



# The Oak "K"

The Official Publication of LOHS

Volume 58  
Number 4  
December  
1999

"A problem is a chance for you to do your best." Duke Ellington

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## LOHS knows how to rough it

*Erin Malmquist*  
Circulation Manager

Picture it. Walking beneath the cool shadows of the trees. Bright red, orange, and golden leaves tumble down around you. The cool breeze blows across your face as your 70-pound pack (like a temporary growth on your back) pinches your shoulders together and the blisters on your feet throb. You are carrying your food, bedding, clothing, and shelter on your back. Yep, you're back-packing.

This trip of self-torture is an annual LOHS Biology club tradition. On Friday, November 12, 26 LOHS students left for the back-packing trip to Southern Illinois. In the next 24 hours, they were going to live life completely self-sufficiently.

On Friday, they hiked through six-miles of dusty paths and streams to their campground, a

rocky area just outside of Indian Kitchen. There, they sat around their lit stoves and ate dinner together, while telling stories and enjoy the beauty of nature. Since there was a burn ban (due to the drought), when the sun went down (at a very early 6:00 PM) all that

girls), the night went off without a hitch.

The next morning, everyone was up bright and early for hot chocolate and cold Pop Tarts. By 9:30, the group was off again, leaving the campsite for more interesting scenery. They hiked into Indian

Kitchen to do a little exploring without their packs, and were soon on the two-mile hike to the bus.

Due to prior commitments of a few members of the group, they were only able to spend one night in the vast wilds of Illinois, but it was a great experience just the same. Mr. Wallace, one of the chaperones said that is was nice "for all of us

to actually get out in nature and enjoy it" and to get "a chance to 'rough it' a little with only (ourselves) and each other to depend upon."



The group takes time out of their hike for a picture.

could be seen for miles were the moon, stars, and the dim light of a few flashlights. By 8:30, everyone had decided that it was time for bed. Despite a few Blair Witch-occurrences (some "cool" senior boys in the mood to "scare" the





# Lone Oak BETA Club goes to convention

*Staff Writer*

The student's who represented LOHS's Beta Club at the Annual State Convention on December 2-4 represented our school well. Staying in The Galthouse in Louisville, the students seemed to have a really fun time voting for state officers, watching the talent competition, and of course meeting new friends from around the state.

In the area of talent, seniors Lori Millner, Amanda Dycus, and Shay Barnes did a fabulous job singing "I Can Love You Better" by the Dixie Chicks. Although they didn't make

it to the finals which were performed in front of everyone at the Third General Session, they did a great job in representing LOHS's talent.

"We worked hard and it was a good experience just to get up in front of people and preform my talent," said Millner.

Kelly Reeves (11) gave her speech in front of the 3,000 Beta Club members right before the rest of the club performed the skit. In fact, the skit won Grand Prize over all of the skits that were preformed. After all of the hard work that was done, these Betas surely deserved it.

"There were a lot of people that we met. It was much more fun than I thought it was going to be." - Jennifer Gholson (10)

"The best part was the feeling I felt when we won 1st place on our skit after spending so much time on it." - Valerie Hubbard (12)

"It was much better than I expected and the dance was my favorite part. The talent portion in the Third Session was touching." - Sarah Warren (11)

## The A-team does it again!

*Lucy Jackson  
Co-Editor-in-Chief*

LOHS' academic team represented the Purple Flash on November 13. Once again, they came through with flying colors placing fourth at the Hart County Invitational. One school from each of the 16 regions was invited to compete in this double elimination tournament. In Lone Oak's second match, they faced 1999 state finals runner-up, Louisville duPont Manual. LOHS lost and was placed in the loser's bracket where they defeated Fleming County, Hart County, and Edmundson County. Lone Oak then ad-

**"The team has really been working hard, and it's paying off," said Wheatley.**

vanced to the semi-final game with 1999 state champion, Paul Dunbar of Lexington. Dunbar defeated Lone Oak, leaving the flash with a fourth place trophy. Lone Oak's season record improved to 11-5.

Then, LOHS attended the districts of the West Kentucky Academic Bowl on November 23. There, they took first place after beating both Reidland and Heath. The team will advance to regionals on December 6. On December 9, LOHS will attend the Murray State University Presidential Bowl.

"The team has really been working hard, and it's paying off," said Wheatley, the team's co-captain.

## The Band Box

*Mandy Langston  
Coroner*

This year instead of the same hum-drum article on the band's season finale, Bands of America, the students have been given a voice. The following are quotes from some very active and enthusiastic people in marching band.

"The basics? We went to Indianapolis on November 10 to compete against 82 bands. We only marched once while we were there at the RCA dome, but had a great time!"

-Courtney Jones and Amanda Jones

"This weekend gave us a great ending to our season."

-J.C. Warren, Field Commander(11)

"It was a pleasure to end the season marching with such great bands. Congratulations everyone on a great season."

-Monty Breneman, Band Capt. (12)

"I'll never forget my Dad standing on a table at the Hard Rock Café dancing to YMCA! We had an awesome season! I love you guys!"

-Allison Light, Rifle Capt. (12)

"The most memorable experience was the LOUD bus ride. Don't stand when the bus driver slams on his breaks; pain will follow. Make sure you know who's outside the door when you go to the bathroom - you may not get out!"

-Beth Shelton (12)

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## Gingerbread creations raise money for Child Watch

**Megan Williams**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The spicy aroma of gingerbread filled the halls of the E-building during the weeks of October 18-November 11 as Mrs. Stubblefield's culinary class finished their gingerbread creations.

These gingerbread creations were entered into a contest and silent auction sponsored by Child Watch on November 13. The contest was divided into four categories: elementary, high school, amateur and professional adults. The Culinary class owned nine of the twenty entries in the high school category. Ribbons were awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers, and the



Gingerbread competition 2nd place winners: (L to R) Megan Williams (12), Morgan Guy (12), Jessie Miller (11), and Lindsay Wyatt (11).

class did not walk away empty handed. The group of Morgan Guy (12), Lindsey Wyatt (11), Jessie Miller (11) and Megan Williams (12) received second place for their gingerbread village.

After the creations were judged, people in the community placed bids on them. The creations entered by the culinary class went from anywhere between \$5 and \$30. The class as a whole earned over \$100 for Child Watch.

"I thought the contest was a success. I was pleased with the quality of the work. No one group did better than the others. Their hard work paid off," said Mrs. Stubblefield.

## Local teens exhibit art at Yeiser Art Center

**Andrea Ramey**  
Advertising Manager

The annual Teen Spirit Art Competition is a chance for local high school students to debut their art at the Yeiser Art Center. Entries are accepted from 16 area high schools. This year 500 pieces were submitted and 50 were selected to be exhibited at the gallery.

Amanda Hall (12) had two pieces entered, a mask entitled and a wood cut piece entitled "A word to the wise." Amanda said she "was hon-

ored to find out that two of my artworks were admitted considering only 50 were selected." Robert Spees (10) also has his piece, "After Liechtenstein (Not Funny)," exhibited at Yeiser and commented, "I patterned it after pop art of the sixties."

The opening of the exhibit and reception took place on December 5. Cash prizes were awarded to the top five entries. The Yeiser Art Center is located in the Market House Square, and the exhibit will run through December 30.



## LOHS kids lead the way at TLC

**Jay Swacker**  
Feature Editor

On November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, **Nathan Roe** (12), **Racheal Gearhart** (12), **Natalie Roe** (10), **Andrea Dewey** (10), **Natasha Badeau** (11), **Amanda Jones** (11) and **Drew Farmer** (10) went to Kentucky Lake Resort for the Teen Leadership Conference. They were there with 150 other students from area high schools.

The conference was set up to make contacts between students and to show support for being drug free. The students performed skits and listened to speakers during the two-day outing. The conference was sponsored by the Council for a Drug-Free America. The conference helps students "...gain leadership they can take back to their schools and apply," said Racheal Gearhart. The students gained valuable information.



The Oak "K"  
wishes you  
a happy  
holiday  
season!

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"

<b>Co-Editors-in-Chief</b>	Lucy Jackson Megan Williams
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# You don't always get what you deserve



**Jay Swacker**  
Feature Editor

What does it take to get an "A?" In some cases, it involves a lot of hard work. In other cases, it takes a lot of canned goods or grocery store receipts, or bringing in supplies for the classroom. Unless you're taking a PCC course in cannery, you shouldn't be getting an A for bringing in cans. The grade A was set up to signify excellence and perseverance in a certain class. It shouldn't be degraded by A's that are earned by buying a bunch of cans.

Yes, can drives are for a good cause, but students' motives may



not be pure. Some students who earn their A's with cans are just looking for an easy way out of a difficult problem.

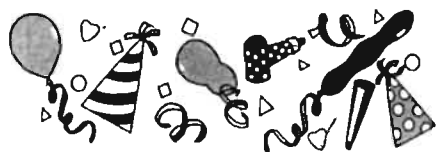
The teachers who hand out these

A's must also share the blame. It is their obligation to teach students the material of their class. It is their obligation to be fair and award those students who truly do work

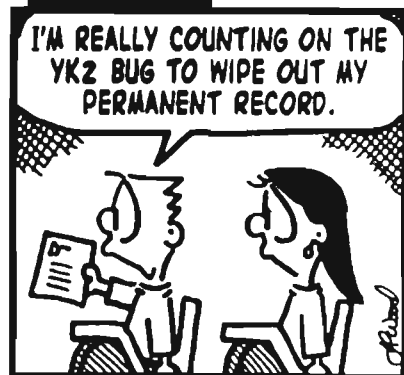
hard with the A's. The only thing non-academic bonus points do is hurt our education, and they ultimately cheat themselves.

Of course, many students disagree with me, because they feel that everyone deserves A's. They have lost respect for grades. The only reason they disagree is to cover up their own guilt over having "earned" grades tainted by points they don't deserve. School was designed for academics, and it should be kept that way. The only solution to this is to get rid of these types of bonuses.

If teachers are going to have can drives and the like, they should not offer rewards like higher grades. The students' reward should be their satisfaction in participating in something that actually makes a difference for someone else.



**SCHOOLIES** © 1998 by John P. Wood



## School is over, now let us out!



**Megan Williams**  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

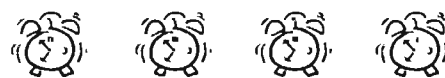
It's 2:30 PM, and after six long hours of lectures and note taking, you pack up your books and eagerly await the ringing of the bell. You impatiently check your watch counting down the seconds until the big hand lands on 2:33. Finally, the clock says 2:33, but instead of hearing a bell, you hear silence. After glancing out the window, you find that the buses have not even left the middle school. You watch the hands on the clock pass by 2:33...

2:35...2:37 while waiting for transportation you don't need. Then, at 2:40 the much-anticipated sound rings through the halls and you're finally free.

This same scenario is repeated almost everyday of the week. Students who drive to and from school find themselves waiting anywhere between five and ten minutes for the bell because the buses arrive late from the middle school. At first, it doesn't seem like that big of a delay, but by the time you get out of the parking lot, wait through two stop signs and a stop light, you end up getting home around 3:00 PM if you live close to the school. That's almost thirty minutes after the bell is supposed to ring. What if you

have to be at work or another function by 3:00 PM? You will never make on time.

This unnecessary delay for student drivers could be eliminated by the addition of a second bell at the end of the school day. The first bell could ring at exactly 2:33 PM dismissing all student drivers and people who ride home with them. Then the second bell could ring after the buses arrive from the middle school dismissing all students who ride the bus. This would not only allow drivers to get home earlier, but also reduce the congestion in the halls that develops when the bell rings.



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## Bike riders of the world, beware!



**Kelly Reeves**  
Editorial Editor

Bike riding is healthy, enjoyable and extremely refreshing for most everyone who tries it. But wouldn't it be even more enjoyable if the rider wasn't being screamed at by angry drivers who are about to knock them off the road? Of course. But I'm not here to stick up for the bicyclist who shouldn't be on the busy road anyway. Main point: These roads are made for drivin', and that's just what cars do. 'Cause one of days some car is gonna run all over you (bicyclists).

Being only a permit driver (yes, I am a junior), I am trying to be extremely cautious and not have a wreck on Lovelaceville road before



I even get my license. But these little bikes rolling down frequently-

bicycles, who could just as easily ride on the back roads.

used roads are making it awfully hard. Now the small road that I live on that probably only about 40 cars a day drive down would be fine place to ride. And it's easy enough to have a wreck with all the curves on Lovelaceville without having to dodge little

I know from experience that there are many, many perfect trails to ride on at Land Between the Lakes and up in Illinois by Garden of the Gods. But what I don't understand is why cyclists choose to risk their lives on a daily basis when there are much more beautiful places to ride bikes than Lovelaceville Road! Not only is it a prime safety hazard for young, old, and even middle-aged drivers, but it is an unneeded health risk for the bicyclists themselves.

So what I'm proposing is that bicyclists stay off main roads. Because, again: These roads are made for drivin', and that's just what cars do. And one of these days some car is gonna run all over you!

## Beware of the millineum hysteria



**Jody Suhrheinrich**  
News Editor

Collapsing buildings, blackouts, massive fires, the disappearance of

drink cups in LOHS' cafeteria, are all these apocalyptic signs of the new millennium? Will total chaos ensue at 12:00 a.m. on January 1, 1999? Should I pack up all of my belongings, withdraw my whole \$17.29 out of the bank and move into a hole in the ground? Do computers rule the world?


So many questions, so few answers. I mean no one can really tell the future right? Well, except maybe me. My prediction? January 1, 2000 is going to be hmmm... no big deal. That's right no seven horned fire-breathing beast, no massive cult murders (well maybe a few of those), just a few minor blackouts and electrical problems along with a good dose of unfounded panic.

The only way that the new millennium will cause destruction and disaster is if we let it. Panic breeds chaos and if we let ourselves become paralyzed with fear over a simple set of numbers changing

crazy things *will* happen. Don't let the hysteria take hold of you. Yes, you may want to buy a few extra cans of pinto beans and have some extra cash on hand. No, you shouldn't stockpile nuclear weapons, and prepare for a world holocaust.


Maybe the end of the world will be tomorrow, maybe it will be 5,000 years from now, (turns out, I really can't tell the future), but why waste your health and your time worrying about 2000 as though it's some catastrophic entity of it's own? Live each day to the fullest and quit worrying about when it's all going to end.

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# In the year 2000...In the year 2000..

**Jay Swacker**  
Features Editor

## LOHS

- ◆ Mrs. Reeves will smile, for the whole year.
- ◆ Mr. Sensing and Mr. Whitley will get into a "beaker brawl" after Sensing sabotages the Pickle Ignition Day festivities
- ◆ The Academic Team all the way.
- ◆ LOHS History teacher, Don Baker will campaign for and win the office of the McCracken County Sheriff.

## Entertainment

- ◆ The Backstreet Boys and N'sync merge into the first ten-member pop group, N'tolerable.
- ◆ Pauly Shore will win an Oscar for his riveting performance of a moronic ex-VJ in "The Pauly Shore Story"
- ◆ "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" will go downhill and be

cancelled after the departure of Andy Richter.

- ◆ "Wayne's World 3: The Return of the Schwing!"

## Economy & Politics

- ◆ The Y2K bug won't be that bad, but the plague of locusts will.
- ◆ Nintendo will fold after its flagship product, the Poke'mobile, doesn't sell.
- ◆ Donald Trump wins the Presidency, this results in new titles for the First Lady, "First Escort" and "First Ex."

## Staff Predictions

- ◆ Jacob decides to co-op his sen-

ior year and quits the staff. Thus, the Sports Section is completely omitted from the paper.

- ◆ I'm kicked off, to no one's surprise.

◆ Lucy elopes with Josh McGuire and lives happily ever after.

◆ Seth quits the staff because the Wall Street Journal offers him his own column.

◆ Kelly becomes a militant feminist and all of her articles are filled with sexist slurs that Mrs. Campbell

won't let her print.

- ◆ Megan becomes a talk-show host.
- ◆ Erin founds a cult devoted solely to the praise and worship

of Dave Matthews.

- ◆ Mandy wins MTV's "So You Wanna be a VJ?" and enjoys a year as a national phenomenon, like Jesse Camp before she is quickly forgotten by a cold and unforgiving American public, like Jesse Camp.

- ◆ Jody will mysteriously disappear while hanggliding on vacation, her body and glider will be found years later in a low-earth orbit.

- ◆ Andrea runs away to New Zealand with her boyfriend, Scott to found a prosperous stained-glass corporation.



## Millennium madness: What do you think?

**Andrea Ramey**  
Advertising Manager

Much hype surrounds the question of what the millennium will bring. Clergymen, media, and the common man have all made interpretations, portrayals, and philosophies as to what is in store for the future. Not to mention the race to save all the com-

puters in the world from the Y2K glitch before the century change. (Who would have thought that only programming the last two digits of the year in computer systems could have caused such uproar?) The question is, "What do you think will happen?"

- 43% believe we will experience minor problems

- 36% believe things will remain normal
- 11% believe the millennium will not take place until next year
- 6% believe there will be a national breakdown due to the Y2K glitch
- 4% believe the world is coming to an end

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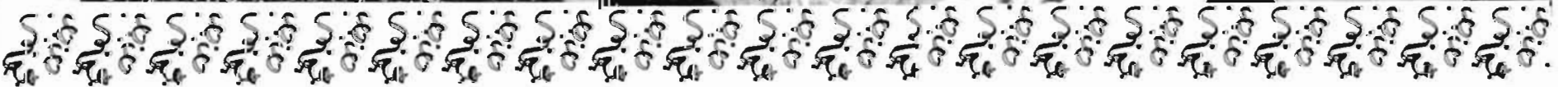
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# MAYHEM

The Oak "K"  
December 1999

7



# Miss LOHS is a Rotarian



This month's honoree Beth Mason.

Megan Williams  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

After being elected Miss LOHS, a National Scholar and FBLA president, it's no wonder Beth Mason was selected as December's Junior Rotarian.

Mason has been very involved in many activities throughout her high school career. She is a four-year member of FBLA, a two-year member of Beta Club and a three-year member of the LOHS soccer team. Mason has been a member of the yearbook staff for three years and served as editor one year. She is also a three-year member of Phi Alpha Delta Sorority and is currently serving as secretary. Mason is an

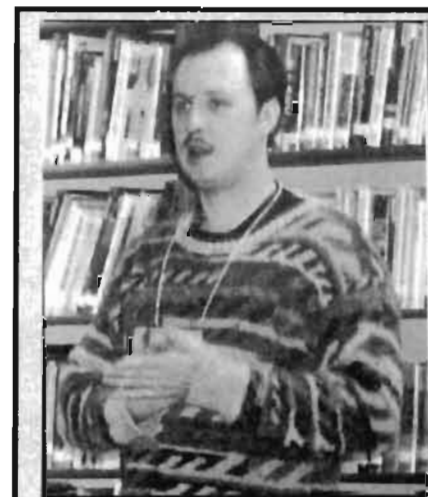
active member of First Baptist Church.

In her rare moments of spare time, Mason enjoys socializing, shopping, writing and spending time with her family. She credits her parents as being the most influential people in her life.

"They are always there to help me and give me advice, but they always let me make my own decisions," said Mason.

After high school, Mason plans to attend UK and enter the physical therapy or hospital administration program.

Her advice to underclassmen is, "Don't take anything for granted while you're in high school. It's all over before you know it!"



Larry Smithmier gives LOHS his presentation

Larry Smithmier, Mr. Smithmier's son, is working on his Ph. D. at Old Miss. Part of his work required him to present a technology work shop for student and teachers here on Monday, November 29, 1999. The presentation was in the library.

# Malmquist makes the grade

Jody Suhrheinrich  
News Editor

When you think of Erin Malmquist what do you think of? Bare feet? Dave Matthews Band? Well, now you can add Junior Rotarian to the list of Erin's characteristics along with honor student, BETA Club member, Biology Club Vice-President, Student Council Representative, Circulation Manager for *The Oak "K"* Newspaper, member of Phi Alpha Delta Sorority, and PSI Instructor, and being a student on LOHS' very own WLOH announcements. When asked how she felt upon receiving

this honor, the modest Malmquist replied, "I was actually really surprised. I feel there are so many people that deserve it, I almost feel like they got the names messed up and when they saw that they had chosen me they were like 'oops, wrong kid'."

Malmquist credits Mr. Baker and Mr. Toy as her main influences at LOHS because of how cynical (no!) and human they are. When Erin isn't busy with school stuff or planning for her illustrious future she's listening to music. She names Blind Melon, Ani DeFranco, Ben Harper, Chris Cornell, Jimmy Buffett, Bare Naked Ladies, and oh

yeah Dave Matthews as some of her favorite musicians.

After high school Erin plans on going to college and pursuing a career in Broadcast Journalism or Music Business Management. Whatever she does, she plans on being rich and famous and the best at whatever she does. Some of her most memorable high school moments include concerts, and time spent on the beach with friends in Charleston, South Carolina. As she prepares for the beginning of the rest of her life, Erin leaves us with this quote by Anne Frank, "Let me be me, and then I am satisfied."



November Rotarian Erin Malmquist.

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## Student's perspective: *A Shayna Maidel*

Recently, Ms Underhill's German classes attended the play *A Shayna Maidel* at the Market House Theater. *Lori Speer* wrote a paper about the performance, and it was submitted to *The Oak "K."* Below is *Speer's* essay.

I recently viewed the play, *A Shayna Maidel*, at the Market House Theatre. It was based around the time period of the Holocaust dated in 1946. Two sisters are united after being separated by an ocean of differences. The youngest daughter, Rose, grew up in America with her father, while the oldest, Lucia, was in Europe with her mother. The lifestyles of the sisters are two total opposites. This makes the play come to life.

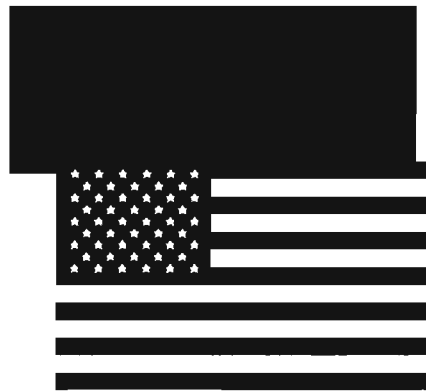
The oldest daughter comes to America after being liberated and lives with her younger sister.

While living with her sister, Lucia has many memories of her previous living conditions. These memories were difficult for the audience to distinguish their appearance. One would be watching as a n actor/actress exited the stage and Lucia would began to remember an experience with new characters. The entrance of these new characters made the scene very confusing.

The stage was set in an apartment just barely large enough for two people. This, too, adds conflict for the two sisters. The set helped to provide the affects needed to date the play. The actors and actresses vividly portrayed the characters through accents and actions. There were many scenes where the emotions seemed extremely real and very upsetting. This production was very well cast.

In making a recommendation for

viewers, I would recommend this play to one that is interested in the period of the Holocaust and its effects. The production was not very active, so the viewer must be entertained easily. I would recommend this play to anyone who is old enough to understand the effects of the Holocaust and has a large attention span making he/she able to adapt to new ideas and introductions rapidly.



*Happy Holidays  
from The Oak  
"K" staff!*



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# Stock market surge on news from FED

**Seth Bowen**  
Business Manager

1999 marks the year of highs and lows in the American stock market. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 10,000 and 11,000 this year alone. The Nasdaq closed above 2,500 and 3,000 for the first time this year as well. As interest rates rose and fell, so did the stock market.

Early in the year, stock prices

rose as Wall Street benefited from the growth in earnings from the holiday season and an increase in consumer confidence. Technology and blue-chip stocks outperformed most of the market.

This summer, many stocks began to lose much of their gains from the first quarter. There were several causes of the decline. Familiar concerns such as interest rate hikes and slumping earnings started the decline. Also, the crisis in

Kosovo had a negative effect on stock prices.

Recently the market has taken a change for the better. Stocks are up across the board as interest rates level out, earnings begin to exceed expectations, and consumer confidence begins to resurface.

However, many investors were worried at the end of October and the beginning of November that the upcoming rate hike would be relatively high; thereby, indicating

more rate hikes would follow. The stock market surged as FED chief Alan Greenspan announced the rate hike would only be a quarter of a point, and that there would not be any more.

As long as interest rates stay at current levels and inflation is not a worry, the stock market will continue to surge as stock prices rise.

## Christmas Word Search

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

TREE  
SANTA CLAUS  
REINDEER  
FROSTY  
RUDOLPH

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# Mighty Joe takes on America

**Mandy Langston**  
Coroner

Every year, several foreign students grace us with their presence. This year we are lucky enough to have **Johannes Elsinghorst (11)** from Muenster Germany with us for about eight months. He is a Libra with blue eyes and blonde hair who loves to cause trouble, sing random songs that are in his head, and drink hot tea. He first stepped onto American soil in Memphis on October 7 and is staying with the family of **Chris Jett (11)**. Johannes, or Joe as he is affectionately called by his friends, Johannes Elsinghorst left back home his father, step-mother, and a brother. When asked for a quote for this newspaper, he said, "I love American girls."

In his down time, Joe enjoys watching *The Man Show*, hacking on the computer, and partying with

his buds. He recently joined the Tennis Team, although he had never even picked up a racquet before. "I decided to take up tennis as a sport because I missed soccer season and it's not quite time for baseball yet." Joe used to skateboard but he quit two years ago because of an injury. A few of his favorite things include *Cartman* from *South Park*, the movie *Brain Dead*, the book *Huck Finn*, vanilla ice cream, and listening to *Method Man* and *Juvenile*.

When his time in America is up, he plans to attend a university in Germany and become a systems analyst and spend time with his friends. "School here in America is different from school in Germany because students have more of a relationship with their teachers than we do." He looks forward to meeting the students here at Lone Oak and making friendships that will last a lifetime.



# Merry Christmas!

# Tournaments set stage for Purple Flash

**Jacob Mitchell**  
Sports Editor

With a slew of opening season tournaments, the basketball team is ready and willing to take the region by storm. Get ready to see some wild action and be prepared to rock the stands down.

"This team is going to be very a very entertaining group to watch," commented Lawrence Smithmier, head coach. He says that this team is well prepared to take on all comers, no matter whom.

Three early season holiday tournaments: Paducah Christmas (Dec. 16-18), Warren Central (Dec. 20-22), and Lone Oak (Dec. 27-29) are all preparing the Flash for a tough schedule.

The Flash compete in the Second District, which is composed of Heath, Reidland, and Tighman.

Explosive back court players **Ryan Dunn** (12) and **Bryan Powell** (11) are sure to light up the floor this year. They are the players to watch this season, according to Smithmier.

Opening the 1999-2000 campaign, Lone Oak hosted the McDonald's tournament, from Nov. 30-Dec. 3.

On the opening night against the Murray Tigers, the Flash started strong and never looked back, tackling the Tigers 79-55. The aforementioned **Dunn** poured in 29 points, leading the team.

In the championship game against Fulton City, **Dunn** once again was the leading scorer, contributing 29 points for the second straight game. Following up was **Maddux** with 15, and senior **Luke Phelps** added 12. In the end, the Flash walked away with the first place trophy, 81-66.

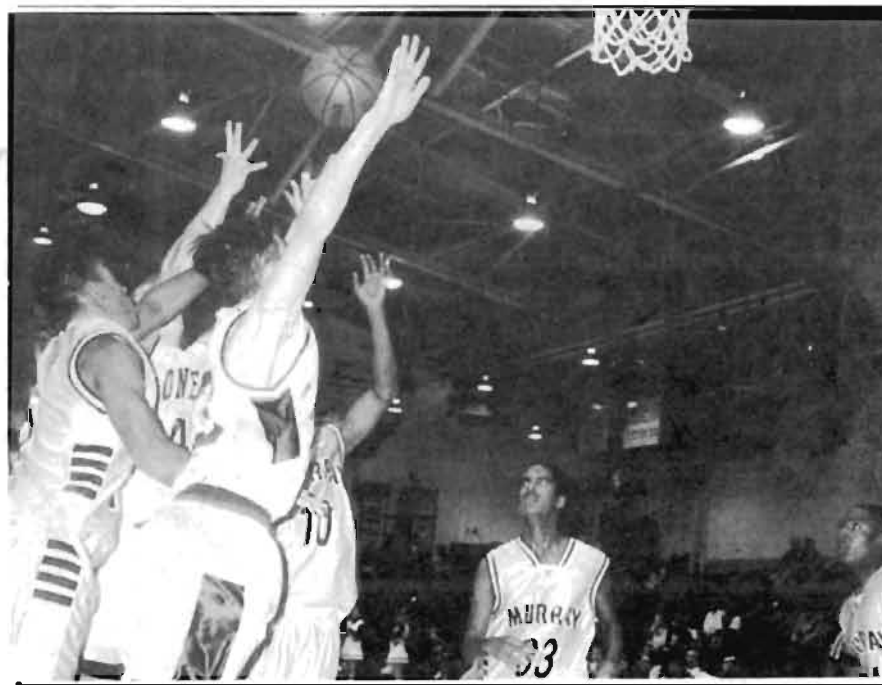


Photo by J. Mitchell

**Hunting for Tigers:** Senior Ryan Dunn stretches for a loose ball under his own goal during the opening game of the annual McDonald's Tournament at Lone Oak. Dunn poured in 29 points in the contest en route to a 79-55 triumph. Dunn also scored 29 in the championship game, leading the Flash to the championship

## Lady Flash stand tall atop Region

**Jody Suhrheinrich**  
News Editor

Who rocks the stands? Lone Oak Lady Flash rocks the stands all the way down, and this year will be no exception. It's hard to imagine beating the excitement of last year when the girls did us proud by earning a runner-up spot during regional tournament. Well, dust off your purple and gold garb and get your confetti ready, because this season promises to be quite a trip.

The 1999-2000 Lady Flash are

loaded with talent, boasting size, strength and quick guards. Therefore, Coach Gerald Vaughn admits that anyone of ten players could start at any time. However, if the team wants to beat regional foes, Marshall, Calloway, and Graves Counties they'll have to improve on free throws, outside shooting and team defense.

Coach Vaughn has enjoyed watching this team become successful by pulling together and believes that there is a possibility of the girls once again venturing towards the state tournament. "I see Marshall as being the team to beat. On a given night anyone can win. There is always the probability of going to the state tourney. We should be in the top five teams in the region," Vaughn says.

There you have it folks, make sure you come out and support our girls to ensure a successful season full of excitement.



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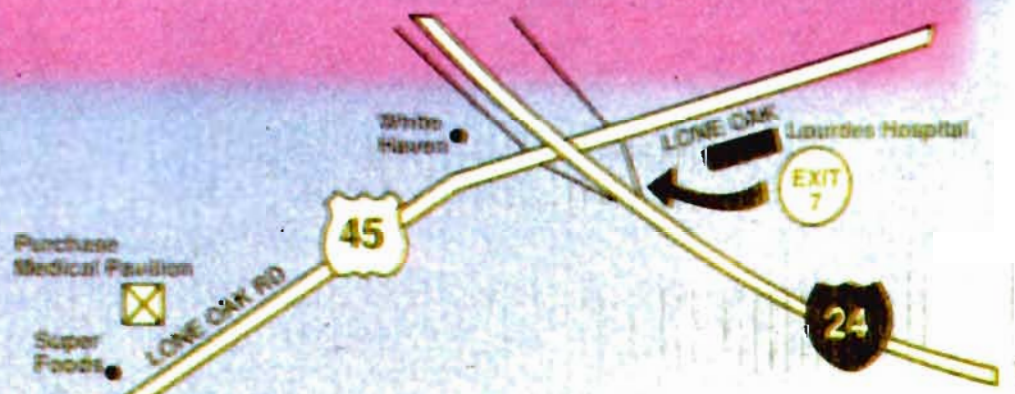


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