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The Oak "K"

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"God bless America."

Tony Stewart: Life in the fast lane

Stacey Jarvis
Business Manager

Over the past two years, I have been privileged to meet and get to know the very successful NASCAR Winston Cup driver of the #20 Home Depot Pontiac, Tony Stewart. After spending many weeks and races with Stewart and my father Eddie Jarvis, who is Stewart's personal assistant, I have experienced the life and what it takes to be a Winston Cup competitor. Being an accomplished racer is a very demanding lifestyle for Stewart, but it proves to be worthwhile. From the dirt tracks of the midwest to the high banks of Daytona, the 30-year old has proven that dedication to a dream will open doors of opportunity.

The Rushville, Indiana native began

his racing career at the age of seven behind the wheel of a go-kart. After a few years he swept the International Karting Foundation Grand Championship. Stewart, thereafter, moved to a higher series of racing. In 1995, he was the first driver in USAC history to win the series' top three divisions all in one year: midget, sprint car, and Silver Crown. Stewart's next

achievement came in 1997 when he became the Indy Racing League Champion. Around this time, the #20 Home Depot team owner Joe Gibbs proposed the idea of Stewart driving on the Winston Cup circuit. Stewart made his debut in 1999 becoming the Rookie of the Year.

Being the most successful

community. After the loss of Dale Earnhardt in February during the Daytona 500, many rule changes and precautions have been put into effect. One such change would be the use of safety devices strapped on to drivers to prevent serious injury if a wreck may occur. Stewart, along with a few other drivers, has chosen not to wear

any type of safety device.

He quotes, "I think a head and neck restraint is a good idea . . . It's not that I don't want to wear it, I just haven't found anything yet that I'm comfortable with."

Despite the safety issue and other issues that come in Stewart's path, his focus has been on the Winston Cup Championship. His accomplishments prove to be greater each year.

The Championship

does not appear to be too far away.

As a friend of Stewart, I know one thing to be true; a goal cannot be reached without passion and determination. This thought is definitely modeled by the Winston Cup competitor. He followed his dream and now he's on top of the world. Passion, happiness, desire, and horsepower: Tony Stewart has it all!



Another day at the office: Tony waves to the fans before getting into his car at the Talladega Motor Speedway.

Rookie in NASCAR history, Stewart entered the 2000 season with a confidence of no end. He overcame his second without being cursed by the "sophomore jinx." In fact, Stewart was the most successful driver last year with a total six wins for the season.

The 2001 season has been challenging not only for Stewart but also for the entire NASCAR com-

9-11

Lori Speer
Advertising Manager

Beep, beep, beep! . It was 6:00 and, as usual, the alarm was making itself heard. Nothing was any different that morning. After taking my shower and getting primed for school, I heard my Mom yell a rushed goodbye to me from the bottom of the stairs and she was off to work. Still nothing out of the ordinary. Next on my agenda was the frantic drive to school. In the car, I had to think of all the important unimportant things in my life. Almost being late to school, I threw my car into park and raced through the doors. I proceeded to my first hour class to begin my morning in Mrs. Masden's wonderful world of AP Calculus. I remember the moans and groans as we continued our lesson on derivatives. The routine was still the same as usual, that is, in the Lone Oak High School world.

Now, to the real world. About 600 miles away, 15 minutes into first hour, a large plane crashed into one of the World Trade Center towers and tore a "gaping hole in the building, setting it afire." Shortly after the first, a second plane barged into the other tower. Now both were in flames. Two minutes before the bell to leave first hour rang, a plane was rerouted into the Military Nerve Center of the Pentagon. Trapped inside the quiet and uninformed halls of LOHS, not many students were aware that our real world was literally falling apart.

The bell rang to exit our first room and take part in the daily stampede to move to second hour. Little did we know that at that exact same time, people in our nation's capital were being herded out of the White House. In the halls, I heard uncertain whispers that had something to do with planes and the World Trade Center. The bell sounded that it was time to begin sec-

ond hour. However, the agenda had been amended. We were watching TV. Glued to the TV sets, we all watched with gaping mouths the sights that were being shown. I remember being in total shock as I saw on the screen, 15 minutes into second hour, one of the large towers tumble to the ground. Barely five minutes later, the damaged portion of the Pentagon collapsed. At the exact same time, another plane crashed outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It, too, was believed to be headed for an important building.

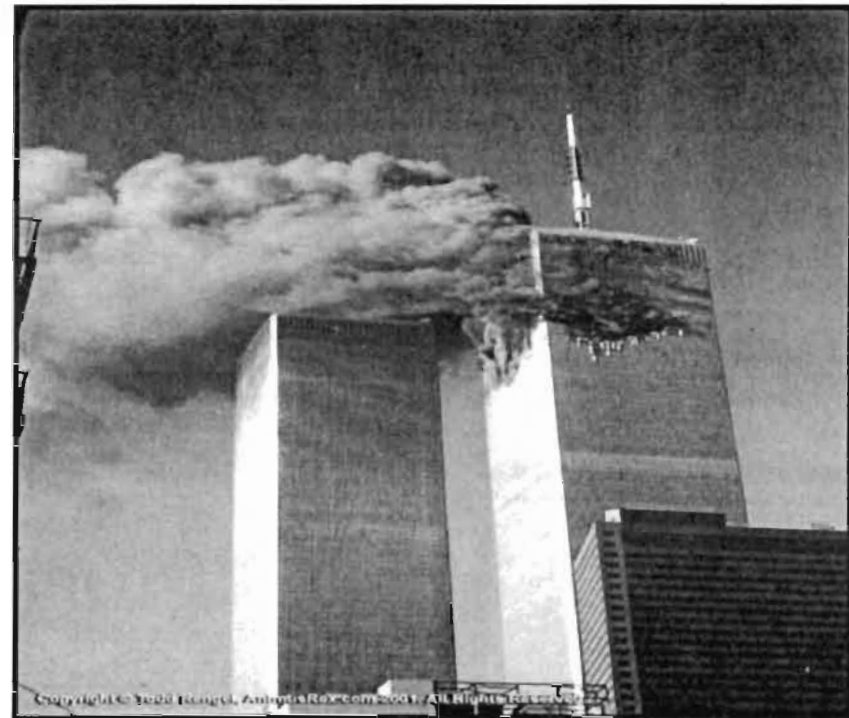
We sat in wide-eyed wonderment of the current events as they flashed across the television. As my day went on from class to class, I found myself doing nothing but watching CNN. It was the station of the day. The day rolled on quite quickly and I soon found myself in my car on my way home from school. I never listen to the news on the radio, yet that was all I could do.

When I arrived at my house, I was shocked to see that my mother was home before I was. This was a very rare occasion. I found her inside in the TV room in front of the TV. This was even more of a rare occasion. Neither of us said a word. We both just sat and watched TV for hours. This never happens.

Even though the tragedy was not centered here, it was obvious that the effects spread across the nation. We all feel the loss that occurred. Our nation will never be quite the same, but we will always be America.



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The real teen Jeopardy

Joshua Woleben

Technology Coordinator

This year's academic team is off to a roaring start! The varsity team has a 7-1 record, and the JV is 8-0, going on the fifth year in a row

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- Lone Oak will be in the National Competition November 8-10 in Indianapolis, Indiana

undefeated!

Members of the varsity team this year are Abin Matin (12), Seth Bowen (11), Amanda Beckman (11), Jay Stallons (12), Rachel Megibow (11), Joshua Woleben (12), Steven Walter (11), and Adam Fernow (12). Coach of the varsity team is Mr. Ben Morehead.

Members of the JV team are Walt Whinnery (10), Lyndsay



Johnson (10), Kristin Lambert (9), Kara Bowen (9), Vanessa Winters (9), and Peng Zhang (9). Coach of the JV team is Ms. Keicha Weedman.

The academic team competes against other schools in matches of two halves, each half being 40 questions or twelve minutes, whichever comes first. Members buzz in if they know an answer. If they get it correct, they are allowed to discuss among themselves for ten seconds the answer to the next question, called a bonus question. If they get it wrong, the other team can immediately answer it. Tossup questions anyone can answer. The team with the most points at the end wins.



Bagels, royals and onions, oh my!
Photo by: Joshua Woleben



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Discrimination reaching new lows

Rachel Megibow
Staff Writer

All throughout the world, people face discrimination. The targets of discrimination tend to be minorities. However, discrimination against a majority has never reached the magnitude it has recently. No I'm not talking about men; I'm talking about discrimination against women, who make up 51% of the world population. Here are some examples:

- The execution of women in Afghanistan for showing an ankle, going out with out a close male relative (husband, father, or brother), working and wearing white socks.
- American women are being forced, under penalty of death, to wear a veil while working in Saudi Arabia in deplorable conditions

- The refusal of Australia to admit Afghan female refugees because the Taliban told them they were criminals when really, they had protested the stoning of one of the woman's eleven year old daughters
- Female mutilation in most African countries so they will be considered for marriage

This type of discrimination cannot go on. We cannot wait until it ends up in our backyard before we take action. There are lots of things we can do. One thing is write to your Congressmen, the Secretary of State. Another option is to donate money to R.A.W. A (www.rawa.com) or the Feminist Majority (www.feministmajority.com). Anything we can do is better then doing nothing.



No, this is not a camel. This is a woman.

A fully-shrouded woman begs for money on the streets of Afghanistan. Since women are not allowed to work by rule of the Taliban, they are often forced to beg for money to support their well-being.

Photo courtesy of RAWA.



National welding champions: Thweat, Mayes, Powell, and Cole with their first place trophies.

Photo by H. Wood.

Welders win 13th national title

Stacey Jarvis
Business Manager

"Being the national champion of welding is not that big of a deal," states senior Ted Cole. "Anyone can do it." However, being national champion is an amazing feat for any school.

Lone Oak High School Welding Team has yet another victory. Their 2001 national title has been added to their winning list for the thirteenth year and eleventh year in a row.

The Mid-South Fair hosted the National Welding Competition in Memphis, Tennessee. The LOHS students selected to compete were Ted Cole (12), Josh Mayes (12), Aaron Powell (10), and John Thweat (10).

The LOHS welding team swept the competition: John Thweat placed fourth, Aaron Powell placed third, Josh Mayes placed second, and Ted Cole won the national title.



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Racing for your life

Justin Latta

Assistant Editor/Editorials Editor

To all the new student drivers here at Lone Oak, please take this editorial with the weight of a feather, it is not to condemn your driving skills by any means. To all the experienced drivers reading this article, open your ears and shut your mouth.

Reckless driving is becoming a ridiculous problem in our community. Instance one, I was waiting a stoplight, minding my own business when a Mustang pulls up next to me. Okay I'm not a total moron and I know my 4 cylinder Altima

has no chance against a 'Stang. So I let them do their little burn out and didn't think anything about it. I wasn't mad or embarrassed until a male in the back seat turned around and proceeded to lift his middle finger at me.



When you drive dangerously like going 90 m.p.h. down a winding road like Krebs

Station trying to jump hills, you are doing nothing but endangering your own life. If that doesn't bother some of you, and I know it doesn't, then think about what mommy and daddy will say when

you destroy the car they bought you a week ago. Yeah now you understand.

To stop being a poor driver what most people need to do is just pay attention to the road. Don't pay attention to your makeup, food, or other people in the car. Your main concern should be to get to the place you are going, not how cool you can look. Use your blinkers too for cryin' out loud! When somebody just decides to stop in the middle of the road for no reason, I WANT to rear end them. Or maybe you could find a constructive hobby like underwater basket weaving, you might even become a master weaver. Look, I'm not singling anyone out, just use your head when you get on the road. Remember, a car can be a toy or a death trap, you pick which one.

Pulling the graveyard shift

Lauren Wolf

Staff Writer

I will be the first to admit that I love money. Unfortunately, like many other teenagers, I work long hours on school nights, and it interferes with my sleep and homework time.

The first two weeks of school, I was working six nights a week for at least five to six hours a night, and I spent seven to eight hours working every night of the all too short weekend. Local businesses and pharmacies usually provide good hours for students, and the employers work with schedules.

I applaud every student that works at night and goes to school in the day. Grades and health overall would improve greatly if working students weren't worked to death every night of the week.

Exploiting the hardships of ancestors

Hunter Campbell

Editor-in-Chief

Before I begin, I would just like to clearly state that I am not a racist. I have nothing against those of African-American descent, and am certainly not proud of the way they have been treated in the past. However, was it any fault of mine,

or my parents', that the slaves were treated in such a cruel manner? No, it is not, but some African American leaders believe that white Americans should repay the descendants of the slaves who were so harshly treated in early America.

I am not afraid to acknowledge what some of the ancestors of today's Americans did to the slaves, but why on Earth should they have to repay the slave-descendants for something with which they had nothing to do. That is something like charging someone's child with murder simply because they are the murderer's child. Does that make sense? Absolutely not, and neither does the paying of reparations from the grandchildren of slave owners to the grandchildren of the slaves.

Aside from the senselessness of the idea itself, you must think about how it would be decided who would pay the reparations to whom? Not all black people are of slave descent. Some came from places like Jamaica. Should these receive reparations, even though their ancestors were not enslaved? Also, contrary to popular belief, not all white people are the descendants of slave owners. Quite a few of us (and I say us because I fall into this category) came from Ireland as a result of the Potato Famine of the late 19th century. Should these people be required to pay for something for which their ancestors were not even on the continent? The answer to both these questions is a resounding no.

Once again, I am not a racist, but

when America's "racism" problem is taken to an irrational extreme such as in this case, I become a bit upset. The simple thought that my parents, who were not even remotely involved in slavery, should be forced to give up some of their land and their money to repay people who are quite a bit closer to having equal rights than some extremists would have you to think, is appalling. I believe that, although the era of slavery was probably the darkest in American history, today's African-Americans do not deserve reparations for something that their ancestors had to endure, and they did not.

Lone Oak News

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Feminazism: Feminism gone too far *Everyone wins with equality*

Joshua Woleben
Technology Coordinator

There have been many advances in civil rights over the past century in the United States. Notably, one of the most recent ones is feminism. While the Nineteenth Amendment was passed almost a century ago, no one can deny the struggle women have had to attain equal rights even today. However, the radicalism of some feminists, tagged "feminazis," has gone too far and needs to be curbed.

Let's set the record straight; women already have more rights than men in many cases. The first example is divorce cases. In Kentucky, favor is granted to the mother.* If things were truly equal, the man would have as great a chance for equal joint custody. Abortion is another example-

-it's entirely the woman's decision. A man has no legal say in the abortion of half of his own flesh and blood.** In 1989, a national survey by the Boston Globe found 72% believe abortion should be illegal if the man wants the child.

The problem with other rights issues, such as women making less per hour than men for doing the same job, comes from a misinterpretation of the statistics. Women appear to make less because there are fewer women doing those jobs than men, and those statistics are averages. Women make equally as much as men now; to do otherwise is plain illegal.

Women have equal rights; why do they still scream "male-chauvinist?" You're right, feminazis; things aren't as equal as they should be—just not in the direction you think.

Rachel Megibow
Staff Writer

Everyone cover your eyes, I'm about to type the f-word... feminism. Hard to believe that one word can cause so much trouble. Feminism is stuck in a rut, but why?

Feminism is the belief that women deserve equal rights, not special ones. This is the reason the Feminist Majority does not support affirmative action, the practice of giving certain ethnicities and women a preference over men in job interviews and collage applications. All that feminism truly asks for is the right to go to an interview with the same amount of schooling and job experience as the man sitting next to you and have an equal chance at the job.

A recent study done by the now disbanded Department of Women and Minority Services (DWMS) found that women in federal jobs, including ones in the presidential cabinet make \$1.75 per hour less

than men in the same line of work. The DWMS also found that, on average, women make \$1.50 per hour less than men do. If women have "all the same rights as men," how come we're getting paid less for working just as hard?

Fem-a-Nazis are the enemy of feminism. In spite of popular myth, these women are not related to the movement. They preach superiority, not equality. A woman wanting to work instead of staying at home is one thing, but in a fem-a-Nazi's eyes, is a traitor to "the movement" As long as a woman knows staying at home to raise the kids, cook and clean isn't all she can do, and she makes the choice to stay home, feminism has no problems.

Feminism isn't a radical movement; it's a statement that women are equal. If we have equal rights here, we have a duty to see that other women, in countries like Afghanistan, have their rights restored. Everyone wins with equality.

Tony Stewart

RACING

Good Luck
Stacey Jarvis
and the
Graduating
Class of 2002



Review judicial review?

Seth Bowen
Assistant Editor

In the wake of recent events, a fair and constructive judicial system is in demand. But when does constructive cross the line into nonsense? The case of Keith LaJuan Jones, 44, might just be a prime example.

An Oklahoma jury sentenced him to 1,050 years in prison. No, that is not a typographical error. What was the crime, you may ask? Vivian Williams, who survived the ordeal, was dragged underneath Jones's car for 700 feet. The "incident" was attributed to road rage. Along with two 150-year sentences for ramming two cars,

Oklahoma District Judge Twyla Mason Gray sentenced him to 750 years for three counts of assault and battery with intent to kill.

Was the crime horrific? Yes. Was the sentence rational? No. What person would be able to serve out a 1,000-year sentence? Not even Methuselah lived that long.

Whatever happened to judicial review? Granted, the American system is one of, if not, the best judicial systems in the world today. However, the number and magnitude of hair-brained decisions is ridiculous. The review of cases by an esteemed panel of tenured judges or a similar action is needed now more than ever.

Class officers breaking the silence of past years

Jennifer Gholson

Circulation Manager

Campaigning and elections are over and LOHS now has new class officers for each grade. It seems so important to the candidates to be elected that they spend various amounts of money on their campaign. Though, I don't understand the purpose of having these officers. The only benefit of being an officer is to write it on a college application and have a picture in the yearbook. Maybe if the officers would actually put as much effort into their office as they put

into their campaign we would have a better school.

Class officers are supposed to represent their class. If the class has a complaint or suggestion, it is the officer's job to voice it. They have the power to change things, if they have the initiative.

Class officers can plan activities for their class if they get motivated. I would love to take a senior trip this year. The officers would be the ones to plan it.

They also need to be involved in helping with other events.

"Officers can decorate a Christ-

mas tree during Christmas or decorate the gym for a game. They need to be involved in the school activities and lead their class," says Mrs. Wear. They also have a role in helping with yearly events. Junior officers plan and decorate for prom. Senior officers have a role in the annual bon fire and plan reunions. The officers need to be involved in activities and start-planning activities specifically designed for their class.

Depending on the initiative the

officers have depends on how much actually gets done. I've been disappointed in the officers of the past because of their lack of motivation and effort. Hopefully, we have chosen officers that will actually be active in planning activities and representing the class. A change needs to happen. Being an officer doesn't just mean a picture in the yearbook. It means responsibility that hasn't been taken. The officers need to step up and take their job seriously.

Be a man; take a stand

Stacey Jarvis

Business Manager

"Left, left, left, right, left!" What do you think of when you hear these words? Most likely you'll think of brave, strong men stomping in a perfectly straight line preparing themselves for battle. Many young men, however, are terrified to serve their country. Some, who are ongoing 18 year olds, are fearful of two words: The Draft.

What in the world is the draft? Every male that is a U.S. citizen, an alien residing in the U.S., and 18 to 25 years old are required to sign up for the Selective Service program. The program is designed to "draft" or select men for service duty in case of war.

"I wouldn't fear the draft if there wasn't a war going on at the time," stated Ted Cole of his fear of the draft.

We are all living in one of the greatest countries in the world. A motto for the United States is "Land of the free; home of the brave." But where are the brave? Young men should stand up and be proud to serve for their country. They should not worry that in times of crisis they may be drafted to go to war. Be proud, and be

strong!

Young men who are 18, don't forget to register for the draft. You can pick up brochures at your local post office or online at www.usgovinfo.about.com. Don't forget! It's the law!

No need for fast or furious

Lori Speer

Advertising Manager

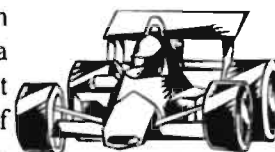
Squeals, smoke, and there they go. Thus is the start of a drag race. A popular, up-and-coming sport/hobby for many people is on the rampage. Drag racing is where two or more cars line up side-by-side and take off as quickly as they can. For the next quarter mile,

they push their cars to the max, exceeding speeds of even 100 mph.

Now one might ask, "What control does a driver have at such speeds?" The answer- none, that is unless they happen to be a trained professional, and that's not even true in some cases. Many people feel that they can control their cars as long as they are in the driver's seat and have the wheel. This is not so. Even the best of drivers can have a wreck that is out of their control. When this happens, who knows the outcome.

Not only are the drivers of the cars participating in the race endangering themselves; they are also endangering other people. These other people could be passengers in the cars, spectators, or even someone who has no idea what is going on.

There is no need for such risks to be taken. This past time has been growing ever since the release of *The Fast and the Furious* this past summer. There is a difference. They were in a movie and this is real life. Don't put yourself and other people in what could end up a tragic situation simply to satisfy some ego trip.



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Driving makes the grade

Joshua Woleben
Technology Coordinator

KRS 159.051, passed in 1990, effective July 13, 1990. Another random law with some number attached to it, right? That is grossly incorrect. This law affects you more than you could possibly imagine. It is the infamous "No-Pass No-Drive" law of Kentucky. Under this law, if you are 16 or 17 years of age, you can have your license revoked if you are performing poorly at school or skipping too much school. That means no more dates, no more fast food, and no transportation to a job until your grades get back up. That is, unless you want your mommy to cart you around everywhere.

So exactly how much does it

take before your license is revoked? If you are absent more than nine times per semester (that's each set of two nine-week periods), if you drop out of school, or if you fail four or more courses, you will lose your license. Any of these can lead to it, and be sure McCracken County has implemented this.

You can get your license back by bringing your grades up, going back to high school, or making sure you don't oversleep and then going through a bunch of red tape and court proceedings. It's a pain, and costs more than it is worth. Or you can turn 18, if you think you can tolerate having no license for that long.

Road rage kills

Hunter Campbell
Editor-in-Chief

Tailgating, speeding, out-of-control lane changes. These all can be the result of a driver being too emotional while driving, leading to what is commonly referred to as "road rage."

Stress is one of the leading causes of road rage, because it causes drivers to be touchier and more likely to respond to small things such as being cut-off in a violent way. Dr. Arnold Neremberg, a psychologist, found that nearly 53% of drivers suffer from what he calls "Road Rage Disorder," which means that they are especially susceptible to the anxiety that causes road rage. He says that there are at least several billion aggressive exchanges between drivers in the U.S. every day.

There are many possible explanations for the increase in aggression among drivers. Most of the

hypotheses have to do with overcrowding on America's roads. Since 1970, the American population has increased by 30%, with the number of licensed drivers going up 60%, and the number of registered vehicles has doubled to more than 200 million. Why is this such a big problem? Because the total miles of road in the U.S. has grown only 6% since 1970, and the number of new roads has increased just 1%. The combination of more people with essentially the same amount of road has caused road rage related deaths to skyrocket.

Experts offer these suggestions to help combat road rage. They say do things like listening to music, that calm you down and relieve stress. Anything that eases your emotions will cause you to be a less aggressive driver, and make the roads safer for everyone.

Distractions driving vehicles to disaster



Stacey Jarvis
Business Manager

Each year, approximately 284,000 drivers are involved in serious motor vehicle crashes according to a study by the University of North Carolina. A majority of these crashes are caused by distractions of the driver. Simple everyday tasks such as eating, drinking, conversation, and talking on cell phones while driving can cause a disruption in the driving process. We are all guilty of these minor infractions, but if you're giving others tasks priority over your driving, then you're a menace on the road, and you should consider ways to change your dangerous habits. Instead of driving through Taco Bell and ordering a messy burrito, opt out for a Snicker's or just wait to satisfy your hunger at a better time. If you're incredibly thirsty and cannot go another minute without quenching

your thirst, try to avoid hot drinks such as coffee, which will force you to react instantaneously and take your focus off the road. You might want to turn your cell phone off when you get in the car. If you just cannot tolerate a silent cell phone, then you can keep it in your lap or somewhere nearby so you won't have to put your attention on frantically searching for a ringing phone. LOHS Senior Spencer Samuels was driving home one day and flipped her parent's Suburban because she could not find her cell phone that was ringing inside her purse.

"It was a horrific moment. I do feel that cell phones are worth totaling cars and risking lives," stated Samuels.

Re-evaluate your distracting driving habits. You never know when such distractions will drive your vehicle to disaster.



Think before speeding



Jennifer Gholson
Circulation Manager

Fines for speeding are based on the number of miles per hour the offender drives over the speed limit. These fines range from \$1 to \$100. For example, one MPH over the limit is \$1, ten MPH over the limit is \$20, twenty MPH over the limit is \$40, and twenty-five MPH over the limit is \$55. Though, fines are double the usual amount if the offense occurred in a work zone. Along with the fines, the offender has to pay court costs. The cost is \$61.90. "The offender has to pay

this fine whether he goes to court or not," says a representative from the Circuit Clerk's office.

Under the point system, an offender's license is suspended for 6 months if they accumulate 12 points within a two-year period.

- Speeding 15 MPH over the speed limit - 3 points
- Speeding 16 MPH but under 26 MPH over the speed limit - 6 points
- Reckless driving - 4 points
- Driving too fast or too slow for conditions - 3 points
- Careless driving - 3 points

Source: Kentucky Circuit Clerk's Office

DUI: death under the influence

Rachel Megibow
Staff Writer

No one can deny that drunk driving is hazardous to your health. However, did you know that driving under the influence could be hazardous to your driving record?

Driving under the influence, or DUI, has become a serious problem in Kentucky. According to the latest statistics, the number of DUI cases has risen by 5%. Now, I know that may not seem like much of a problem, but think about what it means. If 5% more people are **caught** driving drunk, then imagine how many drunks there could be on the road. The more drunks that are on the road, the higher your chances of getting



killed. However, the fact you could cause someone to lose the life is not the only deterrent.

DUI is one of the three offenses you can lose your license for under Kentucky law. So that hard won freedom you waited so long to attain, is gone in one choice.

After you receive your license again, your insurance rates will jump considerably. If this isn't enough to keep people from driving drunk, I don't know what is.

Lawmakers have been working hard to counteract the problem of DUI. In spite of ad campaigns, tightened restrictions, and raised penalties, the number still increases. Hopefully, their efforts will not be in vain, and road conditions will be better for their efforts.

Cut the costs

Brittany Fellows and Abin Matin
Sports Editor and Coroner

Smart Insurance

Once you are of age and you have obtained a license and you are an owner of a vehicle, insurance is a necessity. Since teenagers are inexperienced drivers, they tend to get into a lot of accidents; this will be reflected in higher insurance rates. If you are a girl, you can expect your insurance to go up as much as 50%, where if you are a boy your car insurance may increase by as much as 100%. Here are several ways to keep your insurance costs to a minimum:

1. Make sure that the insurance company is aware where you live. A dis-

tance of at least 100 miles from home, may actually make the insurance cost lower.

2. Get good grades and to take a driver training course. Most insurance companies will give discounts for getting at least a "B" average and taking recognized driving courses
3. Look around before you decide on one specific insurance company.
4. Safe cars matter. You should avoid small cars and those with high performance images that might encourage speed and recklessness. Trucks and SUVs should also be avoided, since they are more prone to rollovers.



Lauren Wolf
Staff Writer

The biggest danger that new drivers experience is the same danger that kills the most teens every year: automobile accidents. Many new drivers are young teenagers and are still unsure on the roads. They come in contact with aggressive drivers or are often aggressive themselves, and it causes problems. Often teens become careless and exceed the posted rate of speed. In attempts to look "cool", teens disobey road laws and put themselves and others in danger.

The biggest distraction for teens on the road is other passengers. The chances of acci-

Killing the first car

dent for teenagers are 48% for one passenger in the car, 158% for 2 passengers, and 207% for

teens are busy talking, changing CD's, eating fast food, or rummaging through the mess of the



more than 2 passengers. Other passengers take away from the attention that the driver should be spending on the road. Often,

car.

The first wreck for teens is often harrowing, but it can easily be avoided. Oak "K" Staffer



Lori Speer (12) experienced her first wreck on March 12, 2001. She was not too far from home, but had been making an unnecessary trip. Approaching vehicles were in her lane and, being inexperienced, she didn't know what to do. She ran off the road, overcorrected, and lost control. She ended up flipping her car into some trees and climbing out her back window. "It was definitely a memorable experience," Speer says. "It has made me appreciate the value of a car and I am now more cautious when I drive."

Teens simply need to slow down and pay attention to what's going on in the road. They can save their cars, their insurance money, and most of all, their lives.

Rotarian Duo Sit Atop the Senior Class

Abin Matin
Coroner

Jonathan Blackman is an outstanding Rotarian in more ways than one. As one of the great youngsters of this year's Seniors class, he is a leader academically as well as athletically – so much so that he was selected as the Senior Class President. All of his efforts have led him to be chosen as October's Junior Rotarian.

Over the past four years, Jonathan has occupied the center position of the Lone Oak Purple Flash Varsity Basketball team. This year will be his second year as the starting center. He was recognized in his outstanding athletic abilities when he was chosen to the All-District team and received many other "sports awards," so many that he cannot even recall one of them.

"Jono" has been active in many clubs and has always done well in all his classes. He has been a four-year member of the Beta Club as well as FCA. His academic excellence was recognized by teachers with numerous Outstanding Student Awards and the nomination as a member of the list of Who's Who Among American High School Students.



Bean and Jono with the traditional handshake Photo by: Justin Latta

Jonathan enjoys Anatomy and Physiology the most this year and acknowledges Mrs. Masden as his favorite teacher.

He gets his inspiration to succeed from his parents and claims that he is honored to be chosen as a Junior Rotarian. In the future, "Jono" plans on attending a four-year college and eventually become a Physical Therapist.

Lastly, he offers one bit of advice to his classmates – "this is your last year, make it count."

Justin Latta
Assistant Editor

What words can be used to describe September's Junior Rotarian? Let's see, he is unique. Seriously, though, Abin Matin is definitely the coolest Bengali person I know (plus his first and last names rhyme). Nothing holds back this "crazy Bengalian" from achieving what he sets out to do. He credits "some" of his success to his parents. His persistence to excel in his life's journey makes him a great choice as a Junior Rotarian.

Bean's academic capabilities can be seen upon observing his list of "thousands" of awards. He was named to Who's Who Among American High School Students and selected as a 2001 Governor's Scholar. In addition, this genius received the United States National Mathematics Award and is a graduate of Kentucky Boys' State. He has also been a four-year honor student.

Beanie's excellent leadership skills may be seen in his "filling" of officer positions throughout the years. This year he is the President of the Beta Club. He claims that one of his proudest moments was when he voted as the Junior Class President last year and got the opportunity to set up Prom for the Seniors and his own class-

mates. He is also a proud three-year member of the Lone Oak Academic Team juggernaut.

Abin's calm attitude, sarcastic comments, and smart-alec remarks to questions make him one of the most noticeable students.

He enjoys playing tennis and watching movies with his friends. He claims "being around happy people makes him happy." This modesty has helped him get to where he is today - on top of the Senior class. Abin aims at finally getting his driver's license this year and somehow squeezing through his tough classes. His future plans include going to college and becoming an engineer or a doctor.

He hopes to leave a lasting impression on his Senior class by being remembered as a considerate and caring person.



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Danny tells his story Three Eagles

Abin Matin
Coroner

Danny Nassre (12), a close friend of mine, is a student at Stuyvesant High School, which is five blocks north of the World Trade Center, on the corner of Chambers and West Streets. This is his story.

At a quarter to nine on Tuesday, I was dozing off in the guidance office on the 2nd floor, waiting for a program change. Five minutes passed, and the humdrum mood in the office had not changed. A boy ran in and quickly muttered something about a plane crashing into a Twin Tower, and there was some lighthearted chatter about freak accidents among several students seated near me, but none of the paper-shuffling grade advisors seemed very interested in the matter.

"Holy #&%*," a grade advisor standing next to me softly remarked, as we watched news coverage smoke billowing from the gigantic fissure high up on the north tower. Even though I knew hundreds were already dead and dying inside, the sight of the injured tower and its as of yet unscathed twin looming over the downtown skyline seemed incredibly serene. On television, the choking smoke gracefully drifted upwards on one side of the

tower, floating like ink spilled in water. And the total absence of street noise that accompanied the view almost made one feel at peace. The continuous *woosh* of the air and

"The choking smoke gracefully drifted upwards on one side of the tower, floating like ink spilled in water."

occasional subdued commentary of reporters was all that could be heard.

Until I made my way out into the hall that is, where the agonized cries of those who feared the worst for their parents served to chill the air, and give me goosebumps. I walked by the student store, where a voice from a nineteen-forties newsreel boldly announced: "We are under attack! New York is under attack! I repeat-". Some-

one said something about the other tower, being hit, but no one believed him. The school aid who ran the store quickly dashed out, her bag bouncing heavily at her side with every step as she explained her intention of retrieving her nine-year old son. He was nowhere near the towers.

All that you may have heard about television not doing justice to the horror of Tuesday's events is true. A separation of a quarter-mile still dulled the trauma, but the sight of the north tower from the southeast window of the student lounge was inconceivably foreign to anything that could be seen on NBC.

The tower (the only one that could be seen from our school) loomed high above our tiny ten story building, and from this close it seemed to arch back like a sturdy man stretching after a long nap. But it now the stretching figure was scarred. What looked like a dark slit spewing black on television,

was a huge, jagged sizzling crack from Chambers Street. And the black was still black, but with flecks of white, grey, and shiny silver floating like confetti around the flames. The tower was slender, and graceful on the TV

set. From the window it look significantly chubbier, almost bloated. And now, the bloated box that had been awkwardly planted in Lower Manhattan's garden of ornate spires would be forever remembered, at least by me, by my view from the window of the burning scar it wore on its last day.

The south tower collapsed. No one in our building could have seen it, but everyone in the bulding saw the lights

flicker and the televisions in their rooms go off, and everyone in the higher floors felt the horrifying quaking of the ground, and everyone on the building's south side watched as thousands frantically made their way up North End Avenue, and around our building, escaping the menacing grey wall of smoke and ash that sped uptown. They seemed to be dropping things along the way, whether piles of papers, duffle bags, strollers; the streets seemed prime for looting. But soon they would be deserted.

When they finally decided to evacuate us (I've heard various reasons as to why, from the hazards of the smoke clouds that stopped just south of our school, to a bomb threat made on the building), I walked

along with a group of friends, occasionally looking back, and seeing nothing but an elaborate panorama of dust, smoke and steel. It was horrifying to think that they had fallen, not because they were beloved--I barely knew anyone who thought anything special of the drab structures--but because they had been there longer than I had, and because they were the most prominent feature on every tacky postcard of the city I had ever seen. The towers had been a part of New York long enough to stir up sentiment, but on that day, all I could think of was the sight in the window, and the only sentiment that resided in me was fear. I wasn't afraid that anything would happen to me, as I was almost certain of my safety. My terror came from the fact that something infinitely larger and greater than I, however ugly or unstylish, had been rendered to dust. Stars explode and galaxies collide, but I never expected to be intimidated by cosmic forces that were a little way down the street.

Joshua Woleben
Technology Coordinator

One fateful morning, the world unaware, a giant silver eagle crashed into its towering abode. There was thunder and lightning and the city in a scare, then her mate flew headlong into the other, sorrow untold.

Another peal of thunder, and clouds filled the skies, the ground was shaking now, and a geometric shape, a five-sided figure, their sad son, and thousands of lives, were destroyed in his angry suicidal inferno in a thundercloud's drape.

What caused the family of eagles to die?

Why did from heaven they strike the earth?

Whatever the answer, their master the giant, who will cry over the loss, but who did this deed, beware: the Phoenix has given birth.

The giant's grief is now anger, he storms the entire world, trying to find those who killed his lovely eagle pets. And the thousands who perished in their nests and the news unfurled, he rages in righteousness and strikes those who committed, repaying their debts.

This anger is right, for the giant is just.

He wants retribution for his lost eagles today.

Those who drove them to die, he will truly punish, he must, either with toy soldiers or fire-crackers, and he can have more eagles someday.



Mrs. Reed Rulz! *Ten reasons teens shouldn't smoke*

Justin Latta
Assistant Editor

For 25 years, Mrs. Dolores Reed has graced the halls of Lone Oak High. She has been an office aide, a friend, and sometimes a maternal figure to some students. In short, Mrs. Reed could be the glue that has held Lone Oak High together through thick and thin.

Growing up on Contest Road in Lone Oak, Mrs. Reed has seen the history of our town unfold as the years progressed. In 1974 Mrs. Reed was hired as an office aide here at our school. Mrs. Reed has many fond memories of the students here at LOHS, the most memorable student being Chris Hughes.

According to Mrs. Reed, everyday Chris would walk in the office with his pants hanging down and Mrs. Reed would tell him, "Chris pull up your pants!" This went on the whole school year like clock-



work. Well, on the last day of school, Chris walked in the office and Mrs. Reed told him the same thing she had all year. He complied with her command and started to walk towards the Assistant Principal's office. When he was out of sight, Mrs. Reed said she heard him yell, "Mrs. Reed come here!" Thinking something was wrong Mrs. Reed rushed to Chris... only to see him with his pants pulled down.

Mrs. Reed only said one thing about the incident, "They were blue and red plaid."

We, the students, mean everything to Mrs. Reed. She came out of retirement for us, and she is happy once again. When asked if there was anything she would like to say to the students of LOHS, Mrs. Reed simply stated, "I think they are great kids. I wouldn't be back if it wasn't for them."

Hunter Campbell
Editor-in-Chief

Teens shouldn't smoke, period. However, some may be left to wonder, "Why not?" Well, that's what I am here to clarify. This is a list of the top ten reasons why teenagers should not start smoking.

10) **The smell:** For those of you that smoke and don't realize it, cigarette smoke smells like something you would find laying in your dog's pen. To say the stench is unpleasant is an understatement.

9) **The look:** News flash! You don't look cool smoking. You would look better if you were Justin Latta (which obviously means you don't look cool smoking.)

8) **Your teeth:** Although the yellowness may appeal to certain African tribes that also pierce their cheeks, no one else particularly likes it.

7) **The breath:** No, no one likes someone's breath if it smells like Carbon Monoxide and tar.

6) **The cost:** I know that you can't afford to pay thousands of dollars a year for cigarettes. Then you wouldn't have money for other things like alcohol.

5) **The burns:** Yeah, you mean to tell me that you don't burn yourself. Obviously the smoke is getting to your brain.

4) **The lungs:** No, your lungs are NOT supposed to be black.

3) **The heart:** Your heart is also NOT supposed to unexplainably explode.

2) **The death:** The Grim Reaper is attracted to the smoke, you know where he's from, there's quite a bit of smoke.

1) **Is it not obvious?** Hmmm... you look dumb, you smell bad, and it could kill you. Yeah smoking is really, really cool.

How do you eat your crispy steak?

Jennifer Gholson
Circulation Manager

Crispy Steak Day is as good as a national holiday here at LOHS. Adam Fernow (12) said, "I don't know what it is or where it comes from, but I like it." Though, I noticed that students consume this meat patty in different ways. I took a poll asking fifty people in 1st lunch how they ate their crispy steak, if they did. Here is what they said:

I like a mix of everything drenched in gravy. 8%
I like mine with ketchup. 2%
I like it with whatever it comes

with (Everything on my plate) 4%
I eat my crispy steak plain with a fork. 20%

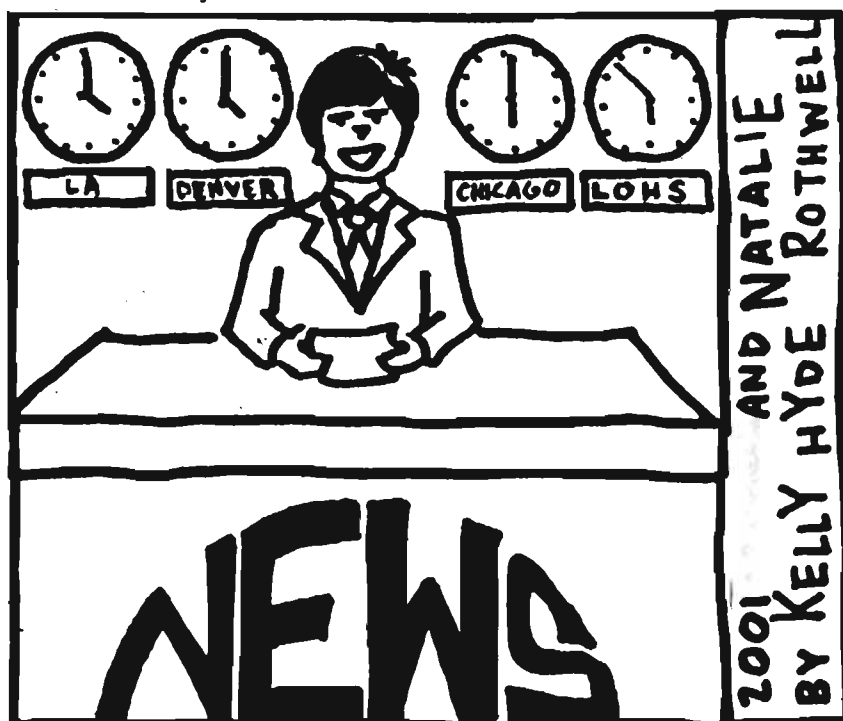
I use a normal (1 scoop) amount of gravy with mine 20%

I like my crispy steak with mashed potatoes. 4%

I HATE crispy steak (What do they know?) 42%

"I eat my crispy steak with a smile," says Jono Blackman (12).

And Kyle Weishaar says, "My heart skips a beat when I see that mystery... MEAT!"



The guiding light to college success "Reel"ing in entertainment

Lori Speer

Advertising Manager

College- it's something that everyone has to think about at some point in time. Whether you actually decide to go or not is a different story. Either way, you still need to prepare yourself. One of the most important things you must do before you can be accepted into a college is to take the ACT or the SAT. Some people choose to take both. So, for those of you who haven't taken either of these yet or even thought about them, here's where to find some helpful information.

✓ www.act.org

✓ www.collegeboard.org/

Another item to be considered when looking into college is scholarships. Many of these have early deadlines that need to be met. For those of you out there whose parents, like mine, don't own the world and can't just send you to any college, these scholarships are important. However, unless you apply early, or at least by the dead-

line, you miss your chance. Many people ask, "How do I know what scholarships are available?" Well, just as above, here are some helpful websites to help you find your perfect scholarships.

✓ www.fastweb.com

✓ www.finaid.org

These are only a few of many web sites and information sources available. There is one more site to view when searching for college information. That is the one that Mrs. Light, the wonderful guidance counselor, is creating for the students of Lone Oak High School. Go to the McCracken County Public Schools Home Page and simply click on Mrs. Light's picture. This will take you to a list of choices from which to pick. From there, it's up to you. Use the below web address to begin your searches if you like. Don't forget to thank Mrs. Light!

✓ www.mccracken.k12.ky.us

Rachel Megibow

Staff Writer

Just when you thought it was safe to go downtown, here comes... Maiden Alley (shocking movies sounds)! What is Maiden Alley and how did it come to reside in Paducah? Well my friends, it's time you found out.

The Paducah Film Society has been in existence for twenty years. After years of showing it's offbeat films at Market House Theater, it built the Maiden Alley Cinema. This theater is located near the riverfront in the heart of downtown. Movies are shown from Friday through Sunday.

The types of movies you see at Maiden Alley are not your garden variety, star-studded, big-budget movies you see at Cinemark. Maiden Alley movies tend to be independent or foreign films, usually Sundance winners. One film, George Washington, was so "independent" the owners had to

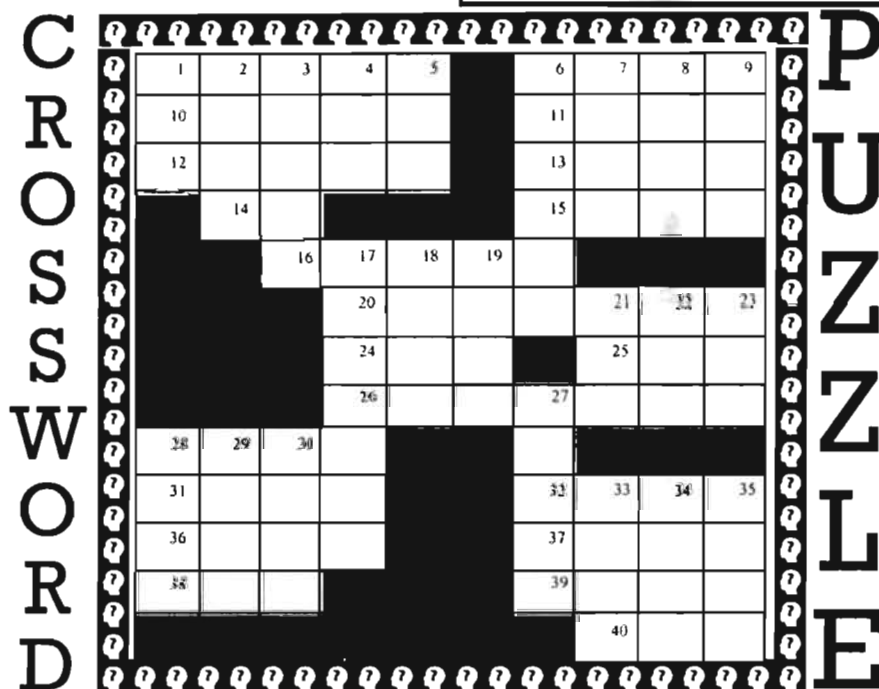
take shots from the film reel to make the movie posters.

What makes these movies so different is they explore areas of life not seen in normal movies. One such example is the movie Hedwig and the Angry Inch, about a search for Hedwig's "other half" and limitless fame amongst the ridged rules of society. The genre of movie Maiden Alley showcases is not limited to movies that go unheard of by the mainstream audience. It has played host to movies such as The Tailor of Panama, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Monty Python and the Holy Grail; all mainstream successes. So there are a wide variety of choices at Maiden Alley.

"It seems to be gaining popularity," Robert Spees, a senior at LOHS and an employee of Maiden Alley, said. So next time you're downtown, check it out. You never know what you might find.

Across

1. Box
6. _____ the Red
10. Mirage
11. Folk knowledge
12. Nibbles
13. Actor Alda
14. Los Amigos (Abbr.)
15. Stake
16. Angers
20. Small Book
24. ____-tse fly
25. Auditory Organ
26. Oddest
28. Box
31. New Zealand bird
32. Endure
36. Object
37. Butter substitute
38. Faux ____ (Fr.)
39. Ajar
40. Opposite of NSN



Down

1. Corn on the ____
2. Handhold
3. When you wish upon...
4. Simultaneous event
5. Road curve
6. Pass (time)
7. Chocolate candy
8. Savings accounts
9. Penny
17. Temporary
18. Fail to win
19. ____ and anon
21. Robert or Travis
22. ____ Vegas
23. Creative designs
27. Eskimo home
28. Hop
29. Type of bread
30. Amazes
33. European mountain
34. Witnessed
35. Units of weight

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Soccer season ends unexpectedly

Boys finish a season of close calls and narrow defeats.

Staff Writer

In a season that was supposed to be great, the ball seemed to bounce the wrong way more often than not for the Lone Oak Boys' Soccer team. Five overtime games, including four shootouts spelled trouble for a team that proved it had the firepower to contend, but the breaks it sometimes needed were not as readily available.

The preseason favorites to take the first district crown came up one win short of advancing to the regional tournament for the second time in school history. They lost to Paducah Tilghman 2-0 in the first round of the District Tournament, held at the Tornado's home field. They gave up two goals in the first six minutes, and despite a second half that displayed more heart than ever thought possible from a team, Tilghman bent but

did not break, ending the high school soccer careers of the eight seniors: **Justin Jett**, the team's leading scorer with 19 goals, **Chris Jett**, second on the team with ten goals, **Brad Brasher**, a captain and central midfielder, **Josh Ramirez**, a hustling reserve, **Clint Cunningham**, a wing midfielder with three goals on the year, **Garrett Proper**, a very strong left defender, **Jon Hayden**, a captain with five goals on the year, and **Hunter Campbell**, a captain and second year goalkeeper.

Four Flash players, however, did make the All-District team. They were **Justin Jett**, **Chris Jett**, **Hunter Campbell**, and **Brad Brasher**.

The boys' team put their heart and soul into every game this year, and they are to be commended for that. Congratulations on an excellent year, and good luck to the departing seniors and next year's players.

New coach, Ceglinski, takes girls to a stellar season.

***Hunter Campbell**
Editor-in-Chief*

Throughout this season, the Lady Flash soccer team has proven time and time again that heart and hard work can get you further than skill alone. People counted them out because they had to start a freshman in the goal, and had lost four seniors from the year before, not to mention the fact that they had to play under their second coach in as many years. However, behind the soccer know-how of long time "assistant" Fred Miller, the competitiveness that new coach Ceglinski brought to the team, and the leadership of seven outstanding seniors, the girls put together an awesome season.

Their record was a great 8-7 and they, like the boys, lost some very close games to some very good teams, like Murray and Heath. Their leading goal scorer was, in fact, a freshman, **Melissa Curry**, but the team got other big goal totals from Melissa's older

sister **Tiffany Curry** (11), **Amy Bean** (11), and **Andria Downs** (12). The other seniors were **Laura Ramsey**, **LeAnn Mason**, **Andrea Dewey**, **AnneMarie Cason**, **Whitney Morreau**, and **Lacy Richardson**.

In the District Tournament, the Lady Flash had the tough task of defeating Heath, a team that had defeated them twice during the regular season. The score was tied 0-0 for almost the entire game. The girls seemed to have snatched a victory from the Lady Pirates when **Downs** scored off of a free kick with barely any time remaining, but the goal was disallowed due to an offside call that was blatantly incorrect. The Lady Flash went on to lose that heart-wrenching game in overtime, thus ending their season. Four girls did receive All-District honors. They were **Downs**, **Morreau**, **Ramsey**, and **Megan Chaffin** (11).

The team should be congratulated on a season that some would call an over-achievement, but is a testament to hard work, dedication, and an undying will to win.



Goin' long: **Brad Brasher** (12) attempts to set his team up for a score with a free kick in the Flash's District Tournament loss to Paducah Tilghman. Brasher moved from defense to midfield this year and helped his team have one of its most successful offensive seasons in years.

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Go Lone Oak



Building Year for the Flash

Brittany Fellows
Sports Editor

Clearly, the LOHS' football team is not the most impressive in statistics alone, but statistics is only one of the components for a successful football team. According to Coach Dew, the LOHS team is experiencing a "learning season," and the football team can amount to much more.

The football team's greatest strength is also their weakness. The football team is very young and inexperienced, which allows the path to a bright future. "The greatest strength is our attitude," said Dew, reflecting the year.

There is definitely always room for improvement. The football coach and team have set up a motto: W.A.Y. to W.I.N. (Work All Year To Win In November) The team plans to "live" in the weight room. The football team plans to increase their strength in order to be better next year.

LOHS' football team has weaknesses as well. The team has a lack of speed and strength, which is preventing the team to be suc-

cessful. In order to become better, they plan to practice with their footwork to increase speed. "We are going to have a very intense off-season program. We will get stronger and faster which will all lead to more confidence in our players," reports Dew.

Has Coach Dew enjoyed working with the football team? "Definitely. We have a terrific group of young men to work with. It has been a difficult season, but they have kept their heads high. Sometimes that is hard when people at your own school insult and try to belittle you. We just ignore those. We have a great group of players on which to build, and I can't tell you how proud I am of our seniors."

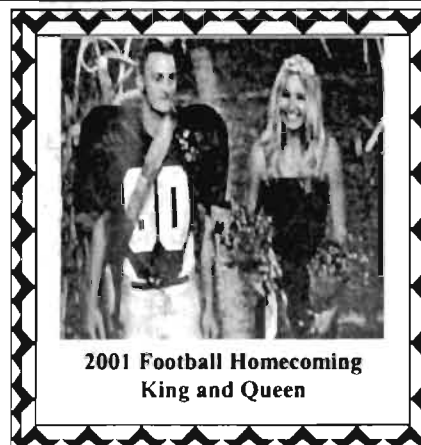
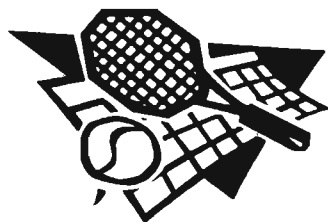
Coach Dew firmly believes the football will be more improved next year. In order for improvement there are some factors that would help such as improving the weight room, getting more players out for football, and getting better equipment for the football team. "Football takes dedication and hard work, and most can't handle that," said Dew.

Tennis Swings Into Action

Seth Bowen
Assistant Editor

The Lone Oak Boys' Tennis team began a round robin tournament October 15 and continuing through October 31st. The boy's tennis team includes **Matt Barks** (12), **Matt Goode** (12), **Stephen Sloan** (11), **David Bailey** (11), **David Kulick** (11), **Lucas Elloit** (10), **Joseph Elloit** (10), **Zhipeng Zhang** (9), **Jared Owen**(9), **Elliot Trece** (9), and **Brad Robbins** (9).

The Girls' team began their round robin tournament on October 16 and continuing to October 25th. The girl's tennis team includes: **Metra Mitchell** (12), **Anna Brewer** (12), **Jenni Gregory** (12), **Amanda Beckman** (11), **Liz Conyer** (11), **Terin Roof** (11), and **Laura Bredniak** (10). Results will be posted in the November issue. Good luck!



2001 Football Homecoming
King and Queen

2001 Football Homecoming King and Queen Kristen Lafferty and Chris Tilley (Pictured at left)
Homecoming Court Attendants: Tara Davenport (Freshman), Whitney Overstreet (Sophomore), and Sara Pickens (Junior).
Queen Candidates: Kinsey Bell, Emily Canup, Andria Downs, and Rachel Ivitts.
King Candidates: Jonathan Blackmon, Matt Goode, Matt Dodds, and Justin Jett.

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