test students without making their semester grades take a nosedive.

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McMahon has gone "X"-tremely too far



Jacob Mitchell
Sports Editor

With all of Vince McMahon's wise investments over the past, one can consider the entrepreneur a very successful businessman. His World Wrestling Federation is a money guzzling giant, bringing in millions and millions of dollars each year. The success of his company has led McMahon, a hard-working owner, to be a millionaire. Good decisions and timely investments have gotten McMahon to where he is today, a risk-taking, money making tyrant. His latest decision, however, may prove to be

one of his worst.

On Thursday, Feb. 3, McMahon made a shocking announcement, revealing his brainchild, a new professional football league. Stunning reporters with his newly found investment, McMahon announced the creation of the league to start in February of 2001, just after the Super Bowl. The league, he says, will quench the thirst of football fans in need of pigskin after the final whistle has

sounded in the NFL. With his business success of the WWF in the ring, McMahon hopes to accomplish the same glory on the gridiron. Critics, like myself, question his logic on such a decision.


"Other such incarnations as the USFL, the CFL, and other "minor league" organizations have seen little or no success in the shadow of the NFL."

Creating a football league from scratch is no easy feat, and McMahon surely knows that. Investing millions of his hard-earned dollars into the league, he may see it all go to waste. Other such incar-

nations as the USFL, the CFL, and other "minor league" organizations have seen little or no success in the shadow of the NFL. And while McMahon's league may have his production teams and advertising flare behind it, it is highly unlikely the league will capture the attention and excitement generated by the NFL.

I really do have faith in McMahon, being a follower of his WWF, but I am really pessimistic towards the success of this league. I may be wrong (and I usually am), but I cannot really see this league being successful, with all the talent being gobbled up by the NFL. Unlike his wrestling matches, I cannot see McMahon's XFL going according to script.





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Keep the Commandments where they belong



Kelly Reeves
Editorial Editor

From Jews to Atheists, there are many different students with many different religious beliefs roaming the halls of any given school. Lately a heated debate over the posting of the Ten Commandments in public school systems has caused strong feelings both ways. In my opinion, however, we should stay true to the Constitution of the United States that founded this country and keep church and state separated.

The governmental mandate of the separation of church and state means that the government is forbidden to meddle in matters of religion. A perfect example could be taken from the fact that I'm Methodist but the guy sitting beside me in English might be Buddhist.

Who's to say that either of our beliefs are right or wrong? Neither politicians nor our country's government are prepared to decide something

that large and diverse. No one here on earth knows for sure what will happen to anyone when we die but by posting one religion's doctrine on the walls of schools

where not everyone believes in Christianity shows that our government, which prides itself in diversity and free speech, is taking sides.

The United States is the proud home to nearly 2,000 different religions, traditions, denominations and sects. While many do, in fact, believe in the Ten Commandments,

many do not. A good number of teens that don't follow the Protestant Decalogue go to public schools all over the country. It is unfair for

"No one here on earth knows for sure what will happen to anyone when we die by posting one religion's doctrine on the walls of schools where not everyone believes in Christianity shows that our government, which prides itself in diversity and free speech, is taking sides."

those children to think that they're not normal because they don't believe in the ten rules on the wall that all the other kids believe in. "If government officials put up

the Ten Commandments, will they also post the Five Pillars of Islam, the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism, the Wiccan Rede, and the Affirmations of Humanism?" asks Joseph Conn of Americans United. "Government should never play favorites when it comes to religion," he says.

Another problem with the Ten

Commandments being posted in all schools for *everyone* to see is that not everyone interprets all ten the same way. When the Decalogue commands us to keep the Sabbath holy, is that Friday, Saturday or Sunday? Does "Thou shall not kill" include acting in self-defense? Does "Thou shalt honor thy mother and father" apply when a child is being sexually abused by his or her parents? The different congregations are much more suited to answer these difficult questions for the student rather than force ill prepared teachers to answer the questions in a way that may upset more than a few parents or preachers.

Whether Wiccan, Buddhist, Jewish or Protestant, no mortal on this earth can even begin to know for absolutely sure which religion is right and which is wrong and it isn't government bureaucrats' place to decide. And besides, it has worked out fine in most public schools without the Ten Commandments posted so why try to fix something that remains unbroken?

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Is there an alternative to alternative school?



Andrea Ramey
Advertising Manager

So, you've skipped a few days of school, brought your pager or cell phone on the premises one too many times or physically fought with your arch enemy. Instead of detention, suspension, expulsion or LSD, school officials have placed you in Alternative school, which has a twenty-day minimum policy.

Alternative school isolates the "bad kids" from the good, but by isolating these students, they are left alone to study material neces-

sary to pass classes, with little, if any, help from teachers. A-school

*"Alternative school
ISOLATES
the 'bad kids' from the good."*



takes the student out of the learning environment and forces them to comprehend things on their own, which is hard to do especially after two to three weeks of being out of the classroom. Students forced to spend the allotted time in A-school lose their motivation and fall further and further behind. This is not punishment; it is forced academic suicide.

I believe in positive punishment with a point. Rather than forcing these students to sit in a cubicle all day, they should be put to work on their own time. Thus, the student is in the classroom where he/she needs to be while serving the community at the same time. I propose that we abolish A-school and assign community service hours.

Mr. Baker is the Teacher of the Month (again)

Jay Swacker
Features Editor

He has now been teaching for twenty-six years, six months, twelve days, nine hours and seven minutes (at the time of the interview). But when you remove all the time he spends in the halls reminiscing with Mr. Toy and Mr. Neel about a CCR concert or something like that, it's probably more like twelve or thirteen years.

What has he done with all this free time? Lots of interesting things. Mr. Baker has owned a number of pets. He has been in two

marriages; one of which has given him a daughter, who he loves dearly. He was a gas station attendant in Murray, Ky. during the mid-1970's. He was an assistant funeral home director and embalmer, a cost accountant for Ford Motor Company; and a roadie for "the greatest Rock 'n' Roll band ever," the Rolling Stones. He wishes he could have been Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or a professional golfer, but did not because he simply wasn't talented or smart enough. But, in the end, he says; teaching was his calling.

He enjoys his job (despite people like me) because of the students, such as Amy Eddings (his all-time favorite), and the perks, such as unlimited free Jell-O. "Jell-O is why I started teaching in the first place," said Mr. Baker (besides getting out of going to Vietnam). He believes that, "even though teaching high school can be hell on earth some times, it is an important occupation. Even though I may seem flippant some times, I really do care and try to make a difference in students' lives." That's why he's teacher of the month.

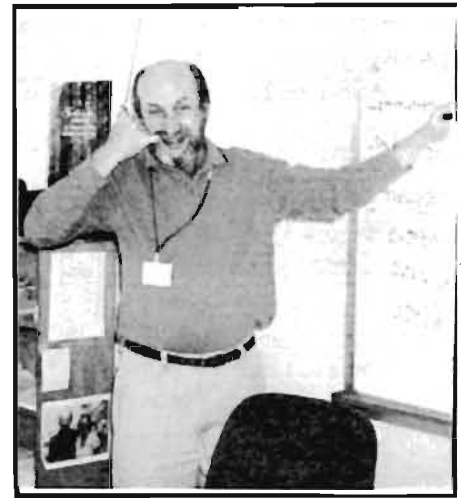


Photo by L. Jackson

Mr. Baker, Teacher of the Month

Reams honored as February Junior Rotarian

Mandy Langston
Coroner

You shouldn't wonder why Kelli Reams was selected to be February's Junior Rotarian. Her accomplishments speak for themselves. Kelli has been a three-year member of the Beta Club and is currently the president. That job alone is enough to make anyone crazy, but she is also a four-year member of FCA, a two-year member of the yearbook staff, and a member of the biology club.

Kelli has maintained excellent standing as an honor roll and an



Reams, the February Rotarian.

outstanding student for all four years. If you want to learn how to

manage your time, just ask Kelli. She appears to have mastered the art of being extremely involved and levelheaded at the same time. During the summer, Miss Reams works right here at LOHS in the office holding things down.

When she's not stressing about

classes and homework, she enjoys water skiing, swimming, and other water activities. Kelli is well known for her shopping abilities: she can spot a sale a mile away. Congratulations to Miss Reams on all of her accomplishments and good luck in the future!

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Roe Tackles Mission Impossible

Megan Williams
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Operation: set up and monitor a computerized network for a statewide technology conference
Time allotted: 48 hours

This is the mission assigned to Nathan Roe (12) and 16 other students who were selected to be Kentucky TLC Student Engineers for the state technology conference in March. The conference, held at the Commonwealth convention center in Louisville, exposes technology teachers to new programs and con-

cepts developing in the world of computers.

It takes more than just the ability to beat minesweeper on the computer to become a TLC Student En-



gineer. In order to be selected, students must have a basic understanding of how a network functions and some experience that includes setting up and maintaining a local area

network. Then they must complete an application for the position and participate in an interview.

"I feel honored that I was selected and I am really looking forward to meeting new people from all across the state as well as learning new concepts that deal with computers," said Roe.

Roe first became interested in computers by playing games on them in elementary school. He became more involved when his family bought a computer of their own. Roe plans to take his knowledge of computers with him to the Industrial Engineering and Technology Department at Murray State University in the future.

Disc Jockey's Hidden Jewel

Lucy Jackson
Co-Editor-in-Chief

How often do you buy a random CD in the hope that it will soon become your most prized possession? How often do you find one of the jewels hidden in the aisles of our local music stores? I've taken many chances and ended up losing too many times considering numerous CD's on which I have taken a chance have ended up at CD-Exchange two days later. Well, for all you music lovers out there who are hoping to luckily come across some good new music for once, I have a recommendation.

A few years ago I heard of a girl named Patty Griffen from one of my friends in Nashville. After hearing his praises I decided to seek out some of her stuff and low and behold our trusty Disc Jockey had her CD. I bought it and I still listen to it on a weekly basis. I also purchased her second CD as soon as it was released and although completely different it proved to be equally satisfying. On her first album *Living with Ghosts*, this Nashville native plays acoustic guitar and belts out beautiful lyrics. Her music is folksy and soulful. The entire CD "gets to me" if you will, and I consider it a vital part of my beloved CD collection. On her second album, *Flaming Red*, Griffen hooks up with her band for more rocky, upbeat tunes. This CD although it is a little less intense for me personally, inspires me to dance, sing and perform concerts in front of my mirror.

In any case, the next time you set aside an extra \$18 (I know, it's unbelievable!) and want to try out something new, check out Patty Griffen. You'll be surprised that this much talent has been under your nose for so long.

St. Patrick's Day Word Search

- Green Clover
 - Four Leaf Leprechaun
 - Pot of Gold
 - Rainbow
 - Pinch
 - Saint Patrick
 - Lucky Charms
- Rain
 - Irish
 - Spring




A	G	N	I	R	P	S	X	Z	O	C	P	I	L
N	C	D	D	H	L	P	R	C	Z	Q	C	N	U
S	R	Q	I	O	V	Z	A	N	F	S	L	T	C
T	A	A	S	O	O	P	I	Z	A	Q	O	N	K
F	N	I	I	G	G	Z	N	H	E	J	V	V	Y
H	U	X	N	N	L	F	B	N	L	Z	E	C	C
H	A	L	G	T	J	Z	O	V	R	M	R	N	H
S	H	Y	H	Y	P	N	W	T	U	N	X	N	A
I	C	G	C	N	Z	A	G	J	O	M	A	E	R
R	E	O	N	G	A	X	T	B	F	P	N	E	M
I	R	N	I	B	V	J	R	R	T	A	Y	R	S
H	P	J	P	M	Y	O	J	V	I	N	Z	G	X
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T	L	B	F	L	O	W	E	R	S	N	K	B	C

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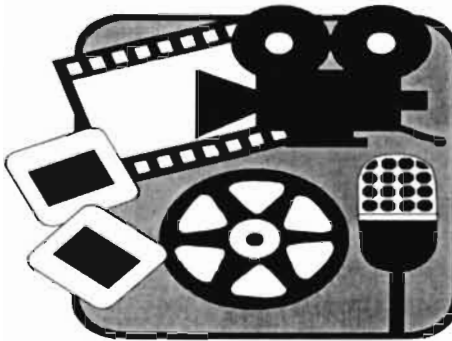
"Girl" well worth the "Interruption"

Jody Suhrheinrich
News Editor

If it's a tale of darkness and depression you can bet I'll be there. *Girl, Interrupted* is precisely that. The movie, starring Winona Ryder, Angelina Jolie and Whoopi Goldberg is based on the book by Susanna Kaysen. This is Kaysen's autobiographical account of her time spent in a girl's mental institution after a suicide attempt. I admit I haven't read the book yet, but I found the movie to be a tragically vivid description of a lost soul struggling to regain

her grip on life.

Ryder plays Susanna Kaysen a disturbed young woman who tries to cure a headache with a bottle of aspirin chased by a bottle of vodka. She survives this ordeal only to be shipped off to an institution where she feels like she's trapped in a zoo of insanity. Kaysen becomes friends with



the wild and unstable, Lisa (over the played by Jolie). Together they attempt to tame their demons and take world, all the while Lisa and Susanna slip further and further into their world of irrationality. Susanna must summon every ounce of strength she has to pull herself out of the institution and back into the real world.

In my opinion *Girl, Interrupted* closely resembles *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath. In both accounts the harrowing tales of despair actually make you question your own state of sanity. The deranged thoughts and misconstrued analyzations actually seem normal through Susanna's eyes. This movie will really strike a nerve in young girls who find themselves questioning where they stand in life. There are elements in this movie that everyone can relate to. After all there's a bit of a schizophrenic-hypochondriac-depressive in all of us.

Metallica adds a symphonic twist

Seth Bowen
Business Manager

Metallica's latest CD *S&M* (short for Symphony and Metallica), is a two CD set that is well worth the roughly twenty dollar asking price. Included on the CD is a mixture of old favorites and new hits.

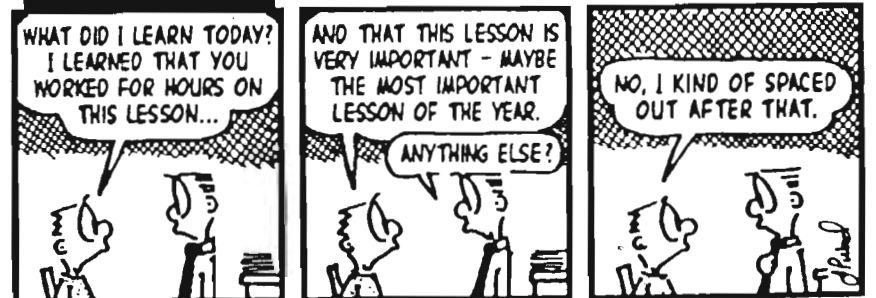


S&M gives Metallica bassist Jason Newsted listeners much of the same hard rockin' tunes that we know and love from the group that has proven themselves time and time again. Some of my personal favorites in-

clude "One", "Fuel", "Enter Sandman", and "No Leaf Clover". "Fuel", "Enter Sandman", and "No Leaf Clover" all have up-tempo beats and the symphony is a nice touch. "One" is a great song about a man that lost both of his arms and legs in a war.

I would recommend *S&M* to devout fans of Metallica, hard rock listeners, or anyone who is looking for an alternative to overplayed artists such as the Backstreet Boys or Britney Spears.


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An insider's view of the "Outsiders"

Kelly Reeves
Editorial Editor

Teenagers in high school feel like outsiders on a daily basis. It's almost mandatory, in fact. When S.E. Hinton wrote "The Outsiders," she wrote it from (obviously) an outsider's point of view, setting a melancholy tone to the book. It was about the struggle between the Soc's (Socials), from the preppy, wealthy part of town, and the Greasers, from the bad part of town. Ponyboy, an extra special Greaser, narrated this book with emotion that made me cry (which I guess isn't saying all that much!).

Recently (February 10-13) "The Outsiders" was performed at the Market House Theater by a large cast of teens from all across the

area. Since I have read the book and it is still one of my favorites, I found that as I watched the play, I didn't feel sorry for any of the characters like I did the characters in the book. Ponyboy seemed a little too upbeat in the play and it actually irritated me how despite everything that was happening around him he was still so happy. As the play went on, Ponyboy narrated the story to the audience as well as acted in it to give the viewers a little more information which, even though it was written in the script, would've left the play just as good without it. When the main character



looked at me, it broke that suspension of disbelief where I felt as though I was actually one of the boys along with Sodapop, Darry, Two-Bit, Dallas and Johnny. Another difference I found was that the sweet, gentle character of Cherry in the book was not reflected in the Cherry on the Market House stage. This Cherry was like the "evil" Cherry who turned into Super-Soc instead of wanting to remain neutral and nice to everyone.

However, the highlights of the play were the original set design, the way it closely followed the book, the awesomely believable fight scenes and the medical staff towards the end. I have honestly never seen a set that could be transformed into so many different

scenes. They transformed this set into a drive-in movie, a living room, a church, a burning church and a hospital room. The fight scenes were very life-like to the point where the director had recommended the play for people only 12 and older. Lastly, the medical staff at the end was very dramatic and they were so lifelike they made me feel as though I was in the hospital with Johnny.

Overall, the play was a pretty good reflection of how it was intended by the author to be. With, of course, the exceptions of the previous comments, I recommend that if "The Outsiders" ever runs again, you go see what it really feels like to be an outsider.

February Horoscopes: What's in the cards for you?

Andrea Ramey
Advertising Manager

Pisces 2/19- 3/20

Friendships may be riding on rocky ground when you decide to express your opinions too freely. Make a bold move on the 15th.

Aries 3/21- 4/19

Keep your patience as you move into hyper-sensitive mode and try not to do anything rash. If you don't tame your rebellious tendencies you might find yourself in a heap o'trouble.

Taurus 4/20-5/20

Access your love life! What were you thinking? It is important this month to concentrate your efforts

on something productive. You will be rewarded after the 23rd.

Gemini 5/21-6/20

Follow your intuition but listen to what others have to say. A holier than thou attitude will get you nowhere. Expand your horizons!

Cancer 6/21-7/22

Try to resolve your conflicts with close friends. You will have to make the first move. Stress from work and school will prove to be tiresome; take time for you in mid-month.

Leo 7/23-8/22

There's no point to arguing. If you feel the tension rising, walk away from the situation and cool down. Don't worry yourself with

trivial things.

Virgo 8/23-9/22

Focus on school. It is important to stay on top of your studies. In your spare time, show someone you care for just how special they are to you. Try surprising he/she with flowers or love notes. It will pay off!

Libra 9/23-10/22

Relations with your parents are not as good as they should or could be. Try hanging out and having fun with them. You will be amazed at the results!

Scorpio 10/23-11/21

There are people around you who need your help, guidance, or maybe just someone to talk to. If you in-

dulge on happiness, it will set an example for melancholy individuals.

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21

Your sanity is on vacation as well. You'll be lucky if you don't offend those around you. Keep sarcastic comments to yourself.

Capricorn 12/22-1/19

Refrain from using harsh words with loved ones. Instead, make a concentrated effort to get along! It is time to decide what matters and what doesn't.

Aquarius 1/20-2/18

At least until the 15th, don't bother dating. Certain pursuers have hidden intentions. This month, go crazy with your friends!

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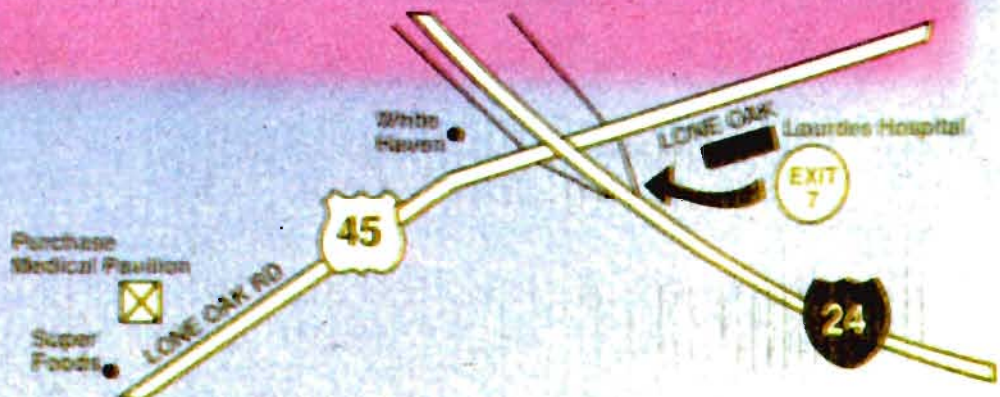


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