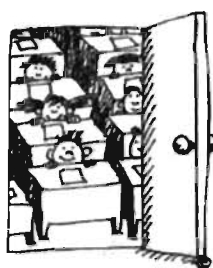


**A look  
inside  
The Oak "K"**

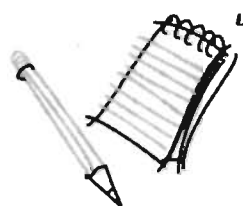
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Association  
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**Glorious  
Tarantino  
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**Football  
Page 7**



## Bigger is Better

**Andrew Harlan**  
Entertainment Editor

What costs over 60 million dollars and will inspire, challenge, and mold future generations for years to come? A new school, of course. The hype over the groundbreaking, consolidated, McCracken County High School is on TV, in the newspaper, on the minds of parents and students alike. This new school has become a hotbed for controversy in McCracken County between the people who like the idea of the tradition and want the schools to stay like they are, and the people who believe that a new school would optimize the learning experience for future students. But like it or not, this new McCracken County High School will be here soon.

In the spring of 2010 construction crews will break ground on land purchased for the new school, right across from the SportsPlex. The land runs between highway 60 and highway 62 and will be large enough to house the school building itself and all sports and recreational areas as well. The school will be larger than other county schools around this area. With a capacity for 1600-1800 students with about 200 staff, this facility will be huge compared to what LOHS students know. The new school is a senior high school, meaning it will only house grades 10-12.

The official name, colors, and mascot are not finalized as of yet but a committee of 50 local people including local government officials, parents, and students will determine these matters in a series of meetings. Lone Oak High Schools representatives are teacher Mr. Pope, parent Mrs. Potter, and student Clayton Isenberg. They were selected for this committee based on credentials including being class president and involvement with school activities.

Public opinion on the new school seems very unsupportive. When asked about public opinion, Lone Oak High School principal Brian Harper said, "Naysayers always speak the loudest... This school is a great opportunity for McCracken County." Despite the noise, many people support the idea of a new learning center with newer technologies and nicer facilities.

The new schools schedule is pending but will most likely be a block schedule. The new school will be able to provide students with greater advantages in terms of the AP courses. There will be more AP options so more students can get ahead by earning college credit in a high school. Additionally, the district expects to be able to offer programs on campus like vocational courses and nursing classes that students currently take off-site.

With the designs made and expected to be approved by KDE very soon, the district is well on its way toward a new McCracken County High

## SAT VS ACT

**Ruth Wooten**  
Business Manager

The most common entrance exams that colleges consider are the ACT and SAT; these standard assessments have put many students in predicaments. Which one should I take? Both? What do I study? What score do I need? Will this test be the end of my dreams? Certainly, the tests can greatly affect the path your education and life takes but you control the outcome of the test. Relax. Some information about these two tests can help you make a decision on which one(s) to take and perhaps help you prepare more successfully.

First, let's start with the structure differences between the two tests. The SAT is divided into three sections: math, critical reading, and writing. The ACT is divided into four sections: English, mathematics, reading, and science. The ACT offers a fifth and optional section of writing. The SAT clocks in at around 5 hours, while the ACT takes almost half as much time to complete.

In addition to the standard SAT test there are subject tests, something that many students have never heard of. SAT Subject Tests give you the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of content in specific subjects, such as English, history, mathematics, science, and various foreign languages. Many colleges use the SAT Subject Tests for admission, for course placement, and to advise students about major selection. Most subject tests are one hour multiple-choice tests, however, some have unique structure.

Major differences in how the two test are scored may dictate some people's decision. The SAT's three parts are worth 800 points each for a combined total of 2400 points. For each correct answer you get on the SAT, you'll receive one point towards your final score. However, for each answer you get wrong, you'll have one point deducted from your score. Answers left blank are not counted at all (which means you will not get penalized for leaving an answer blank but your total will be less than 800). On the ACT each of the four separate tests are graded on a scale of 1 to 36. The optional essay can add points to your score, and unlike the SAT, no points are deducted for wrong answers, therefore you should answer every question even if it is a guess. The tests also provide sub scores for three of the four tests that do not relate to the final score, but provide some extra analysis of a student's strength or weakness.

Deciding on which test to take has become more of a debate recently than it was in the past. For years, the two tests were separated by their geographical affiliations, if you lived in the midwest, the ACT was the test for you. As each test has changed and college admission has become more competitive, both assessments have become widely accepted by many colleges across the country. The key is to determine which exam the schools you are interested in require. "Some schools in Kentucky do not accept the SAT... but students should do their research" says Susan Helmich. Juniors in public schools in Kentucky are able to take the ACT free of charge on a designated day in March.

The SAT is designed to assess a student's ability and knowledge related to content on the exam while the ACT is an assessment of what you learned in high school and how prepared you are for college. Based on that, if you seem to have book smarts and do a great job in class, then shoot for the ACT. If you're the type who picks up fast and can take a test without too much studying, then the SAT has your name on it. If your college choice has is highly selective, consider taking both tests to see which you score better on. Good luck on these important tests.

## Swine Flu, or H1N1

**Kelsey Smith**  
News Editor

Even now, six months after H1N1 was identified at the end of April, the panic surrounding the infection has yet to stop. Schools are closing, pharmacies are stockpiling antiviral drugs and the World Health Organization (WHO) has warned countries to prepare for a second wave of infection or a sharp increase in the current number of cases. Since April, almost 500,000 cases of infection have been confirmed, over 3,000 of which have been fatal.

Despite popular reference to H1N1 as "swine flu", the disease cannot be transferred from swine to humans. Transmission occurs only from person-to-person and similarly to the season flu- coughing, sneezing and contact with contaminated surfaces can all spread the infection. Symptoms of H1N1 also resemble those of season influenza and include: fever, cough, headache, muscle and joint pain, sore throat, and, in more severe cases, vomiting and diarrhea. But while symptoms and means of transmission are nearly identical, the two major differences between the strains of influenza lie in H1N1's ability to replicate more efficiently and how it infects human cells. The seasonal flu typically infects cells only in the upper respiratory system, while the H1N1 virus can contaminate cells deeper in the lungs, increasing the chances of developing pneumonia and death.

Both H1N1's highly infectious nature and sustainability among the population have caused it to be classified by WHO as a pandemic- the first since the emergence of HIV/AIDS in the 1980's- and to become the dominant influenza strain in most parts of the world.

Initially, antiviral medications were being used not only to treat patients who displayed symptoms, but also in attempt to prevent H1N1 infection. Doctors administered the drugs to groups considered particularly vulnerable such as the elderly, the very young, pregnant women and people already suffering from a chronic condition. Now, health professionals have been warned against using antivirals symptoms appear because of what it could cause in the future: resistance. If the population continues to take antiviral medications to try to prevent H1N1 instead of treat it, the virus could mutate to resist the antibody. Along with the risk of possible mutation, antivirals like Tamiflu have cause stomach pains, vomiting and subsequent dehydration in adults, and children experience neuropsychiatric side effects like confusion, insomnia and trouble concentrating. Currently, scientists are working to develop a vaccine that could be available as early as this month.

Until then, health professionals urge everyone to wash their hands frequently, stay home when symptoms appear, avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth, and to cover his or her nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing. And in the meantime, the world will keep its fingers crossed.

## BOMB THREAT '09

**Rachel Lundberg**  
Editor-in-Chief

Thursday, September 17 was, if nothing else, an eventful day for Lone Oak students. Things were off to a rocky start from nearly the moment the school day began, when a bus caught fire upon reaching the middle school. The event was a prime opportunity for classroom window rubberneckers, able to see smoke seemingly enveloping the nearby school from the rooms at the front of the building.

That, of course, turned out to be only the beginning. At about 11:00, a bomb threat was found written in a stall in the boys' bathroom. The Board Office was contacted immediately, as the particular wording of the threat determines whether or not the school must be evacuated, says Principal Brian Harper. When the decision was made to evacuate, the initial plan of action was to move students to the middle school gymnasium, according to protocol. However, when Superintendent Tim Heller decided to evacuate the middle school also, this was clearly not an option. As a result, students ended up chilling at the back end of the parking lot to wait things out.

While students were in the parking lot playing cards, duck-duck-goose, or otherwise amusing themselves, the Sheriff's Department was conducting a thorough search of the school. Armed with a building plan, they were able to conduct an entirely comprehensive inspection. They searched classrooms, lockers, closets--everything, says Harper. Nothing suspicious was found. Rumors of a second bomb threat in the form of a phone call were completely unfounded.

Despite word going around that students were to be sent home, they were let back into school at 12:25 to resume lunch and regular classes. After all, you can't have everything.

LUNDBERG LAYS IT ON YA

Rachel Lundberg  
Editor-in-Chief

Have you ever read a story or poem and said to yourself, "Wow, that was absolutely horrible"? Have you ever read a whole book full of them? If you've been paying attention in English the last few years, you may have even read several. Everyone's got them. They're literature textbooks. In no other place have I seen such a collection of poorly written prose and poetry. It simply amazes me that the lit book for each and every grade level can be so awful. Certainly, there's plenty of mediocre writing out there to choose from, but I had expected the editors of middle and high school textbooks to have at least somewhat discerning tastes.

I've seen enough of poets waxing philosophical with clumsy metaphors and poems about starfish. I've seen enough amateurish cliffhanger endings by authors who just couldn't think of a resolution for their two-page story about a man taking a walk. And most of all, I've seen enough lousy cliché by writers who read Orwell or Poe and thought they could do something like that. I'm not content with just analyzing this instance of foreshadowing or that allusion and moving on. I want to know why someone who presumes himself to be smart enough to create teaching tools thought that these stories, which could have been written by high schoolers like us, were decent bits of literature.

The primary purpose of the lit books is to instruct us; I understand that. But I'm sure there are plenty of other stories that provide examples of certain literary devices that actually belong in a book and not in the circular file. Or maybe that's the problem: maybe people who can really write know better than to let their work appear in high school textbooks. After all, if I were a writer, I would take offense to the offer, having seen this kind of precedent. I'm trying to allow for some benefit of the doubt, but that explanation seems unlikely. Could it be anything other than a simple case of poor choices?

Students have to learn how to write. That's part of the purpose of the books. But shouldn't they also serve as examples of how to write well? Is this what we, as students, are striving for? Is this what is to be presented to us as the pinnacle of mastery of the English language? No wonder so many high schoolers don't like to write--or read, for that matter. If we're given the impression that this is the best that books have to offer, then it's pretty clear why many young people don't make an effort to read on their own.

It's easy to complain, and I know that. That's what editorials are for, isn't it? And anyway, it's just a textbook, nothing of any dire importance. I'm not really sure why I care so much. I just feel like, if I'm going to be reading this, and trying to learn from it, I want it to be worth it. I'm not saying that I expect to like every story and poem, but it just seems to me that we should be receiving something of a higher caliber from the companies that charge the schools, and essentially the taxpayers, so much money for a few hundred sheets of paper and ink they call a textbook.

SETH SAYS...

Seth Helton  
Features Editor

The day after Labor Day faced much controversy. The reason: President Barack Obama was delivering a speech to schoolchildren encouraging them to stay in school and be good citizens. Opponents of Obama jumped at the idea, claiming that the President was using the bully pulpit to indoctrinate our children with Socialist ideology. "This isn't a policy speech," said Sandra Abrevaya, a spokeswoman for the Department of Education.

Across the country, especially concentrated in the south, notes have been sent home allowing parents to request that their child not see the speech. McCracken County Schools sent home notes to parents too, in an effort to avoid similar uproar experienced by other schools. This was a good move by the school in my opinion.

Still, the controversy surrounding President Barack Obama's address to students reveals to me a disturbing trend in America. Why so much alarm over encouragement to our students? People complain that this nation doesn't graduate enough intellectuals, but when a parent is willing to pull their child out of school to avoid hearing a speech about staying in school, that makes that parent part of the problem.

This degree of uproar was never made when George W. Bush traveled the country and taught our kids how to read, which is clearly more harmful than Obama's encouragement. In 1989, George H.W. Bush made a similar address to students, urging them to avoid drugs and peers who say it isn't "cool" to be smart. No controversy surrounded that speech.

The rampant paranoia comes from fears of Obama's "socialist" ideology. A quick skimming of the transcript (made available by the White House 2 days prior to the airing) of the speech reveals a non-partisan message of encouragement. Obama does not even mention any of the proposed reforms.

It will be interesting to see how politics in the US will be shaped in the next few years. Opposition is mounting against the President, and the divide between liberals and conservatives is widening. The question now is whether these divisions will take this nation in positive directions, instead of tearing us apart. In the future, we should all try to respect our highest office a little more, regardless of party alliances.

JORDAN'S JARGON

Jordan Price  
Editor-in-Chief

Grades are an important aspect of a student's school career. Maintaining a high GPA determines entry into clubs, classes, and colleges, and decides who stands at the podium at the graduation ceremony. I would like to say that the people with the highest GPA should have the privilege of being the first to get up in front of parents, teachers, and friends to give a speech about *Oh the Places You'll Go*. Unfortunately, at LOHS, I can't say all 4.0s are created equal.

Right now everyone's GPA is weighted on the same scale regardless of class difficulty. This means that people who take the "easier" class may have the same GPA as people who challenge themselves to take AP or enriched classes. Clearly, this is unfair. People who choose to take the Advanced Placement classes should have their GPA weighted differently than those who don't. Although the grading scale for AP classes is different, 100-90 is an A as opposed to 100-94 in other classes, this change doesn't differentiate between an AP A and a regular A in the GPA. If the grading scale is different shouldn't the grade point average scale be comparable?

AP classes require considerably more work and participation on a student's part as compared to regular classes. From personal experience I can say that my advanced classes required more on my part than my regular classes did. I am not saying this to deter anyone from taking AP classes but merely to say that because these classes are more difficult the students who take them should be rewarded. Because the advanced classes are harder, the final grades students receive in those classes may be slightly lower than that of a student taking the equivalent "easier" class. Obviously, the GPA of the student taking the advanced class will fall slightly below a 4.0. This doesn't seem fair to any of the involved. The students who take AP classes have the opportunity to earn college credit, some might call this a reward; so why shouldn't those students be rewarded for their efforts in high school, too?

Additionally, in the admissions process, colleges consider the degree of difficulty of a student's course work. Colleges are looking for people who, on top of good grades, have ambition and a strong work ethic. If colleges can see the merit of taking advanced courses, shouldn't LOHS administrators also place some value on the extra time and effort their students put in when challenging themselves by in harder classes.

The value of an AP course should be more than a regular class when figuring GPAs. Too many young people who try hard to succeed and strive to reach nearly impossible goals aren't being recognized for their efforts. Having a 4.0 doesn't necessarily mean you are among the top students in your class. Likewise, the spring semester B in Mrs. Beckman's Calculus class shouldn't leave you off the salutatorian list.

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<b>Entertainment Editors</b> Charis Gurrola Andrew Harlan	<b>Assistant Business Manager</b> Rachel Sloan
<b>Sports Editors</b> Cody Waggoner Kylie Tillet	<b>Photographers</b> Kendra Sanders Megan Ross
<b>Features Editor</b> Seth Helton	<b>Advisor</b> Stephanie Carter



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Welcome Baby Poore

Born September 15, 2009

Weight: 6 pounds 5 ounces, 18 inches long

"Such a beautiful little girl, so tiny and perfect." -Mrs. Helmich  
Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Poore and welcome baby Alexis!

From The Oak K Staff

**Cody Waggoner**  
Sports Editor

**Homecoming Hype**

Lone Oak High School's football homecoming week was a huge success culminating with the win against Caldwell county. The school week included PJ Day, Decade Day, Mix and Match Day, along with the usual Purple and Gold Friday. Although testing occurred during the week, students made the most of the dress up days. The highlight of the pep rally was the dance-off which the seniors dominated.

No homecoming would be complete without a king, queen, and court. Prior to the game, the homecoming attendants plus the king and queen nominees paraded around the track in various Corvettes. The attendants for the lower classes were: freshman Erika Edwards escorted by Eric Scelzi; sophomore Shelby Schaefer escorted by Cameron Byrd; and junior Callie Smith escorted by Jack Coorts. The king and queen candidates coupled together were: Katie England and Jacob Porter, Molly Green and Cody Waggoner, Lauren Hendon and Carson Beyer, Sierra Senn and Clayton Isenberg, and Paris Shortridge and Andrew Croft. There to hand out the crown and sash for the winners was 2003 winner Lauren Blackburn, a seemingly random choice but neither last year or the year prior's winner was able to be in attendance. A hush fell over the crowd before the winners were announced and then a swell of applause came when the band's Drum Major, Katie England, and varsity football and basketball player, Clayton Isenberg were announced as the winners.

After the ceremony, Lone Oak played Caldwell County and in usual fashion Lone Oak won and put a big numbers up on the score board, winning 56 to 19. The dance was a success as well as Alex Lambert (12) said, "More people were there than I've seen at any other dance."

**Ruth Wooten**  
Business Manager

**Cool Croft**

Junior Rotarians are students, who are actually seniors, that are chosen by teachers and staff at Lone Oak High School. Teachers are asked to nominate students who show school as well as community involvement, good character, and other amiable qualities. The Junior Rotarian of September is none other than **Andrew Croft (12)**. Croft is an impressive example of a well-rounded student who devotes much of his time to his school and community. **Roberto Arreaza(12)** agrees, "Andrew is beautiful, athletic, and smart. Having a friend as cool as him ups my cool level!"

Andrew displays his athletic talent in Lone Oak High's tennis, soccer, and cross country Programs. Croft has been a member of the varsity tennis teams that have been Regional Champions, all four years of his high school career. Last year in tennis, he was part of the regional runner-up doubles team. He has been on the varsity soccer team three of his four years. Croft has been running varsity cross country since he was an eighth grade student and was a state qualifier his freshman and sophomore years. Andrew supports other sports programs such as basketball and football, at these sports' events you might spot Croft painted up in purple and gold.

Andrew is involved with numerous clubs and organizations that are affiliated with our school. He is an active member in the Beta, Math, Tennis, and Friends of Rachel clubs. Last year, Andrew Croft attended the State Beta Club Convention and the 4-H Issues Conference and since then has participated in Backpacks for Kids. He has taken part in drives and community service projects for the Beta Club.

The Governor's Scholars Program accepted Andrew, and he spent over half of his summer at Bellarmine University where, in addition to all of his academic experiences, he participated in a can drive for a local charity. "GSP was honestly the best five weeks of my life because of all the friends I made," states Croft. Andrew is currently taking Sociology at WKCTC in the afternoons of his gold days. He hopes to attend UK or Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee to enter into the field of music production. "In ten years, I see Andrew Croft as an innovative and successful music producer," adds **Andrew Harlan(11)**.

Croft has a love for music that he expresses with his talents in playing the guitar, drums, and piano. He enjoys going to concerts. Croft occasionally jams with his friends in his limited free time. Clearly, he is a multifaceted gentleman.

Andrew excels in the classroom as well, having maintained an impressive 3.8 GPA thus far. He continues to represent our school on the Academic Team and has participated in Governor's Cup in the past. His favorite class this year is P.E. with Coach Whitis, which is no surprise given Andrew's outgoing personality and athleticism. With his friendly qualities and wide array of abilities, Andrew Croft is a terrific choice for the Junior Rotarian of September.



Photograph courtesy of Gene Boaz Photography.

**Sanjana Pampati**  
Asst. Editor

**Free Association**

	<b>Devin Hunt (10)</b>	<b>Andy Poore</b>	<b>Lydia Sawyer (11)</b>	<b>Shanden Simmons (12)</b>
Woobies	gummy bears	blankets	favorite game	what is woobies?
Lexington Catholic	state	punks	going down	dead
Fall Break	turkey	basketball	hallelujah!	fun
AirBud	Airbud	not the dog	pudding	that was MY dog

**Kylie Tillet**  
Sports Editor

**K-Walking**

If you were Taylor Swift, what would your reaction have been to Kayne West's outburst?

**Payton Dillon (9)**- "I would have thrown him off the stage!"

**Payton Harris (10)**- "I would have been like, "I deserve this" and hit him!"

**Maegan Alexander (11)**- "I would have kicked him where it hurts and given him an earful!"

**Johnathan Clapp (12)**- "I would have said, "Too bad, it's mine!" and if he kept going, then I would have back-handed him!"

**Mrs. Sprunger**- "I would have stood there quietly like Taylor Swift did because I'm easily intimidated."

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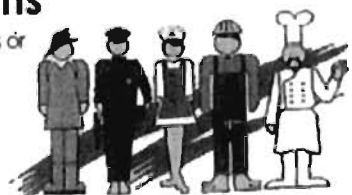
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## Club Day

Spenser Price  
Staff Writer

### Art Club

**Shand Stamper** and **Genny Wright** are helping make meaningful and productive changes to the Lone Oak High School Art Department for the benefit of the school and everyone in it. "We all have to participate to make this a healthy, vital club," quotes Stamper. LOHS students who have an interest in and enthusiasm for art still have time to join.

Some of the activities already being discussed are field trips, school beautification projects, fund raising, competitions, and hands on activities with fellow members. As always, the Art Club will be decorating for the homecoming dances and prom. Dues for the Art Club are \$10. The Art Club has also begun to formulate ideas for school beautification and overall school appeal that may help balance out those seemingly endless gray walls. Fundraising from artwork and craft sales have also been discussed as ways for the club to reach the community. Do not think it is a requirement to be an outstanding painter or sculptor to enjoy yourself here. Members can eat snacks, listen to music, hang out, and there are no grades. Even students with a vague interest in art can have fun here.

**Sanjana Pampati**  
Asst. Editor in Chief

### Biology Club

Join Biology club today! Biology Club is sponsored by Mr. Wallace and Mrs. Wallace. Biology Club members enjoy exciting trips every year. **Lexi Gurrola** says, "Biology Club is the best because we take the best trips every year and do fun projects!" Some of the possible trips this year, says Mr. Wallace, include the zoo, botanical gardens, and Land Between the Lakes. **Madison Ligon**, an excited Biology Club member, says, "I am stoked about our upcoming trips!" The dues for Biology Club are \$15 and can be paid to Mr. Wallace. Anybody is allowed to join Biology club.

### Key Club

Ms. Durham says, "Key Club is a community service organization that is affiliated with the Lion's Club. We also sponsor a rockin' school talent show at the end of the year." Key Club's goal is "to teach leadership by serving others." Key Club is sponsored by Ms. Durham and Mrs. Sprunger. Anybody is welcome to join Key Club! The dues for Key Club are \$16. The Key Club elected **Jalenda Brantner** for president this year. **Jalenda** says, "We hope to help our community again this year!"

### Rachel Sloan

Assistant Business Manager

### Beta Club

Beta Club, one of the biggest clubs at Lone Oak High School, has kicked off the school year with a great start. The focus of Beta Club is to serve the community, and no one is slacking. Officers have already been chosen, and signs have been posted all around the school buildings, reminding everyone to bring their \$20 dues to Mr. Sims or Mrs. Morris. The Beta Convention is always a huge success, and **Jordan Potter (11)**, an attendee of the convention the previous year, is already looking forward to it again. "It was really fun. I'll for sure be attending again this year." Only sophomores, juniors, and seniors are allowed to join the club, and a 3.0 GPA is required in order to be a member of the Beta Club. Each member is also required to get a number of points throughout the year. Points are gathered by acquiring community service hours. The Beta Club meets after school rather than on the assigned "club day," making it easier for students to participate because they can attend every meeting and not have to miss being a part of any other clubs. The focus of the Beta Club is to serve the community, and, as usual, the year is looking good.

### Ryan Steele

Staff Writer

### Chess Club

"First rule of Chess Club, don't talk about Chess Club." Any member of the Lone Oak High School Chess Club will tell you the rule set forth by the sponsors of Chess Club: **Tim Whitley**, **Courtney Neel**, and **Tony Jarvis**. Regarding dues, the Chess Club charges five dollars for new members and a whopping one dollar for returning members. With the full profit of dues going to either the March of Dimes or Project Graduation, the Chess Club does what they can for the Lone Oak community. With 24 members, most nose deep in a match and all sworn not to talk about Chess Club, an interview was hard to come by. A member by the name of **Ryan Bennett (11th)** decided to brave the consequences. "Chess is life. The board is our world, the pieces our people. The rules of the game are our laws and the opposing pieces are our enemies." With enthusiasm like this, it's easy to see why the Chess Club is gaining popularity each month.

### Megan Ross

Photographer

### Book Club

"God's honest truth, Homer. What are the chances... a bunch of kids from Coalwood... actually winning the national science fair?" This quote is from a book the Book Club read last year, *October Sky* by Homer Hickam. The book was good but the what was even better was getting to meet Mr. Hickam which is just what the Book Club members did. Brenda Metzger, our amazing librarian, sponsors the club. "Mrs. Metzger is a friendly librarian who encourages us to read books and expand our minds," says Nick Yopp (10). "Being in the Book Club is a great way to read new books," says Justice Mattingly (11) who has been in the Book Club for two years and read *The Lightning Thief* with the club last year. The selection changes from romance to mystery and action to adventure. You never know what's around the corner when you read a book as a member of the Book Club.

### Ruth Wooten

Business Manager

### FFA

The Lone Oak High School FFA Chapter has started this year off with a bang. The organization has already seen its first victory by taking home the state title in welding for the 15th consecutive year. A leadership retreat for the freshman Ag Students, created by the officer team, took place on September 17th. It was designed to break barriers and introduce the rookie students to speaking and leadership skills they will learn throughout the year. The chapter anticipates their annual trip to Indianapolis, Indiana for the National FFA Convention. The twenty dollar dues had to be in by September 28th. The FFA advisors are Ms. B. and Mr. Elliott. President Ross Buchanan said, "This year will be different, due to having students in the club who are involved in many things. We are excited about it, the face of LOHS FFA is changing." With new officers and many new members it looks to be a great year for the FFA.

**Kendra Sanders**  
Photographer

### Technology Club

Dave Pope sponsors a technology leadership program to train students to assist the school with technology. Among the benefits of joining the Tech Club is the opportunity to learn about the new MacBooks. No prerequisites or qualifications needed, only a small fee of \$10. Interested in technology? Come join the club in room 222A!

**Kylie Tillett**

Sports Editor

### Tennis Club

Do you enjoy playing or watching tennis? Or possibly just going to hit around for fun? If you do, the Tennis Club is for you! Come enjoy the in-depth, wise lessons on not only how to become a better tennis player mentally and physically, but life lessons as well. These powerful morals are taught by the one and only Coach Larry Heflin. Coach Heflin has been coaching the Lone Oak tennis team as long as its been around and has led his teams to 10, yes 10, state championships. The most recent was just this past year! He is definitely a man you should be listening to! Come join the Tennis Club in room 125, also know as Coach Poore's room. It's full of life and fun! Plus, there are no dues!

**Cody Waggoner**

Sports Editor

### FCA

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is a club which organizes activities such as See You At The Pole and Christmas charity work. Sponsor Lori Durbin often invites speakers to come speak to the group during meetings. Durbin says, "The speakers come to help uplift the students and the efforts of the club." Member Alyssa Durbin says, "The goal is to give Christian students in the school the opportunity where they can get together and support each other and offer others the opportunity to know Christ."

**Kelsey Smith**

News Editor

### French Club

The French Club is run by Mme Beyer in room 226 A. Officers have been elected and are as follows: President- Audrey May (12), Vice President- Roberto Arreaza (12), Secretary- Jazz Alderidge (9), Treasurer- Ali Davis (12). Dues are \$5 and must be paid by the September meeting in order to participate in activities. Members of the club do not have to be enrolled in a French class. The French club has film nights, a Christmas dinner, a dessert party and occasionally take field trips to French-related sites, like the Ft. Massac encampment. Katie England (12) says, "But the most important thing to remember is that there is always food."

### FEA

The Future Educators of America club is run by Mr. Gregory and Mrs. Farris and meets in room 101E. Officer positions are still available and dues are \$10. The club is for students interested in pursuing a career in education. The club explores areas of education, the requirements to become a teacher and the reality of a teaching career. The club will have guest speakers and activities at meetings, and on September 25th, an annual conference at MSU will be held.

**Seth Helton**

Features Editor

### FCCLA

FCCLA is going to be a busy club this year. "We have several exciting activities planned including the Read Carnival, March For Babies, tailgating party, and the Paducah Memory Walk," says Ms. White, the club's sponsor. "FCCLA is an excellent opportunity to help your community," says member Leigh Ann Blackburn (12), "plus it's lots of fun." The club's dues are \$15 this year.

### Pep Club

"So so awesome" is the Pep Club, according to co-president Lauren Hendon. The Pep Club is sponsored by Susan Helmich, and meet in her room. The club keeps very busy in football and basketball season, spreading purple and gold pride throughout the school. The dues this year are \$5. Jacob Porter (12), when asked his opinion of the Pep Club's work, said: "It gives the football team support and gets students to rally around us. But I'm glad I'm not on the soccer team, they don't get any signs."

**Andrew Harlan**

Staff Writer

### Math Club

The Math Club is one of the largest clubs at Lone Oak High School with a maximum of 100 members. With incentives like a trip to Six Flags and donuts who wouldn't want to sign up. When asked about donuts and Six Flags, Lexi Eggemeyer said, "It's pretty great..." This club has mandatory service projects and community service projects to remain eligible to participate in Math Club functions such as the Six Flags trip. Dues are 10 dollars and must be turned in before the next club meeting. Anyone can join who is willing to do the community service and be a participant in Math Club functions. The Math Club sponsors are Nancy Momar, Diane Beckman and Cynthia Howe.

**Charis Gurrola**

Entertainment Editor

### Writer's Club

The Writer's Club is small, consisting of only a handful of students. They are enthusiastically welcoming of newcomers. There are no fees for the Writer's Club. The club's only requirement is that members willingly and confidently participate in sharing their pieces. As one member said during introductions, "This isn't a brownie club," meaning that even though snacks are served and conversations carry farther than just the writing at hand, the point is to write, be read, and get feedback.


**Kyle Fouse**

Staff Writer

### FBLA

FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) is for those students among us who are interested in pursuing a career in business or related fields. If you couldn't decide what club to join last time, it's not too late to sign up. In order to join you will have had to have previously taken a business related class or currently be enrolled in one. Dues are \$20. The sponsors for the club are Jeremy Felker and Shannon Mungle. "It's supposed to be a serious club this year, but I have no idea how far that's really gonna go," says FBLA veteran **Johnny Kollenberg (12)**.

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Congratulations Lone Oak High School **Band** for a great performance at the Murray State competition!

Congratulations Lone Oak High School **Welding Team** for winning State again... and again!

- The Oak "K" Staff

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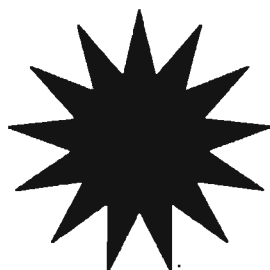


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**-The Oak "K" Staff**

## Can't Resist *The Resistance*

Rachel Sloan

Assistant Business Manager

Being a fan of the British rock band Muse for several years, I was extremely eager to hear their new, highly anticipated album, *The Resistance*, which was finally released on September 14th. I had pretty high expectations for the album, since this band is the creator of two of my favorite albums of all time--*Black Holes and Revelations* and *Absolution*. Though all of Muse's previous albums have been different, they always stick to that same "epic" sound. On *The Resistance*, their sound is more powerful than ever.

The album begins with their most recent single, "Uprising." It is the perfect song to start with, beginning with a rhythmic baseline and drum beat, and eventually quiet synthesizers. The intensity of the song increases heavily as soon as the chorus kicks in. With lyrics like "they will not control us, we will be victorious!" the song automatically evoked feelings of confidence, pushed away any negative mood and prepared the listener for an unforgettable musical experience.

After the abrupt ending of "Uprising," the title track "Resistance" slowly builds up to become one of the most powerful songs on the entire album. The lead singer, Matt Bellamy, is known for his vocal talent and his skilled guitar playing, but in the last minutes of the title track "Resistance," he shows off his pianistic talent. The third track, "Undisclosed Desires," slows down the album quite a bit, staying away from loud guitar solos or electronic breakdowns that Muse is very fond of. The songs almost alternate between being guitar-based and piano-based, which constantly changes the mood. The next few songs are upbeat, as most Muse songs are--though one specific adjective can rarely be used to describe one of their songs, since the mood constantly changes throughout every verse, chorus, bridge, or lengthy instrumental breakdown.

My favorite part of the entire album is the last three songs--the three part symphony. I was completely blown away the first time I listened to these songs. It's almost as if their goal was simply to make three songs just to show off as much of their musical talent as possible--and they do a good job. In the first part, "Overture," singer Matt Bellamy showcases his incredible vocal range while the song remains rather sedate. However, "Cross Pollination" is based mostly upon their energetic piano sound. Part three, "Redemption," is an absolutely perfect way to end the album. It begins with simple piano, eventually blending with other soft instruments and vocals, and ending just as softly as the song began.

Each song has a different tone, but each one flows into the next perfectly. There is not a single dull moment on *The Resistance*. After hearing the epic breakdowns and huge blend of instruments in every song, it's hard to believe that Muse is only made up of three members--a singer/guitarist/pianist, bass guitarist, and a drummer.

I was extremely impressed by every song on *The Resistance*, an album worth listening to from beginning to end. I recommend this album to anyone with an open mind about music, and as a huge Muse fan, I would have to say that this is possibly their best album yet.

## Yami No Matsuei: Revived?

Charis Gurrola

Entertainment Editor

Tortured pretty boys, melodrama, and violence. What more can any shojo (comics for girls) fangirl ask for? The series *Yami No Matsuei* covers it all for fans of dark romances.

The manga (Japanese graphic novel) *Yami No Matsuei* follows Asato Tsuzuki, a death guardian, and his work in the Ministry of Hades. His job is to retrieve the souls of the dead and see to it that they reach the afterlife. Sounds easy, right? You know it's never that easy. With a sociopathic doctor for an adversary and constant battles with monsters, Tsuzuki is never going to get a bonus. With the help of his partner, Hisoka, and his 13 shiki (guardian spirits) hopefully everything will turn out okay.

It would seem that this premise would become redundant after a couple of stories. These stories, however, take on different conflicts and plot lines with each new arc. Some can be gruesome such as strange murders occurring on a cruise, representing different tarot cards. Others can be sad and sweet such as when Tsuzuki decides to help a young woman reach her dream of becoming a dancer before her illness takes her away. Each story arc brings something new to the table and keeps its readers wanting more.

The cast for this series can only be described as perfect. While Tsuzuki is the hero of the story and a strong one at that, his personality can hardly be described as heroic. He's incompetent and clumsy. His cold but empathic partner, Hisoka, whose young looks are deceiving due to his early death, has less experience than Tsuzuki, but seems to have his head on his shoulders more often. These two's personalities balance each other beautifully. There's also the eccentric scientist Watari, whose greatest dream is to understand the female mind, and a whole bunch of other brilliant supporting characters.

I would have to say the most amazing character is the main villain, Muraki Kazutaka. He is a doctor searching for immortality who takes an interest in Tsuzuki. The first scene he's in, he's portrayed as a pure hearted figure but it is soon discovered that he's a vicious killer. Any time he comes into a chapter you know that what you're about to read will leave your blood cold.

The details mangaka (Japanese comic book artist) Matsushita Yoko puts into her art are incredible. The art definitely reflects the shojo style. The characters are tall and lean and their eyes are drawn beautifully. There's never a panel where you're not sure what's going on.

A word of warning before you get wrapped up in this series. In Japan, *Yami No Matsuei* has been on hiatus since 2003. Internet rumors are beginning to surface about the reinstatement of *Yami No Matsuei*. Apparently the mangaka, Matsushita Yoko, had damaged her hand and is now practicing drawing with her other one. The Scanlation group, Oriya/Ukyou Scanlations, has recently released several chapters that had been published in 2004, 2005, and 2006, but none of these connect to the terrible cliffhanger of the eleventh volume. For now all we can hope for is these rumors to soon become a reality.

I would recommend this series for girls with an interest in darker romances. Fans of *X 1999* and *Pet Shop of Horrors* would enjoy this series. If you're not a fan of violence, I would steer clear. Make sure to read the rating label on the cover and decide if it's right for you.

## Bloody Basterds

Kelsey Smith

News Editor

Quentin Tarantino described *Inglourious Basterds* as a "spaghetti western set in German-occupied France." I'm not particularly fond of spaghetti, westerns, or German occupation, but I am a fan of both France and this film.

The movie gains its title from a handful of the main characters: The Basterds. The Basterds are a group of Jews, Americans, and one particularly brutal ex-Nazi soldier. The Basterds have one purpose: killin' Nazis. And kill they do. The Basterds are well-known throughout the Third Reich; citizens have heard about their exploits, "survivors" (soldiers who have compromised Nazi intelligence for their lives) have been branded by the Basterds, and at the mention of the group, Hitler is seen yelling, "NEIN, NEIN, NEIN!"

The movie follows the Basterds and two other characters: SS Colonel Hans Landa and Shosanna Dreyfus. Colonel Hans Landa has gained the unofficial title of "The Jew Hunter." In the opening scenes, Landa is at his best while interviewing a French diary farmer who has long been suspected of hiding Jews. Landa gently coerces information out of Monsieur LaPadite and calls his men in to send shotgun shells through the floorboards where the family is hiding. But after the firing has ceased, Landa spots a member of the family running from the house. For whatever reason, Landa allows this woman to escape and yells, "Au revoir, Shosanna!"

Following that scene, the movie fast forwards a few years. Shosanna has become Emanuelle Mimieux and owns a movie theater in France. A German war hero takes a fancy to her and convinces the all-powerful Joseph Goebbels (he controlled all German film in the era) to host the showing of his war exploits at her theater. While the Germans are preparing for celebration, the Basterds and Shosanna are plotting for revenge.

I have always been impressed by the originality of Tarantino's films. Until I checked the movie's website after watching the film, I had no idea that the movie had a run time of two hours and thirty-two minutes. The dialogue is fresh and witty; the characters are absurdly realistic (Brad Pitt's character speaking Italian could be any western Kentucky native); and the film doesn't become a morality play. Tarantino realizes that everyone in the audience understands the importance and tragedy of the Holocaust- this film is meant to entertain. Full of gore, bar fights, and bad, bad Italian, my mouth was always open in awe or laughter.

In short, if Tarantino can make bar fights novel and Brad Pitt funny, you know he's made a bloody good movie

## Big Flavor in a Little Town

Charis Gurrola

Entertainment Editor

Coming from Seattle, I'm used to good Thai food on every corner. Moving to Paducah, Kentucky I've literally had to drive for hours to get a good plate of Pad Thai. This past summer vacation, the owner of *Jasmine Thai Cuisine and Sushi Bar* in Murray opened up a sister restaurant in the mall area here in Paducah. Shout for joy, Paducah! Great Thai food and sushi has come your way!

With a modern-meets-Asia vibe, the restaurant definitely has its feng shui down. The layout of the restaurant is open. Even on a crowded Friday night, the place felt spacious. However, each table was able to carry its own intimate conversation. *Jasmine* is a great place for friends to meet and eat.

To start, I ordered their Thai Iced Tea. Served in a tall glass, it's thick and orange and has a layer of cream on top. This is definitely not your Southern sweet tea although it is laced with sugar. Consuming one of these every day wouldn't be advisable but it could be a great treat after a tough week.

My order came with choice of a salad or miso soup. I went with the latter. The presentation was adorable; the soup came out in a cute little bowl covered with a cute little lid and carried on a cute little plate. However, the flavor wasn't the best. Aesthetically, I loved it and the tofu in it was tasty but the broth made me think I had gulped ocean water.

For a Friday night in Paducah, where everyone goes out to eat and the restaurants are packed, the entree took surprisingly little time to prepare. I went more the sushi route and ordered the Chirashi which is, to quote the menu, "The Chef's choice selections of toppings artfully arranged." This was probably the most fun part of the meal. You could tell the chef had fun with the presentation. There were shavings of cucumber to one side, a herb standing in the middle of different types of toppings and a sauce swirled along the edge of the plate. I tried squid, eel, tuna, crab and many other toppings. Everything, except the yellow tail (that truly had the strangest flavor and texture I have ever had in my mouth), was amazing.

Additionally, I sampled my friend's dish, the Pad Woo Sen. This was a plate of thin noodles cooked with peppers, onions, pea pods, eggs, beef and who knows what else. The flavors blended together deliciously.

Our evening at Jasmine was a pleasant dining experience. Our little town is finally getting some big city flavor. Grab a friend and give it a try.

## Nine

Ryan Steele

Staff Writer

Wednesday, September 9th saw the release of Tim Burton's new film *Nine*. When the world is wiped out by a breed of machines made by man to keep peace but turned into evil, the very scientist who created the machine set out to make the last hope of life. Nine creations made of cloth, motors and gears are created by the scientist whom divides his soul between his nine creations. When the main character, a creation known by the number nine, awakens, he is quickly thrust into the world of machines. After awakening the ultimate machine which has been in hibernation for some years the creations find themselves battling evil creations in an attempt to save not only their own lives but the hope of life returning to earth. With voice acting from stars such as **Elijah Wood, Christopher Plummer, Martin Landau, and John C. Reilly** the movie seems to really connect to the audience. Based off of the Animated short film by **Shane Acker**, which won several Academy Awards and an Oscar Nomination, fans of the short got to see the creations really come to life. Only downside of *Nine* was the fact that the full length adaptation of the short film was just that, short. With an approximate run time of only 79 minutes (including credits) left movie goers wanting more. But with that said, *Nine* served it's purpose, earning a few million dollars in theaters and expecting many more when the DVD releases with all the bonus features. So with terrific voice acting, excellent animation bringing not only the creations, but the machines and the entire world around them to life, and an intriguing story to go with it, *Nine* seems set to draw in crowds of all kinds.

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## Volleyball Fights Cancer

**Kendra Sanders**  
Photographer

On September 29, the Lone Oak volleyball team invites you to come support the fight against breast cancer. **Audrey Midkiff (11)** exclaims, "I'm really excited that we are getting to do this especially since it's affecting so many people that I know personally. Hopefully, it will help to raise awareness."

At tomorrow night's home game against CCA, LO students and community members can come support breast cancer awareness efforts. To show your support dress in pink! If your closet is lacking in the light reddish department, don't worry; the volleyball team boosters will be selling pink T-shirts and pom-poms at the game! Additionally, volleyball players will be selling raffle tickets in the days preceding the game. Winners will be announced during the game so get your ticket before game time. All profit from the night will be donated to a breast cancer organization.

During the game, Joanie Sims and Diane Beckman, LOHS teachers, will be recognized for how they have stood strong in their own fights against cancer along with others who are currently fighting breast cancer and others who have survived the disease. This event allows the Lone Oak community to show our admiration and support for their journeys. If you know someone who is battling or survived breast cancer, share the name with a volleyball team member so your someone can be honored on September 29. Don't be alarmed if there's no white volleyball in sight, because, on top of the pink attire and pom-poms, a pink volleyball will be used during the game. Come and support the fight against breast cancer.

## The Flash

### Dominate the Field

**Seth Helton**  
Features Editor

**Rachel Sloan**  
Assistant Business Manager

GOAL!!!!!! The boys soccer team finally overcame long-time rivals, the Heath High School Pirates, in a 2-0 shutout. After a loss to Marshall, the Purple Flash came back, leaving the Pirates thunderstruck. "That's the best game I have ever seen that goalie (Kyle Fouse, 12) play," said Heath's coach, Mark Madison. Tyler Masse (12) scored the teams 1st goal, after missing the penalty kick. Craig Green (10) scored the second goal. After years of getting beaten by the Pirates, Lone Oak not only beats them, but doesn't even let in a goal.

By the press time, the Flash will have tested their mettle against Heath again. The team is set to play Paducah Tilghman on Senior Night, October 1st. "Despite injuries, we should continue our winning streak; we have a strong team," says sophomore Craig Green. The team has won 5 games, lost 5, and tied 3. The future looks bright for the Purple Flash soccer.

The season is finally heating up for the Lady Flash Soccer, who have recently been able to celebrate their huge triumph over St. Mary, winning 6-0. After a rough game against Heath, the players are only more determined to improve. **Alexis Ludovissie (11)** is already pumped to battle Heath again. "We had a low point," she explains, "but next time, we're going to come back and dominate!"

The girls played Reidland for the second time this season, and defeated them yet again. This time, the Flash shut them out and ended up winning with ease, with a score of 7-0. The team is continuing to improve with every game, and they are confident that they have a shot at winning the district tournament at the end of the season.

## Cross Country is Hard at Work

**Sanjana Pampati**  
Asst. Editor

The LOHS Cross Country Team is still practicing hard! They had their first meet on August 29th at Heath. **John Scelzi(10)** came in sixth at the meet. **Shelby Schaefer(10)** is the fastest girl in our cross country team--her time was 24 minutes and 25 seconds. **Schaefer** says, "Since we've been doing a variety of things in practice, I think it's going to be a great year!" **Andrew Stricklin(11)** says, "Everyone is still working hard and I see vast improvements!" The Cross Country team will have competed on September 19, 21, & 24 but due to publication deadlines, those meets could not be covered.

## Volleyball Team Dominating District, Region

**Kylie Tillett**  
Sports Editor

The volleyball girls have failed to disappoint thus far this season. With their 16-3 record, they're showing that this time around, they're more serious than ever before. A great example of their hard-work and determination is their sweep in the Marshall County match, where they dominated the game. The Flash won 25-18, 25-18, 25-21. Very impressive! Marshall County and Lone Oak have a newfound rivalry after the Marshals beat them in the regional championship last year. **Audrey Midkiff (11)** and **Natalie Tavernaro (11)** shined in the September 15th matchup between the two- Midkiff with 11 aces and Tavernaro with 8 kills to lead the team. The Lady Flash have 4 regular season games to end the season, including all three district teams and CCA. They also have 2 more tournaments to play before districts arrive. They are more determined than ever to reach the state championship, and they dominate it. Tavernaro states, "We are going to earn that sweet trip to state!"

## Golf Team Ready for Regionals

**Kendra Sanders**  
Photographer

### BOYS

The boys are looking forward to competing their best at Regionals. This year, the regional competition will take place at Miller Golf Course on September 29. Due to publication deadlines matches between 09-17 and 09-28 could not be covered. As of after the Tilghman match, which proved victorious for the boys and girls, their record is 7-12. **Austin McKinney (11)** says "I'm really looking forward to regionals. I think we have the talent to go far."

### GIRLS

Publication deadlines have prevented a few matches to be accounted into their record, but that doesn't take away from their magnificent record! Recently playing their top competition, Heath and Tilghman, the girls have taken home victories from both. Additionally, the ladies placed 6th of 18 teams at the WGBIT tournament in Bowling Green on October 6. Going into the regional competition 11-1, the girls are expecting to defend their championship from last year. "It could be really close, but we can definitely win," explains **Jackie Ponting (11)**. The regional competition will be taking place at the Ballard County Country Club beginning today.

## Football Rolls Forward

**Cody Waggoner**  
Sports Editor

Football is now in full swing at Lone Oak High School and the morale of the team is higher than it's ever been. The team has destroyed the teams expected like Reidland and had a couple of dominating wins over more formidable competition in Caldwell and Marshall County.

Despite those wins, the big story of the season so far would be the vengeful overtime win over the Lexington Catholic Knights. The game was an intense battle that included a late game comeback by the Knights after being down twenty-two points at the beginning of the fourth quarter. Tied at the end of the fourth quarter, both teams would get chance to match scoring opportunities with four downs from the ten yard line. In the overtime period, Lone Oak held Catholic to only a field goal try that their kicker, who had been previously stellar, missed wide. Next it was Lone Oak's turn to attempt to score. All that was necessary was a field goal. With that in mind Lone Oak ran two safe plays then let junior kicker Jack Coorts try for 26-yard field goal. The ball was snapped; the kick was taken. Hearts stopped as the kick came out low and pounded with overwhelming excitement when it cleared the cross bar of the goal post.

This victory was overwhelming but Lone Oak still has a tough schedule ahead, that includes the competition against 2A state runner-up Green County. After that, The Flash will take the long road to the state competition and their dream of a state title one game at a time.



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