

December 19, 2001

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# The Oak "K"

Volume 60

Number 4

December 2001

"Whatever you are, be a good one."-Abraham Lincoln

## Beta Club "falls" in love in Louisville

**Lauren Wolf**  
Staff Writer

You can't help falling in love with Beta Club. The weekend of December 7th, 8th and 9th members of the LOHS Beta Club got to "feel the love" with fellow Beta members at the Kentucky State Beta Convention in Louisville. Aside from merely attending the convention, members competed in academic and talent competitions. **Bethany Hobbs (11)** ran for the state office of vice president against eleven other juniors from Kentucky.

"I was really glad that I got to run for an office, because I met a lot of really nice people and made some great friends that I would not have met if I had not run for the office. I'm very happy that I went," said Hobbs.

Along with meeting other juniors running for office, Hobbs presented a speech and campaigned as if she were running for political government. The entire club also participated in a group skit that



Photo by Ms. Underhill

**Lovin' the convention:** Beta Club members **Amanda Beckman (11)** and **Lan Nguyen (10)** smile during the festivities in Louisville.

was part of Hobbs' campaign. The theme for the skit was "Can't help falling in love with Bethany Hobbs."

While the campaigning was going on, the competitions were taking place. Two LOHS students took home trophies in academic competitions. **Walt Whinnery (10)** placed third in the social stud-

ies competition, and **Lan Nguyen (10)** took home a second place trophy for creative writing.

"I can't believe I really won. It's so cool!" said Nguyen after receiving her trophy. All first and second place winners have the chance to go to the National Beta Convention, which will be held in Orlando, Florida, in June.

The convention wasn't all work and no play. The students also had free time to go to the mall and meet other convention-goers. A mixer was held on Friday along with a dance on Saturday at their hotel, The Galt House. This allowed sophomores, juniors, and seniors from all across the state to get to know one another under one common facet, the State Beta Club.

LOHS Betas were accompanied by faculty members Mrs. Wear, Mr. Roe, Ms. Underhill, and Mr. Watwood. Mr. Roe commented that, "Our Beta Club acted very maturely and was head and shoulders above the other clubs."



Photo by Mr. Watwood

**Feelin' the love:** Part of the Lone Oak Beta contingent relaxes for a picture before dancing on the tables at Joe's Crab Shack.



# 2 News *The Oak "K"*

## All great, All-State!

December 2001

**Brittany Fellows**  
Sports Editor

Congratulations to **Kelly Blackman** (12), **Annemarie Cason** (12), **Joshua Ramirez** (12), **Brandon Roberts** (11), **Jordan Wexler** (11), **John Robinson** (11), and **Casey Strong** (10), **Serena Wilson** (10), and **Andy Keeling** (10), this year's participants in All-State Chorus. These students are going to take part in an All-State Convention held by



Only 600 out of 1700 students who auditioned across the state are chosen to attend.

During the convention, members attend three rehearsals by the conduction of a nationally known conductor to prepare for a concert at the Kentucky Center for the Arts.

Congratulations also to **Drew Farmer** (12) who made All-State Band. He will participate in the convention in Louisville along with All-State Chorus.



Photo by: Brittany Fellows

The All-State members are **Annemarie Cason** (12), **Serena Wilson** (10), **Casey Strong** (10), **Joshua Ramirez** (12), **Andy Keeling** (10), **Jordan Wexler** (11), **Brandon Roberts** (11), and **John Robinson** (11). (Not pictured are **Kelly Blackman** (12) and the All-State band member **Drew Farmer** (12).)

## Painting away the competition!

**Stacey Jarvis**  
Business Manager

The Yeiser Art Center, located on Broadway in downtown Paducah, recently hosted a *Teen Spirit* art competition. The competition incorporates schools across Western Kentucky and Southern Illinois. Twenty-two out of 53 items submitted by Lone Oak High School art students have been selected for exhibit in the most prestigious of Western Kentucky's high school art competitions. Five awards were presented during a reception at the gallery Sunday, December 2. Lone Oak senior **Metra Mitchell** walked away with two awards leaving Lone Oak the only school to win more than one award. Competing against all mediums, Metra won both second place, awarding \$100, and third place, awarding \$75.

The students representing Lone Oak include:  
**Metra Mitchell** (12), 4 acrylic paintings  
**Laura Ramsey** (12), 4 photographs  
**Robert Spees** (12), 2 photographs, 1 print  
**Kelly Hyde** (12), scratchboard  
**Amanda Dial** (12), 1 oil painting, 1 ceramic  
**Steven Burnett** (11), paper mache mask  
**Brady Camp** (11), tempera painting  
**Brad Rankin** (11), acrylic painting  
**Angelina Pecararo** (11), 2 acrylics  
**Walt Whinnery** (10), 1 photograph  
**Jennifer Burrus** (10), paper mache mask  
**Adam Hendrickson** (9), paper mache mask



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# December's head honcho

**Abin Matin**  
Coroner

What can be said of this month's Junior Rotarian? What can you say about her eclectic personality...her trailblazing leadership abilities...and...and...her jumping and flipping skills? Emily Canup is very deserving of this prominent recognition. Upon asking what activities she has participated in throughout high school, I realized that I probably should have asked what she hasn't participated in. She has been a member of the Pep Club for three years and Vice President of the Math Club. Also, she was voted the Vice President of the senior class.

Canup's list of activities goes

beyond the school too. She is a four-year member of the Cheers leading squad and an outstanding outfielder of the Softball team for the past two years. In addition, she has been



taken part in Cheers Elite, a competitive squad that practices in Mayfield, for seven years.

During the summer, Canup works at G & O Pharmacy, to try to get a head start into her future plans, which include attending either Ole Miss University or University of

Kentucky to become a pharmacist, following her father's footsteps. She even ponders about working with him in the future.

Canup goes through life everyday with one main quote in mind, "Failure is the opportunity to begin again...more intelligently" (Henry Ford). This ideal encourages her to never give up and feel as though life could only get better. She shows her leadership abilities as she encourages students be a leader and "remember the lead sled dog is the only one with decent view." She is definitely an exemplary Junior Rotarian. For the festive month of December, Emily Canup is definitely the Grand Pooh-Bah!!!

## A-team perseveres at PCC

**Seth Bowen**  
Assistant Editor

After a regular season marked by impressive victories over Marshall County and Heath, the LOHS academic team entered several tournaments. On November 17<sup>th</sup>, the team traveled to Hart County to compete in their annual tournament. Following an unlucky draw, LOHS lost a disappointing match to perennial power Louisville Manual. In the second round, Madisonville eked out a win.

The team showed its perseverance the next week. At the second annual PCC President's Cup, LOHS defeated Fulton City in the first round and Reidland in the second. In the semi-finals, LOHS faced Madisonville. With a late string of correct answers, the team avenged their previous loss and advanced to the finals against previously unbeaten Graves County.

The match would prove to be the closest for either team this year. With the score tied and one question remaining, both teams answered incorrectly, which sent the match into overtime. In overtime, the first team to correctly answer five questions wins. With the score four to three in Lone Oak's favor, senior **Josh Woleben** buzzed in with the correct answer to give Lone Oak the trophy.

On November 30<sup>th</sup>, the team traveled to Heath vying for a chance to compete in the West Kentucky Academic Bowl. An early deficit was too much to overcome as Heath pulled out the two-point win. The team looks forward to its next tournament in February.

*Congratulations*

# Tony Stewart

RACING

Good Luck  
Stacey Jarvis  
and the  
Graduating  
Class of 2002



# Anatomy students make "the final cut"

## Staff Writer

Recently Mr. Ceglinski's Anatomy and Physiology classes began getting down and dirty with the body's systems. They have been doing that through the dissection of large sewer rats.

The students started by skinning the rats, exposing the top layer of muscle of the rats' bodies. They then examined the rats' tendons and ligaments in their arms and legs. The classes then proceeded to make a mid-sagittal incision on the anterior side of the rats' bodies (That means they cut down the front) and

peered in at the digestive and other systems. One group even got a special surprise when they discovered that they had more than one rat on their hands. There were ten to be exact. Yes, their rat was pregnant with nine babies. **Jon Hayden (12)** and **Hunter Campbell (12)** were the proud parents of the rat litter.

**Evan Simon (12)** commented on the project. "It really gives you a new perspective on the insides of your body. It also made me want to vomit."

Through the study of the rats, Mr. Ceglinski hopes his classes can come to a better understanding of the way the human body works. Our body systems are similar to the rats', and since dissecting rats is a bit more cost-effective and legal than performing autopsies in the classroom, the rats are excellent learning tool.

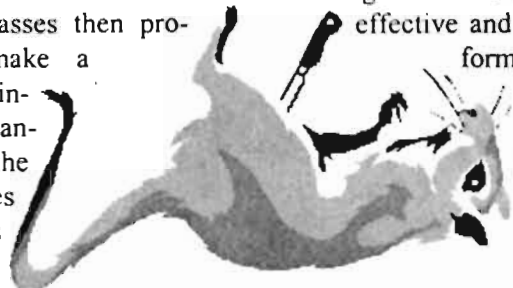


Photo by Hunter Campbell

**Making the cut:** Jon Hayden (12) makes an incision in an attempt to learn a little more about the human body through rats. The rat could not be reached for comment.

## Digital camera donated to English Department

### Staff Writer

"Smile! Say 'Cheese!'" is going to be heard more frequently in the English department at LOHS, thanks to the Ronald McDonald House Charities Foundation which donated a Sony Mavica digital camera for use by the English teachers because of our school's participation in the "Schools to Careers" program.

Mrs. Paula Armon is the coordinator for this unique program, which is supported financially by McDonalds, the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, and various federal funds. Through this program every single freshman high school student in the area is given the opportunity to take a field trip which focuses on careers

in the area. LOHS freshmen recently took a trip to the Westvaco paper mill in Wickliffe, KY.

"The great thing about this program is that the students get to choose from a list of options where they would like to visit," said Mr. Nall, freshmen English teacher.

Not only is the trip coordinated completely by Mrs. Armon, but the sponsors of this program pay for the cost of the substitute teachers, the cost of transportation, as well as providing lunch to all the participants.

The English teachers plan to produce a portfolio of photographs of the various student projects completed throughout the year in their English classes.

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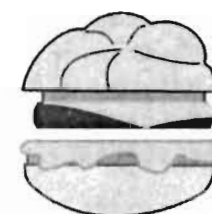
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# Replace the "X" in X-mas

**Jennifer Gholson**

*Circulation Manager*

Holidays all have their special meaning and origin. Valentines Day is the day of love, St. Patrick's- luck and Christmas- presents! Often, however, we become side tracked by working, shopping, parties, or presents, and we seem to forget the purpose of this



special holiday that has almost become empty.

Parties and light shows are replacing Christmas pageants and church services. Santa is sometimes held in higher esteem than Jesus. Without the deeper meaning behind Christmas, "X-mas" becomes a shallow gift exchange. I'm not saying

any of the secular traditions of Christmas are bad. They don't need to get in the way of celebrating Christmas for the holiday's true origin. It is too easy to become "wrapped up" in the materialism of Christmas, forgetting

about the "It's too easy to become "wrapped" up in the materialism of Christmas."

"Reason behind the Season."

We must remind ourselves of Christmas' origin by not taking the "Christ" out of Christmas. Reminders, such as going to religious events and using a nativity as decoration, help make the holidays what they actually are, celebrating the birth of the Messiah.



## "Merry Christmas"

**Joshua Woleben**

*Technology Coordinator*

"Merry Christmas!" can get people arrested. "Happy Holidays" and "Season's Greetings" are fine, but "Merry Christmas" is bad. Why?

Apparently, anyone employed by the government cannot say "Merry Christmas" to their clients. On

December 5, 1994 the president of the postal service banned any employee from wishing any customer a "Merry Christmas." The basis of this policy is the separation of church and state, but sometimes is carried too far. Just because Christmas happens to be a holiday with a religious background doesn't mean that one is endorsing Christianity by saying "Merry Christmas." Many only think of the presents and the tree and the lights, not the Son of God being born to save the world.

"... sometimes [separation of church and state] is carried too far."

There is absolutely nothing offensive about "Merry Christmas"; it simply implies a sense of joy, peace, and love.

Season's Greetings  
From the Oak "K" Staff



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# Give the gift that keeps on giving

**Stacey Jarvis**  
Business Manager

Have you ever sat down with your parents and had *The Talk*? You know, the one about life after death? No, I don't mean reincarnation. I am talking about organ donation. For many people, the thought of organ donation may appear frightening. Many myths have developed through the years urging people to ignore the thought of being an organ donor. These frightened people, however, are not analyzing the true meaning of donating their anatomical gift. Everyone, young and old, should become an organ donor. Thousands of waiting, sick patients could be saved, and you could continue life even after you have passed away.

Did you know that more than

79,000 men, women, and children currently await life saving transplants? Every thirteen minutes another name is added to the National Transplant Waiting List. The decision for you to become an organ donor could provide life for approximately twenty-seven people. Yes, this is true! One organ and tissue donor can provide seven life saving organs and quality enhancing tissues for another twenty persons. The National Transplant Waiting List is growing dramatically every day, and your choice of life could make an extreme difference.

In 2000, there were about 6,000 organ donors, resulting in 22,854 organ transplants. The approximate population of the United States of America is 276 million people. It's saddening to see that

only 6,000 of those who passed away in 2000 were organ donors. An average of fifteen people die each day from the lack of available organs for transplant. Obviously, organ donors are important and needed. Despite many myths you may have heard, being an organ donor has no disadvantages.

Many of those who fear the choice of becoming an organ donor believe the number one common myth, "The ER doctor myth." The frightened people believe that if emergency room doctors knew about their choice of organ donation, then the doctor would not save them in a life-or-death situation. The fact is, however, if you are sick, injured, and admitted into the hospital, the number one priority is to save your life. Organ donation can only be considered af-

ter you die and your family has been consulted. Therefore, the doctors would not have complete knowledge of your donor status, and could not, and would not, end your life for such a reason.

If you have not considered organ donation, then you should re-evaluate your decision. Once you have decided, sign a donor card or the back of your driver's license. Most importantly, however, you should consult your decision with your parents and/or immediate family members. No one knows the day or the hour of death, so it's important to tell your family now! Everyone should become an organ donor. It can create new life for someone else, and who knows, you may be waiting on "the list" one day. Donate life!

# Why make Harry Potter disappear?

**Rachel Megibow**  
Staff Writer

Harry Potter, that name alone sparks more controversy than the Scopes trial. Who would have thought a harmless children's book would cause book burnings and protest oddly reminiscent of events that occurred surrounding *The Catcher in the Rye*. These books have been given the death sentences of "evil" and "obscene." When we evaluate books we only

see the perspective of the evaluators, not society as a whole (which can't agree on much anyway.)

Some people are easily offended, others are not. What this means is what is obscene to one person may seem harmless to another. In one library the Shell Silverstein book *The Giving Tree* was banned because one librarian believed it was sexist.

If the truth of obscenity is left up to one person, or even a small group of people, we risk losing the

varied perspective on life that makes reading so wonderful. Also, herein lies the danger of censorship.

It has always been the job of artists and authors to challenge social norms and hold up a part of humanity for us to see. Usually, these are pieces of ourselves that we want to bury. It seems to be a weak excuse to censor someone's writing just because you don't want to face your own fault.

Character development is lim-

ited severely if we have to worry about being censored because of a few words. An ex-convict is not going to say "Gee golly gosh drat" when they get hit over the head with a baseball bat. What's wrong with making characters realistic? Heaven forbid we might relate to them!

Take books with a grain of salt and think while you read. It's a book, enjoy it.

Moderation in pursuit of Justice is no virtue.

Extremism in defense of Liberty is no vice.

Tod Megibow, Attorney at Law



# It's Christmas time



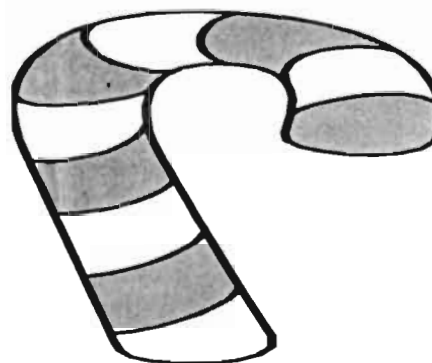
Amanda Beckman (11): "I'll be hitting the slopes in Copper Mountain, Colorado."



Matt Dennis (11): "Yeah, I think I'll go to England." (yeah, right!)



Spencer Samuels (12): "I'm going to Chicago."



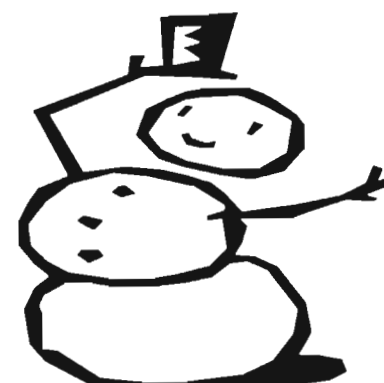
Brad Rankin (11): "I will be enjoying the comforts and setting of my own house."



Bethany Hobbs (11): "I'm going to Memphis!"



Abin Matin (12) I'm going to New York to pay respect to the city's loses



# Season's Greetings

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# All I want for Christmas...

**Joshua Woleben**

*Technology Coordinator*

That season of giving is coming up fast upon us, and everyone has something that he or she wants more than anything else in the world for Christmas. They say giving is better than receiving, but who could give if there was no one to receive? What do students and staff want for Christmas this year? Some of the requests are reasonable and believable; others are just

a bit unrealistic, but in all of their glory, here's what some students and faculty want for Christmas 2001!



**Kris Dunkerson**

11th

Playstation 2



**Stacey Williamson**

12th

Houseboat/ BETA reunion



**Mr. Watwood**

Staff

One million dollars

Happy Holidays from the Oak "K" Staff

## No money? No problem

**Stacey Jarvis**

*Business Manager*

It's Christmas time once again, and you probably have a long list of people that you would like to give a gift. However, you may be a little short on cash. Sound like you? If so, here are a few cheap Christmas gift ideas that are creative and sure to please anyone!

- **Scrapbook:** Collect sentimental pictures, get a memory book, a few stickers and markers and create a personal reflection of good times spent with you and a special person.
- **Pillows:** Get a little fabric, some pillow cotton, a needle

and thread and personalize a pillow for your best bud or even a grandparent. Get as creative as possible!

- **Picture Frames:** Get a couple pieces of cardboard, scissors, construction paper, glue, and any fun accessories and put together a fun frame to hold a goofy picture of you and your friends.
- **Mrs. Masden's Christmas Boxes:** Get some old Christmas cards and fold a handy gift box to hold small items such as candy. (See Mrs. Masden for details!)
- **Cookies:** Make your best pals some yummy Christmas cookies, decorate with fun sprinkles and icing, wrap them with colorful saran-wrap, and tie the top with red and green ribbon. Sure to please anyone!

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# A great miracle happened there

**Rachel Megibow**  
Staff Writer

Chanukah sounds like a great holiday. You light a candle and get a present for eight nights. Can't have too much to it, right? Actually, Chanukah is more than just candles and presents; it's about miracles and triumph.

During the Greek period king Antiochus declared that all Jews must worship Greek gods and change their names to Greek names. Some Jews followed the decree; others fled to the hills. These Jews were led by a man named Matathias. He led them in secret study of torah, the Jewish holy book. When Matathias died, he named his son Juah Macabee. After a long guerrilla war, the Macabees finally triumphed over the Greek army.



Then there was the task of rebuilding and rededicating the temple. When they went to light the sacred menorah, a seven-branched candlestick, they saw that there was only enough oil to burn for one day and it would take eight days to make more oil. Sadly, they poured the oil in. In the morning, the rabbis returned to the temple to inspect the menorah only to see the light had not gone out. In fact, the light burned for eight days until more oil was

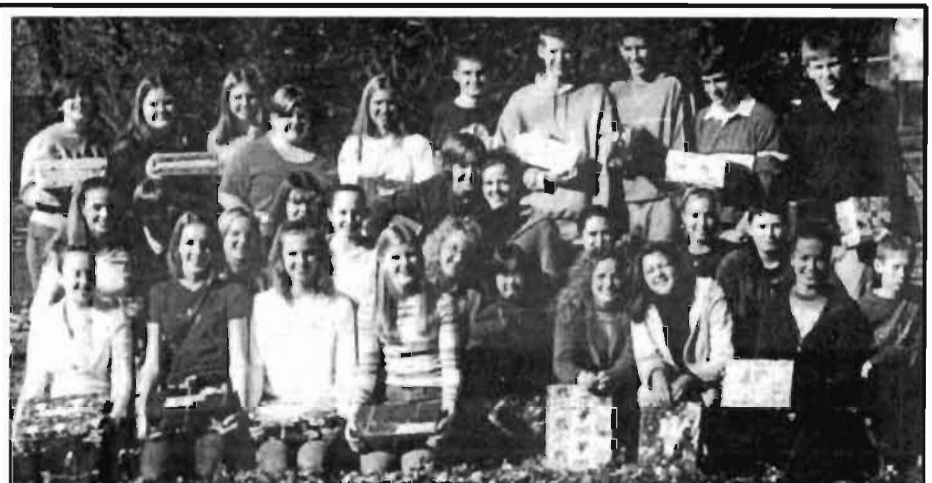
made.

Now in countries all over the world, Jewish people celebrate Chanukah by lighting the menorah. They play dre-

dial; game played with a spinning top and any treats you wish to use as currency and say special prayers. Another Chanukah tradition is eating potato latkis, which are potato pancakes, and donuts. These are to remember the oil used in the miracle. The custom of giving gifts didn't become part

of Chanukah until Jews started immigrating to America in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In conclusion, Chanukah is not as simple as it seems. It is a long and beautiful holiday with a glorious story behind it.



Above: LOHS students who participated in Operation Christmas Child

## LOHS clubs leading by volunteering in the community

**Jennifer Gholson**  
Circulation Manager

Christmas has given the clubs a chance to volunteer in the community. The following are updates on what clubs are doing during the Christmas season:

FBLA collected 65 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. These shoeboxes will be flown overseas for needy children around the world.

The Key Club is involved in "Teens in the House," a program designed to pair LOHS Key Club members with a HLOE student to mentor. The Key Club is also sponsoring a family for Christmas. They provide gifts and a Christmas meal for the needy family through Family Services. The Key Club is also in the process of gathering ideas for basketball Homecoming decorations. The dance will be in January.

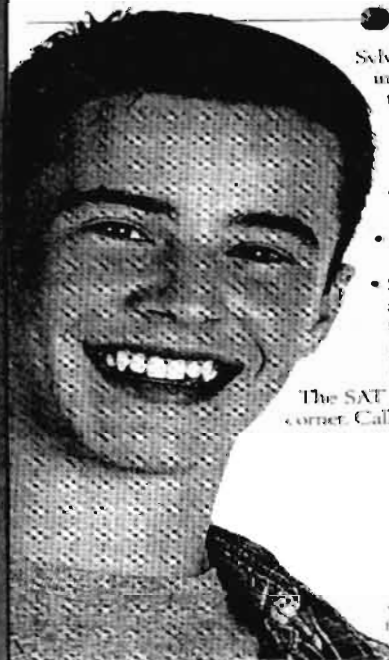
FCCLA filled 49 Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army that will be given to needy children. They are also involved in "Ready, Set, Ready" (a national program to promote literacy) at a LOES 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

class. FCCLA also baked 20 dozen cookies for "Christmas on the River" to distribute to workers who are out on the river or ocean during the holidays.

FCA has been collecting money for three children who would not have had a Christmas. The members of the club will go shopping for the children together with the money they collected. The club will also be having a progressive dinner for their Christmas party.

The Beta club helped FBLA with Operation Christmas Child. They are also involved in a food drive

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# Flash basketball off to a good start

Staff Writer

A new season has flashed under-way! The girls have surged into an excellent start with a 3-2 record, while the boys have started out with a record of 2-3. Both teams, however, have high hopes and remain enthusiastic about the rest of the season, including winning the division.

**November 30-** In the boy's game, **Jay Williams (12)** scored an outstanding 19 points in the game against Murray. The final score was 44-63, with Lone Oak losing.

**December 3-** The girl's game against Murray was fast-paced and exciting. The game resulted in a tie and went into overtime. The Lady Flash lost in a disappointing close overtime.

The final score was 64-63.

**December 7th-** In the first game, the Lone Oak Lady Purple Flash faced off against the Reidland Lady Greyhounds. The Lady Flash jumped out to an early 13-4 lead behind strong defense and good ball movement. The second half was more of the same as Lone Oak breezed on to a 50-24 win.

In the boys game, an early blocked shot helped swing the momentum in what was a close game. Reidland's coach was none too pleased as he saw his team fall victim to the sharp-shooting of senior **Jay Williams** and the inside dominance of **West Harris** and **Jonathon Blackman (12)**, earning a technical in the process. Lone Oak once again prevailed.



Photo By Rachel Megibow

Ashlee Buchanan (10) (above) gets the tip-off against Murray.

## January Basketball Schedule

### Boy's Varsity Basketball

Jan. 4	Heath (A)
Jan. 5	Carlisle Co. (A)
Jan. 8	Ballard Co. (A)
Jan. 11	Reidland (A)
Jan. 15	Marshall Co. (H)
Jan. 18	Calloway Co. (H)
Jan. 22	Tilghman (A)
Jan. 25	Graves Co. (H)
Jan. 28	Hickman Co. (A)

### Girl's Varsity Schedule

Jan. 4	Heath (A)
Jan. 8	Ballard Co. (A)
Jan. 11	Reidland (A)
Jan. 15	Marshall Co. (H)
Jan. 17	Calloway Co. (H)
Jan. 22	Tilghman (A)
Jan. 25	Graves Co. (H)
Jan. 28	Fulton Co. (H)



Ice Cream of the Future.

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Flash!



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# Hockey faces off at Kingsway

**Justin Latta**  
Assistant Editor

Hockey is a sport that is usually played in colder areas of the United States, therefore a hockey league here in Paducah seems out of the ordinary. However, at Kingsway Skateland, area hockey enthusiasts, including LOHS seniors **Evan Simon** and **Clint Cunningham**, meet twice a week to duke out in-line hockey on the skating rink. On Monday and Thursday nights from 8:45 to 10 o'clock, four teams meet to have fun, play the game, and sometimes fight.

The hockey league competes on two levels, Youth and Adult. The

Youth league is made up of ages 13 and below and the Adult league consists of players ages 13 and above. That's right, we even have a few "real" adults playing, the oldest being in his early 40's.

Just like hockey on television, the hockey league at Kingsway has some volatile players, and the night's action averages two or three fights a season.

"They need to let them go at it rather than try to break it up. They're just going to fight again," stated **Cunningham (12)**.

This added entertainment helps attract a fair fan base, ranging from 30 to 40 fans every night of the season. Admission to see

the games is free.

Players are also required to wear all the necessary equipment excluding shoulder pads.

If you have an interest in hockey, come out to Kingsway on a Monday or Thursday night and observe. You might find your calling out on the rink.



Senior **Evan Simon** is decked out in hockey gear. Photo by J. Latta

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## The Oak "K" Staff



The Oak "K" is a publication of Lone Oak High School. It is distributed 8 times a year 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.

Letters to the Editor should be 250 words or less and signed by the writer. The Oak "K" reserves the right to edit all letters for placement without altering the meaning of the letter.

This paper 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.

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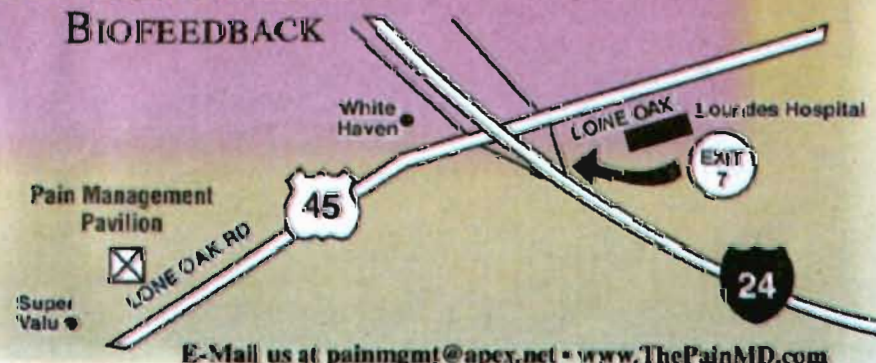


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